

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
NORTHEASTERN COUNCIL SECRETARIAT  
SHILLONG-793001

**RULES FOR NEC MERIT SCHOLARSHIP**

(Under the scheme NEC Merit Scholarship to be operated directly by the states of North Eastern Region)

The Secretary, NEC is pleased to make the following rules to regulate the grant of Merit scholarship to the students of the N.E.Region undergoing studies in different disciplines at different levels in institutions inside as well as outside the North East but within the country as specified hereinafter. The stipends shall be awarded in subjects which are enumerated in Annexure-I and which are found to be the areas/fields in which there is still a shortage of adequately trained manpower in the region.

1. The rules may be called "Rules for award of NEC Merit Scholarship". These rules shall come into force from the year 2004-2005 and will supercede the previous rules on the above subject. Some modification made by the NEC authority as per minute of the meeting held on 06/10/2016.
2. Scope: These NEC Merit Scholarship are available for studies in India only and shall be awarded by the North Eastern States from the fund allotted by North Eastern Council Secretariat, Shillong.
3. General Condition of Eligibility: Subject to specified conditions mentioned elsewhere, the general conditions of eligibility are stated below:-
  - (I) The NEC Merit Scholarship are open only to a candidate who is a permanent resident of any of the States in the North-East the Certificate to this effect obtained from the Deputy Commissioner of the district / Sub Divisional Magistrate in which the candidate is a permanent resident must be produced by the candidate. Certificate. From any other authority will not be accepted. However, for SC/ST applicants, the SC/ST Certificate issued by the competent authority can be considered as PRC.
  - (II) The candidate should possess the relevant qualification from any recognized institution. An original certificate from the Institution of study must be produced by the candidate.
  - (III) The student must not be in receipt of any other financial assistance from any other source, except National or State Merit Scholarship. A sponsored candidate under full employment during the period of study shall not be eligible to receive the stipend.
  - (IV) Financial assistance of NEC Merit Scholarship shall be admissible to students taking admission in the course specified hereinafter in all Institute recognized by the Ministry of Human Resource Development respective Ministry of the Government of India.
  - (V) The NEC Merit Scholarship shall be tenable for the prescribed duration of a course.
  - (VI) In-Service candidate are not covered by this scheme.
  - (VII) The minimum marks for the grant of NEC Merit Scholarship should be 70% for General and 60% for S.C/S.T candidates in the relevant qualifying examination for Diploma/Degree/P.G /Ph.D Level course.
  - (VIII) Selection of students for M/Phil. And Ph.D should be done on the basis of topic of research which has relevant to N.E.Region. As per Minuets of meeting vide No.NEC/HRD&E/Stipend&B.G/Mise/16/2016, dt.6/10/2016, The course which is not covered in the existing list to be included provided it is recognized by UGC,AICTE,NCT and other statutory bodies.
  - (IX) Selection will be made on the basis of merit in all cases.
  - (X) The revised rate and guidelines will come into force w.e.f.01/04/2017.
  - (XI) For availing scholarship under this scheme, the income of the parents of the student should not exceed Rs.4.5 lakhs per annum.

4. The present rate of NEC Merit Scholarship subject/courses is as under:-

<u>Level of Study.</u>	<u>Rate of Scholarship.</u>
Diploma	Rs.20,000/- P.A
Degree	Rs.22,000/- P.A
Post Graduate	Rs.25,000/- P.A
M.Phil/Ph.D	Rs.30,000/- P.A

The rates are subject to revision from time to time. A committee will be appointed by the Secretary, NEC for the purpose.

- (II) (a) The various courses of studies at different levels for which NEC's Merit Scholarship is admissible would be those as decided by the NEC from time to time keeping in view the requirements of specialized manpower of the North Eastern Region. The current list of courses are outlined in Annexure- I.(DIP). II.(Degree) III.(P.G) and IV. Ph.D . As per Minuets of meeting vide No.NEC/HRD&E/Stipend&B.G/Mise/ 16 /2016, dt.6/10/2016, The course which is not covered in the existing list to be included provided it is recognized by UGC,AICTE,NCT and other statutory bodies.

(b) The subjects topics for M.Phil and Ph.D should be directly, specifically and currently relevant to the N.E.Region. Basic and theoretical research shall not be favoured in general. The stipends for M.Phil will be available initially for 18 months extendable by a period of six months/one semester and for Ph.D stipends shall be initially for three years, extendable later by a maximum period of another one year on the basis of recommendations from the Guide of the Institute. The grant of stipend for M.Phil and Ph.D would be after the registration of the student with the University.

5. The number of stipends to be awarded every year to candidates at different levels may be decided by the State Govt. keeping in mind the fund allocation to the State Govt. However, the number may be increased or decrease at each level of study depending upon the market demand and availability of fund.

6. Reservation for SC/ST/OBC:

(a) All candidates will first be considered under the General category.

(b) Reservation on the same principles as embodied in our Constitution and as followed by Govt. of India shall be followed in selection of candidates. This reservation will be made according to the percentage of SC,ST & OBC and also limited to a maximum of 50% as ruled by the Supreme Court and as followed by the Govt.of India. However, SC,ST & OBC candidates who are qualified on merit of their own as general candidates would be considered as additionality to the reservation for SC,ST & OBC. Hence, initially all candidates will be considered against the general quota.

7. Selection and fund release.

Selection of candidates for Diploma level upwards shall be made by the State Govt. after proper advertisement and following selection procedure as outlined at Annexure-V.

The NEC Merit Scholarship at stipulated rates for Diploma level and above will be paid directly by the State Govt. concerned to the respective student bank account number under DBT system.

