

# **Rajiv Gandhi Scholarship for Academic Excellence Scheme**

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

*(Guidelines dated 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023)*

### **1. Who can apply in the Scheme?**

- Students of Rajasthan State domicile.
- Less than 35 years as on 1<sup>st</sup> July of the financial year.
- Offer letter from one of the top 1-150 Universities (QS World Ranking University)
- For Engineering, Medicine, Dentistry and Architecture Courses at Under Graduate level : Offer letter from one of the top 1-150 QS World ranking universities which shall also be included in top 25 QS World university rankings subject wise

### **2. Which courses are allowed in the Scheme?**

- Post Doc ( Max Course Duration: 1.5 Years )
- Ph. D. ( Max Course Duration: 3 Years )
- PG ( Max Course Duration: 2 Years )
- UG ( Max Course Duration: 4Years )

### **3. Which subjects are allowed in the Scheme?**

- For Post Doc/ PhD/PG/ UG, all subjects as prescribed by the top 1-150 QS World ranking universities are allowed.
- However, for Engineering, Medicine, Dentistry and Architecture at UG level top 1-150 QS World University Ranking should also be included in top 1-25 QS World University Ranking subject wise.

### **4. Which documents are required to fill the application on portal?**

- a. Jan Aadhar Number
- b. Offer letter of the applicable foreign university
- c. Bonafide/ Domicile certificate
- d. Gross family Income certificate (authenticated by executive magistrate and witnessed by two gazetted officers)
- e. ITRs (As applicable for Financial year 2022-23, for applications in financial year 2023-24)
- f. Affidavit for not filing ITR (given format)
- g. 10th marksheet
- h. Qualifying Degree, Mark sheet/Certificate of last passed exam
- i. Self Declaration for Scholarships/ financial help etc.from other sources.
- j. Passport, if any
- k. Visa, if any
- l. Aadhar Number

### **5. Which Universities are allowed in this scheme?**

Top 150 QS World ranked universities available latest as on 1<sup>st</sup> April of that financial year are allowed.

### **6. Will the list of applicable universities change during opening to closing of the portal?**

No, university list available as on 1<sup>st</sup> April of a financial year and as decided by the government will be applicable for the whole financial year.

### **7. Will this scholarship help me in getting admission in foreign universities?**

No, this scholarship scheme only provides financial assistance after getting admission in foreign university. For admission you will have to make efforts on your own. You are advised to visit the websites of the respective universities for admission details.

**8. How to apply for this scholarship?**

You can apply online on the portal. Website link: <https://hte.rajasthan.gov.in/online-scholarship> .

**9. What do I need to login to the portal ?**

You need Janaadhar number and SSOID. Please get Janaadhar number and create a SSOID if not already available.

**10. Do I have to submit any documents offline while submitting my application form?**

No, at the time of application form submission you need not submit any document in offline mode, but after provisional selection you have to submit documents in offline mode as mentioned in the revised Guidelines dated 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

**11. What happens if a student/parent provides any false / misleading information or documents before and after the selection in this scheme?**

In such cases, penalty as well as recovery will be imposed and action will be taken as per relevant laws.

**12. Will I be able to change my personal information in the application form which is already fetched from Janaadhar Data?**

To update your personal information, you will need to update JanAadhar details.

**13. Will I be able to fill application if my qualifying degree result is awaited?**

Yes, but you have to submit unconditional offer letter within two months from the date of provisional selection.

**14. After completing the ONLINE application process and generating a PDF file, will I be able to change my application data?**

You can withdraw your application and resubmit it with the updated information before respective evaluation date.

**15. What will be the last qualifying exam document if I am applying for Post Doc?**

It will be your PG degree

**16. I have an offer letter from an institution that is not listed in World QS ranking of top 150 Universities, but listed as top 35<sup>th</sup> institution in world QS University ranking Subject wise, will I be eligible in this scheme?**

No. Only top 150 QS World ranking universities will only be considered.

**17. Can I Edit the information already saved on the online portal and upto what time?**

You can always edit information before final submission.

**18. Is passport/visa mandatory requirement for filling the application form**

No, you don't require passport/visa while filling the application form but after selection you will require to submit passport and visa to avail financial benefits in the scheme.

**19. How many new scholarship awards are allocated for financial year 2023-24?**

500 new scholarship awards.

**20. Will previous financial year's awards (If lying vacant) be carry forwarded to next financial year?**

No, previous financial year's awards/seats (If lying vacant) will not be carry forwarded to next financial year. Selections for each financial year's awards/seats will be made as per prevailing guidelines.

