

**Government of Karnataka  
Social Welfare Department**

**Karnataka “Prabuddha” Overseas Scholarships Scheme for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes**

**Objective of the Scheme**

1. The scheme provides financial assistance to the selected candidates for pursuing Graduation, Masters level Courses and Ph.D abroad in the Universities/ Institutions as notified by the government under the scheme in the following specified fields of study .

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Fields of Study</b>
a.	Engineering and Management
b.	Pure Sciences and Applied Sciences
c.	Agriculture Sciences and Medicine
d.	International Commerce, Economics, Accounting Finance
e.	Humanities, Social Science, Fine Arts and Law

2. 33% of the awards for each year shall be earmarked for women candidates. And 5% for Physically Challenged Candidates. However , in case adequate numbers of women candidates / PH Candidate are not found available, other candidate can be selected, in their place. Further Preference will be given to the candidate from Identified nomadic / semi nomadic micro communities / children of Safayi Karmachari and ST Primitive tribes among SC and ST.

**3. JURISDICTION OF THE SCHEME**

The jurisdiction of the scheme is up to providing prescribed financial support to the selected candidates for pursuing higher education in abroad the specified subjects. The Scheme does not cover employment aspects of the awardee and

also does not provide for any kind of assistance to the awardee in seeking employment anywhere, after his / her having availed of the award.

#### **4. Eligibility criteria**

##### **Minimum Qualification:**

- (a) For Ph.D:-** 55% marks or equivalent grade in relevant qualifying master's Degree.
- (b) For Masters Degree:-** 55% marks or equivalent grade in relevant qualifying Bachelor's Degree exams.
- (c) For Bachelor Degree (UG):-** 80% marks or equivalent grade in relevant qualifying exams(PUC/12<sup>th</sup> classes). Preference will be given to the students studied in Social Welfare Department Hostels / KARNATAKA RESIDENTIAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS SOCIETY hostels / students of Government Colleges. If the required number of candidates are not available from these Categories then the opportunity will be given to other students.

##### **(d) Additional Qualification For Phd / Master's Degree Course:**

The Candidates should clear GRE / GMAT / TOEFL / IELTS with minimum score/marks as follows before applying for the overseas scholarship.

##### **(a) USA:-**

###### **Engineering and all other courses :-**

GRE – 295 out of 340 and TOEFL – 80 out of 120 marks.

###### **Management:-**

GMAT – 400 out of 800 and TOEFL – 80 out of 120 marks.

**(b) Other Countries:-****Engineering and all other courses:-**

GRE – 295 out of 340 and IELTS – 06 out of 09 marks or TOEFL – 80 out of 120 marks.

**Management:-**

GMAT – 400 out of 800 and IELTS – 06 out of 09 marks or TOEFL – 80 out of 120 marks.

**( C) For UG Courses “ The UG Study is allowed in all the field of study at serial-1 except medicine**

The Candidates should also clear SAT / TOEFL / IELTS with minimum marks/ score as follows.

SAT – 1000 out of 1600 and IELTS – 06 out of 09 marks or TOEFL- 80 out of 120 marks.

**5. AGE:**

In case of Ph.D and PG Courses the maximum age is 35 (Thirty Five) years, and in case of **UG the maximum age is 21 years**, as on the first day of the month of the notification published. The candidate shall be a citizen of India and permanent resident of Karnataka.

**6. Number of awards per year: Ph.D(Dipend upon application )**

Masters-250 and UG-150

**7. INCOME CEILING:**

Sl. No.	Annual Income Limit	Eligible for Financial Assistance
1	Up to Rs. 8.00 lakhs	100%

2	Rs. 8.00 lakhs to Rs. 15.00 lakhs	50%
3	Rs. 15.00 lakhs to Rs. 25.00 lakhs	33%

In case of the candidates whose parents/guardians /spouse/employed / they should enclose annual salary details certified by the employer and last 2 years income tax returns if income tax payee. In case of all others the annual income certificate from competent authority of GOK and 2 years income tax returns if income tax payee.

**8. Maximum number of children in a family for the award:**

Two children of the same parents/guardians will be eligible under this scheme they should file affidavit to this affect.

**Important:-** Candidates are eligible for Oversees Scholarship under this scheme only once. Hence the candidates must choose either Ph.D or Masters or UG while applying for scholarship. Any awardee cannot be considered for the award on a subsequent occasion as the award can be given only once. Further the candidates who availed overseas scholarship under this scheme, are not entitle for any other grant or scholarship for overseas studies from the government of GOK, GOI and other government organization/Agency.

