

Scholarships in India

What is Scholarship?

It is a grant or payment made to financially support a student's education, awarded based on academic or other achievement.

Categories of Scholarships available for students in India - Scholarships are diverse and awarded to deserving students from various backgrounds.

Sr. No	Category of Scholarship	Description	Link/s for Reference
1.	Government based schemes like Central, State, UGC / AICTE	Central Government provides financial support to promote education for social, economic and political transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - https://scholarships.gov.in/#schemesonNSP - https://nvshq.org/scholarship/scholarship-in-india/
2.	Prime Minister Scholarship Scheme	PMSS is regulated by Ministry of Home Affairs to encourage education for the dependent wards of Ex Servicemen / Ex Coast Guard personnel and their widows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - https://www.desw.gov.in/prime-ministers-scholarship-scheme-pmss#:~:text=Prime%20Minister's%20Scholarship%20Scheme%20(PMSS)&text=The%20Scheme%20was%20introduced%20in,%2F%2D%20for%20boys%20and%20Rs - https://scholarships.gov.in/public/schemeGuidelines/warb/G_1197_3001.pdf
3.	Merit cum Means Scholarship	Various universities offer financial assistance to the meritorious students with weak financial background to pursue higher education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - https://www.ashoka.edu.in/sciences-merit-cum-means-scholarship/ - https://collegedunia.com/university/5958-flame-university-pune/scholarship
4.	Need based Scholarship	Many institutes, universities, businesses and foundations offer it to students from economically weaker background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - https://ahduni.edu.in/admission/fees-financial-aid/bachelors-and-integrated-masters-programmes-financial-aid/ - https://vit.ac.in/scholarship#:~:text=Financial%20assistance%20is%20also%20provided,to%20meritorious%20and%20needy%20students.
5.	Scholarships by Corporate Sector	CSR projects by various commercial establishments offer this to meritorious students from economically disadvantaged families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - https://www.scholarshipsinindia.com/ - https://www.buddy4study.com/article/loreal-india-for-young-women-in-science-scholarship#18217oreal-india-for-young-women-in-science-scholarship-eligibility-criteria - https://www.sashaktscholarship.org/ - https://www.kcmet.org/what-we-do-Scholarship-Grants.aspx
6.	Medical Scholarship	Offered by private corporations and/ or Indian government to meritorious students to especially pursue medical courses in India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - https://www.aisee.co.in/medical-scholarship-in-india - https://www.colgate.com/en-in/smile-karo-aur-shuru-ho-jao/foundation-scholarship

7.	Scholarship for Women	Communal and non-profit organizations support girls / women from economically weaker sections through the scholarships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - https://www.udayancare.org/udayan-shalini-fellowship/udayan-shalini-fellowship-programme?gclid=CjwKCAjws--ZBhAXEiwAv-RNL5JSLK1Y5N10QNe89w4wDbmYNrWucRittP_PSRDUV4tDsRXKvTd4ntRoCNbYQAvD_BwE - https://scholarships.gov.in/public/schemeGuidelines/1053_G.pdf - https://www.aicte-india.org/downloads/About%20the%20Scheme_p_s_16.pdf - https://scholarshipexam.in/post-graduate-indira-gandhi-scholarship-for-single-girl-child/
8.	Scholarship for Differently Abled	Several non-profit organisations and firms aid differently abled individuals to pursue professional or technical courses for employment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - http://www.nhfdc.nic.in/scholarship.html
9.	Study Abroad Scholarships	Trade and non-profit organisations deliver help for deserving Indian students who wish to study abroad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - https://scholarshiparena.in/indian-government-scholarships-for-studying-abroad/
10.	Sports Scholarship	Many universities and business companies offer it to those who have excelled in different sport disciplines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - https://cbseportal.com/Scholarship/Sports-Scholarships-Sports-Authority-of-India-SAI-NSNIS - https://iocl.com/pages/Sports-Scholarship-2022

□ **Understanding the guidelines, eligibility, type of scholarship is essential to start the process:**

1. The eligibility criteria vary according to the type of scholarship offered by different institutions. Students need to fulfil the guidelines and submit supporting documents by the deadline. Scholarship applications, timelines and procedures differ from one institute to another.
2. Documents needed to support the scholarship application:
 - a. Academic transcripts / marksheets
 - b. Declaration of income and financial statements
 - c. Any relevant certificates
3. Other common and desirable prerequisites may include:
 - a. Achievements in co-curricular activities
 - b. Impactful letter of recommendation
 - c. Strong essays or Statement of purpose
 - d. Social / community service experience

One may believe that the process of scholarship starts when students apply to institutions, but, in reality, it begins when a student decides to work on oneself to be their best version, outperform their goals and stands out amongst others.

Alertness about various scholarship types, their eligibility guidelines, their limitations, financial implementation to full course fees or is limited to full / partial tuition fees, etc is crucial.