National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students (earlier known as Top Class Scholarship Scheme)

Question 1: Who are eligible to apply for National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students Scheme (earlier known as Top Class Scholarship Scheme)?

Answer 1: Eligibility conditions to apply for "National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students" Scheme (earlier known as Top Class Scholarship Scheme) are given below:

- i. ST students who have secured admission in the identified 246 Top Class Institutions by Ministry of Tribal Affairs and according to the norms prescribed by the respective Institutions will be eligible for the scholarship under the scheme.
- ii. The total family income of the candidate to be eligible for this scholarship from all sources should not exceed Rs.6.0 lakh per annum.

The family income shall be computed in the following manner: -

- a. In case where both father and mother are working, the combined income of both of them from all sources shall be taken into account in computing total family income.
- b. In case any other member of the family, other than father and mother is an earning member, his or her income shall not be included in computing total family income.
- c. In case only one parent is alive, the income of that parent shall be taken into account for considering total family income. If other sibling or family member is an earning member, their income shall not be included in computing total family income.

Note 1: Definition of Income - Income means gross income including income from all sources e.g. Salary, Interest Income, House property Income, Business Income, Agriculture Income, Income from any other Sources etc. It is clarified that Income for the purpose of scholarship is not the taxable Income as defined in Income Tax Act. Under the income tax act gross total income means Income after excluding the exempt income and total income means Income after giving deduction available under section 80. For the purpose of deriving family income, the deductions and exemption available in the Income Tax Act u/s 10, Section 80 or any other section will not be available in computing family income under the scheme.

Note 2: The income certificate given at the time of admission should be taken in the same year for which the admission is taken. In the case of salaried employee, the income of previous financial year will be considered for the purpose of eligibility. For example, if candidate applies afresh for academic year 2020-21, the family income for financial year 2019-20 would be required.

Question 2: Where can I get the 246 Top Class Institute List?

Answer 2: You have to Click URL https://tribal.nic.in/ ----> Menu ---> Schemes ---> Scheme Guidelines ---> Scholarships ---> Revised Guidelines of "National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students " ---> 246 Identified Top Class Institutes List

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Question 3: What is the slot for Fresh scholarship every year?

Answer 3: The total number of fresh Scholarship each year is 1000.

Question 4: Is there any ceiling in Institute wise and stream wise number of slots for Top Class Institutes?

Answer 4: There is no ceiling in Institution wise and stream wise number of slots for the Top-Class Institution.

Question 5: How can I apply online for scholarship?

Answer 5: In order to apply online, please visit the website through URL www.scholarships.gov.in

Question 6: What is the last date for submitting applications online?

Answer 6: Opening and closing dates of portal has been decided by DBT Mission and same is available on National ScholarshipsPortal. Also,dates are available on MoTA Website and Ministry also communicated the same with the Institutes and States.

Question 7: How to submit the online application? Should I need the user id and password to apply for scholarship?

Answer 7: Applying procedures for Scholarship Schemes for both Fresh and Renewal are given below:

- i. *Fresh Students* (students who have not received the scholarship earlier from the Ministry irrespective of the course year i.e. 1,2,3,4,5): Students applying for scholarship for the first time (*Fresh Students*) need to "Register" on the portal as fresh applicant by providing accurate and authenticated information as printed on their documents in the "*Student Registration Form*". Student shave to Click on the option "New Registration", on the home page of National Scholarships Portal. Fill up the application as per the instructions given by the system then click on save button. After saving, student will get a "Temporary ID". The system will instruct the applicant to submit his/her Temporary ID and date of birth to fill subsequent details. Once registration is complete on click of submit button, a Permanent Registration ID is generated which can be used for Renewal and tracking the status of application.
- ii. Renewal Students: They have to click on login button available on the home page of National Scholarships Portal. Student have to click on the current year i.e. 2020-21 to apply as Renewal student to avail the scholarship for 2020-21. Then student will apply with their Application Id and Date of Birth which they registered application id of previous year.

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Question 8: I am a Renewal student but while applying in NSP under Renewal category, I have clicked on "Withdraw your application button" button by mistake then how can I again apply for Renewal?

Answer 8:In this case you can't apply again in Renewal category with the same application id. You have to again register yourself and fill your application under Fresh category. Also, under course year option available in the application form, please mention your present course year and upload your Semester Mark sheet of the course in which you are presently studying and enter your semester marks in NSP application form.

Question 9: I have been received scholarship from this Ministry in 2018-19 but for some reason I have not applied in 2019-20. Now while applying in 2020-21 in NSP under Renewal category, I am not able to apply with the previous application id. What is the reason for this?

