

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Directorate of Colleges Higher Education Department

112 – C Extension, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu

CIRCULAR

Subject: - Revised Guidelines for Grant of Financial Assistance out of Students Aid Fund (Local Fund).

Whereas, the Higher Education Department issued the guidelines for Grant of Financial Assistance to eligible college students vide its circular no HE/Gen/69/2002, Dated: 17-04-2003.

Whereas, no further changes/amendments were brought in the guidelines since its issuance in the year 2003.

Whereas, large scale expansion of Higher Education Sector has taken place during the last two decades and therefore, completely transformed the course structure and subsequent fee structure in the colleges of J & K.

Whereas, it has been observed over the spectrum of years that due to **lack of financial resources** and increase in the **fee structure** corresponding to the **changes in course structure** has proportionately led to the increase in **dropout ratio** in Higher Education Sector particularly at the time of Admissions.

Whereas, the changes in **socio-economic profile** and increase in **cost of living** is apparently seen as a discouraging factor for **underprivileged/needy students** from continuing their studies.

Henceforth, inter alia above and in order to minimize the **dropout ratio** and to ensure maximum enrolment as specified by the NEP-2020 guidelines, the following proportionate guidelines for grant of Financial Assistance out of Student Aid Fund (Local Fund) are hereby revised as under:

1. **The students eligible to receive Financial Assistance from the Student Aid Fund (Local Fund) shall be divided into three categories:**
 - A. **Orphan/Broken Family Category:** The students who shall be benefited under this category must fulfill the following criterion:
 - (i) Having monthly income of less than or equal to Rs. 10,000.
 - (ii) Certificate to this effect from the competent authority/ /Gazetted Officer/SarpachPanchayatHalqa.
 - (iii) Applicant hailing from Broken Family Category has to produce a legal separation document to this effect and a cogent proof that the applicant resides with the non-earning parent.
 - B. **Differently Abled/Students having Handicapped Parents:** The students who shall be benefited under this category must fulfill the following criterion:
 - (i) Applicants from this Category shall furnish a certificate to this effect from a competent Authority.
 - (ii) The percentage of disability should be above 40%.

- (iii) Income certificate from the competent authority.
- C. **EWS/AAAY:** The students who shall be benefited under this category must fulfill the following criterion:
- (i) EWS Certificate/AAAY Ration Cards.
- (ii) Income Certificate from the concerned Tehsildar with a monthly ceiling upto Rs. 10,000/= is to be produced.

2. The Annual Financial Assistance category-wise to be provided is as follows:


a. Orphan/Broken Family Category	Rs. 7, 000/=
b. Differently Abled/ Students having Handicapped Parents	Rs. 6,500/=
c. EWS/AAAY	Rs. 6000/=

3. General Guidelines for implementation of the given circular:

- i. The financial aid shall be provided upto a threshold of 75% of the Student Aid Fund collected in a financial year.
- ii. Given the increase in Dropout in Higher Education, the 25% of Financial Assistance may be given at the time of Admissions.
- iii. The total number of applicants to be given away the financial Assistance should not exceed 10% of the total enrolment of the academic session. In case, the number of such applications exceed, the discretion of the Principal/HOI shall be final.
- iv. The notification for the financial aid shall be issued at the commencement of the academic session.
- v. Only those applications shall be entertained having cogent proof/documentation. Any such dubious applications shall be rejected thereof.
- vi. Payment of financial assistance shall be credited into the Bank Account of the deserving applicant through DBT mode only.
- vii. Before commencement of the receipt process of such applications, the minutes of meeting to be prepared by the Scholarship/Financial Aid Committee should be approved firstly by the concerned Principal/HOI.
- viii. A proper maintenance of the record/documentation on this account shall be the sole responsibility of the principal.
- ix. The applications are strictly to be preserved for a period of five years for any audit/verification purpose.
- x. The Principal/HOI shall ensure that the eligible applicant is provided such assistance only once in an academic session.
- xi. The Principal/HOI shall ensure the proper dissemination of information about Financial Assistance to the deserving students through the available means of communication.

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