

Merit-cum-Means Linked Financial Assistance Scheme
For Pursuing Higher Education in State Universities of Delhi

Introduction

It is the policy of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi that students get access to high quality higher education provided by Delhi State Universities irrespective of their caste, creed, economic background, or gender. Delhi Government wants to enhance access to high quality higher education for meritorious economically disadvantaged sections of the society. Many meritorious students from this section find it hard to bear the full tuition fee, though the better-off sections of the society do not face this difficulty. To ease the burden on such meritorious students, the Delhi Govt. proposes a Merit-cum-Means -Linked Financial Assistance Scheme for providing tuition fee reimbursement under the aegis of Delhi Higher Education Aid Trust, with the aim to enhance greater access to high quality higher education for meritorious Students from economically disadvantaged sections of the society. Many students from this section who find it hard to bear the full tuition fee will benefit immensely from the Scheme.

Objective of the Scheme

The objective of the Scheme is to extend financial assistance to the meritorious and needy students pursuing higher education in NCT of Delhi. Under this Scheme the Delhi Higher Education Trust through Directorate of Higher Education (DHE), GNCTD will fully or partially reimburse the tuition fee paid by the students. The extent of reimbursement will be (i)100% tuition fee of the meritorious students belonging to economically weaker section i.e. wards of parent/s who are beneficiaries and possess relevant card issued under the National Food Security Scheme(ii) 50%of the tuition fee to meritorious students having annual family income up to Rs.2.50 Lakh and not covered under the National Food Security Scheme (iii) 25% reimbursement of tuition fee to meritorious students having annual income above Rs.2.50 Lakh but below Rs.6 Lakh. It is anticipated that the Scheme will lead to participation of meritorious economically weaker sections of the society in gaining access to quality higher education of which they were deprived till now due to financial constraints. It will also help attract meritorious students to Delhi State Universities.

Eligibility Criteria:

Eligibility criteria for applying under this scheme shall be as follows:

- (1) The student should have been enrolled for under graduate programme in any of the Delhi State Public Universities or colleges/ institutes affiliated to Delhi State Public Universities.
- (2) The student should fulfill the income/ economic and academic performance criteria as specified for each category mentioned below:

Eligibility (Gross Annual Family Income of Student from all Sources)	Qualifying Aggregate Percentage (Marks in All Subjects)	Percentage of Financial Assistance
Category 1- Beneficiary under National Food Security Scheme & possess the Card issued under the Scheme	60%	100%
Category 2- Not covered under category 1 but whose family income is upto Rs.2.50 Lakh p.a.	60%	50%
Category 3- Family income above Rs.2.50 Lakh p.a. but not exceeding Rs.6 Lakh p.a.	60%	25%

A relaxation of 5% in qualifying aggregate percentage of marks will be allowed to SC/ST Category students.

Administration and Management of the Scheme

The Scheme shall be administered and managed by the concerned Delhi State Universities / institutions for themselves and for other Colleges/institutions affiliated to them. Each of these State University / Institution shall forward list of eligible students in order of merit as per the Scheme to DHE, GNCTD. Each University / Institution shall carry out due-diligence and recommend percentage of financial assistance to be granted to each student. It shall be the responsibility of the concerned University/ Institution to ensure that documentation as per Scheme is completed and names are recommended accordingly in order of merit.

Funds that can be Released under the Scheme

The list of students with recommendation for financial assistance will be forwarded to DHE, Govt. of NCT of Delhi every year by end of October. Within the allocated amount for the year, the Govt. will release funds for granting financial assistance. From this fund, the Universities/ Institutions will grant the financial assistance first to those who qualify for 100% assistance (the most needy) followed by students who qualify for 50% and then to those who qualify for 25% assistance. Within percentage slab, grant of financial assistance will be in the order of student having higher percentage of marks in class XII exam or qualifying examination, as the case may be. The Universities/ Institutions will first exhaust the slab of 100% followed by slab of 50% and 25%. Upon receipt, the concerned University / Institution will transfer the amounts of financial assistance to Aadhaar linked bank accounts of the student before the end of the academic session.

Allocation of Fund

The funds shall be allotted to various Universities/ Institutions from total funds earmarked under the scheme each financial year in proportion to the enrolled students in respective Universities/ Institutions. For this, each University/ Institution will send the DHE, Govt. of NCT of Delhi information concerning the total number of students enrolled with them.