**9. Duration of the award and financial assistance :**

(1) An annual maintenance allowance the maintenance allowance for accommodation and food charges to be sanctioned for each candidate is Rupees Eight lakhs or 75% of approximate cost given by the Universities whichever is less for one year course. Similar amount be given for each year of course period subject to the maximum Period mentioned below.

- (a) Masters Degree – 2 years (two years) or completion of the course whichever is earlier.
- (b) Ph.D. – 4 years (four years) or completion of the course whichever is earlier.

(c) For Bachelor Degree - 4 years (four years) or completion of the course whichever is earlier.

(d) Tuitions Fee – Actual as Fees charged minus scholarship sanctioned if any

(e) Medical Insurance – Actual as charged.

(f) Books and other miscellaneous Allowance – Rs.1 Lakhs per year.

(g) VISA FEES- Actual as fees in Indian rupees will be paid.

(h) AIR PASSAGE

1. Air passage from India to the nearest place of the educational institution abroad and back to India, by economy class will be provided. In case of first time journey to abroad the air passage charges will be paid along with the maintenance allowance subject to submitting air ticket and boarding pass. However for the return journey, air ticket cost will be reimbursed only after the completion of the course subjected to submitting the copies of Air Ticket and Boarding pass and Passport compulsorily immediately after return to India but not beyond three months.

2. The financial assistance as mentioned above will be released semester wise only after the receipt of confirmation of about admission of the candidate in foreign university subjected to submission of relevant documents i.e., I-20 form, fees payment receipt, VISA, Passport, hostel / Rental Details, Overseas bank account of the candidate and of the university/ Institution.

#### **10. MODE OF PAYMENT:-**

a.) The tuition/admission Fee amount as stated in I-20/Offer letter shall be credited to the Bank account of the Institution / University abroad as per the conditions of the said Institution / University or as decided by the department at the time of releases.

b.) The maintenance allowance also be credited to the bank account of the University / Institution if hostel facilities are provided to the candidates by the university / Institutions and the candidates are willing to stay in the hostel for every Six months within the amount as it 8(1).

c.) If the candidate is staying outside the amount will be credited to candidate bank account Abroad in appropriate installments but the 1<sup>st</sup> installment will be credited immediately after confirmation of the enrolment/admission and subsequent installment once in every 6 months on receipt of progress report/transcript from the concerned Institution / University Abroad.

d.) After completion of the course the candidate shall submit the degrees/Course Completion Certificate issued by the concerned Institution / University to the Commissioner / Director, Social Welfare / Tribal Welfare, Bengaluru.

e.) The candidate shall inform Commissioner / Director, Social Welfare / Tribal Welfare, Bengaluru regarding placement/ job after completion of the course.

## **11.EARNINGS FROM RESEARCH/TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP**

The awardees are permitted to supplement their prescribed allowance by undertaking Research/Teaching Assistance ship to the limited period so that the main study should not get disturb.

## **12.SELECTION PROCEDURE**

### **1. Method of apply for sanction of overseas scholarship**

**The scheme will be advertised in the newspapers/website and all other media giving detailed information about the scheme. The Applications will be submitted online only, which will include all the prescribed and requisite information. The candidates shall, after assessing their eligibility and suitability, as per conditions of the scheme, apply online (employed candidates through proper channel), in the prescribed format, and upload copies of all required documents, in the online**

**application. The last date of receiving online applications will also be mentioned in the advertisement. The incomplete applications will be rejected.**

The candidates who secured admission on their own in the university / institution before applying , which are notified in the website of the social welfare department should submit the application in the prescribed format as per the advertisement inviting applications. Such candidates shall enclose/ upload I-20/Offer letter.

Further the candidates may also apply if not already secured the admission as per the eligibilities of the scheme. However all the selected candidates shall obtain admission and join the notified University / Institution in abroad within 12 months from the date of selection. On expiry of this specified period of time the selection will automatically get cancelled and come to an end.

Candidates who are in employment must forward their applications through their employer, along with a 'No Objection Certificate' (NOC) by the employer, to Social Welfare Department / Tribal Welfare Department so as to reach the same on or before the last date of receipt of applications as specified in the advertisement of the Scheme.

