

THE POLICIES OF THE
RCK-URMILA N. VYAS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

SEPTEMBER 2005

Section 10 GENERAL PROVISIONS

10 Definitions

10.1 Educational Levels

Candidates for the scholarship must be eligible for admission to an age-appropriate, elementary to college level, educational institution in Nepal.

During the initial years of its implementation, however, the scholarship will not be offered to students at all levels of education mentioned earlier. The levels of education for which the scholarship is available will be increased in phases, at the Board's discretion, starting with the elementary level, the secondary level, the high school level, the intermediate level, and, finally, the bachelor's level.

The Elementary Level is from Grade 1 till Grade 5; Secondary School Level is from Grade 6 till Grade 8; High School Level is from Grade 9 till Grade 10, when they appear from the School Leaving Certificate (SLC); Intermediate Level in College is from Grade 11 till Grade 12 (also known as Proficiency Certificate Level or '10+2' Level); and Bachelor's Level in College is from Grade 13 till Grade 14/15/16 (depending upon whether the Bachelor's Degree is of 2-year, 3-year, or 4-year duration).

Section 20 SELECTION CRITERIA

21 Personal Factors

21.1 Citizenship

Candidates for the scholarship must be citizens of Nepal.

21.2 Previous Scholarships

Preference will usually be given to those candidates who have not previously obtained scholarships from other organizations. Applicants who wish to be considered as exceptions to this rule must provide special justification to the Board.

21.3 Gender

At least 50% of the scholarships will be given to female students during each scholarship cycle.

21.3 Disability

Although the physical and mental health of candidates must be adequate to allow them to fulfill the terms of their scholarship, no qualified disabled candidate will, on the basis of disability, be subject to discrimination.

21.4 Destitute Children

When choosing candidates for scholarship to study from Grades 1 till Grade 10, destitute children (i.e., orphans or abandoned children), those who do not have a favorable home environment, or those who are the first ones in their family to ever go to a school will be given special consideration.

22 Academic Factors

22.1 Academic Excellence

Excellence of academic record and other qualifying educational or related professional experience will be significant factors in selection.

For Grade 1 Level Applicants:

Students should have obtained admission to a school.

For Grade 2 to Grade 5 Level Applicants:

Students should have passed the previous level of studies.

For Grade 6 to Grade 10 Level Applicants:

Students should be in the top 10% of their class.

For College Level Applicants:

General Criteria: Students who have passed SLC in First Division (60% or above) are eligible for Intermediate level scholarships. Those who achieve a mark of 50% or above at the Intermediate level are eligible for a scholarship to study at the Bachelor's level.

Special Criteria for Women, Students of Low Caste, and Disabled Applicants: They are eligible for scholarships for Intermediate level study if they have achieved a mark of 50% or higher in SLC. Students in this category who wish to study at the Bachelor's level degree can do so if they received marks of 45% or higher at the Intermediate level.

Special Criteria for Students from Paropakar Orphanage and Those Who Attended Private or Government School under RCK-Urmila N. Vyas Scholarship Fund: They are eligible for Intermediate level scholarships if they obtained a score of 45% in SLC. Students in this category who received marks of 45% or higher at the Intermediate level are eligible to apply for scholarship to study at the Bachelor's level.

22.2 Acceptability to the Educational Institution

Candidates must be acceptable to an educational institution in their district of primary residence, or in the case of college level applicant, to the nearest college.

22.3 Long-Term Goals

College level students and candidates planning to begin college level study in Nepal will be expected to have fully developed programs of study. Other candidates (Grade 1-10 students) will not be required to have long-term education or career goals.

23 Placement Factors

23.1 Placement

In order to provide scholarships to a greater number of students, grantees will be required to study at public/government institutions.

23.2 Geographical Distribution

Grantees must be placed in a school in the district of his/her primary residence.

During the initial years of its operation, and until decided otherwise by the Board, in order to ensure adequate monitoring it will choose students from the rural areas, as well as orphanages, in Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Bhaktapur, and Palpa districts.

24 Financial Factors

24.1 Financial Status

A candidate's financial need is an important factor in the selection process.

Children who attend government schools and who are at risk of dropping out because of financial difficulties will be given special considerations for the scholarship.

24.2 Recipients of Scholarships under Other Auspices

Scholarships will not be awarded to persons who are concurrently recipients of benefits from other scholarships designed to cover all/partial expenses to study in an educational institution in Nepal.

25 Eligibility Factors

25.1 Members of the Same Family

Members of the same family are eligible to receive scholarships concurrently when both have applied for scholarships and have been selected through the usual competition.

26 Ineligibility Factors

26.1 Persons Convicted of, or Charged with, a Crime

If the candidate has been convicted of a crime, the Board will not select such a candidate for a scholarship (or, if the candidate has already been selected, the Board will revoke the selection).

26.2 Fulltime Employment and Previous College Degree

Candidates who already have a college degree or who are full-time employed are ineligible.

26.3 Persons Associated with the Scholarship

Immediate families (i.e. spouses and dependent children) of the employees of the educational institutions are ineligible, if dependents intend to study in the same educational institution.

26.4 Persons Unable to Meet Academic Standards

Previous grantees who failed in their examinations and have subsequently not been promoted to higher levels are ineligible.