Answer 9: If you have not applied in 2019-20 then you can't apply in NSP in 2020-21 with the previous application id. Now you have to again fill your application under Fresh category and under course year mention your present course year and upload your Semester Marksheet of the course in which you are presently studying and enter your semester marks in NSP application form.

Question 10: Which fields in the application form are mandatory?

Answer 10: Fields provided with red asterisk (*) mark are mandatory fields.

Question 11: Do I have to fill up the online application in one sitting?

Answer 11: No. You can fill up the online application in as many sittings as you wish, until you are satisfied that you have entered all desirable fields correctly. The software provides facility to save your application at every stage.

Question 12: Is there any permanent ID? How will it be communicated to me?

Answer 12: Yes, an Application ID (Permanent ID) will be provided to the candidate once his/her Registration is done. It will be conveyed to candidates through SMS and e-mail. Students should memorize their Application ID as it will be required while applying for Fresh/renewal scholarship.

Question 13: How to I check the status of my application?

Answer13: Student can check the status of Online Application by submitting his/her Permanent id and Date of Birth and open the link "Check yourStatus".

Question 14: What is UID number/Aadhaar Number?

Answers 14: UID number otherwise known as 'Aadhaar' number is Unique Identification Number given by Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI). Aadhaar is unique 12-digit number assigned after de-duplication of biometrics.

National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students (earlier known as Top Class Scholarship Scheme)

Question 15: What is the size of documents to be uploaded in the Scholarship Portal?

Answer 15: The format of the file should be .pdf and .jpeg and the size of each document should not exceed more than 200 KB.

Question 16: Do I need mobile number for applying for scholarship scheme through National Scholarship Portal?

Answer 16: Yes, mobile number is compulsory for applying for Scholarship Scheme through National Scholarship Portal.

Question 17: Do I need an email ID for applying for scholarship?

Answer 17: Email ID is required at registration but, it is not compulsory.

Question 18: Can I apply for more than one Scholarship Scheme?

Answer 18: A student can't apply for more than one Scholarship Scheme.

Question 19: Do I need to get my Aadhaar Card to apply for Scholarship?

Answer19: AadhaarNo.is not Mandatory for the Students in order to Register and fillup the application form online. Students can apply for Scholarship without entering the 12-digitAadhaar no. but in that case, they have to enter AadhaarEnrollmentIdand upload scanned copy Bank Passbook with Photograph, in PDF or JPEG format (Maximum size 200 KB). The student will also be required to upload bonafide student certificate from Institute / School in along with their application form.

Aadhaar Number could also be used for crediting scholarship amount in the bank account linked* to your Aadhaar number in fast track mode.

*To link your bank account with Aadhaar number for receiving scholarship in the same, please visit you bank branch and submit a "bank consent form for receiving DBT". You cancheck which bank is linked to your Aadhaar number on NPCI mapperhere https://resident.uidai.gov.in/bank-mapper or through Aadhaar-enabled micro-ATM machine of any of these banks.

Question 20: How to view the scheme guidelines of National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students?

Answer20: You have to Click URL https://tribal.nic.in/ ----> Menu ---> Schemes ---> Scheme Guidelines ---> Scholarships ---> Revised Guidelines of "National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students "

Question21: How to I know the deadline for verification of application at Institute/Ministry level?

Answer 21: Deadline of verification of application at Institute/Ministry level is available on the NSP portal. Ministry communicates the same to your institute and you can check from your institute also.

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Question 22: How to overcome the problem of Login even after getting system generated Application ID and DOB as Password?

Answer 22: The "Forgot Application Id" option may be used and this problem can be overcome by using Search by Bank Account Number and Search by Mobile Number.

Question 23: What precautions should I take while entering the bank account details in NSP application form?

Answer 23: The student/applicant must ensure that the Bank Account details (A/c Number, IFSC Code) submitted is correct and account is under the student's name. Also keep the account active (i.e. non-dormant) and functional to receive scholarship amount (i.e. Any condition imposed on accounts by bank

likeseedingofAADHAAR, anylimitonreceivingcreditinaccountetc., which may hamper scholarship credit in account should be complied with). Please don't enter your parent's or friend's bank account number in NSP application form.

Question 24: If I have done mistake in entering some bank account details in my application form in NSP, do updation of account details option is available in application form?

Answer 24: The student/applicant shall note that NSP provides only one chance for updating bank account details (only in case when bank accounts details are not validated by PFMS). Applicants should be cautious to exercise this option, failing which the application will not be considered for scholarship.

Question 25: My registered bank account (in NSP) is closed by me due to some reasons, I want to change my Bank account details for renewal So please give me option to change in Bank details.

