

# **Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children (SPDC)**

## **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

### **Q1. What is the Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children (SPDC)?**

**Ans.** SPDC is a scholarship scheme of the Ministry of External Affairs to assist the children of NRIs/PIOs/OCIs and Indian workers in Emigration Check Required (ECR) countries to pursue under-graduate courses (*except medical and related courses*) in Indian Institutions & Universities by providing Scholarship to the extent of 75% of the total Institutional Economic Cost (IEC) or USD 4000 whichever is less.

### **Q2. Is a candidate born outside India, whose parents are neither Person of Indian Origin (PIO)/Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) nor a Non Resident Indian (NRI), eligible for scholarship under SPDC?**

**Ans.** No. The SPDC Scheme is for the children of NRIs/PIOs/OCIs for pursuing higher studies in selected institutions in India. In cases where the candidate is born outside India and his/her parents are not NRIs/PIOs/OCIs, then he/she shall not be eligible for any benefit under the scheme. However, Children of Indian workers in ECR countries born outside India shall be eligible for grant of the scholarship under SPDC.

### **Q3. What is the procedure for applying for SPDC?**

**Ans.** As per the Guidelines of SPDC, the procedure to apply for scholarship under SPDC is as follow:-

(i) Students are required to secure admission in specific Indian Institutions/Universities (*Central Universities of India offering Under Graduate Courses; 'A' Grade Institutions accredited by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and recognized by UGC; and National Institutes of Technology (NITs), Schools of Planning and Architecture and Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) through DASA Scheme*). In case, the Institution/University is not graded 'A' after sometime, the scholarship of the candidate will not be affected and shall continue till the end of the Course.

(ii) Online application System only. Apply at <https://spdcindia.gov.in>.

(iii) All requisite Certificates towards Income Criteria, Date of Birth, Marks Sheets, Undertaking by the Institution etc. to be uploaded at the time of filling application.

### **Q4. Who can apply for SPDC?**

**Ans.** SPDC Scholarship is applicable to Children of NRIs/PIOs/OCIs and Indian Workers in ECR countries who want to study Under-Graduate Courses in following Indian Institutions & Universities:-

(i) Central Universities of India offering Under Graduate Courses;

(ii) 'A' Grade Institutions accredited by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and recognized by UGC; and

(iii) National Institutes of Technology (NITs), Schools of Planning and Architecture and Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) through DASA Scheme.

**Q5. Which countries are covered under SPDC?**

**Ans.** SPDC is open to the children of NRIs/PIOs/OCIs residing across the globe and children of Indian workers in ECR countries.

**Q6. What is the minimum marks that an applicant must obtain to apply for SPDC?**

**Ans.** The candidate must have secured at least 60% aggregate (equivalent CGPA 6.4) marks in the Grade 12 or equivalent Grade. CGPA can be converted to Percentage as follows – Overall CGPA x 9.5 = Percentage.

**Q7. What is Institutional Economic Cost (IEC)?**

**Ans.** IEC comprises Tuition Fee, Hostel Accommodation Fee, Examination Charges, Registration Charges and other Institutional Charges (except food).

**Q8. My child has applied under DASA Scheme. Is he/she also eligible for SPDC?**

**Ans.** Applicants of DASA Scheme can also apply for SPDC Scheme, subject to fulfilment of all eligibility conditions of SPDC scheme. DASA Scheme & SPDC Scheme are different Schemes being implemented by the Government of India.

**Q9. I have secured admission in National Institute of Technology. The IEC is USD\$ 7000 (all charges). Will my scholarship amount be 75% of 7000, equaling USD 5250?**

**Ans.** The maximum Scholarship amount is 75% of IEC or USD\$ 4000 whichever is less.

**Q10. Do I have to pay any charge for submitting my application for SPDC?**

**Ans.** There are no charges for applying to SPDC.

**Q11. When will the selected candidates be informed about grant of scholarships?**

**Ans.** All candidates who have been awarded scholarship under SPDC will be informed about their selection through e-mail. The list of awardees will also be uploaded on the SPDC portal.

**Q 12. If a candidate is awarded with the scholarship under SPDC and the candidate does not get promoted in next year. In such cases, whether the candidate is eligible to get the scholarship in the next year?**

**Ans.** Scholarship to the candidates in the second and subsequent years will be distributed as per the following :-

(i) Students securing 50% and above marks in aggregate in an academic year with clear pass marks in all subjects of study, will be eligible to receive the maximum admissible scholarship i.e. 75% of IEC or US\$ Four Thousand (US\$ 4,000) whichever is less in the following year of study.

(ii) Students, who secure less than 50% marks in aggregate in an academic year and have obtained clear pass marks in all subjects of study, will be eligible to receive 90% of the maximum admissible scholarship in the following year of study.

(iii) Students, who did not secure clear pass marks in all subjects but have been promoted by the Institute/University to the next academic year, will be eligible to receive 50% of the maximum admissible scholarship in the following year of study.

(iv) Students, who have not been promoted to the next academic year by the Institute/University, will NOT be eligible for grant of any further scholarship.

**Q 13. Whether a candidate is awarded with SPDC scholarship in the first year is required to re-apply for scholarship in the second and subsequent years of study?**

**Ans.** No. Scholarship under SPDC is granted for the entire duration of undergraduate courses. However, continuance of scholarship in second year and subsequent years will be based on their academic results in the previous year.

**Q. 14. Whether the scholarship under SPDC is also granted in second and subsequent years of study of undergraduate courses?**

**Ans.** No. Scholarship under SPDC is granted to fresh first year students.

**Q. 15. Whether the scholarship under SPDC is also granted for combined post-graduation and under-graduation & post-graduation courses?**

**Ans.** No. Scholarship under SPDC is granted only for under-graduate courses.

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