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**CENTRALLY-SPONSORED
SCHEME OF
PRE MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP
FOR
TRANSGENDER STUDENTS
(VIIth to Xth Std.)**

GUIDELINES



सत्यमेव जयते

Government of India

**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE &
EMPOWERMENT GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

(190) (2)

**CENTRALLY-SPONSORED SCHEME OF PRE MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP FOR
TRANSGENDER STUDENTS
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SCHEME OF PRE MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THE TRANSGENDER STUDENTS STUDYING IN CLASSES VIIth TO Xth

1. BACKGROUND

Article 14 guarantees to all persons equality before law. Article 19(1) ensures for all citizens freedom of speech and expression. Article 21 guarantees life of dignity to all persons. Article 15(1), 15(2), and 16(2) in express terms prohibit discrimination on the ground of sex. In view of above, education is common to all which is to be made available to persons of all genders including Transgender persons. Hence, educational scholarship to Transgender children who are living in different parts of the country has been planned.

2. OBJECTIVES

Objectives of the scheme are:

- (a) To support parents of Transgender Children for education of their wards studying in classes VIIth to Xth so that the incidence of drop-out, especially in the transition from the elementary to the secondary stage is minimized, and
- (b) To improve participation of transgender children from classes VIIth to Xth of the pre-matric stage, so that they perform better and have a better chance of progressing to the post-matric stage of education.

3. SCOPE

Scholarships under the Scheme will be available for studies in India only and will be awarded by the respective State Governments/Union Territory administrations to which the applicant belongs i.e. where he is domiciled.

4. CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY

- (i) The student should have shown symptoms of gender dysphoria as per Parent's/Guardian's declaration. Such a student will be considered as a transgender child for the purpose of this scheme.
- (ii) The Transgender student's Parent's/Guardian's income should not exceed Rs. 2.50 lakh per annum.
- (iii) The Transgender student should not be getting any other scholarship funded by Centre /State Govts/UT Administration.
- (iv) The transgender student should be a regular, full time student studying in a Government School or in a School recognized by Govt. or a Central/State Board of Secondary Education.

(v) Scholarship for studying in any class will be available for only one year. If a student has to repeat a class, the transgender student would not get scholarship for that class for a second (or subsequent) year.

5. ANNUAL PARENTAL/GUARDIAN'S INCOME

Scholarships will be paid to such students whose parents'/guardians' income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 2,50,000/- (Rupees two lakh fifty thousand only) per annum.

NOTE 1: So long as either of the parents is alive, only income of the parents, as the case may be, from all sources has to be taken into account only and of no other member even though they may be earning. In the form of income declaration, income is to be declared on this basis. Only in the case where both the parents have died, the income of the guardian who is supporting the transgender student in studies has to be taken. Such students whose parent's income is affected due to unfortunate death of one of earning parents and resultantly comes within the income ceiling prescribed under the scheme, shall become eligible for scholarship, subject to their fulfilling other conditions of eligibility, from the month in which such sad incident takes place. Applications for scholarships from such students can be considered even after the last date of receipt of applications, on compassionate grounds.

NOTE 2: House rent allowance received by the parents of a transgender student shall be exempted from the computation of 'income' if the same has been permitted to be exempted for the purpose of Income tax.

NOTE 3: Income certificate is required to be taken once only i.e. at the time of admission to courses which are continuing for more than one year.

NOTE 4 : Income Ceiling would be revised once in every two years linking it with Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers for the month of October of the year, preceding the year of revision and will be made effective from April.

6. VALUE OF SCHOLARSHIP

The value of scholarship includes scholarship and a one time grant for complete duration of the course:-

The details are as follows:

The rates of Scholarship and other Grant will be as follows:

Item	Day Scholars	Hostellers
Scholarship (Rs. p.m.) (for 10 months)	150	350

7. SELECTION OF CANDIDATES

(i) All eligible Transgender students will be given scholarships as prescribed in this Scheme.

(ii) Students belonging to one State but studying in another State will be awarded scholarships by the State in which they are studying and will submit their applications to the competent authority in that State.

8. DURATION AND RENEWAL OF AWARDS

(i) The scholarship will be payable for 10 months in an academic year.

(ii) The award once made will continue subject to good conduct and regularity in attendance.

9. PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP

(i) Scholarship is payable from 1st April or from the month of admission, whichever is later, to the month in which the examinations are completed, at the end of the academic year (including scholarship during holidays), provided that if the student secures admission after the 20th day of a month, the amount will be paid from the month following the month of admission.

(ii) In case of renewal of scholarship, it will be paid from the month following the month upto which the scholarship was paid in the previous year.

(iii) The respective State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, in which they are studying, in accordance with the procedure laid down by them in this regard, shall pay the scholarship money to the selected transgender students.

10. CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUATION OF THE AWARD

(i) The scholarship is dependent on the satisfactory progress and conduct of the transgender student. If it is reported by the Head of the Institution/School at any time that a transgender student has by reasons of his/her own act of default failed to make satisfactory progress or has been guilty of misconduct such as resorting to or participating in strikes, irregularity in attendance without the permission of the authorities concerned etc., the authority sanctioning the scholarship may either cancel the scholarships or stop or withhold further payment for such period as it may think fit.

(ii) If a student is found to have obtained a scholarship by false statements, the scholarship will be cancelled forthwith and the amount of the scholarship paid will be recovered, at the discretion of the concerned State Government/ UT Administration. The student concerned will be blacklisted and debarred for scholarship in any scheme forever.

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(iii) A transgender student is liable to refund the scholarship amount at the discretion of the State Government/ UT Administration, if during the course of the year, the studies for which the scholarship has been awarded, is discontinued by the student.

11. PUBLICITY OF THE SCHEME & INVITING APPLICATIONS

11.1 The Scheme will be implemented through State Governments/UT Administrations. All the State Governments/UT Administrations will, at the appropriate time, suitably publicise the Scheme and invite applications by issuing an advertisement in local language, in the leading newspapers of the State and through their respective websites and other media outfits. The applicant should submit the completed application to the prescribed authority, as mentioned below before the last date prescribed for receipt of applications.

11.2 State Government/UTs would prescribe a suitable application form in the local language and place it on its websites. School authorities will get these forms filled by the eligible transgender students and send them to Block / District level authorities. State Governments/UT Administrations will delegate powers to sanction scholarships under the scheme to appropriate District / Block level authorities/ Heads of Institution, as appropriate.

12. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

(i) An application for pre-matric scholarship should comprise of :

(a) One copy of the application for scholarship in the prescribed form (separate application forms should be prescribed for 'fresh' cases and renewal of scholarship by concerned States/UTs).

(b) One copy of the passport size photograph with signature of the student thereon (for fresh scholarship).

(c) A signed declaration by the parent/guardian that the child has shown symptoms of gender dysphoria.

(d) An income declaration by the self-employed parents/guardians, stating definite income from all sources by way of an affidavit on non-judicial stamp paper. Employed parents/guardians are required to obtain income certificate from their employer and for any additional income from other sources, they would furnish declaration by way of an affidavit on non-judicial stamp paper.

(e) A receipt of acknowledgement of the scholarship in the previous year along with the application form duly counter-signed by the Head of the Institution/School concerned, if the applicant was in receipt of a scholarship under this scheme in the preceding year.

(ii) Application, complete in all respects, shall be submitted to the Head of the Institution/School, being attended or last attended by the candidate and shall be forwarded by the Head of Institution, after scrutiny and with its recommendation, to the sanctioning authority, mentioned in para 11.2.

13. MODE OF DISBURSAL OF SCHOLARSHIP

In order to ensure timely and correct payment of scholarship amount to the beneficiaries, State Governments/UT administrations should ensure payment of scholarship through their accounts in post offices/banks. All State Govts/UT Administrations will implement a computerized management system of scholarships, including 'e-payment' system. In case of a minor, the account in the bank/post office should be a joint account with mother or father if mother is not alive or the guardian, as the case may be.

14. PATTERN AND CONDITIONS OF CENTRAL ASSISTANCE (CA)

14.1 The Scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and will be implemented by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, which will receive 75% of the central assistance from Government of India for expenditure under the Scheme. The balance 25% should be borne by the State Governments/ Union Territories. Hence, they should make necessary provision in their budget. The Central Government will release 50% of the Central share on allocation of the budget in the beginning of the financial year and the remaining 50%(after taking into account unspent balance, if any) will be released on receipt of proposal from States/UTs and utilization certificate of the assistance provided in the previous Financial Year.

14.2 Upto 1.5 % of the total Central expenditure towards Scholarship, would, be utilized on administrative expenditure, Management, Monitoring & Evaluation etc. The funds would be utilized for this purpose, by the Central Government or it would be released to States/UTs, over and above the Scholarship amount, on the basis of proposals received from them in this regard. However, no new posts would be created under this component.

15. MONITORING

State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations implementing the scheme will:

- i) furnish data of beneficiaries and expenditure under the scheme, to the Government of India, regularly in the half yearly progress reports. Financial assistance given under the scheme shall not be utilized for any other purpose.
- ii) create beneficiaries' database which may be integrated with UIDAI by (a) embedding Aadhaar numbers (UID numbers) in it, (b) using the UIDAI enabled bank account (UEBA) for crediting the scholarships and (c) using the UIDAI authentication services for beneficiary identification.
- iii) ensure that an institution-wise list of awardees, with necessary particulars, for award of scholarships is displayed on the web-site of NIC at the District level.
- iv) designate Grievance Redressal Officers (GROs) at the State and District levels to redress transgender students' scholarship-related grievances.

16. CHANGE IN THE PROVISIONS OF THE SCHEME

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The provisions of this Scheme can be changed/revised at anytime at the discretion of the Government of India.