27 Competition and Recruitment

In order to ensure that the program draws its candidates from the widest possible pool of high-caliber individuals who need scholarships to complete their studies, the Board will actively disseminate information on the program throughout the participating districts, at different types and sizes of institutions, and will engage in such recruitment activities as are necessary to encourage participation in the program of persons of diverse backgrounds.

While the Board may decide on any means, as dictated by efficiency and effectiveness, to recruit candidates for the scholarship, one of the means the Board could employ is to use school principals in the target areas as one of the recruitment resources/partners. The school principals could nominate a certain number of male and female students who deserve scholarship and

the Board could select the final grantees from that list.

30 GENERAL TERMS OF AWARD

31 Full-Time Nature of Scholarships

31.1 Supervision

Grantees are supervised by their educational institutions. They must observe the regulations of their schools and submit a final report and such other reports as may be required by the Board.

For grantees studying below Grade 7, the cooperating educational institution shall provide reports to the Board, once in the middle and once after the end of the academic year.

32 Duration of Scholarships: Basic Scholarship, and Renewal

32.1 Definitions

Basic Scholarship – A basic scholarship provides full or partial tuition/maintenance support of up to Rs. 1000 and a book allowance of up to Rs. 500 per year per grantee for elementary level students. In view of the fact that students in elementary level (Grade 1-5) in government schools do not need to pay tuition, the scholarship amounts paid to students at higher levels will be greater than those provided to elementary level. The suggested level of support, at the discretion of the Board, is the ratio of 1:2:3 for elementary, secondary up till high school, and college level students. These figures will be reviewed at least every three years. About 81 such basic scholarships will be made in the coming academic year, which starts in *Baisakh 2063* (mid-April 2006).

Renewal Scholarship – A renewal scholarship covers an additional year, or major portion thereof, immediately following a basic scholarship.

32.2 Period of Basic Scholarship

The period of a basic scholarship is one academic year (eight to ten months) but not to exceed 12 months.

32.3 Awarding Renewal Scholarships

Renewals are not guaranteed, and are conditioned upon satisfactory academic progress, as well as administrative and budgetary factors.

Grantees may apply for renewal, subject to the following limits:

Grade 1-Grade 10 students: Up to the time it takes to complete the School Leaving Certificate.

College level students: Up to the time it takes to complete the Intermediate Level (2 years) or Bachelor's Level (2 to 3 years), for students enrolled in the Intermediate Level and the Bachelor's Level, respectively.

33 Postponement of Scholarships

Scholarships may not be postponed to a subsequent academic year. Candidates who are not able to accept a scholarship for the academic year for which it was awarded may reapply in a subsequent competition without prejudice.

34 Resignation from Scholarship

34.1 Personal Reasons

When compelling reasons, such as a personal illness, death of an immediate member of family, or other personal situation, make it impossible for the grantee to complete the scholarship period, the grantee will be permitted to resign from the scholarship. The grantee is responsible for informing the Board of such decision.

35 Revocation, Termination and Suspension of Scholarships

35.1 Definition

A grantee is defined as a selected candidate who has signed the scholarship document without qualification and has returned a signed copy of the same to the Board.

In the event a selected candidate fails to sign and return a copy of the scholarship document within a reasonable time after it is received by the selected candidate, the selection may be withdrawn by the Board.

35.2 Authority to Recommend Revocation or Termination

The Board has authority to revoke or terminate the scholarship held by a grantee.

35.3 Grounds for Revocation and Termination

Grounds for revocation or termination include, but are not limited to: 1) violation of the laws of Nepal; 2) failure to observe satisfactory academic standards (that is, failure to pass the current Grade and get promoted to the next level during the scholarship period); 3) physical or mental incapacitation; and 5) material misrepresentation made by the any grantee in a scholarship application or scholarship document.

36 Liability

No one or more of the Board, the benefactors of the scholarship fund, and the members of Rotary Club Kantipur will be liable for any claim or claims resulting from a grantee's failure to enter upon or to complete his/her studies, even though the failure is beyond the grantee's control, including without limitation any failure resulting from a revocation, termination, or suspension of the scholarship.

40 FINANCIAL TERMS OF AWARD

41 Scholarship Benefits

Benefits for grantees may vary according to the type of scholarship awarded.

Basic benefits to grantees will include one or more of the following: 1) full or partial support in Nepal for tuition, and fees; and 2) allowance for books and incidentals. The scholarship amounts are given in Section 32.

41.1 Tuition payment

Tuition will be directly paid to the school upon receipt of the invoice.

41.2 Other Allowances

Books and supplies allowance, to those provided, will be given at the beginning of the academic year.

42 Duration of Benefits

The normal duration of the scholarship will be one academic year.

43 Benefits from Other Sources

A grantee must report to the Board all scholarships, fellowships, or salaries from other sources, received by the grantee during the period covered by the scholarship.

50 RESPONSIBILITIES AND RIGHTS OF GRANTEES

Grantees are responsible for observing satisfactory academic standards and for maintaining a standard of conduct and integrity that is in keeping with the spirit and intent of the scholarship and that will contribute positively to the development of Nepal.