

RANI BIRLA GIRLS' COLLEGE

Affiliated to the University of Calcutta

**38, SHAKESPEARE SARANI
KOLKATA: 700017**



POLICY DOCUMENT

FOR

**SCHOLARSHIPS, FREE SHIP AND
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR
STUDENTS**

2022-23

INTRODUCTION:

This policy document outlining the guidelines and procedures for the scholarship, free ship and sponsorship programmes at Rani Birla Girls' College is a major quality initiative of the institution. As an institution committed to fostering academic excellence and supporting students in their pursuit of higher education, we believe in providing financial assistance to deserving individuals who demonstrate exceptional talent, dedication, and need.

PURPOSE:

The primary purpose of this document is to establish transparent guidelines and procedures for the administration of scholarship and free ship programmes at Rani Birla Girls' College by delineating the various scholarships available to the students of the college, mentioning clear criteria, eligibility requirements, application processes, and the disbursement of funds, we aim to ensure fairness, accessibility, and accountability in the allocation of financial assistance. The policy document also aims to layout future plans for extending the benefits of scholarships and free ship through allocating a corpus fund for initiating additional free ship programmes.

SCOPE:

This policy applies to all scholarship, free ship, sponsorship programmes and financial aids administered by Rani Birla Girls' College, including but not limited to merit-based scholarships, need-based scholarships, special category scholarships, and free ship schemes.

OBJECTIVES:

1. **Equity and Access:** To provide equal opportunities for all eligible students, irrespective of their financial background, to access quality education at Rani Birla Girls' College.
2. **Recognition of Merit:** To recognize and reward academic excellence, among students through merit-based scholarships.
3. **Financial Assistance:** To alleviate the financial burden on deserving students by offering need-based scholarships and free ship schemes, thereby enabling them to pursue their educational aspirations without undue financial stress.
4. **Promotion of Diversity and Inclusion:** To promote diversity and inclusion within the student community by offering scholarships to students from marginalized backgrounds, underrepresented communities, and diverse geographical regions.

5. **Retention and Graduation:** To enhance student retention and facilitate timely graduation by providing financial support that enables students to focus on their academic pursuits and minimize the need for external employment.

AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIPS/FREE SHIPS/FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

Rani Birla Girl's College provides five categories of Scholarships/Freeships/Financial Assistance(sponsorship) at present. They are as follows:

1. International Scholarships
2. Central/ State Government Scholarships
3. Financial Assistance through Students Credit Card Scheme
4. Industrial Sponsorship
5. Medical Aid

1. International Scholarships:

Rani Birla Girls' College assists students to apply for international scholarships for their course of study. In the past students of the institution, especially those from the Department of Fashion and Apparel Designing has received ICCR Scholarship from the High Commission of Dhaka with guidance from the department. The college, will support students in the process of application of such international scholarships, and will appoint a Nodal Officer for such scholarships who will assist, guide and groom students for successfully getting such scholarships.

2. Central/State Government Scholarships

The college encourages, assists, and supports students to apply for various Central and State Government scholarships. There are separate Nodal officers for all the above scholarship schemes. The Nodal officers organize orientation and awareness programmes at the beginning of each academic year, where the eligibility criteria, documents required and functioning of the online portals are explained. The college notifies the eligibility, procedure, and relevant dates for applying the scholarships at the beginning of every academic session. Once the eligible students apply online for the scholarships, their applications and documents are verified and forwarded by the Nodal Officers to competent central/state government sanctioning authorities. The final sanctioned scholarship amount is directly credited to the student/beneficiaries' bank account. Record of all approved scholarship beneficiaries are also maintained by the Nodal Officers.

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The list of Central/ State Government Scholarships applied for and received by the students of the college over the last few years are as follows:

