COMMUNIQUE
POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME IN DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES 2020

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Mauritian candidates for scholarships offered by the Government of Mauritius under the Postgraduate Scholarships Scheme in Digital Technologies, including Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain Technologies, for 2020/2021. The scholarship is tenable in **recognized Tertiary Education Institutions (TEIs)/ Universities locally or abroad**.

The Scheme provides for 15 Master's level scholarship slots that are of full time one-year duration if undertaken overseas, or two-year duration if studies are undertaken in a local higher education institution. It also makes provision for 5 PhD level Scholarship slots of up to four years' duration.

The list of registered TEIs authorised to enrol students in Mauritius may be consulted from the website of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) at:

> (i)   *http://tec.mu/public_institutions*
> (ii)   *http://tec.mu/private_institutions*

It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that the course applied for is pitched at Master's or PhD Level, as applicable.

2.   Eligibility Requirements

2.1   For Studies at Master's Level

(i)   SC/GCE 'O' Level with credits in five subjects including English at one and the same sitting;

(ii)   HSC/GCE `A' Level in three subjects at Principal level obtained at one and the same sitting; and

(iii)   a minimum standard of upper 2nd class Bachelor's degree or equivalent from a recognized University.

2.2   For Studies at PhD Level

(i)   SC/GCE 'O' Level with credits in five subjects including English at one and the same sitting;

(ii)   HSC/GCE `A' Level in three subjects at Principal level obtained at one and the same sitting;

(iii)   a minimum standard of upper 2nd class Bachelor's degree or equivalent from a recognized University; and

(iv)   A Master's Degree.

<u>Or</u>

An alternative qualification equivalent to the above.

Note: It is the responsibility of candidates to provide any relevant documentation relating to the equivalence of certificates.

2.3   **<u>Age Limit</u>**

Candidates should not have reached **35** years of age for Master's and **40** years for PhD by the closing date of submission of application.

3   **<u>Conditions of Scholarships</u>**

3.1   The scholarship will cover tuition fees, a monthly living allowance at the approved rates and airfares, if applicable, to and from the place of study.

3.2   **Candidates having previously benefitted from a scholarship through the Government of Mauritius are <u>not</u> eligible to apply for this scholarship.**

3.3   **Candidates who are already holders of a Master's degree will not be considered for a Master's Scholarship under this scheme. Candidates who are applying for a PhD and who are already holders of a PhD will <u>not</u> be considered.**

3.4   **Applicants should seek admission in a recognized institution of their choice and should <u>submit proof of offer of seat</u> (firm or conditional) from the University / Doctoral Supervisor on official letterhead together with their application form. The offer of seat must be for courses in Digital Technologies, including Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain Technologies.**

3.5   Candidates opting for a Master's or doctoral study **should submit their detailed study/research plan** (of about 750 words for Master's and 1500 words for PhD) along with their applications.

3.6   Beneficiaries of scholarships, if they choose to study overseas, will be required to sign an undertaking, thereby committing themselves to return to Mauritius immediately after completion of their studies and work for at least two years in the public or private sector.

3.7   If they opt to study locally, the undertaking will be to the effect that they commit themselves to work for at least two years in the public or private sector at the end of their studies.

3.8   Only the best qualified candidates satisfying the various criteria will be selected.

4. <u>Mode of Application</u>

4.1 Applications must be made on the prescribed form available at the Scholarships Section, Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology, 1st Floor, MITD House, Pont Fer, Phoenix, or downloaded from the Ministry's website:

http://ministry-education.govmu.org

4.2 Candidates should ensure that **certified copies**, transcripts of final university results/marksheets and all other relevant documents relating to their qualifications are submitted to the Scholarships Section **by the closing date**. **Non-submission of these documents on time will result in their elimination from the selection exercise.** Certification of documents may be done at the Scholarships Section of the Ministry or at the Careers Guidance Service in Rose Hill.

> **N.B. In case final degree Certificates are not yet available, provisional degree Certificates, from <u>local Public TEIs only</u>, will be accepted.**

4.3 The completed Application Form along with all supporting documents should be submitted to the Scholarships Section of the Ministry by **Friday 02 October 2020 at 14.00 hours at latest***.*

4.4 Responsible parties of applicants not in Mauritius may apply on behalf of their wards.

4.5 Applicants already in employment, whether public or private, must fill in the application forms in duplicate. One copy thereof along with the relevant supporting documents should be submitted to the Scholarships Section, and the other to the applicant's employer to enable the latter to decide on the release of the applicant for the course and the terms and conditions for the release. **Such information should be made available at the time of submission of application**.

5. Candidates who have not been informed of their selection within eight weeks as from the closing date for application should consider that they have not been selected. A Communiqué will be placed on the website of the Ministry to inform applicants when the selection exercise has been completed.

Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology MITD House, Pont Fer

07 September 2020   **Phoenix 73544**