

COMMUNIQUÉ

NEW BURSARY SCHEME

In line with its vision for greater equity and inclusiveness, Government has introduced a new Bursary Scheme for the benefit of students from families with a monthly household income not exceeding Rs 5,000 (excluding social aids).

2. As part of the Scheme, **eight** Bursaries will be awarded to best qualified students who have sat for the Higher School Certificate **2011** examinations.

3. The benefits and conditions of the Scheme are as follows:

- (i) beneficiaries will get an annual living allowance of Rs 96,000 plus tuition fees and related charges up to Rs 150,000 per year for a **first degree of up to 4 years' duration** in a registered local tertiary education institution;
- (ii) after completing their first degree, beneficiaries will have to work for at least **2 years** in the Public Sector in Mauritius via placement in a Ministry or Department under the 'Service to Mauritius Programme';
- (iii) after completing their two-year service under the 'Service to Mauritius Programme', beneficiaries, other than those pursuing their studies in Medicine and medicine related fields, will be eligible for a **fully-funded scholarship for postgraduate studies** for a maximum period of **one year abroad or of two years locally** provided they have passed satisfactorily their undergraduate degree with at least upper second class honours;
- (iv) beneficiaries of the Scheme who choose to undertake their studies in Medicine or medicine-related fields in a Tertiary Education Institution in Mauritius would benefit from an annual allowance of Rs 96,000 plus tuition fees and related charges up to Rs 150,000 per year for **five years**. However, they would thereafter **not** benefit from a state-supported scholarship at postgraduate level under this Scheme. **They will still have to complete their two-year local service under the 'Service to Mauritius Programme' after being fully qualified;** and
- (v) beneficiaries and their sureties will have to sign a bond for an amount of Rs 500,000. In case the beneficiaries do not fulfill the conditions of their bond, they will have to **refund the full amount of the bond**.

4. Beneficiaries will be given priority of placement in the Public Sector under the 'Service to Mauritius Programme' for their two-year local service. Exceptionally, they may be allowed to take up a job in the private sector in Mauritius. Such requests may be considered on a case to case basis.

5. Applications are therefore invited from suitably qualified candidates who wish to be considered for bursaries under the above Scheme.

Mode of Application

6. Applications must be made on the prescribed forms available on the NEF website <http://www.nef.mu> or at the National Empowerment Foundation, 6th Floor, Garden Tower, La Poudrière Street, Port Louis.

7. The completed Application form along with all supporting documents (Birth Certificate, Certificates/ result slips/ transcripts of results/ marksheets of all applicable educational qualifications etc) should be submitted to the Chief Administrator, National Empowerment Foundation by **Friday 30 March 2012 at 14.00 hours at latest**.

8. Application forms received after the closing date will not be considered.

National Empowerment Foundation,
8th Floor, Garden Tower,
La Poudrière Street,
Port Louis

06 March 2012