**All applications received till last date, as notified in advertisement, will be scrutinized including documents uploaded by the department or agency empanelled by the government. The list of provisionally eligible candidates based on the marks obtained in the qualified examination( Merit list ) and as per target will be prepared.**

**The names of the provisionally eligible candidates subject to verification of original documents and also the states of the other candidates will be posted in the website for their information.**

**The original documents will be verified by the department and in case of doubt about documents etc.. the spot inspection and cross verification**

**will also be done before finalizing the list. After that the list names with all details will be submitted to the government for final approval. However the government may call the candidates for personal appearance if necessary and the candidates are expected to appear personally before the authority or the committee as deemed fit.**

**Selected candidates are required to furnish all such documents i.e. VISA Passport, Offer letter, I-20 and enter in to such agreements before their departure as decided by the Government from time to time.**

**13.Applicants/ candidates who have already left the country and pursuing studies in any of the foreign Institutions / Universities on their own without authorization / sanction from Government of Karnataka, are not entitled for any financial assistance under the scheme.**

**14.Other Mandatory conditions:**

a.) The selected candidate is required to execute a bond on a non-judicial stamp paper before a notary-public with two sureties who will execute surety bonds separately for the actual amount to be spent by Government of Karnataka (GOK) on the candidate of Rs. 50,000-/ whichever is more. Each of the surety bonds shall specify and cover for the estimated expenditure in Indian Rupees that would be incurred as travel expenses, fees, maintenance and contingency allowances, stipends, scholarship and other miscellaneous expenses, on the awardee during the entire period of study abroad and shall become payable by the sureties jointly or / and severally in case the awardee is declared a defaulter by the Government under the provisions of the scheme. The language of the bond has decided of the Government of Karnataka will be acceptable to the candidate.

b.) The selected candidates have to seek admission for their respective studies in the University / Institutions which are notified by the government. The candidates are required to make their own efforts in seeking admission.



c.) In case the married candidates take a decision to take their spouse and children with them or join them subsequently during the period of study, it is entirely for them to assess their financial potential and availability of passport, visa etc., as no financial assistance of any kind as well as any other support coverage is provided under the Scheme for their spouse and children.

d). Expenses and logistics covered by the award would be strictly limited to the candidate only.

e). The candidates shall not change the University/Institution or course of study or research for which scholarship has been sanctioned. If under extraordinary circumstances, if the change is required, then it shall be left to the discretion & decision of the Government only.

f.). In case of working/employed candidates all administrative matters like study leave; salary etc. will be directly sorted out by the candidate with his / her employer and as per rules of the serving organization. The Government will not take any responsibility or render assistance in this regard.

g.) In an emergency the awardee is permitted to return to India for a specific purpose in connection with the emergency, after having duly informed the GOK / Indian Mission as well as the awardees university/Institution of study. The awardee will, however, be required to bear to and fro journey expenses for the visit and shall also not be entitled to receive maintenance allowance under the scheme, for the period of being away from the place of his / her educational Institution abroad and the maintenance allowance shall be resumed only from the date of his / her resuming same course at the same institution. The awardee shall return to the place of his/her educational institution, as early as possible: failing which, he/she shall be liable to be declared a defaulter and the recovery proceeding will be initiated against him/her.

h.) All candidates after having availed financial and other assistance under this scheme are ordinarily required to return to India. However, permission for staying for 2 years after completion of the course may be considered, for the reasons recorded in writing without any financial support. The decision would rest with Government of Karnataka. The awardee after having returned to India is also required to immediately intimate to the Government in writing about having returned to India.

i) The candidate on return to India generally is expected to remain in India for at least 5 years. In case of candidates who were in Government service before going to abroad under this scheme if he / she continues to be in Government service after return to India, is also required to serve the Government.

j). It will be for the candidate to obtain the appropriate visa for a country wherein he/she intends to study under the scheme and it is for the visa issuing authorities to issue only such visa as permits the candidates to pursue the specified course abroad and thereafter the candidate returns to India. GOK will render no assistance to a candidate for obtaining visa.

k). In case the awardee(s) have received overpayment towards admission fee etc.. from GOK or any other Government agency, he/she shall refund the same to GOK. His/her employer (if any) is required to recover the excess amount from his/her dues, on request from GOK and refund the same to GOK.

l). The decisions of GOK shall be final in all such issues, as may come up during course of time.