8. Submission of Utilization Certificate & Audit Certificate.

The State Govt. of North Eastern Region shall submit every year Utilization Certificate in GFR 19A and Audit Certificate for the among released from NEC under the scheme NEC Merit Scholarship.

9. In case of doubt clarification the matter shall be referred to Director(Manpower Development) North Eastern Council Secretariat.Shillong-793001.

#### ANNEXURE-V.

Procedure for selection of stipendiaries by the States for the Diploma Level Courses and above.

1. The stipendiaries must conform to the eligibility and other conditions laid down under the Rules for Stipend and Book-grant.
2. Respective Department of the State Government will advertise in English in a more widely circulated paper of the State once in a year at an appropriate time.
3. The advertisement shall give pertinent details, about scheme and the certificates etc. required to be submitted along with the application form.
4. Selection should be made purely on merit subject to State quotas and reservation for SC, ST and OBC dovetailed by distribution to various courses/subjects. Selection of courses subjects and the number of stipends for each course will have to depend on number of candidates available/subjects and the quality of such candidates and also the perceived need of the respective State.
5. Students selected for grant of stipends/book grant New Name NEC Merit Scholarship will be entitled to respective same from the date of admission / date of commencement whichever is later till completion of the course.
6. The NEC Merit Scholarship will not be available for Internship of any practical training.
7. Students pursuing dual course (Degree + PG) will be entitle to receive stipend for Degree Level only.
8. Students selected for Diploma level will be entitled to receive stipend for Diploma Level only. The student cannot claim for continuance of stipend for Degree Level.
9. The NEC shall release the directly to the State Governments. However, if it is brought to the notice of the NEC Secretariat that a candidate is enjoying stipends/scholarship from one or more source including that of NEC, the stipend and book grant now NEC Merit Scholarship shall be discontinued forthwith and the amount given in excess as per rule shall be recovered.
10. Progress report shall be furnished to the NEC by the respective State Government concerned.
11. For renewal of stipend/scholarship (See Rules in Annexure-VI) which is to be done on an annual basis each stipendiary will have to fill up a prescribed renewal form(specimen) enclosed as Annexure-VII obtainable from the State Govt. and get a recommendation thereon from the Head of the Institute concerned who shall do so strictly on the basis of satisfactory progress of the stipendiary. Failure in any academic tear will render the stipend liable to be discontinued for that entire period of failure and future renewal should be recommended only from the date of passing to the next higher class/semester. A coms of the Sanction order along with statement for the stipend renewed shall be endorse to NEC.
12. The State Government shall furnish a list of candidates selected for stipend every year for record giving all necessary details.

## RULES FOR RENEWAL OF STIPEND AND BOOKGRANT.

1. Renewal of stipend and book-grant is not an automatic process and subject to fulfillment of certain terms and conditions by the stipend holder.
2. All requests for renewal of stipend / scholarship shall be made to the Director. Department concerned of the State Govt. in the prescribed form which can be obtained from the Head of the Institution/Dean. Student Welfare of the educational institution/University where the stipend/scholarship holder is studying. At the beginning of each financial year a sufficient number of renewal forms for the stipend/scholarship shall be sent by post to the Head of the Institution/Dean. Student Welfare of the education institution/university where the stipend/scholarship holder is studying.
3. Renewal of stipend and book grant/ scholarship is generally for a period of one year i.e from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March of the next year.
4. Stipend holders shall apply for renewal of stipend/scholarship on a yearly basis. However stipend holders from the Medical Science stream may apply for renewal after completion of each professional examination.
5. While applying for renewal the stipend holder shall fill up the renewal form completely. Mark sheets Pass Certificates for the previous year shall be enclosed. Ph.D / M.Phil. students while applying for renewal shall enclose the latest progress report from the Guide countersigned by the Registrar. The filled in renewal forms shall be submitted to the Head of the educational institutions for recommendation.
6. The Head of the educational institution while recommending a case for renewal of stipend/scholarship shall clearly indicate whether the stipend holder has been promoted to the next year or not renewal cases of stipend holders who have not been promoted to the next year will not be forwarded for renewal.
7. Renewal cases of stipend holders who are not promoted to the next year will not be considered for further renewal and name of such stipend holders shall be removed from the record.
8. In case of stipend holder who fail in one or more subjects but is promoted to the next semester/ year such cases for renewal will be considered for provided that the stipend holder clears all the back papers in the next examination. In all such cases for renewal a certificate in this regard from the Head of the Institution will accompany the request for subsequent renewal.
9. Request for renewal of stipend holders who have changed their subject of study will not be entertained for renewal if the student has availed the stipend for the previous course or part of it.
10. Request for renewal of stipend of such stipend holders who have changed their Institution of study will not be entertained for renewal.
11. Request for renewal of stipend/scholarship in respect of stipend holders who discontinue their study from any period for any reason other than on medical reason will not be entertained stipend holders who discontinue their study on medical ground will submit a medical certificate from the District Medical Officer, Head of the Medical Institutions in this regard. Clearly indicating the course and period of such break in study while applying for renewal.
12. Extension of stipend beyond the prescribed period of study will not be entertained. However, if such extension is due to reasons beyond the control of the stipend holders then such cases may be considered for extension based on the merit of the individual case. All such requests for extension

must be accompanied by a Certificate issued in this regard by the Head of the educational Institution as in the format given in the renewal form.

13. M.Phil stipend is sanctioned for a period of one and half year and is extendable by a period of six months one semester based on the recommendation of the Head of the Institution.
14. Ph.D stipends are sanctioned normally for a period of 3 years. Which is extendable for another one year based on the recommendation of the Head of the Institution.
15. Final year stipend holders wishing to draw the final disbursement of stipend / scholarship after completion of their courses directly from the State Govt. will be required to submit a recommendation in this regard from the Head of the Institution.

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