

**Doopsgezind WereldWerk,
Dutch Mennonite Organisation for
Solidarity and Peace (dgWW)**

SCHOLARSHIP FUND POLICY

April 2009

1. ABOUT US

"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein."

The words of Psalm 24 call us to join together in embodying the great experiment of God's peace and love in the world. The many facets involved in giving form to this call include relief work and the promotion of peace in both international Mennonite and in ecumenical relations. Long-term development and conscientious stewardship of all that has been given to us on this earth are central, if we want to inhabit this world as God intended.

We feel called to work towards this purpose through our common Biblical foundation.

Focusing on the fullness of God's kingdom to come, the Dutch Mennonite Organization for Solidarity and Peace Foundation intends to work for, on behalf of and with Mennonites to create a world of peace and justice. The Foundation sees its task in using its expertise to involve Dutch Mennonite congregations and others in this work, and to support them in undertaking their tasks in this area.

2. MISSION STATEMENT

Doopsgezind WereldWerk, the Dutch Mennonite Organization for Solidarity and Peace Foundation (dgWW) wishes to be an inspiration to Mennonites and other like-minded bodies both within and outside of the Netherlands. The foundation uses its expertise to involve and support those who take up their tasks in the areas of peace and relief work, with a view to the Kingdom of God. On behalf of the Mennonite congregations in the Netherlands, the foundation's mission is to join together in solidarity with those dedicated to justice and peace in this world.

3. FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY

dgWW formulated eight starting points in its policy. Fight against poverty is one of them. Based on this starting point dgWW has the opinion that fighting poverty can be done best by education and promoting of knowledge. Based on this conviction dgWW raised a Scholarship Fund. The means of this fund come from donations from the Dutch Mennonite Congregations and other Mennonite related sources.

4. GENERAL AIM

The dgWW Scholarship Fund aims at giving Financial Assistance to students newly admitted or already attending studies in registered and accredited Professional Colleges, Colleges and Universities and this restricted to the countries where a so called Student Financial Aid Committee (SFAC) of dgWW (see 5.3) is operating as a local policy and selection committee.

The Fund targets to support promising students who are either serving or earmarked to work with/in the Mennonite Church, its Para-Church organizations or its Service Areas to meet their scholarly financial obligations.

In some special cases students could be supported who will study for functions not related with Mennonite institutions.

Normally assistance will be given to eligible students studying/to study in their own country. However under special considerations, supporting studying abroad may be considered.

5. GENERAL GUIDELINES & APPLICATION PROCESS

- 5.1 Applicants must fill out an Application Form [name, address, city, etc] to initiate the process. Candidates must provide the required supporting documents attached to the duly filled in application form as directed in the application procedures.
- 5.2 One provided form of recommendation (confidential report) must be filled out by a person (referee) familiar with the applicant's qualification and sent directly to the local Student Financial Aid Committee of the applicant's country; the address can be found on the website: www.dgWereldWerk.nl.
The referee must be one among the following: - his/her current Employer, Teacher, congregational Pastor or other person who is familiar with the applicant's qualification.
- 5.3 There shall be a local standing Student Financial Aid Committee (SFAC) composed of three or five members. The general structure of the committee could be as follows:
- coordinator: the Committee's Secretary;
 - 1 or 3 Credible Nationals; one will be the Chairperson;
 - 1 Mission Associate, working in the country.

The local SFAC is responsible for:

- Yearly organizational strategic planning,
- The local operation of the information process concerning the WereldWerk Scholarship Fund,
- The local operation of the selection process of the applicants and the reporting to the Scholarship Committee Wereldwerk in the Netherlands;
- Notification to all the applicants.

The Committee's Secretary is responsible for the SFAC membership appointment, overall financial accountability and the direct contacts with SCdgWW.

The other tasks are divided among the members of the Committee by the members themselves.