Answer 25: NSP is not allowing any Renewal student to change the bank account.

Question 26: What is the reason if National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students Scheme is not coming in drop down list?

Answer 26: As per the inputs provided by the student, if these do not fit as per the Guidelines, then only National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students is not available in the drop-down list.

Question 27: If by mistake I have selected wrong Institute which is not as per 246 Top Class Institutes List then how can I correct the same?

Answer 27: If by mistake a student/applicant has choosen wrong institute then there are 2 stages i) If applicant selects some other Institute by mistake and application is finally submitted by the student at Institute level then applicant will have to approach to Institute which he/she has filled in the application and get their application marked defective from that Institute and then applicant can correct the Institute, ii) If applicant selects some other Institute by mistake and if application is not finally submitted by the student at Institute level then student can change the Institute name anytime.

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Question 28: I am unable to login into the NSP for renewal of ST scholarship using the same ID that I received last year. Website says no record found. What is the reason?

Answer 28: The reason for why you are unable to apply in NSP with previous year Application id is that because in last year you have filled the Course duration details in Course Year column. In the course year you have to mention present year in which you are studying. Might be you have filled complete duration of your course in Course Year column. For example: Your present course year is 2 and Duration of your course is 3. In NSP last year in your application under course year column you have filled "3" instead of "2", so NSP picks up from Course duration database that your course has already been completed. So when in present year you are applying with same previous year id, NSP is not allowing you to fill the application because duration of your course is already completed. So in the Course Year column you have to fill year for which you are applying for scholarship in NSP.

Question 29: I am a student of 2018-19 batch when I was in first year and I got scholarship also. But I got year back and thus couldn't apply for renewal in 2019-20 session. Now I am promoted and want to apply for scholarship. Whether I should apply as renewal or as fresh. I have tried to apply as renewal but when I have entered my 2018-19 application ID and password, nothing is showing?

Answer 29 : Student have to apply in NSP in 2020-21 for the year 2020-21. He is not eligible to receive scholarship for the year i.e. 2019-20. Also in the NSP he has to apply under Fresh category as Renewal Student. Also your Institute have to inform to this Ministry that you are a Renewal student and the year of scholarship in which you have received the scholarship so that Ministry will not consider your name in the generation of Merit List of 1000 students list.

Question 30: I am in the fifth year and he I did not apply for the 2016-17. At present I am in the fifth year. Also I have received scholarship from the Ministry for rest of the years i.e. from 2017-8 till 2019. Only in 2016-17 I have not applied and not received the scholarship. Can I apply for the scholarship in 2020-21 for 2016-17 scholarship? Answer 30: In 2020-21 a student is eligible to receive the scholarship only for 2020-21 and he can't apply in 2020-21 for 2016-17 scholarship or any previous year scholarship.

Question 31: If I am applying for the first time (not received scholarship earlier from the Ministry) in NSP for scholarship which marks and percentage I have to enter?

Answer 31: Students who are applying first time (not received scholarship earlier from the Ministry) in NSP under Fresh category and have not received scholarship earlier from this Ministry under "National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students", irrespective of course year (1, 2, 3, 4, 5), they have to enter 12th class aggregate marks and percentage if they are presently studying in Graduation level course and students who are presently studying in Post-Graduation level course they have to enter their Graduation level aggregate marks and percentage. Please note marks should be in percentage and not in CGPA.

Question 32: If in previous year I have received scholarship from this Ministry under the same scheme which marks and percentage should I have to enter in NSP application form?

Answer 32: You have to upload your previous semester (in which you are presently studying in your institute) marksheet and enter the previous semester marks

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Question 33: If my application has been marked by my Institute / Ministry in Defective mode then how again I have to submit my application at Institute / Ministry level?

Answer 33: Please note as under:

- i. If your application has been marked in Defective mode by your Institute, then your application is available at your level, you have to do the necessary updation in your application form and click on SUBMIT Button and application will go online at your Institute level for verification. After verification of application done by your institute, application comes at Ministry level for final verification.
- ii. If your application has been marked in Defective mode by Ministry, then your application is available at your level, you have to do the necessary updation in your application form and click on the SUBMIT Button and application will go online at your Institute level. After verification of application done by your institute, application comes at Ministry level for final verification.

Question 34: Can I fill CGPA marks in NSP application form?

Answers 34: Students have to enter marks only in percentage and not in CGPA. If you have received marks in CGPA then you have to convert the same in percentage as per standard format and marks entered by you should be approved by your institute.