SL.NO	NAME	SPONSORING AGENCY	ELIGIBILITY	SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT
1.	National Scholarship Portal (NSP)	Central Govt.	1.Age limit 18-25 years. 2.Attendance must be 80% or above in XII, 3.Family income- up to 4.5lac per annum.	Different scholarships under Dept. of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Minority Affairs Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment Ministry of Labour & Employment Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Department of Higher Education WARB, Ministry of Home Affairs RPF/RPSF, Ministry of Railway
2.	Kanyashree	State Govt.	1. Age between 13 to 18 years, 2.Unmarried, Enrolled in any Govt. Institution. 3.Family income less than or equal to Rs.1,20,000/- per annum.	One time amount of Rs. 25,000/-
3.	Swami Vivekanand Merit cum Means Scholarship	State Govt.	1.Studying in regular mode of class XI and XII 2. Marks 60% aggregate in H.S. Exam conducted by W.B. Council of H.S.E./Madrassa Siksha Parishad. 3.Domicile of West Bengal 4.Family income not more than 2,50,000/-per annum. 5. Not applying in any other Govt. Scholarship.	Rs. 12,000/- to Rs. 18,000/-
4.	Aikyashree	State Govt.	1.Domicile of West Bengal studying in recognized educational Board/Council/University of State/Central Govt. 2. Marks not less than 50%. 3. Family income not exciting INR 2,00,000	Rs. 3300/- to Rs. 18,000/-
5.	Oasis	State Govt.	1. SC /ST/OBC Certificates must 2.Family income for SC and ST not more than 2.5lac per year, 3.Family income for OBC not more than 1 Lac per year.	Rs. 5,000/- to Rs. 8,000/-

3. Financial Assistance through Students Credit Card Scheme

The college aids and facilitates student's application for educational loan scheme of the State Government named the 'Student Credit Card Scheme.' The college has appointed a Nodal Officer and Helpdesk Officer for this scheme who regularly organize orientation and awareness programmes throughout the year, where the eligibility criteria, documents required and functioning of the online portals are explained. Once the interested students apply online for the educational loan, their applications and documents are verified and forwarded by the Nodal Officers to the sanctioning authorities, who forwards it to the concerned banks, who will finally sanction the loan. The State government is the guarantor of such loans, and the students are required to pay it back within a period of 15 years after the completion of the course. The maximum sanctioned loan amount can be up to Rs. 10,000/-. Once the loan is approved, the college fees amount is directly credited to the college fees account in the name of the student, from the bank, at the beginning of each semester. Record of all approved loan beneficiaries is maintained by the Nodal Officers.

4. Industrial Sponsorship

The college also encourages and facilitates industrial sponsorship for the students of the only technical honours course run by the college. The department of Fashion and Apparel Designing offers a 3-year BFAD (Honours) course in Fashion and Apparel Designing, for which there are 10 seats earmarked for sponsored candidates. Over the years various industrial houses associated with the fashion/textiles etc. have been sponsoring students of this course. The total course fees of Rs. 90,000/-.

5. Medical Aid

The college has always tried to provide medical aid to students at a subsidised rate, or free of cost. The college's major areas of assistance as in practice and future plans are as follows:

- The college has enrolled for 'Universal Membership' of Students Health Home, a philanthropic organisation since 1995. The organisation provides medical facilities to students at nominal prices, like Rs. 10/- for daily medicine charges, free outdoor consultation, admission fee of Rs. 75/- and per day bed charge at Rs. 30/- per day etc. For accessing this service, a mere sum of Rs. 10/- is taken from the students per semester.

- A qualified physician, Dr Shabana Roze Chowdhury (MBBS, DMCW, MPH, Ph. DMBS) is available for free consultation once every month.
- A qualified psychological counsellor Syed Tania Islam is available for free of cost psychological counselling for our students.
- The college plans to organize free health camps for students.
- The college has organized free of cost Thalassemia trait testing of students in the past. We plan to organize such camps at regular intervals.

FUTURE PLAN

Rani Birla Girls' College plans to form a corpus fund with the help of own contribution, contribution from alumni, and corporate groups. With this fund we would be able to provide some more institutional free ships/scholarships to the students who are not eligible for any other government/ industrial scholarships.

GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL

In the event of any dispute or grievance related to the scholarship or free ship award process, applicants may approach the designated authority through the existing Grievance Redressal mechanism. The decision of the authority will be final and binding.

POLICY REVIEW

This policy document will be subject to periodic review to ensure its relevance and effectiveness. Any necessary amendments or updates will be made as per the prevailing guidelines of the Government

CONCLUSION:

In conclusion, this Policy Document serves as a comprehensive guide for the administration of scholarship and free ship programmes at Rani Birla Girls' College. By adhering to the principles of equity, transparency, and accountability outlined herein, we are committed to ensuring that our scholarship initiatives effectively support students in their academic pursuits and contribute to their overall success.

The College remains dedicated to fostering a culture of excellence, inclusivity, and opportunity, and we trust that this Policy Document will serve as a valuable resource for all stakeholders involved in the scholarship and free ship programmes.

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