

# **SPDC SCHEME (SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME FOR DIASPORA CHILDREN)**

## **FOR NRI, PIO & CIWG STUDENT COMMUNITY**

1. SPDC is awarded to the following two categories: -
- (a) Children of NRIs/PIOs/OCIs
  - (b) Children of Indian Workers in ECR countries – those studied outside India and those studied in India.

Under SPDC scheme financial assistance for specific undergraduate courses in Professional and Non-Professional courses (except Medical and related courses) is provided towards tuition fee, admission fee and post admission services. Only fresh year students (1st year) students should be eligible to get the scholarship.

### **2. NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Category	NRIs/PIOs/OCIs		Children of Indian workers in ECR countries			
			Children studied in Abroad		Children studied in India	
Gender	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Number of Slots	50	50	16	17	9	8
Total	100		33		17	
Grand Total	150					

**Note:-** If the slots are not filled up in any of the categories, the remaining slots shall be made available to applicants from other category under SPDC.

### **3. Eligibility Criteria for Various Categories: -**

(i) Definitions about these categories are given below:

- (a) **Person of Indian Origin (PIO)/ Overseas Citizen of India(OCI) :**  
"Persons of Indian Origin" (PIOs) shall mean the persons who are citizens of other countries (except Pakistan and Bangladesh) who at any time held an Indian Passport, or who or either of his/her parent or any of his/her grandparent was a citizen of India by virtue of provisions of the Constitution of India or Section 2 (B) of Citizenship Act, 1955 (Act No. 57 of 1955). Applicants are required to provide documentary evidence towards proof of Indian nationality or Indian origin.

To apply under the category "Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs)" applicants must submit proof of Indian origin, preferably a valid PIO card or OCI card issued by the Government of India. Those who are not holding a valid PIO card or OCI card are required to submit declaration certifying about Indian origin in the prescribed format attested by the Head of Indian Mission/Post concerned. Format is at **Appendix-B**.

- (b) **Non-Resident Indian (NRI)**:As defined in Income Tax Act, 1961 an individual is Non-Resident Indian, when he/she is "not a resident" or who is "not ordinarily resident". A person is treated as "not ordinary resident" when any of the following conditions is satisfied: -

If he/she has not been resident in India in nine out of ten preceding years.

(OR)

If he/she has not been in India for a period of 730 days or more during the preceding seven years.

To apply under the NRI sub-category, applicants are required to submit a copy of the NRI certificate with the application.

- (c) **Indian Workers in ECR countries**. Indians who are working in ECR countries. To apply under this category, the applicants are required to submit a valid work permit and proof of stay in the country of residence for the last two years.

#### 4. **Other Eligibility Criteria: -**

**Age:** The SPDC is open to applicants in the age group of 17 to 21 years as on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022.

**Minimum Marks in qualifying Examination:** The candidate must have secured a minimum of **60%** aggregate marks or equivalent grades in aggregate of all the subjects in the Senior Secondary (10+2) or equivalent examination.

#### INCOME CRITERIA:

- (a) **NRIs/PIOs/OCIs category**. The total household monthly income of the parent(s) of the candidate/applicant should NOT exceed an amount equivalent to US Dollar Five Thousand (US\$ 5000).
- (b) **Category of Children of Indian Workers in ECR countries**. The total household monthly income of the parent(s) of the candidate/applicant should NOT exceed an amount equivalent to US Dollar Three Thousand (US\$ 3000).

- (c) The applicant's parent(s) are required to provide a self-attested salary certificate issued from the employer based in a foreign country. In case the parent(s) is self-employed, an Income Tax Return (ITR) should be provided. In case the self-employed parents are not eligible to file an ITR then a self-certification declaring that the total household income does not exceed the set income limit, must be provided.
- (d) In case information about family income is found incorrect, scholarship will be revoked, and the amount already disbursed will be recovered. Legal action may also be initiated against the defaulter.

**5. Financial Assistance:** Details are available in the guidelines on the SPDC website. [www.spdcindia.gov.in](http://www.spdcindia.gov.in)

Candidates securing admission in undergraduate courses in any of the following categories of institutions are eligible to apply for SPDC:-

- (a) Central Universities of India offering Undergraduate Courses.
- (b) 'A' Grade Institutions accredited by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and recognized by UGC.
- (c) National Institutes of Technology (NITs), Schools of Planning and Architecture and Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) through DASA Scheme.

**Last Date for submission of Completed Application form online on SPDC portal (<http://spdcindia.gov.in>) is 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2022.**

Please note that applications in any other format or in hard copy will not be accepted.