

Frequently asked questions under the Top Class Education Scheme for SC Students

Q.1-What is the objective of the Scheme?

Ans.-The Scheme aims at recognizing and promoting quality education amongst students belonging to SCs, by providing full financial support. The Scheme will cover SC students for pursuing studies beyond 12th class.

Q.2-What are the institutions for which scholarship is supported under the scheme.

Ans.-All the IIMs / IITs/ IIITs / AIIMs/ NITs/NIFTs/ NIDs/ Indian Institutes of Hotel Management, National Law Universities and other Central Government Institutions will be eligible to be included in the Scheme, subject to their applying for being included in the Scheme and recommendation by the Selection Committee under the scheme, or if the Selection Committee itself recommends the name of the institute for inclusion in the list of empanelled institutes of the scheme. If an institution is not in any of the above categories, it has to be included in the current list of i). National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) A++ and A+ Accredited Institutions or ii) Top 100 National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) Institutions or iii) Institutions of National Importance as per lists issued by Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) from time to time.

Q.3-What are the total number of students to be supported in the Scheme annually?

Ans.-The overall number of scholarships would be capped at 21,500 for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26 (4100 for 2021-22, 4200 for 2022-23, 4300 for 2023-24, 4400 for 2024-25 and 4500 for 2025-26).

Q.4-WhatisthenumberofstudentsofeachcategoryespeciallythegirlstobeassistedintheScheme?

Ans.-Thirty percent (30%) of slots allotted to the Institution shall be reserved for eligible SC girl students as per their inter-se merit. In the absence of sufficient number of girl students, the slots may be transferred to eligible boy students as per their inter-se merit.

However, the 30% slots as mentioned above will not include those girl students who are selected on the basis of their performance in the overall merit list of SC students of the Institution.

Q.5-WhoiseligibletosupportundertheScheme?

Ans.-Those SC students having total annual family income from all sources up to Rs. 8.00 lakh and having secured admission in a full-time prescribed course in any of the notified institutions according to the general selection criteria prescribed by the concerned institution, will be eligible for scholarship under the Scheme to the extent of the number of scholarships (slots) allocated to the institution for the course.

Q.6-Whatistheguidelinetobefollowedforincomecertificate?

Ans. Following guidelines shall be followed for income certificate-

Income declaration of self-employed parents/guardian should be in the form of a certificate issued by revenue officer not below the rank of Tehsildar. Employed parents/guardians are required to obtain income certificate from their employer. Employed parents/guardians should obtain consolidated certificate from revenue officer for any other additional source of income.

ApplicantsmayensurethattheIncomecertificateisvalidonthedateofsubmissionof application.

Q.7-Whatistheguidelinetobefollowedforastecertificate?

Ans.IncaseofSCstudents,thecertificate shouldhavebeenissuedbythecompetent StateGovernmentauthorityinthenameofapplicant andshouldbevalidatthetimeofsubmissionofapplication.

Q.8-WhatistheamountofscholarshipgivenundertheScheme?

Ans.The SC students, who secure admission in the notified institutions, will be awarded scholarship to meet the requirements for (i) full tuition fee and non-refundable charges (there will be a ceiling of Rs. 2.00 lakh per annum per student for private sector institutions (ii) Academic allowance of Rs. 86,000 in the first year of study and Rs. 41,000 in every subsequent year, to take care of living expenses, books and stationery, computer/laptop of reputed brand with accessories like UPS and printer, etc.

The Scheme will be funded by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment on 100% basis. The scholarship will become payable immediately after a student has secured admission and has started attending the classes. The payment of tuition fee, other non-refundable charges and academic allowance will be made directly to the students by the Central Government through

Direct Benefit Transfer mode. The students shall deposit the fee to the institute immediately and in any case, within a month of receipt of such payment.

Q.9-What is the procedure for applying under the Scheme?

Ans.-The students will submit their application on National Scholarship Portal (NSP). The institutions will verify the applications on NSP for submission to the Ministry.

In the case of new entrants i.e. to the first year of the course, the institution will select eligible SC students on the basis of merit as per the entrance examination merit list keeping in consideration reservation of 30% of the slots to girl students. The entrance exam of each course will be considered as per the list given at Annexure-3. The students are required to apply under the Scheme on the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) and upload their income certificate and caste certificate on the Portal along with details of their bank account, Admission Rank and Fee details to claim the scholarship. The institution shall verify all the details before forwarding the applications to the Ministry.

The income certificate shall be verified both by the institute and the Ministry. In the case of application for renewal of scholarships by students joining second or subsequent years of the course, verification of an application by the institution would mean that the institution has promoted the student to the next class and the student has taken admission therein.

Q.10-How many children per family can avail the benefit under the Scheme?

Ans.-The benefit of the Scheme will not be provided to more than 2 siblings in a family. The students will submit an affidavit in the Institution to certify that he/she is not the third sibling of the family who is availing benefit under the Scheme. The scholarship will be terminated if the student fails to get promoted to the next semester/class.

Q.11-

Can one person simultaneously avail the benefit of similar or other Scheme of Central/State Government.

Ans.-The candidate cannot avail any other scholarship benefit of the Centre or State/ UT Governments. The student will be required to provide a declaration that he/she has not taken benefit of any other similar scholarship scheme run by the Central or State Government.

Q.12- What is Role of Aadhaar seeding in the process of release of scholarship?

Ans- Scholarship under the scheme is only released in the Aadhaar seeded bank account through Aadhaar Payment Bridge System. Therefore it is mandatory to seed your Aadhaar to your bank account.

Q.12- What are the roles and responsibilities of the different organizations involved in the process of release of scholarship.

Ans- Role of Ministry-

- (i) Verifying the application forwarded by the Institutes
- (ii) Take approval of the competent authority for release of scholarship
- (iii) Push payment on NSP portal

Role of NSP team-

- (i) To resolve any technical issue faced by student on NSP portal.
- (ii) Issue related to applying on NSP portal for fresh and renewal.

Role of Institute-

- (i) Handholding of student in applying for scholarship
- (ii) Verify applications on their end and forward all the relevant documents of the ministry of verification
- (iii) To raise any grievance of the students with the ministry/NSP Team.