



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Scholarship Advanced Training Division

National Bursary Programme

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

What is the National Bursary Agreement (NBA) and who are the parties to this agreement

The National Bursary Agreement (NBA) – is a loan agreement (“the agreement”) between you (“the recipient”), the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education acting for and on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (“the Lender”) and the (“guarantor”) the person who assumes a legal obligation to the lender to repay any and all monies owed by the recipient to the lender in case of a breach of this Agreement.



For more information visit: scholarships.moe.gov.tt
Contact us: 622-2181 ext. 1943 / 1945 / 1946
Email: scholarshipenquiries@moe.gov.tt
bursaryenquiries@moe.gov.tt



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Allowances payable under the National Bursary Programme

The bursary will comprise of the following payments:

- **Medical scholars** - A book allowance of \$9,711 as first time payment and thereafter \$5,711 payment annually.
- **Non-medical** - A book allowance of \$8,062 as first time payment and thereafter \$4,062 payment annually.
- A **personal allowance** of \$3,043.00 per month, payable per quarter of the fiscal year (Dec, March, June and September)
- **100% GATE funding** for study at local institutions
- Regional study will be subject to the prevailing guidelines and funding levels for all GATE recipients.



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Merit of the National Bursary Programme

The introduction of the National Bursary Programme provides a means for ensuring that the most vulnerable groups, most talented students, and most targeted areas for national development are supported. In particular:

1. It allows for more strategic rationalization of Government funding mechanisms available under the Ministry of Education
2. It ensures that the well-performing and talented students have access to higher education regardless of socio-economic background, without incurring debts.
3. It supports strategic national development by aligning bursary grants to programme areas that have been identified as meeting national priority.
4. Recognises the involvement of students in their communities.



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How can I qualify for a National Bursary?

Candidates for the award of a national bursary offered by the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (GoRTT) must

- Be a Citizen of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and must be able to provide proof of citizenship
- Not have residency status in any other country
- Attained at least eight (8) units at Grades I and II, over a period not exceeding two (2) consecutive years in Form 6, including the year of the award, at the Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (CAPE) (Students who wrote CAPE 2020 are eligible to apply)
- Be accepted / enrolled at a local institution or a regional campus of The University of the West Indies (UWI) in keeping with the guidelines of the Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses (GATE) programme



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What documents are required to apply for the National Bursary?

Each applicant needs to apply online on the National Bursary Application Form and will be required to upload:

- A Letter of Acceptance/Proof of Enrolment/Proof of Application to an accredited/ recognized local tertiary level institution or a regional campus of The University of the West Indies (UWI), in keeping with the guidelines of the GATE program.
- An Official Statement of Recognition from the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago (ACTT), attesting to the accreditation and/or recognition of both the academic institution and the programme of study.
- A signed and stamped letter of verification from a Registered Community-Based Organization (CBO), Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), Sporting and Extracurricular Activity Organization attesting to the recipient's involvement in Extra-Curricular Activities/Contribution to Community/Country.
- Proof of the applicant's socio-economic background as evidenced by the GATE administered Means Test which must be signed by the Applicant and his/her Parent/Guardian (this Means Test is incorporated into the application form for the National Bursary).
- Two (2) recommendations:
 - One recommendation must be an academic reference.
(Please note that recommendations must be signed, scanned and uploaded to the online application form).
- A Purpose Statement of no more than 500 words which explains:
 - Description of a national developmental need, in relation to the goals and objectives of Trinidad and Tobago's National Development Plan –Vision 2030. The need should be one which already exists.
 - Description of the programme of study you have chosen that deals significantly with the need identified.
 - Description of how exposure to the selected programme of study will equip you to meet the identified national need.



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Selection Criteria

Candidates will be assessed and recommended for a National Bursary based on the following

- i. Academic Merit (30%)
- ii. Means Test – (30%)
- iii. Quality & Content of Purpose Statement – (10%)
- iv. Alignment of Priority Areas to Development – (15%)
- v. Extracurricular Activities/ Contribution to Community / Country – (15%)



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