**21. Is there any classification according to annual gross family income?**

Yes, following are the details:

Gross family income	Income Category
Less than 8 Lacs/annum	E1
8-25 Lacs/annum	E2
Greater than 25 Lacs/ annum	E3

**22. What are the different financial assistance under this scheme?**

Tuition fee, bench fee, living expenses will be payable as follows:

<b>INCOME CATEGORY</b>	<b>ANNUAL ASSISTANCE*</b>
E1: Family gross annual income less than 8 Lakh	Tuition Fees and Bench fee : Max 50 lakh
	Living Expenses: 12 Lakh Rupees
	One time advance of 3 Lakh to students who will start their course after application on portal (adjusted against living expenses)
E2: Family gross annual income 8 – 25 Lakh	Tuition Fees and Bench fee : Max 50 lakh
	Living Expenses - 6 Lakh Rupees
E3: Family gross annual income above 25 Lakh	Tuition Fees and Bench fee : Max 50 lakh
	No Living Expenses

\* For more details refer clause no 10 of guidelines dated 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**23. What is included in Living expenses?**

'Living Expenses' are such as contingency allowance, equipment, medical insurance, accommodation, flight, visa, TCS etc. (These living expenses are indicative)

**24. Is there any upper limit for tuition fee?**

Tuition fee will be paid after deducting any other financial assistance (Scholarship/ Fellowship/ Sponsorship/ awards/ grant/ any other financial assistance) which student is getting. This amount is maximum 50 lakh per annum. This will be over and above the living expenses admissible to E1 and E2 category students.

**25. Will E3 category students not be considered in first, second or third phase?**

Yes, E3 will be considered only in the last phase. After considering E1 and E2 category students, if seats remain then only E3 category students will be considered.

**26. My university charges bench fees other than the tuition fee. Will it be payable under this scheme?**

Yes, Only PG, PhD and Post Doc students are eligible for this. This amount is maximum 50 lakh per annum inclusive of tuition and bench fee.

**27. Who are eligible for one time advance payment of Rs. 3 lakh per annum?**

Advance payment is a facility given to only E1 category students who will start their course after applying on the portal. Such students can use this advance payment for expenses such as Air fare, Visa, laptop purchase and other expenses as per their need before leaving to foreign university. This advance payment will be adjusted from their payable living expenses. It will be payable only once for the entire course duration before commencement of the course.

**28. Who are eligible for consolation prize?**

- To motivate the talented students, \$2000 consolation prize upon availing 100 % Tuition fee and payable living expenses from other sources.
- However, such students will be eligible to apply again for scholarship for other courses/subjects (Courses/Subject for which he/she has not availed consolation prize under this scheme) in future.
- This 2000 US \$ will be given only once during the entire course duration

**29. I am availing some other scholarship/fellowship/award/grant/ financial assistance from some other sources, will this financial assistance be deducted from payable financial benefits?**

Yes, all such financial assistance will be deducted from payable financial benefits in the scheme. Self-declaration in this regard will also be required in this regards as per norms.

**30. Is question no. 28 is applicable to existing students who were not receiving any financial assistance from other sources at the time of selection but started availing later on during course period.**

Yes, deduction of any financial assistance from other sources will be made for new as well as existing selected students. New as well as existing selected students have to update these details every year.

**31. From which date I will get the financial benefits of the scheme, If I am already studying at the time of application?**

From the date of application on the portal. No payment will be made for the period before application date in this scheme. For more details refer clause no 11 of scheme guidelines.

Ex: Currently, a student studying in second year and selected for the scheme then he/she will not get any financial assistance prior to his/her date of application.

**32. From which date I will get the financial benefits of the scheme, if I will start my course after my application?**

From the starting of the course. For more details refer clause no 11.

**33. From which date, I will be eligible for getting living expenses?**

Only E1 and E2 category students will be eligible for living expenses. Date of reaching the foreign university for the purpose of starting the course (date of passport stamp)

**34. What do you mean by Evaluation phases for Selection?**

Applications submitted prior to the evaluation date will be reviewed and processed based on the relevant income category applicable to that specific phase in order to determine the selection

**35. How many evaluation phases are there and the procedure to process the applications?**

Phases	1 <sup>st</sup> Phase	2 <sup>nd</sup> Phase	3 <sup>rd</sup> Phase	4 <sup>th</sup> Phase
Evaluation dates	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	21 <sup>st</sup> July 2023	15 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 2023	15 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 2024
Categories to be evaluated	Only E1	E1 and E2 (Firstly E1 will be considered, if Seats remain vacant after selection of E1 category students then E2 will be considered )	E1 and E2 (Firstly E1 will be considered, if Seats remain vacant after selection of E1 category students then E2 will be considered )	E1 and E2 and E3 (Firstly E1 will be considered, if Seats remain vacant after selection of E1 category students then E2 will be considered, Even if seats remain vacant then E3 will be considered )

**36. What will be the closing dates for portal?**

Portal will remain open till 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024 provided seats are lying vacant and will remain closed from 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 for financial year 2023-24. It will open on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 for next financial year.