The amount of funds allotted to the each University/ Institution shall be first applied to extend financial assistance to eligible students under category 1 and thereafter category 2 and then category 3. The distribution under each category shall be based on academic merit.

Courses / Programs Covered under the Scheme

- All approved undergraduate programs offered by any of the Delhi State Public Universities or colleges/ institutes affiliated to Delhi State Public Universities.

Other Conditions:

- I. The student should not have been availing financial assistance for meeting the cost of the course of study under any other scheme of any other Agency / Govt. In this regard, student will be required to submit an affidavit as per Annexure-“A”. The student is free to apply for financial benefit under more than one scheme of the University/ Government/ other agencies. However, disbursement under this scheme will be made only to such students who have not been availing financial assistance under any other scheme for meeting the cost of the course of study.
- II. Financial assistance is limited to the duration of the Program. A student who has failed in any subject during the course of studies will not be eligible for the assistance. Further, a student needing additional time to complete credits (including those who repeat the first year) will not get any financial assistance in the repeat year and beyond.

Process and Documentation

A student shall submit application for each year of the Course / Program as per prescribed format of the concerned institution with the following self-certified documents:

- **For All Category of Students:**
 - (i) Copy of Mark sheet / Certificate of having passed class XII or qualifying examination.
 - (ii) Certificate related to SC/ST Category issued by competent authority
 - (iii) Copy of Pass-Book / E-Statement of the student bank account which should be Aadhaar seeded.
 - (iv) All previous mark sheets/certificate from concerned University/institution of current programme.
 - (v) A declaration, as per Format at Annexure-“A”, by the student affirming that no financial support has been availed / is being availed from any other Scheme for meeting the cost of education for the course / program.

- **Additional Documents for Students Requesting Financial Assistance of 100%:**
 - Copy of valid card issued under the National Food Security Scheme

- **Additional Documents for Students Requesting Financial Assistance of 50% :**
 - Copy of valid annual family income certificate issued by the SDM/competent authority.

- **Additional Documents for Students Requesting Financial Assistance of 25%:**
 - Copy of the full Income Tax Return (including the acknowledgement page) for both parents filed with Income Tax Department for the previous financial year. In the case of a non-working parent, an affidavit affirming non-employment certified by the office of SDM/competent authority and family income certificate issued by the SDM/competent authority.

Disqualification Due to False Information

If at any stage, it is found that the applicant has submitted wrong or false information then the recipient student will refund the entire amount forthwith along with penal interest @ 10% for the period of credit of amount to his bank account and till the date of refund. The University / Institution, at its discretion depending upon circumstances, may also initiate criminal proceedings against the parents / recipient student.

Limitation of the Scheme

The Delhi Higher Education Trust will make available funds up to the number of students recommended by the Universities / Institutions for financial assistance. Depending upon availability of funds and priority to lower income groups the Trust may restrict the number of beneficiaries for grant of financial assistance. In such a case the Trust will decide the students who may be granted financial assistance.

Mere application or recommendation by the concerned University / Institution will not entitle the student the right of financial assistance under the Scheme and the decision of the Trust in this regard will be final and binding. In this regard no request will be entertained either by the concerned University / Institution or the Trust.

FORMAT-“A”

(Declaration by the Student)

I,.....son/daughter of
Mr. /Mrs.....resident
ofstudying in the.....year (mention year of the
Program i.e. first, second, etc.) of the.....Program (name of the Program e.g. B.
Tech. BA, BCA etc.) in.....(name of the University /
Institute) do hereby declare that I am not availing any financial assistance / subsidy for the
program from any other Agency / Scheme of the Govt. In the event of the University /
Institution coming to know of my availing any financial assistance / subsidy I undertake to
refund the entire amount with penal interest calculated @ 10% for the period commencing
from the date of credit of assistance to my / my parents bank account and till the date of
refund.

I also understand that the University / Institutions is also free to initiate any legal
action against me / my parents for any wrong / misleading information furnished in the
format of application.

(Signature of the Student with Date)

Witnesses (other than parents/family members):

	Name and Complete Address	Signature
1.		
2.		