FURKATING COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)
P.O. FURKATING–785610
DIST–GOLAGHAT (ASSAM)
Mobile No.-9365446210

Ref.No. FKGC/SP/3541 Date: 26/6/2024

SCHOLARSHIP POLICY

1. Preamble

Furkating College (Autonomous) is committed to promoting inclusive and equitable access to higher education. Recognising that financial constraints may affect students' academic progress and continuation of studies, the institution endeavours to facilitate access to various scholarships and financial assistance schemes offered by the Government of India, the Government of Assam and other agencies. The college also endeavours to provide financial assistance from its own resources to deserving and needy students, subject to the availability of funds.

The policy provides a framework for creating awareness, facilitating applications, identifying eligible beneficiaries and extending institutional financial assistance to students who require support to pursue their academic and career goals.

2. Objectives

The objectives of this policy are:

1. To facilitate access to Government and other external scholarship schemes for eligible students.
2. To provide financial assistance to deserving students facing economic hardship.
3. To encourage academic excellence and recognise meritorious performance.
4. To promote equitable access to higher education irrespective of socio-economic background.
5. To minimise financial barriers that may affect students' academic progress and continuation of studies.
6. To create awareness about the availability and application procedures of various scholarship schemes.
7. To establish a transparent and accountable mechanism for the identification and selection of beneficiaries under institutional scholarship schemes.

3. Scope of the Policy

This policy covers the following two broad areas:

A. Government and External Scholarships: Scholarships and financial assistance schemes offered by the Central Government, Government of Assam, UGC and other recognised agencies or organisations. The college facilitates awareness, application and related assistance for eligible students under these schemes.

B. Institutional Scholarships and Financial Assistance: Scholarships, awards and financial assistance provided directly by Furkating College (Autonomous) from its own resources, including funds specifically earmarked for student welfare and assistance.

The two categories shall be maintained separately for administrative, financial reporting and accreditation purposes.

4. Government and External Scholarship Schemes

The college facilitates access to various Central and State Government scholarship schemes and other financial assistance programmes. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. National Merit Scholarship.
2. UGC Ishan Uday Special Scholarship Scheme for North Eastern Region.
3. State Merit Scholarship.
4. Scholarships for SC/ST/OBC/MOBC and other eligible reserved categories.
5. Minority Scholarships.
6. MLA Scholarship.
7. Tea Garden Students' Scholarship.
8. Other scholarships and financial assistance schemes introduced by the Central and State Governments from time to time.

The availability and eligibility conditions of these schemes shall be governed by the respective authorities. Students shall be encouraged to apply in accordance with the prescribed guidelines and deadlines.

5. Guiding Principles

The provision and facilitation of scholarships and financial assistance shall be guided by the following principles:

1. **Need-Based Assistance:** Priority shall be given to students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds who require financial support to continue their education.
2. **Merit-Based Incentive:** Scholarships and awards shall also serve as incentives to recognise and encourage deserving students for their academic achievements.
3. **Equity and Inclusion:** Eligible students shall be encouraged to avail themselves of available assistance irrespective of their socio-economic background.
4. **Transparency:** Institutional scholarships shall be awarded through a fair and transparent selection process.
5. **Accountability:** Proper records of applications, approvals, beneficiaries and disbursements shall be maintained.

6. Institutional Scholarships and Financial Assistance

Subject to the availability of institutional funds and approval of the competent authority, the college shall provide scholarships, awards and financial assistance to deserving students under the following categories:

a. Late Tanuram Saikia Memorial Award: An institutional memorial award instituted in memory of Late Tanuram Saikia to recognise and encourage deserving students in accordance with the criteria prescribed by the college.

b. Departmental Cash Awards: Departments may institute or offer cash awards to students in recognition of outstanding academic performance, subject to the prescribed departmental criteria and availability of funds.

c. **Merit-Based Scholarship:** Financial assistance to students securing outstanding academic performance in university or institutional examinations.

d. Need-Based Scholarship: Financial assistance to students belonging to economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

e. Merit-cum-Means Scholarship: Financial assistance to students who demonstrate good academic performance along with financial need.

f. Financial Assistance for Excellence in Sports: Financial assistance or awards to students demonstrating outstanding achievement in sports and games at institutional, university, state, national or other recognised levels.

g. Special Financial Assistance: Support to students facing exceptional financial difficulties due to unforeseen circumstances that may affect their continuation of studies.

h. Other Institutional Awards and Assistance: Any additional scholarship, award or financial assistance introduced by the institution to encourage academic achievement and support student welfare.

i. Coverage of Students Enrolled in Self-Financed Courses: Students enrolled in self-financed courses offered by Furkating College (Autonomous), shall also be eligible to apply for institutional scholarships and financial assistance, subject to the availability of funds and the eligibility conditions prescribed for the respective schemes.

