

F. No. 17-1/2023-SS  
Government of India  
Ministry of Education  
Department of School Education & Literacy  
Secondary Scholarship Section  
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Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2023

To  
The Principal Secretary/Secretary Education of all States/UTs.  
(In-charge of Secondary Education)  
All States/UT Administrations

**Subject: Opening of National Scholarship Portal (NSP) for AY 2023-24 under National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS).**

Sir/Madam

The undersigned is directed to refer to the online registration of fresh and renewal applications on National Scholarship Portal (NSP) for the project year 2023-24 for the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS) of the Department of School Education and Literacy, which is covered under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme and on boarded in the NSP. Eligible students from different States/UTs have to register themselves on NSP.

2. For the AY 2023-24, DBT Mission, Cabinet Secretariat have decided the timelines in consultation with concerned Ministries. The timelines decided for opening of NSP Portal for AY 2023-24 are:

<b>Opening of Portal</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> October, 2023</b>
<b>Last date for application submission</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> November, 2023</b>
<b>Last date for INO Level Verification</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> December, 2023</b>
<b>Last date for Second Level Verification</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> December, 2023</b>

3. In view of the above, all the State and UT Governments are required to complete the above mentioned activities within the decided timelines. **No extension will be provided this year under any condition.**

4. For the AY 2023-24, Aadhaar will be mandatory for the applicants who have attained 18 years of age on the data of registration. Applicants, who have not yet been assigned Aadhaar will be required to enrol for Aadhaar and then register using Enrolment Identification (EID). However, their registration will be provisional until submission of Aadhaar details and completion of Aadhaar based eKYC, which will be a prerequisite for release of their scholarship.

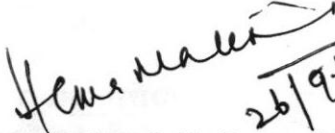
**For minor applicants:** - All applicants, who have not attained the age of 18 years on the date of registration, will be encouraged to register using Aadhaar with the consent of their parents/legal guardians on voluntary basis. In case Aadhaar has not been assigned to such applicants, they can register using EID. However, in all cases, where Aadhaar/EID of the minor applicant is not provided, Aadhaar of at least one parent/legal guardian will be required. In such cases, parent/legal guardian will be treated as the Beneficiary.

- In case of minor students registering without Aadhaar card details, regular SMS will be sent to encourage them to submit their Aadhaar on voluntary basis.
- In case of EID, no disbursement of scholarship would happen till Aadhaar is submitted in a given timeframe.
- Since in both the cases Aadhaar is being captured hence *bonafide* certificate is done away with.

5. You may appreciate that adherence to procedure/timelines is an essential and cardinal feature of any IT based online system. Repeated deviations in the online system pose immense difficulties in the architecture as the portal is meant to cater to the requirements of multiple schemes of the Government of India as well as State Governments.

6. Therefore, it is requested that the above information may please be passed on to all the concerned schools and the Nodal authorities (Head of Institute [HoI], Institute Nodal officer[INO] and District Nodal officer[DNO]) in your State, in order to facilitate timely processing and disbursement of the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship to the applicants.

Yours faithfully,

  
26/9/2023

(Hema Malini S.K. Deepak)  
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India  
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Copy for information and necessary action to: Nodal Officers (NMMSS), all States/UTs