FAQs for Higher Education Bursary - Part-Time Undergraduate Students (Singapore Citizen)

HIGHER EDUCATION BURSARY

1) Who can apply for the Higher Education Bursary?

The Higher Education Bursary (previously known as MOE Bursary) is open to Singapore Citizens pursuing their first MOE-subsidised undergraduate programmes at Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS).

Eligibility Criteria

2) What are the eligibility criteria for the Higher Education Bursary?

With effective from the January 2020 semester, the revised income eligibility criteria and bursary quanta are as follows:

Bursary Schemes	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Income[#] Eligibility Criteria	GHI of $4,000 and below or PCI of $1,000 and below	GHI between $4,001 and $6,900 or PCI between $1,001 and $1,725	GHI between $6,901 and $9,000 or PCI between $1,726 and $2,250
Bursary Quanta (per semester)	$1250	$800	$350

[#]*Income = gross (i.e., including employee's CPF contribution) income contributions from self-employment, business or salaried employment (which includes basis salary, allowances, over pay, bonus, etc.), as well as other sources of income (e.g., rent).*

- *PCI refers to gross monthly household Per Capita Income and is computed based on total GHI divided by the number of immediate and non-immediate family members living in the same household.*

- *GHI refers to gross monthly household income of immediate and non-immediate family members, where:*

For Unmarried Students:

(i) ***Immediate*** *family members include* ***parents*** *who may or may not be living together with the student.*
(ii) ***Non-immediate*** *family members include grandparents, siblings, spouses of siblings, siblings of parents, and any other relatives* ***living together*** *with the student.*

For Married Students:

(i) ***Immediate*** *family members include spouse and all children who may or may not be living together with the student.*
(ii) ***Non-immediate*** *family members include* ***parents****, grandparents, siblings, spouses of siblings, siblings of parents, and any other relatives living together with the student.*

Application Process

3) When and how can I apply for the Higher Education Bursary? When will I be notified of the application outcome? When can I expect to receive the Bursary amount?

You may apply for the Higher Education Bursary in the semester that you are in need, subject to the condition that you must be pursuing *at least one new or repeat course* for the semester in which the bursary is awarded. Students who are on deferment will not be eligible to apply for the Higher Education Bursary.

You can apply via the Higher Education Bursary e-application via the Financial Aid page on the University's website or the Student Portal.

The application periods, notification and disbursement dates are as follows:

Semester	Application Period	Notification Date	Disbursement Date
July Semester	1 February to 31 March	Mid June	End August
January Semester	1 August to 30 September	End November	End February

Only successful applicants will be notified via their MyMail email account, and will receive the bursary payment via GIRO from the University according to the above disbursement dates.

4) What are the supporting documents that I have to submit with the Higher Education Bursary application? How and when can I submit them? If I missed out submitting the supporting documents, what happens to my application?

You are required to submit your supporting documents online together with your Higher Education Bursary e-application. Applications without supporting documents will be deemed as incomplete and will not be processed.

5) If I miss the application deadline, can I still submit my application?

You should submit the Higher Education Bursary application during the specified application periods. If you are in need of financial assistance outside the application periods, you may write to the University, quoting reason(s) for your late application and providing documents to support your application. The University will consider your application on a case-by-case basis. You will receive your application outcome within four weeks from the date you submit your application with the full set of supporting documents.

6) What is the Higher Education Bursary amount that I can expect to receive?

The value of your bursary depends on your household per capita income, as follows:

Bursary Schemes	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 2
Income Eligibility Criteria	GHI of $4,000 and below or PCI of $1,000 and below	GHI between $4,001 and $6,900 or PCI between $1,001 and $1,725	GHI between $6,901 and $9,000 or PCI between $1,726 and $2,250
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7) If I am currently a Higher Education Bursary recipient, will I automatically be awarded the bursary again for the next academic semester?

No, each award is tenable for one semester. You have to file another Higher Education Bursary application should you wish to be considered for the bursary in the next academic semester.

8) How many times can I be awarded the Higher Education Bursary?

You may apply for the Higher Education Bursary in any semester(s) that you are experiencing financial need. You can receive a maximum of one (1) Higher Education Bursary each semester.

9) If I have fully utilised the MOE subsidy? (i.e., 160 CUs for basic degree or 200 CUs for honours degree), can I still apply for the Higher Education Bursary if I have yet to complete my programme?

Yes, you can still submit your application for the Higher Education Bursary, and your application will be assessed according to the eligibility criteria in (2) above.

10) Do I have to repay the Higher Education Bursary awarded to me?

The Higher Education Bursary is a free financial aid that does not require any repayment. However, clawing back of the bursary will be applicable if you fail to start your intended new or repeat course(s) in the semester in which the bursary is awarded.

11) If I am not successful in the Higher Education Bursary application, can I apply for it again?

Yes, you can apply for the Higher Education Bursary again. Each application will be processed based on the applicant's latest financial situation. Granting of the Higher Education Bursary will be subject to meeting the eligibility criteria.

12) What is the difference between the Singapore University of Social Sciences Study Grant and the Higher Education Bursary?

The Singapore University of Social Sciences Study Grant is a financial aid scheme administered using the University Education Funds. It provides financial assistance to needy students pursuing undergraduate programmes. If awarded, the study grant will be used to offset the tuition fee of that semester in which the study grant is awarded.

The Higher Education Bursary is funded by the Singapore Government and provides financial assistance to needy Singapore Citizens who are pursuing undergraduate programmes at the autonomous universities.

13) Can I apply for the Higher Education Bursary if I have been awarded the Singapore University of Social Sciences study grant?

Yes, you can apply for the Higher Education Bursary in the same semester that you have been awarded any of the study grants by the University.

14) Can I hold more than one bursary, scholarship or a combination of bursaries and scholarships concurrently?

In general, students receiving the Higher Education Bursary must not concurrently hold other bursaries or scholarships. However, students who are awarded scholarships/sponsorships/study grants, which are meant to cover the tuition fee only, can concurrently hold the Higher Education Bursary.

15) Is there a cap to the number of Higher Education Bursaries that will be given out to students at Singapore University of Social Sciences in each semester?

There is no cap on the number of Higher Education Bursaries to be given out to the students in each semester.

16) What are some other financial aid available for Singapore Permanent Residents (PRs) who are not eligible for the Higher Education Bursary?

Singapore Permanent Residents students who are not eligible for the Higher Education Bursary may consider the following financial assistance schemes:

- Singapore University of Social Sciences Study Grants
- VWOs-Charities Capability Fund Local Training Grant (applicable to selected undergraduate programmes only)

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