7. Special Financial Assistance Schemes of the Government of Assam

The college shall disseminate information regarding special initiatives of the Government of Assam aimed at supporting students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. These may include, subject to the prevailing government guidelines:

1. Free admission or fee waiver schemes for eligible students belonging to families with an annual income below the prescribed income limit, including the applicable income ceiling of ₹2 lakh under relevant schemes.
2. Financial assistance for the purchase of books.
3. Reimbursement of monthly mess dues for eligible hostel boarders.
4. Assistance for two-wheelers to meritorious girl students under applicable government schemes.
5. Other student welfare and financial assistance initiatives introduced by the Government of Assam.

The college shall facilitate eligible students in accessing these benefits in accordance with the guidelines and conditions prescribed by the respective government authorities.

8. Measures for Creating Awareness and Facilitating Scholarships

The college shall undertake the following measures to ensure that students are informed about available scholarship opportunities and receive necessary assistance:

a. **College Website:** A dedicated webpage shall be maintained on the college website containing information about available scholarships, eligibility conditions, application procedures and important deadlines.

b. **Administrative Assistance:** Designated office staff and computer personnel shall assist students in understanding the application process and completing online scholarship applications, wherever necessary.

c. **College Prospectus:** Information regarding important scholarship schemes and financial assistance opportunities shall be included in the college prospectus.

d. **Mentoring System:** Faculty mentors shall disseminate information about relevant scholarship schemes and update their mentees regarding newly introduced schemes, application deadlines and other important requirements.

e. **Notices and Announcements:** Information regarding scholarship opportunities shall be circulated through departmental notices, the college notice board, the website and other appropriate communication channels.

f. **Application Support:** Students requiring assistance with online applications and documentation shall be guided by the designated college personnel.

9. Application and Disbursement Procedure

A. Government and External Scholarships

1. The college shall inform students about the relevant Government and external scholarship schemes and their application procedures.
2. Necessary student information and supporting documents shall be collected or verified as required under the respective schemes.
3. The college shall facilitate the submission and verification of applications wherever its institutional role is required.
4. Scholarships sanctioned under Government schemes shall be disbursed through the prescribed mechanism, generally the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system, in accordance with the respective scheme guidelines.
5. Necessary student data and documents required for scholarship applications may be collected during online admission and updated subsequently wherever necessary.

B. Selection and Disbursement of Institutional Scholarships/Awards

1. The selection of beneficiaries under institutional scholarships and awards shall be based on the respective eligibility criteria.
2. Departmental cash awards shall be recommended by the concerned departments in accordance with their prescribed criteria.
3. Recommendations for memorial awards and other institutional awards shall be placed before the competent authority for approval.
4. Financial assistance for excellence in sports shall be considered on the basis of verified records of achievement and participation in recognised competitions.
5. All institutional awards and financial assistance shall be approved by the Principal or the competent authority, as applicable.
6. The amount and mode of disbursement shall be determined by the institution, subject to the availability of funds and applicable financial procedures.
7. Proper records of all awards and financial assistance shall be maintained by the college.

10. Eligibility Criteria for Institutional Scholarships

Students enrolled in the undergraduate, postgraduate and other approved academic programmes of the college may apply for institutional scholarships, subject to the following conditions:

1. The applicant must be a bona fide student of the college.
2. The applicant must fulfill the prescribed academic requirements for the respective scholarship category.
3. For need-based assistance, the applicant must submit relevant documents establishing financial need.
4. The applicant must maintain satisfactory academic progress and discipline.
5. Preference may be given to students who have not received similar financial assistance from other sources for the same purpose, wherever applicable.

11. Amount and Duration of Institutional Scholarships

The amount and duration of institutional scholarships shall be determined by the college depending on the nature of assistance, number of eligible applicants and availability of funds. The institution may revise the amount and conditions of assistance from time to time with the approval of the competent authority.

12. Monitoring and Maintenance of Records

The college shall maintain proper records of scholarships and financial assistance facilitated or awarded to students. Separate records shall be maintained for Government and external scholarships and institution-funded scholarships.

Records relating to institutional scholarships shall include:

1. Name and category of the scholarship.
2. Eligibility criteria and approved amount.
3. Names and relevant details of beneficiaries.
4. Amount awarded to each beneficiary.
5. Approval and sanction records.
6. Financial statements, vouchers and payment records.

Records relating to Government and external scholarships shall include relevant application, verification and beneficiary details, to the extent available with the institution.

An annual statement of scholarships and financial assistance shall be prepared and maintained for institutional review, audit and accreditation purposes.

13. Financial Accountability

All institutional scholarships and financial assistance shall be awarded subject to the availability of funds and applicable financial rules of the college. Expenditure incurred towards institutional scholarships shall be properly accounted for and reflected in the relevant financial records and audited statements of the institution.

14. Review and Amendment

The institution reserves the right to review, modify or amend this policy from time to time with the approval of the competent authority, in accordance with institutional requirements, prevailing Government guidelines and the availability of financial resources.

15. Effective Date

This policy shall come into effect from the date of its approval by the competent authority of Furkating College (Autonomous).

(Dr. Apurba Saikia)

Principal

Principal / Secretary
Furkating College (A)
Date:.....