

SCHOLARSHIP AND FREESHIP POLICY

1. Preamble

St. Joseph's Degree College is committed to ensuring equitable access to quality education by providing financial assistance to deserving and economically disadvantaged students. The institution promotes various scholarship and freeship schemes offered by the Government, non-governmental organizations, philanthropic bodies, and the Management to support students in pursuing their education without financial constraints.

The College also recognizes academic excellence and outstanding student achievements through merit scholarships, awards, medals, and cash prizes.

2. Objectives

The objectives of this policy are:

- To provide financial assistance to deserving and economically weaker students.
- To encourage students to pursue higher education without financial hardship.
- To promote academic excellence and recognize outstanding student performance.
- To create awareness regarding scholarships and freeships offered by Government and private agencies.
- To support inclusive and equitable access to higher education.

3. Awareness and Dissemination

- Information regarding scholarships and freeships shall be communicated to students during the Student Induction Programme conducted at the beginning of every academic year.
- The Scholarship Committee shall regularly circulate information regarding available scholarship opportunities.
- Heads of Departments (HODs) shall inform Class Teachers, who in turn shall communicate the details to students.

- Notices regarding scholarships shall be displayed on institutional notice boards, website, and other communication platforms.

4. Institutional Scholarship and Freeship Support

The College may provide:

- Fee concessions to economically disadvantaged students.
- Partial or full fee waivers based on genuine financial need.
- Financial assistance under special circumstances, subject to Management approval.
- Merit-based awards and scholarships for outstanding academic performance.

All assistance shall be granted on a case-to-case basis after due verification.

5. Procedure for Availing Scholarships and Freeships

Application Process

1. Students seeking scholarship or freeship benefits shall submit an application to the Scholarship Committee.
2. The Scholarship Committee shall scrutinize the application and verify supporting documents.
3. The application shall be forwarded to the Principal for further review.
4. The Principal shall evaluate the application considering:
 - Academic performance
 - Attendance record
 - Economic background
 - Conduct and discipline
5. The recommendations shall be submitted to the Management.
6. The Management shall have the final authority to approve, modify, or reject the request.

6. Scholarship Committee Responsibilities

The Scholarship Committee shall:

- Disseminate scholarship information to students.
- Guide students in identifying suitable scholarship schemes.
- Assist students in completing application procedures.
- Verify eligibility and supporting documents.
- Maintain records of beneficiaries.
- Monitor compliance with scholarship conditions.

7. Government and External Scholarships

The College actively encourages students to apply for:

- Central Government Scholarships.
- State Government Scholarships.
- Minority Scholarships.
- SC/ST/OBC Scholarships.
- Merit Scholarships.
- Scholarships offered by NGOs, trusts, foundations, and corporate organizations.
- Educational assistance programmes offered by philanthropic agencies.

Necessary guidance and support shall be provided by the Scholarship Committee.

8. Conditions for Continuation of Scholarship/Freeship

Students receiving scholarships or freeships shall:

- Maintain satisfactory academic performance.
- Maintain regular attendance.
- Exhibit good conduct and discipline.
- Comply with all conditions prescribed by the sponsoring agency and the institution.

Violation of any condition may result in suspension or cancellation of the scholarship/freeship without prior notice.

9. Management Freeship Scheme

The Management extends educational support to the children of employees serving in institutions managed by the Society.

Eligibility

- Children of teaching and non-teaching staff members studying in the institution or other educational institutions managed by the Society.

Benefit

- 100% concession in tuition fees shall be granted to children of employees who have completed five years of continuous service in the institution.

The concession shall be subject to approval by the Management.

10. Annual Day Merit Scholarships and Awards

The College celebrates academic excellence through its Annual Day (Achievers' Day), during which meritorious students are recognized and rewarded.

General Merit Awards

Awards, medals, certificates, and cash prizes are presented to:

- Best Outgoing Students from various programmes.
- Students demonstrating academic excellence.
- Students exhibiting sincerity, discipline, leadership, and outstanding achievements.

Endowment Awards and Memorial Scholarships

Sri K. Ramalingeswara Reddy Memorial Award

Instituted by Dr. K. Visweswara Reddy, Lecturer in Economics, in memory of his father Late Sri K. Ramalingeswara Reddy.

- Awarded to the Best Outgoing Student in the Department of Commerce and Management.
- Cash Prize: ₹500.

Sri V. D. P. Prasad Memorial Award

Instituted by **Mrs. V. H. S. Pallavi**, Lecturer in Management, in memory of her father Late Sri V. D. P. Prasad, Lecturer in Chemistry, Andhra Christian College, Guntur.

- Awarded to the Best Outgoing Student in the Department of Chemistry.
- Cash Prize: ₹5,000.

Sri K. Ramamurthy Memorial Award

Instituted by **Dr. K. Shantha**, Principal, in memory of her father Late Sri K. Ramamurthy.

- Awarded to the Best Outgoing Student in the Department of English.
- Cash Prize: ₹2,000.

Sri N. Venkata Reddy Memorial Award

Instituted by **Mrs. Janaki Reddy**, Office Assistant, in memory of her father Late Sri N. Venkata Reddy.

- Awarded to the Best Outgoing Girl Student.
- Cash Prize: ₹1,000.

Additional Endowment Awards

The institution also encourages faculty members, alumni, philanthropists, and well-wishers to institute memorial awards and scholarships to recognize student achievement and promote academic excellence.

11. Review and Amendments

The Scholarship and Freeship Policy shall be reviewed periodically by the Scholarship Committee, Principal, and Management.

The Management reserves the right to modify, amend, or withdraw any provision of this policy in accordance with institutional requirements and applicable regulations.

12. Conclusion

St. Joseph's Degree College believes that financial limitations should never hinder deserving students from pursuing higher education. Through scholarships, freeships, fee concessions, and merit awards, the institution remains committed to supporting student success, promoting academic excellence, and fostering an inclusive learning environment.