

REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, TERTIARY EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

<u>Communiqué</u>

Scholarships to Children from Vulnerable Families

The Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology is inviting applications for scholarships from eligible candidates under the Scholarships to Children from Vulnerable Families Scheme.

A. Eligibility for Scholarship

- 1. The Scholarship is aimed at citizens of the Republic of Mauritius who come from vulnerable families and who qualify through the Social Register of Mauritius at the Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity.
- 2. Candidates need to have:

(a) for Undergraduate Courses

(i) a minimum of **21 points at HSC/GCE 'A' Level** computed on the basis of the following grade obtained for Advanced Level subjects secured at **one and same sitting**:

an equivalent acceptable qualification; and

(ii) secured a seat in an **accredited** and **on campus academic undergraduate full-time** programme of not less than the equivalent of one academic/full year of study at a recognised **local** university/training institution duly registered with the Higher Education Commission (HEC) and preferably in one of the **priority fields of study (2021/2023)** as determined by the HEC.

(b) <u>for Professional Courses</u>

(i) a minimum of **21 points at HSC/GCE 'A' Level** computed on the basis of the following grade obtained for Advanced Level subjects secured at **one and same sitting**:

an equivalent acceptable qualification; and

(ii) secured a seat in an **accredited full-time professional programme** of not less than one full year of study at a recognised **local** Training Institution duly registered with the Higher Education Commission.

(c) for Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) Courses

- (i) secured a seat for an **accredited full-time** National Diploma/Higher National Diploma in a **local** training institution duly registered with the Mauritius Qualifications Authority (MQA); or
- (iii) secured a seat for an **accredited full-time** Diploma offered by Polytechnics Mauritius Limited.

Note

- I Foundation courses will not be covered under the Scholarship Scheme.
- II Candidates are strongly advised to ascertain that the course they are applying for is duly accredited with the Mauritius Qualifications Authority (MQA) / Higher Education Commission (HEC) as appropriate and is listed on the MQA/HEC website.
- III The list of recognised accredited programmes in registered TVET institutions is available on the MQA website www.mqa.mu.
- IV The list of fully accredited courses by the Higher Education Commission is available on the Higher Education Commission website:- www.hec.mu
- V The list of priority fields of study for undergraduate courses as determined by the Higher Education Commission is available on the following websites:
 <u>www.hec.mu</u>

 https://education.govmu.org
- 3. The candidate should **not** be beneficiary of any other grant or scholarship.
- 4. Awardees should not be in employment during the whole course of their studies.
- 5. Candidates should be registered under the **Social Register of Mauritius (SRM)** and their monthly household income including any social benefits should not exceed Rs 14,650 or any other threshold in upcoming years, as determined by Government.
- 6. Candidates/awardees will be eligible to follow only one course under this Scheme.
- 7. Students should **not be more than 25 years old** on date of submission of application.
- 8. This Scholarship is open to students enrolled in their <u>1st year of study only</u>.

B. Scope of the Scholarship

1. The Scholarship will be for one year, renewable for further period/s of one year, subject to submission of documentary evidence of having been promoted to the next level of the course. Any resit/repeat year will be at the cost of the student, unless supported by a medical certificate. No student will be allowed to repeat more than once during the duration of the whole course.

- 2. The Scholarship will cover the costs of all appropriate fees payable to the university/training institution and a monthly stipend not exceeding Rs 3,000. The total scholarship, will, however, be to a maximum of Rs 100,000 per academic year.
- 3. Candidates from Rodrigues and the Outer Islands will receive an additional maximum total amount of Rs 50,000 per academic year for board and lodging, such that the monthly stipend will not exceed Rs 8,000 and the total scholarship will be a maximum of Rs 150,000 per academic year.
- 4. Candidates from Rodrigues and the Outer Islands will also benefit from a return airfare/ship travel (economy) from their place of residence to Mauritius and back when possible, only once for each academic year.

C. Conditions for disbursement of funds

- 1. A first payment of the monthly stipend will be made for the first semester upon the institution confirming the enrolment of the student for the approved course. A second payment will be effected on presentation of the relevant documentary evidence of having proceeded to the second semester.
- 2. Renewal of scholarship will be made on presentation of documentary evidence of having passed the end of year examinations and having been promoted to the next level. Documentary evidence, together with details of fees payable to the institution, should be submitted within two weeks of resumption of studies.

D. <u>Undertaking to complete the Course</u>

The selected candidate will have to sign an Undertaking with the Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology to follow the course regularly and complete it within the agreed minimum duration, failing which the Scholarship will be stopped forthwith.

E. Application procedure and deadline

1. **Application Form**

Application must be made on the prescribed form available at the Reception Desk of the Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology, Ground Floor, MITD House, Pont Fer, Phoenix or downloaded from the Ministry's website:

https://education.govmu.org

2. List of certified copies of documents to be submitted with application

- (i) Birth certificate of applicant;
- (ii) National Identity Card of applicant;
- (iii) Educational Certificates (SC/GCE 'O' level/HSC/GCE Advanced Level);

(iv) evidence of enrolment or offer of a seat in an accredited and on campus academic undergraduate full-time programme of not less than the equivalent of one academic/full year of study at a recognised local university/training institution duly registered with the Higher Education Commission including details of enrolment fees, tuition fees and any other associated costs;

OR

evidence of enrolment or offer of a seat in an accredited full time professional programme of not less than one full year of study at a recognised local training institution duly registered with the Higher Education Commission including details of enrolment fees, tuition fees and any other associated costs;

OR

evidence of enrolment or offer of a seat for an accredited full-time National Diploma/ Higher National Diploma course in a local training institution, duly registered with the Mauritius Qualifications Authority, including details of enrolment fees, tuition fees and any associated costs;

OR

evidence of enrolment in a programme offered at Diploma level by Polytechnics Mauritius Limited; and

(v) evidence of any Scholarship/Sponsorship being received/to be granted for the course applied for (if applicable).

In the absence of certified photocopies of the above documents, applicants should bring along their originals to enable this Ministry to certify copies of these documents.

3. Submission of application

Completed application forms must be submitted to:

The Scholarships Section (SRM)

Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology

1st Floor, MITD House

Pont Fer

Phoenix.

Post code: 73544

- (i) Candidates should ensure that certified copies of all relevant documents relating to their application are submitted along with application form.
- (ii) Applicants are <u>strongly advised</u> to submit their application <u>by the last</u> <u>working day of the month during which the course is starting</u> to benefit from full scholarship for the year.

In case that applications are submitted after the start of the course being followed, the monthly stipend will be payable as from the date of receipt of the application at the Ministry subject to approval of the application.

Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology 15 March 2024