**37. Will selections in one evaluation phase are dependent on other phase?**

No, selections in each phase is independent from all other phases.

**38. What is the selection criteria for selection in the scheme?**

- There will be four evaluation phases for selection (30<sup>th</sup> June-2023, 21<sup>st</sup> July-2023, 15<sup>th</sup> November-2023 & 15<sup>th</sup> January-2024).
- Applications received till evaluation dates, will be processed for selection in the scheme.
- Maximum 500 new seats are allocated for financial year 2023-24.
- Portal will remain open till 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 for accepting applications, provided seats are lying vacant. Portal will remain close from 16<sup>th</sup> January-2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2024.
- In first phase, only E1 category students will be considered, in second and third phase priority for selection will be in order of E1, E2 category
- In the last phase, priority for selection will be in order of E1, E2 and E3 category. E3 category will be considered in the last phase only, if seats are lying vacant.
- The merit of the student will be determined on the basis of top 150 QS World Universities ranking. (irrespective of the course applied for)
- In case of equality of merit, preference will be given to the students of Postdoc, PhD, PG and UG courses respectively. Even after this, in case of equal merit, the student older in age on the basis of date of birth will be given preference
- 30% seats (150) are earmarked for E1 and E2 category female students only. This will not apply to E3 category female students. Preference will be given to E1 category female students over E2 category female students for these earmarked seats.
- There will be two types of merit list (a) General merit List ( b) Female merit list

**39. How will the selection of the Engineering, Medical, dentistry and architecture in UG courses be done**

- Maximum 7.5% (37) scholarship awards for Engineering, Architecture, Medical & Dentistry (E,A,M& D) for UG courses.
- Top 150 QS World ranking universities will be considered for these courses
- Apart from this, these universities shall also be included in top 25 QS World University rankings subject wise
- The selection of students in these courses (E,A,M & D) at UG level will be made only on the basis of 150 QS World university ranking.

**40. Which documents need to be submitted after provisional selection?**

The student is required to submit the following:

- a. Indemnity bond (as per the given format and instructions)
- b. Abide by rules affidavit (as per the given format)

**41. What is annual gross family income?**

Annual Gross family Income includes income from all sources for student and his family as defined in clause 8(I) of the guidelines.

**42. Whether the income earned from/in foreign countries shall also be included in the total family gross income?**

Yes, students and his/her family income earned from/in foreign countries shall also be included in the total family gross income.

- 43. For which financial year, I need to submit gross family income declaration and other related documents?**  
Financial year 2022-23 for applications in the current session.
- 44. Can I get gross family income certificate authenticated from notary instead of executive magistrate?**  
No, it must be authorized from executive magistrate and also be witnessed by two gazetted officers.
- 45. One time income from retirement benefits/gifts/income from sale of properties is countable for gross family income calculation?**  
No, all such benefits will not be counted for gross income. ITR will be assessed in this regards as per norms.
- 46. Will the income category be changed once it is finalized at the time of selection?**  
No, in subsequent years it will remain same during the course of study in scheme.
- 47. Is income from HuF (Hindu Undivided Family) or income from independent director has to be mentioned in gross family income calculation?**  
Yes, this will be applicable for all family members
- 48. If my parents or I don't file ITR then which document we will need to be uploaded regarding income?**  
In this case, an affidavit on 100 Rs. Non Judicial stamp needs to be furnished. Format is provided at portal/website. Family Income certificate is also required to be authenticated by Executive Magistrate and to be witnessed by two gazetted officers.
- 49. How many scholarship awards are earmarked for female students?**  
30 % of the total scholarship awards allocated for a particular financial year for E1 and E2 category female students. However, E3 category female students are not eligible for these earmarked seats.
- 50. What will happen if I am not able to provide unconditional offer letter at the time of application?**  
You can fill application with conditional offer letter but after 2 months of provisional selection list, you will have to provide unconditional offer letter/admission letter for final selection. After this given time, you will have to apply afresh in the forthcoming phases with the unconditional letter.
- 51. I am a working professional, whether I have to resign before applying in the scheme?**  
No, You can apply without resigning. Refer clause 6 (vi).
- 52. I am a working professional, whether I have to resign before final selection in the scheme?**  
Yes, you have to provide resignation letter before final selection. Refer clause 6 (vi).
- 53. I am a resident of Rajasthan and permanently working in a state university in Uttar Pradesh (or in Rajasthan), am I eligible for the scholarship?**  
No. Please Refer clause 6 (vi) of the guideline.
- 54. I am working as a permanent employee in a Govt. organisation, am I eligible for this scholarship?**  
No because you are a permanent Govt. employee. Refer clause 6 (vi) of the guideline
- 55. I am working as a permanent employee in a private organisation, am I eligible for this scholarship?**  
Yes. Refer clause 6 (vi) of the guideline.
- 56. What is the provision for more than one award in a family?**  
To encourage female students, for E-1, E-2 category family, if the second applicant from the same family/same parents is a female then she will be eligible for the scholarship. E3 category family will not be eligible for two awards.