m). The Indian Mission abroad will be intimated the list of selected candidates after admission and the candidates shall submit six monthly progress reports/transcript from the university/institution where the awardee is pursuing his/her studies for which the award was given under the scheme to GOK and Indian Mission abroad. The Mission will also be requested to inform

GOK such serious adverse developments in case of the awardee which requires decision towards further continuation of the award or otherwise. Based on the reports the appropriate action will be taken by Government. In case of candidates whose progress/transcript is not satisfactory as reflected in their six monthly progress reports, the Government may take steps to stop the extension of financial assistance and cancel the award.

n) The candidate shall not change the course of study or research for which scholarship has been sanctioned. However, if an awardee pursuing PhD in an University/Institution where he/she is initially registered with, finds himself in a serious situation where his/her guide has left and there are no immediate replacements thereof or that the University/Institution has discontinued the research support facilities in the area where the awardee was pursuing PhD the GOK based on the report from the said University, is authorized in such cases to allow the awardee to change the university/institutions, after satisfied about such a need, subject however, to the condition that the credits earned by the awardee in the initial university/institution are accepted for transfer by the second university/ institution and that the total period of award shall remain unchanged even on such a transfer/change, which may be permitted only once during the award.

**Note:** The list of universities/ Institutions under the scheme will be notified separately by the department and the candidates have to apply only for the notified universities/ Institutions seeking admission for Ph.D/ Master's Degree (PG) and also Degree Courses (UG)

o) The candidate is not eligible for scholarship under this scheme to pursue the same level of course that is master's/Ph.D/UG which He/She had already acquired such qualification from any university either in India or abroad.

p). In case the awardee is unable to complete the course successfully and that if the guide/head of the department of the candidate certifies that the candidate has not been found wanting in his/her commitment/dedication/attention to studies then the Government shall have the right to exempt him/her from the penalty clause for "Defaulter under the Scheme". The Government in such cases entitles the candidate to claim air passage to India by shortest route by economy class.

q). When the candidate overstays for more than three month after successful completion of the course and in such case he/she may return to India at their own cost and not entitle for claiming return ticket charges. In normal circumstances, immediately after successful completion of the course he/she should return to India within three month.

r). The Government, if necessary, in consultation with other Departments/ Agencies, shall take decisions on such issues concerning awardees as may arise from circumstances which are of unforeseeable nature and thus, not covered under this written scheme and such decisions of the Government shall be final and binding on the awardees.

### **15.DEFAULT UNDER THE SCHEME**

In case a candidate pursuing studies abroad violates any of the terms and conditions of the bonds executed by him/her and that the educational institution/university intimates the Indian Mission abroad/Government of Karnataka about his/her adverse reports on studies and/or conduct and/or that the candidate leaves for any other country or absconds or joins any other university or course/programme or/and returns to India in case of emergency without intimating the Indian Mission abroad/GOK, he/she shall be declared a defaulter and shall be liable to refund the entire amount spent on him/her along with the interest @ 12% per annum or such rate as may be fixed from time to time by GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA and in case an awardee fails to repay the amount within six months from the date on which a demand for such refund is made, penal interest at the rate which

is 2.5% higher than the aforesaid rate of interest on the outstanding amount would be charged. If the awardee fails to repay such amount along with the interest thereon in the manner decided by GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA, his/her sureties who have executed bonds, shall be liable to pay the entire amount failing which the Deputy Commissioner of the concerned district shall realize the amount as arrears of land revenue.

#### **16.FURNISHING OF FALSE INFORMATION**

If any candidate has furnished any false information/document and is established as false, he/she shall be debarred from the award and if he/she has availed of it or is availing, an action will be initiated for recovery of the amount spent with 15% compound interest thereon and criminal proceedings shall be initiated. Such candidate will also be black listed for future and the employed candidate will also have to face departmental action for such act, for which the GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA will take up the matter with the respective employers. The respective employers are, therefore, also requested to carefully go through contents of application of their employees before forwarding the same to this Government. The employers are also free to insist on candidates employed by them to execute such bonds with them, as they deem fit and necessary and in accordance with their rules and regulations in such cases.

#### **17.LITIGATION**

Any litigation on matters arising out of this scheme in India will be subject to sole jurisdiction of the courts situated in Bengaluru.

Under Secretary to Government – 1  
Social Welfare Department.