Question 35: Do I have to upload all the documents which is being asked in NSP application form even my fees is less than Rs. 50,000/- as while filling the application form in NSP, it shows no need to upload documents if your fees is less than Rs. 50000/-

Answer 35: Please note as under:

- a. You have to mandatory upload below documents in your application form:
- i. Student Photograph
- ii. Upload latest Income Certificate for the year 2019-20 (as mentioned above in Answer No. 1) and it should be issued by state revenue officer not below the rank of Tehshildar signed and stamped.
- iii. Caste Certificate signed and stamped by Competent Authority
- iv. Scanned Copy of the Passbook clearly showing the account number and name of the student
- v. Student Fee Receipts
- vi. Scanned Copy of Marksheet of Last Academic Qualification. Upload Marksheet as per criteria mentioned below:
- vii. If you are applying as Fresh Student (irrespective of course year i.e. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) and if you have not received scholarship earlier from this Ministry and if you are applying for Graduate level course then you have to upload your 12th class aggregate marksheet. IF you are applying as Renewal Student with previous year application id then you have to upload previous year/semester course Marksheet (in which you are presently studying)
- viii. If you are applying as Fresh Student (irrespective of course year i.e. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) and if you have not received scholarship earlier from this Ministry and if you are applying for Post Graduate level course then you have to upload your Graduate level aggregate marksheet. IF you are applying as Renewal Student with previous year

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application id then you have to upload previous year/semester course Marksheet (in which you are presently studying)

ix. Bonafide Student of the Institution

- b. Below documents are optional to be upload in your application form **but mandatory if** you falls under below categories:
 - i. PVTG (Particularly Vulnerable Tribe Group) Certificate(this document is Mandatory if you falls under this category and you are applying as a Fresh student and you have not received scholarship earlier from this Ministry): If you comes under PVTG category (as per the PVTG list available on Ministry of Tribal Affairs Website) then you have to upload this document mandatory.
 - ii. BPL (Below Poverty Line) Certificate (this document is Mandatory if you falls under this category and you are applying as a Fresh student and you have not received scholarship earlier from this Ministry): If you comes under BPL category then you have to upload this document mandatory issued by Competent Authority
 - iii. Computer Purchase Receipts if applicable: Not mandatory
 - iv. Books and Stationery Receipts: Not mandatory
 - v. Divanygjan (Disability) Certificate (this document is Mandatory if you falls under this category and you are applying as a Fresh student and you have not received scholarship earlier from this Ministry): Disability Certificate issued by the Competent Authority Designated by District Medical Officer / Civil Surgeon of the Govt. Hospital

Question 36: If I belong to Rajasthan, do I have to upload Income Certificate signed by Competent Authority or can I upload certificate signed by Notary?

Answer 36: No, you have to upload Income Certificate signed and stamped by Competent Authority like Tehsildar, Deputy Commissioner and Executive Magistrate etc. Income Certificate signed by Notary is not valid certificate.

Question 37: For every year while applying in NSP should I have to upload Income Certificate signed by Competent Authority?

Answer 37:

For the first year the income certificate should have been issued by the competent authority. From second year onwards, student can submit self-certified income certificate.

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Question 38: If I am living outside the hostel premises or in rented accommodation, will am I eligible to receiving Living Expenses / Hostel Charges?

Answer 38: Living Expenses / Hostel Charges will be reimbursed to the students who resides in the hostel premises means Hosteller's and not for Day scholars who reside outside the hostel or in rented accommodation.

Question 39: What is the selection procedure of generation of Merit List of 1000 students every year?

Answer 39: The total number of fresh Scholarship each year is 1000. There is no ceiling in Institution wise and stream wise number of slots for the Top-Class Institution. In case the number of candidates exceeds the number of available awards, the MoTA will select the candidates based on a criterion of marks obtained in the last passed examination. Slots will be provided to sub-categories in the following priority:

Priority	Category	Slots
1	Person with Disability (PWD)WD	5% of Total Slots
2	PVTG	50 Slots
3	BPL	50 slots
4	FEMALE	30% of Total Slots

Question 40: Will I get scholarship even if my name is not in the merit list?

Answer 40: No you are not eligible to receive scholarship if you are not selected in the Merit List. Only students who are selected in 1000 Merit List of Fresh students every year are eligible to receive the scholarship.

Question 41: I have not selected in 1000 Merit List of Fresh student and my name is not in the list of provisionally selected candidates for the academic 2019-20. So, please can you inform me do I have chances to be select in next academic year 2020-2021 if I will apply?

Answer 41: Your name will come in 2020-21 Merit List of 1000 Fresh students or not depends upon the criteria of Merit List generation decided by the competent authority.

Question 42: If I have received the computer charges earlier from the Ministry am I eligible to receive the same in next year if I have lost my computer?

