

# PROCEDURES FOR ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT OF SEYCHELLES (GOS) SCHOLARSHIPS DURING THE UNPRECEDENTED TIME

## 1. Introduction

Subject to availability of fund, the Government of Seychelles will continue to award scholarships to high performing students to pursue higher education degrees. Students must continue to receive opportunities to study both locally and overseas as a way of gaining competence to participate in the development of the country. However, because of the financial difficulties being faced by the country in this unprecedented time, some restrictions and constraints are being proposed for this year. These restrictions will be reviewed as the financial situation of the country changes and as more scholarships are made available by donors; individuals, organizations or countries. The Agency for National Human Resources Development (ANHRD) will continue to manage the scholarships and study awards on behalf of the Government of Seychelles.

### 1.1. Purpose of Government Scholarships

Experiences dictate the need to properly establish the purpose of the Government Scholarships that are awarded to successful students. The way students and parents construe Government Scholarships severely affects their engagements with the Agency. It is essential therefore to clearly define the purpose of these scholarships hence enabling students to make informed decisions and choices.

The Agency perceives Higher Education Scholarships offered by the Government of Seychelles as “... **a financial contribution towards supporting high achieving students to allow them to attain higher education qualifications and ultimately participate in the socio-economic development of the country**”. All arrangements described in this paper are guided by such conception. Under this defined purpose and given the context of the current financial situation of the country, the following general principles are being established:

1. Students will be supported to study online, locally, or overseas, in approved countries and institutions which has been established by the Agency.
2. Students will be supported to undertake their studies in areas that are of priority to the country. These areas are determined by the Agency as part of its research and consultative mandates.
3. Students who opt to differ from Principle 1 and/or 2 above are expected to contribute a substantial financial portion of their studies.
4. Students are strongly encouraged to take up scholarships offered by donor organizations or those obtained through multilateral arrangements.
5. Priority will be given pre-service applicants applying to study for a first degree only.

## 2. Administration of Scholarships

These guidelines will be applied to 2020 and 2021 Cohorts. However, priority will be given to qualified candidates from the 2020 Cohort, those who agree to take courses in Priority 1 and in an approved venue of study, and to students wanting to take a course from a bilateral scholarship arrangement. The various awards and schemes are further described in this section.

### 2.1. Overseas Scholarships

- a) Scholarships to study abroad will only be awarded to:
  - students who have obtained 18 points or better in at least 3 Advanced Level subjects in one sitting.
  - students from the Seychelles Business Studies Academy achieving a grade 85% or better.
  - students from Professional Centres who emerged amongst the best five performers and who have the relevant requirements to get entrance to study for a **degree** in an approved venue.
- b) Students who have achieved 30 points or higher in their A levels (the high achievers), may be awarded a full scholarship in any priority field and approved venue.
- c) Parents or sponsors of students who are qualified to study overseas, are expected to contribute significantly to the overall cost of study if the students choose a field of study which is not in Priority 1 area and/or decide to study outside an approved venue.

### 2.2. Local Scholarships

- a) Scholarships to study locally – at the University of Seychelles and The Guy Morel Institute – will be awarded to:
  - Qualifying students from Professional Centres
  - Students who have achieved a minimum of 12 points in their A level studies

## 3. Description of Scholarships

The following are entitlements of each scholarship.

### 3.1. Overseas fully funded scholarship

- Tuition fees
- Stipend and other allowances as may be applicable.
- Airfares by cheapest route to and from the training venue at the start and upon completion of study respectively.
- Visa fees
- Medical insurance if applicable
- 20kg excess baggage allowance upon completion of course

### **3.2. Local fully funded scholarship**

- Tuition fees
- Monthly Allowances
- Monthly Housing Allowance for students from Praslin and La Digue

### **3.3. Partial Scholarship (with parental contribution)**

This scholarship will be awarded to students who qualifies for an overseas scholarship.

- For students who choose to study in a field that appears in Priority 2 - 5 in the Priority Areas Table and in an approved venue, the parental or sponsor contribution will be 15% of the total cost of study.
- For students who choose to study in a field that appears in Priority 1 – 5 in the Priority Area Table but not in an approved venue, the Agency will award to the students the amount it would have paid for the approved cost effective venue for the respective field.

### **3.4. Online (local tutor) Scholarships**

To qualify for an Online Scholarship the total tuition fee must not exceed USD20,000.00. Students taking this option will be entitled: tuition fees and monthly allowance.

### **3.5. Bilateral/ multi-lateral Scholarship**

This scholarship is awarded to students who choose to study in an area that is considered a priority to the Seychelles. The Government of Seychelles will bear all extra costs associated with these scholarships.

## **4. Terms and Conditions**

A student who has been awarded a scholarship is expected to:

- (a) engage fully in the programme of study for the duration of the scholarship.
- (b) refrain from engaging in any activity which is considered detrimental to his or her progress during the course of study.
- (c) pass the prescribed assessments within the period specified by the institution in which the student is attending.
- (d) submit to the Agency, progress reports or yearly transcripts provided by the institution on a regular basis or as and when requested by the Agency.
- (e) complete the programme of study as per the scholarship agreement and not to change or extend the programme of study or change the approved institution without prior approval of the Agency.
- (f) abide by the terms and conditions stipulated in the scholarship bonding agreement.
- (g) abide to the laws and regulations of the country of study.

The Government of Seychelles through the Agency reserves the right to terminate the Scholarship of a student in the event that the student is not abiding to the regulations or respecting the terms and conditions of the scholarship and when the student is medically considered unfit to progress with the scholarship.

## 5. Country Priority Areas

Priority 1	Medicine, Microbiology, Psychology, Nursing, Social Work /Counsellor, Speech Pathology, Teaching, Pure Sciences, Information Technology/Computing, Banking, Economics, Accounting & Finance, Statistics, Tourism & Hospitality Management, Aquaculture, Marine Biology, Zoology, Fish Veterinary, Fisheries Science, Agronomy, Agriculture Science, Food Security, Renewable energy
Priority 2	Dentistry, Law, Civil/ Structural Engineering, Food Science and Safety, Environmental Science, Nutrition/Dietician, Monitoring and Evaluation
Priority 3	Business Administration, Human Resource Development & Management, Marine Engineering, Navigation, Bio-medical Engineering/Science, Criminal Justice/Criminology, Land/Quantity Surveying
Priority 4	Telecommunication, Air Trafficking, Transport and Logistics, Record Management
Priority 5	Architecture, Anthropology and Archaeology, Journalism