

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION Government of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago Funding and Grants Administration Division 16 Warner Street St. Augustine

16 Warner Street, St. Augustine Port-of-Spain

Phone: (868) 663-0244 ext 2003 Fax: (868) 663-7812

26th November, 2020

All GATE Approved Tertiary Level Institutions

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Revision of the GATE Programme

Please be informed that with immediate effect, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago (GORTT) agreed to the following revision to the Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses (GATE) Programme:

- a) Effective August 2020, the means test funding policy be amended as follows:
 - i. All applications for GATE funding will include a mandatory means test-failure to complete the mean test will disqualify the application from being considered for GATE funding.
 - ii. where the household income is below \$10,000 per month, students be eligible for 100% GATE funding for tuition fees
- iii. where the household income is above \$10,000 per month but less than \$30,000 per month, students be eligible for 75% GATE funding for tuition fees
- iv. where the household income is above \$30,000 per month but less than \$75,000 per month, students be eligible for 50% GATE funding for tuition fees
- v. where the household income is above \$75,000 per month, students be ineligible for GATE funding
- b) that with effect from August 2020, funding under the GATE Programme be provided for no more than one (1) programme up to undergraduate level;
- c) to the discontinuation of funding for postgraduate programmes with effect from August 2020;

d) that students currently enrolled in postgraduate programmes receive GATE funding until August 2021.

e) students currently enrolled in undergraduate programmes continue to be funded for the normal duration of the programme.

f) students enrolled in programmes at regional campuses of the University of the West Indies (UWI) that are offered at the UWI, St. Augustine campus, be provided equivalent level of funding at the St. Augustine campus.

g) that students who are already in possession of undergraduate or postgraduate qualifications, regardless of whether or not they were beneficiaries of the GATE Programme, will not be able to access funding for any other programme.

It was also agreed that the following policies will remain in effect:

• effective August 2017, only institutions and programmes accredited by the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago (ACTT) be funded;

• effective August 2017, the Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET)programmes for Level III and above be funded;

• effective August 2016, persons over the age of 50 years shall no longer eligible for GATE funding;

• effective August 2016, GORTT shall discontinue the funding of new students in the medical programme at St. George's University, Grenada, SGU.

Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Urban Huggins, Deputy Director, Funding and Grants Administration Division at (868) 663-0244 ext. (531) 2025 or email to urban.huggins@moe.gov.tt.

Regards,

/f/ Permanent Secretary

Ministry of Education