

No.K-11017/1/2022-SCD-V
Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
Department of Social Justice & Empowerment
(SCD-V Section)

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated: 08th July 2024

To

Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary/Commissioner/
Additional Secretary/Incharges/
Social Welfare Department/SC/OBC Welfare Department
All States/UTs

Subject: Instructions regarding Implementation of Post Matric Scholarship Scheme (SC) Students and Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for SC Students & Others for AY 2024-25 – reg.

Respected Madam/Sir,

With reference to implementation of Post Matric Scholarship Scheme (SC) Students and Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for SCs & Others for AY 2024-25, it is informed that in addition to the Guidelines/instructions already issued to all States/UTs vide letter dated 5th October, 2023 (copy enclosed), following recommendations as approved by the competent authority need to be implemented by all States/UTs as listed below:

- 1. For Pre and Post Matric Scholarship Schemes for SCs** -Aadhaar based biometric authentication and eKYC is to be made mandatory from AY 2024-25. All eligible beneficiaries, from AY 2024-25, need to have their Aadhaar based biometric authentication and eKYC to be completed during the application registration process. State/UT departments to make sure that the entire exercise is completed along with the registration and verification process.
- 2. All scholarship payments to be made using Aadhaar Payment Bridge (APB) System** to ensure that payments are made only to the eligible beneficiary. DoSJE would also suggest the States/UTs to encourage APBS for disbursement of state share under the said scheme. No Account based payments are accepted for disbursement of central share under the scholarship schemes.

परवीन कुमार शिंदे
परवीन कुमार शिंदे
M/o Social Justice & Empowerment
D/o Social Justice & Empowerment
शास्त्री भवन, नई दिल्ली-110001
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

3. Real time integration (REST API) of State Scheme portals with NPCI–State portals is mandatory to show the real time status of Aadhaar seeding for applicant at the time of registration. This would help in reducing the payment failure issues related to non Aadhaar seeding faced in previous years, while at the same time help applicants get their Aadhaar seeding status.
4. In case of non-seeding of Aadhaar with beneficiary's account, INO must ensure that the student's Aadhaar seeding is completed and form is finally submitted within 15 days of registration of application. Thereafter, the State Governments are requested to ensure that the state share of scholarship is disbursed within 30 days of INO verification. Reducing the turnaround time for scholarship disbursements is extremely important and the emphasis of the Ministry.
5. SNOs and DNOs are requested to arrange and organise Aadhaar seeding camps for the applicants in coordination with the banks at the institution level.
6. For States, it is required that there is mandatory integration with DigiLocker/API Setu/State Database for Digital/online Verification of eligibility certificates from AY 2024-25. For online verification of eligibility certificates/documents, States/UTs shall use DigiLocker/API Setu extensively for eligibility verification. It is recommended that integration among the different databases and other State departments with the State Scholarship Portals is completed by end of October this year. Basic eligibility documents specially the Caste Certificate, Income Certificate, Educational Certificates and Domicile Certificate required for applying for the scholarships should be fetched online.
7. Geo-tagging of institutes and Aadhaar based eKYC of all Institute Nodal Officers to be completed by October this year.
8. States must ensure that a facility/provision is in place through which beneficiaries are informed regularly about the status of their scholarship application. Once scholarship is released, the State Governments/UTs are required to notify the beneficiaries as well as the institutions through SMS, Email, or any other means.
9. Students must ensure that scholarship benefit received from the State and Central Government viz. Tuition Fee/Non Refundable Fee are paid to the institute within 7 days from the date of receiving of scholarship amount. It shall be the responsibility of the State Governments and concerned Institutions to mentor/counsel/guide the beneficiaries to pay/remit the said amount to the Institutions. States/UTs must have appropriate systems and policies in place to ensure this.


परवीन कुमार थिंद/PAARVEEN KUMAR THIND
निदेशक/Director
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय
M/o Social Justice & Empowerment
सामाजिक न्याय एवं अधिकारिता विभाग
D/o Social Justice & Empowerment
शास्त्री भवन, नई दिल्ली-110001
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001