

COMMUNIQUE

ASHINAGA AFRICA INITIATIVE 2020

ASHINAGA is a Japan-based non-profit organization which provides educational and psychological support to **orphaned children** worldwide. This organization is offering **one** scholarship to Mauritian candidates for undergraduate studies for Academic Year starting in 2021.

2. **Eligibility Criteria**

- (i) SC/GCE 'O' Level with credit in at least five subjects including English Language at one and the same sitting;
- (ii) HSC with passes in three subjects at Principal Level and in General Paper obtained at one and the same sitting, with the HSC Examination having been sat in 2017, 2018 or 2019; and
- (iii) have lost one or both parents.

3. **Age Limit**

Candidates should have been born after 1st September 1997.

4. **Conditions of Scholarships**

- 4.1 The Ashinaga helps students access full financial support to study abroad that covers the costs of tuition, accommodation, insurance, and flights; and provides a monthly stipend which covers necessary academic costs and food.
- 4.2 The Scholarship Scheme does not support candidates for Medical (Doctor) Degrees, (Dentistry, Pharmacy or Veterinary Sciences) although it does support three or four-year degrees related to medicine, such as biomedicine.
- 4.3 Candidates should not have the means to attend University overseas until graduation without external financial support.
- 4.4 Successful candidates will only apply to Universities through consultation with Ashinaga.
- 4.5 The Ashinaga Africa Initiative will not select candidates applying for a second Degree or Master's Degree.

- 4.6 Successful applicants must participate in two Ashinaga preparatory programs. (The first study camp will be held from early July to Mid-December 2020. The second preparatory camp will be held between May and June 2021.) Students will then proceed to University in August or September 2021.
- 4.7 Scholars are required to return to their home country or the region of Sub – Saharan Africa within five years after graduation and contribute to the country / region while living and being a resident there for at least a total of four years within the nine year period after graduating. They will have to contact Ashinaga at least once a year to confirm and provide proof of their activity and residency during this period. If Scholars fail to return, they are required to refund the costs of the financial support they are given in order to fund other AAI Scholars.
- 4.8 Beneficiaries of scholarships will also be required to sign an undertaking at the Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology (Scholarships Section), thereby committing themselves to return to Mauritius immediately after completion of their studies and work for at least two years in the public or private sector.
- 4.9 Selected candidates will have to sit for an examination organized by Ashinaga around March 2020 and only the best-qualified candidates will be called for an interview. Candidates who have not been informed of their shortlisting within four weeks as from the closing date for application, should consider that they have not been shortlisted.

5. **Mode of Application**

- 5.1 Applications must be made on the prescribed form available at the Scholarships Section, Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology, 1st Floor, MITD House, Phoenix, or may be downloaded from the Ministry's website:

<http://ministry-education.govmu.org>

- 5.2 The completed forms along with certified copies of the documents listed below should be submitted to the Scholarships Section of the Ministry by **Friday 28th February 2020 at 14.00 hours at latest.**

List of documents to be submitted:

- (i) Copy of national ID card or passport;
- (ii) Copy of all term reports / high school transcripts from the last 2 years;
- (iii) Copy of the final Secondary School Examination Certificate;

- (iv) Copy of academic transcripts / diplomas from university / post-secondary institution. (if applicable);
 - (v) Copy of death certificate of deceased parents(s), including the deceased parent's name or alternative official documents proving death of parent(s) or orphan status;
 - (vi) Copy of birth certificate of applicant;
- 5.3 Candidate must also submit a letter of recommendation from the Head of the Secondary Institution they attended for HSC. It should include the applicant's name, email address and contact details, information regarding applicant's performance and character while at the secondary school. This recommendation letter should be on the school letter Head, under seal and with an official signature.
- 5.4 Responsible parties of applicants not in Mauritius may apply on behalf of their wards. However, applicants are reminded that no application will be considered "in absentia" and that they should be present for the interview.
- 5.5 Applicants already in employment, whether public or private, must fill in the application forms in duplicate. One copy thereof along with the relevant supporting documents should be submitted to the Scholarships Section, and one copy to the applicant's employer to enable the latter to decide on the release of applicant for the course, and if so, on what terms and conditions. **Such information should be made available together with the applications. In case an applicant has not received his release letter, same can be produced at the time of interview.**
- 5.6 A Communiqué will be placed on the website in due course to inform applicants that the selection exercise has been completed.
- 5.7 Applicants are reminded that being nominated by the Ministry does not automatically guarantee final selection for an award. The final decision for award rests with the donor organisation.**

Scholarships Section

**Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education,
Science and Technology**

09 December 2019

MITD House, Pont Fer, Phoenix – 73544