- 5.4. The local SFAC's are working close together with the Scholarship Committee Doopsgezind WereldWerk (SCdgWW) in the Netherlands, appointed by the Board of Doopsgezind WereldWerk in the Netherlands and responsible for:
- Yearly organizational strategic planning and policy development, together with the local SFAC's;
 - The information process concerning the WereldWerk Scholarship Fund in the Netherlands and in the relevant countries;
 - Decisive selection of the student-applications on the bases of the SFAC's reports, budgets and WereldWerk long term policies.
- 5.5 Twice a year (April the 15th and August the 15th) full progress reports of the SFAC's shall be sent to the Scholarship Committee dgWW in The Netherlands; both:
- by e-mail : scdgww@ads.nl
and by post: SCdgWW,
c/o Singel 454,
1017 AW Amsterdam
The Netherlands.

The SCdgWW will send their decision papers to the SFAC's by mail and by post as well.

The decisions of the local Student Financial Aid Committee's and the Scholarship Committee dgWW in the Netherlands on granting or not granting a scholarship are final.

- 5.6 The Scholarship will normally not cover all the student's expenses. The students must procure additional funds from family members, friends, employer and other organizations.

5.7 The scholarship is multi – disciplinary study sponsoring oriented. It covers all faculties relevant to the needs of the communities and or organizations of Applicants as follows: -

- a) Agricultural studies
- b) Arts and Humanities
- c) Financial Control
- d) Law and Economics
- e) Management
- f) Medical, Nursing and Health related studies
- g) Other Sciences & Biomedical Sciences
- h) Social – Sciences
- i) Theological & Religious studies
- j) Technical studies

5.8 Once a first Scholarship is awarded means:

- the student is obliged to finish the complete course up to graduation;
- this Scholarship is automatically renewable up to graduation, given that, the awarded student continues well with the studies and that he /she continues to meet all other set criteria.

5.9 The scholarship award will not cover costs incurred in extension of time when the awarded student is penalized as a sanction in either of the following situation:

- a) Normal failure in academic work
- b) Academic offences
- c) Failure to abide to school code of conduct and regulations

During scholarship period, the awarded Student may not shift to another educational institution or change his/her Major without approval of the SFAC.

The Scholarship Committee Doopsgezind WereldWerk will be informed by mail and by post.

6. ELIGIBILITY

Candidates must meet the following **criteria** in order to be considered for scholarship assistance.

1. Serving or earmarked to work with / in the Mennonite Church , its Para – Church organizations or its Service Areas; in special cases students could be supported who will study for functions not related with Mennonite institutions;
2. Be enrolled / admitted in a recognized Professional College, College or University;
3. Be financially needy;
4. Have a good attitude;
5. (For those already in School), the student must be in second academic year or above if the course takes more than one academic year;
6. (For those already in School), the student scored above average cumulative academic records.

7. LEVEL OF SCHOLARSHIP

The amount to be granted to one applicant shall depend on the updated yearly fee structure as provided by the school, the financial position of the dgWW Scholarship Fund

The level of the individual Scholarship will also be influenced by the content of the individual progress report.

Though not limited to the list, the award shall mainly cover the following costs:

- a. Tuition
- b. Books & learning materials
- c. Room & Board
- d. Medical insurance
- e. Field study / Thesis publication
- f. Student mandatory club / activities
- g. Visa and international travel (if applicable)

The sponsored students will need to cover the following costs from other sources of funds: -

- a. Local travelling expenses
- b. Out of Pocket Allowance
- c. Clothing
- d. Communication costs e.g. phone, mails etc
- e. Passport
- f. Purchase of calculators, diary, math-set, pens, computer & accessories
- g. Voluntary contributions etc

8. DISCLOSURE

Scholarship awards and procedures are subjected to change and are contingent upon availability of funds. Selection decisions by the local SFAC's and SCdgWW in the Netherlands are final. The knowledge that is gained by the study supported by the Scholarship Fund of dgWW must be used in the student's own country and its own community.

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