Answer 42: Computer charges will be given to the student once during the tenure of the course.

National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students (earlier known as Top Class Scholarship Scheme)

Question 43: What is Financial Assistance provided by the Ministry under "National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education" (Top Class Scholarship Scheme)?

Answer 43: Please find below the Financial Assistance details provided by Ministry of Tribal Affairs under "National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education" (Top Class Scholarship Scheme):

Component	Details	Remark
Tuition Fees		There will be a ceiling of Rs.2.50 lakhs per annum per student for private
		sector institutions
	Government/Government	
	funded institutions.	
Books & Stationery	@ Rs.3000/- per annum per student	without bills/vouchers
Living expenses (It means	2200/-per month Amount	26400/- per annum
hostel charges and it will	will be provided as per	
be reimbursed to the	actuals subject to	
students who resides in		
the hostel premises		
means Hostelersand not		
for Day scholars who		
reside outside the hostel)	D 45000/ /O /:	C L D L D L L D L L D L L D L L D L D L
Computer & Accessories		Computer may be Desktop/Laptop etc.
		The accessories may, interalia, include all kind of printers, CDs/DVDs,
	tenure of his course)	Keyboard, Mainboard, Motherboard,
		Hard Disk Drive, Mouse, Sound
		adapters, Toners, Speakers, USB
		Hubs/Cables, Memory Chips, Memory
		Card readers etc. (Receipt of computer
		purchase must be uploaded in the
		portal and receipt should be in the
		name of the student).

NOTE: Please note as under:

- i. Total amount of Admission Fees and Tuition Fees which is filled by your INSTITUTE Nodal Officer in the application form in National Scholarship Portal will be transfer in your Institute account by the Ministry if your Institute is doing expenditure in PFMS EAT Module and your Institute name is reflecting in OT-59 report of PFMS and in PFMS EAT-02 report your institute expenditure, UC status is coming correct as per Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance Instructions.
- ii. Total amount of: Books and Stationery, Computer & Accessories, Living Expenses and Non-Refundable Charges which is filled by your INSTITUTE Nodal Officer in Misc. Fee Column in NSP application form will be transfer in student's account by the Ministry in DBT Mode.

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Question 44: What amount my INSTITUTE have to fill in the Misc. Fee Column in the Application form in NSP Portal.

Answer 44: Misc. Fees means your **INSTITUTE Nodal Officer** have to fill the total of 4 components total amount in the column which is as under:

- i. Books and Stationery: Rs. 3000/- per annum
- ii. Computer/Laptop Amount: Rs. 45000/- or as per the actual purchase amount but should not exceed Rs. 45000/- (if any student has already received the computer charges earlier from this Ministry then again, he is not eligible to receive the same)
- iii. Living Expenses/Hostel Charges: Rs. 26400/- Per Annum
- iv. Non-RefundableCharges: This amount can differ institute to institute

Question 45:If I have not applied in NSP 2019-20 for 2019-20 scholarship can I apply in NSP 2020-21 for 2019-20 scholarship?

Answer 45: Please note in 2020-21 in NSP a student can fill the form to avail the scholarship for 2020-21 only and not for any previous year.

Question 46: If we are facing any technical issue in filling the application form in NSP or any other issue where we can contact?

Answer 46: Students who are receiving scholarship from this Ministry can send the grievance of yours in the Grievance portal of Ministry of Tribal Affairs (tribal.nic.in/grievance) and steps to register on grievance portal is as under:

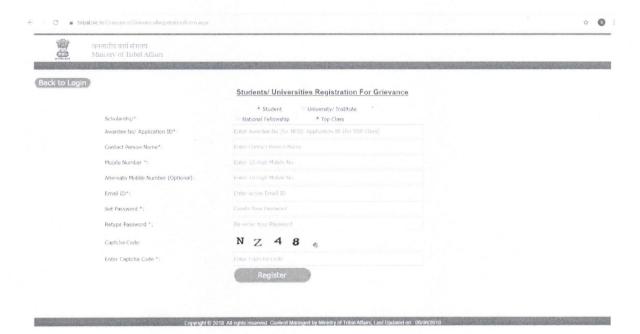
Step -1: - Open URL of Grievance-

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Step -2: - Register Yourself with proper information [for new user only]

- Click "Register Yourself" button to get registration. It will open Registration Form for Student.
- On Registration Form, select "Student" and "Top Class" option and fill all required information.



Note: - Your given email id is your USER ID for Login in Grievance.

Step -3: - Login [for registered user only]

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- After successful registration, you can login with your given EMAIL ID and PASSWORD.
- Once you get login, you can send your Query/ Grievance and you will see the response of Query/ Grievance also after login.