- Normally one scholarship award will be granted for lifetime in this scheme. However, to promote female students, two scholarship awards for E-1, E-2 category students may be granted provided second applicant from the same family is a female.
- In any case, **E3** category family will not be eligible for two awards. Only one award will be given to **E3** category family for lifetime.
- One student will be eligible only once in his/her lifetime for this scheme.

**57. How will I come to know that all 500 seats have been filled ?**

A message will be displayed on the portal and website as soon as the 500 students have been selected. List of all the selected students will be published on the RGS website.

**58. How can I see status of my application?**

You can access the portal to view the status of your application. Status of an application will change during the evaluation process for the application. It will also be informed through SMS and email on your registered mobile number and email-Id.

**59. Will my application automatically be considered for next financial year awards for scholarship, if am not selected in current financial year for which I have applied?**

If you are eligible as per revised guidelines dated 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023 as amended time to time but all 500 seats are exhausted during four phases of evaluation then you will have to apply afresh in the next financial year. Your current application will deemed to be rejected and you will not be entitled for any financial benefits on the basis of old application.

**60. My application is rejected as I don't fulfil norms during first phase of evaluation, may I apply in next phases (Second, Third and fourth) of evaluation ?**

Yes, You can apply again in subsequent phases if 500 seats are not exhausted. It is advisable, you fill application again if you fulfil all norms of the prevalent scheme guidelines at the time of fresh application.

**61. I am a E3 category student, if I am selected in last phase of evaluation (15th January, 2024), from which date I will be eligible for financial benefits in the scheme?**

Your benefits will accrue as per the guidelines from the date of application or start of the course as the case may be after fulfilling all norms of the prevalent guidelines at the time of evaluation for selection.

**62. When can I expect confirmation for provisional selection?**

After 30 days of respective evaluation dates.

**63. Can I upgrade my university or change my course of study after being selected in the scheme?**

Yes, after selection only for once as per the provisions of scheme guidelines. Upgrade can only be done in the applicable higher rank QS world ranking university

**64. Can I take transfer/ exchange program if my university permits it after being selected in the scheme?**

Yes, as per the university policy and scheme guidelines.

**65. I have been provisionally selected in the scheme, may I defer the course for which I have been selected?**

Yes, you can defer for maximum one year after selection.

**66. Will the consolidated and revised guidelines apply on already selected students (FY 2021-22 and 2022-23)?**

- Yes, consolidated and revised guidelines dated 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023 will be effective from the date of issuance of these revised guidelines. Proportionate Payments to such students will be made according to consolidated and revised guidelines for the remaining course period.
- For the period before the issuance of these revised guidelines, earlier guidelines will be effective and proportionate financial assistance committed will be made according to earlier guidelines.
- They have to update about scholarship/ fellowship/sponsorship/ awards/ grant/ any other financial help getting from other sources which will be deducted from their payable financial assistance.

**67. When will a student be eligible for subsequent instalments?**

A student will be eligible for subsequent instalments only after satisfactory progress report of the current semester/year.

**68. How to seek admission abroad in QS world rank universities?**

Students are required themselves to arrange for their admission in **QS world rank universities**. Websites of the concerned universities have information regarding their admission procedures. If TOFEL/IELTS/GRE/GMAT etc. exams are requisite for admission in universities then student will have to appear for these examinations on his own.

**69. What to do after getting admission?**

After getting admission, you have to apply on RGS portal.

**70. How to get visa?**

The student may approach the Embassy for getting appropriate visa and can also visits the websites of the countries

**71. What is expected from the selected students?**

- Student shall not provide any false/ misleading information or documents
- To abide by the scheme guidelines and the rules/ laws of the respective residing country
- Research work/ paper presented/ project report during the course will have to be submitted
- Students will seek jobs in Rajasthan on first priority basis to benefit the state from their academic talent
- Student who applies for the “Young Intern Program” may be considered on priority by the State Government
- To promote culture, heritage and build image of Rajasthan state in respective university
- To participate and encourage philanthropic activities in Rajasthan
- Student must be present mandatorily for online interaction (Video Conferences, Zoom Meetings etc.) whenever required
- To guide prospective RGS beneficiaries
- Act as ambassadors in promoting the scheme to increase its reach and impact
- Students shall abide by the guidelines and the indemnity bond

**Note: Above frequently asked questions (FAQs) are for guidance purpose only. In case of any discrepancy, scheme guidelines dated 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023 will be followed and department’s decision will be final.**