# Medical scholarship: The Way Out for Costly Medical Education

Obtaining a doctor of medicine degree and practicing medicine is an admirable endeavour filled with rewards. On the other hand, the economic cost of medical education can be very extreme. Considering various aspects such as banking on tuition, purchasing books, possessing clinical equipment, and other daily expenses, medical degrees are the most expensive to pursue. Luckily for many students, Medical scholarship comes in handy as they assist in funding the training of prospective medical practitioners at the right season.

## Why Medical scholarship Are Important

Any student regardless of the educational level they are pursuing within a medical field will incur significant expenditure. The cost of going through medical schools, especially the most prestigious ones, may run into millions of rupees. For many of the enrollees, there are expenses incurred during the study period such as medical equipment, outsourcing, and in certain cases, even subsistence allowances.

Most students in this category, often coming from low or middle-income backgrounds, find it difficult to make such financial commitments and hence do not fulfill their ambition of pursuing a medical career. This is the reason why Medical scholarships were created – to help bridge the gap that one might need in order to realize their educational aspirations partly or fully. There are more than just Medical scholarships however, which ease the need for loan acquisition and enable every qualified individual pursue his or her medical dreams irrespective of financial constraints.

## Types of Medical scholarship

Medical scholarship Based on Merit

Merit-based Medical scholarships are awarded to individual students based on their academic history or their performance on medical entrance examinations such as NEET or AIIMS. Such grants promote tangible effort and ensure that clever individuals can access exemplary medical training at no costs.

Most of the merit-based Medical scholarships are provided by universities, medical schools, and a number of private organizations with respect to the academic achievements for the purpose of encouraging young would-be doctors to study hard.

# Medical scholarship Based on Financial Need

Need-based Medical scholarships aim at helping students from families that earn significantly below the average income. In these Medical scholarships, the economic condition of the student is taken into consideration so as to assist those who otherwise would not be able to afford medical education.

Usually, students seeking need based grants will also be required to some extent to compromise their principles and present documentation such as income estimates or tax returns to back up their claims. These Medical scholarships guarantee that a few exceptional students miss a less education because of financial constraints.

#### Government Medical scholarship

The various central as well as state governments have implemented numerous medical Medical scholarships for any student desiring to take medicine as a course. Some of the best known government scholarship schemes are as follows:

- National Scholarship Portal (NSP): Provides Medical scholarship to students from the most backward classes for all the courses out including medicine.
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Medical scholarship: Provides Medical scholarship for students undertaking medicine, nursing and any other degree relating to health.
- State Specific Medical scholarship: Most of the state governments have their own schemes for Medical scholarship for the medical students as well.

These government programs provide accessible medical education to students from rural or disadvantaged parents, without the worry about finances.

# Private Medical scholarship

There are numerous privately sponsored organizations, trusts, and foundations that provide <u>Medical scholarship</u> especially for those pursuing Medicine. The sponsorship of such Medical scholarships is mostly done by hospitals, drug- producing companies, and non-profit organizations. For instance, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam's Scholarship is provided to students of the medical profession of outstanding merit.

Like the government, private Medical scholarships can be awarded for different reasons such as, merit based, for public services done, or intentions shown to work with difficult to reach people.

# Diversity and Minority Medical scholarship

Awards are meant for specific sections of society, such as minorities or students belonging to certain communities. Such initiatives have been established in order to increase the diversity within medicine and help those who wish to study medicine come from a wide range of backgrounds.

To be more specific, there are sponsorship plans provided for individuals such as women, SC, ST, or disabled people who want to join the medical field.

# How to Apply for Medical scholarship

Medical scholarship entails proffering a strategic consideration and adhering to the requirements of the process. The following are some suggestions to guide you in the application process:

#### Writing a Compelling Personal Statement

Personal statement or essay is usually one of the compulsory documents that a person applies for the award of a scholarship. Here, you provide appropriate reasons for the motivation behind your scholarship, and especially elaborate on academic achievements, career aspirations, and significant challenges faced. A High degree of appreciation should be given to the motivation towards studying medicine and the desire to contribute positively to health outcomes.

#### Recommendation Letter

Recommendations from professors, professional mentors and workplace supervision. The individuals who you will select should have the ability to express their opinions about your attributes such as performance in school, abilities and especially the reasons why you will be a great doctor. For a doctor's profile, a recommendation letter is an added advantage.

#### Famous Medical Grants Offered in India

- 1. AIIMS Scholarship
- 2. Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY)
- 3. Medical scholarship by Dr Reddy's Foundation
- 4. HDFC Educational Crisis Scholarship.

Medical scholarship enables young doctors to realize their aspirations. Medical scholarships are available in merit-based, need-based, or governmental Sponsored categories and ensure that nursing and medical education is completed for prospective doctors and nurses. Apply cautiously, and live up to the time limits if you want to become a qualified person in the medical field.