

YES Student Grants

Since its foundation in 2002, YES has awarded around 1,200 grants to students in 41 different developing countries (DCs).

The process of awarding the grants is organized and carried out in close collaboration with National Boards set up in each beneficiary country, in accordance with criteria that foster links with the field of education.

The National Boards play a crucial role in the smooth and efficient execution of the process. The National Boards collaborate with the Central Board in assessing the needs in their area, publishing the official notices and receiving applications for the grants. The Boards are also responsible for an initial process of assessment and selection of applicants based on criteria of economic need and merit. The shortlists are then submitted to the Central Board, which, after examining the requirements of economic need and merit, nominates the recipients of grants for the year.

The role of the tutors

The Boards are supported by tutors, appointed by them. The tutors are tasked with tracking the educational path of the grant recipient and ensuring that the funds are used for the purposes designated by the provider. They also verify that the student's educational achievements are in line with the targets set at the beginning of the reference period. The educational targets to be achieved are decided with the assistance of the tutors at the time when the grant is allocated. The reference period may be three, four or six months depending on the student's academic setting. On each review date, the recipient must submit a brief written update report on his or her training program and use of the grant.

In this way, each student is assigned a portfolio which forms the basis of any assessment for renewal of the grant.

Grant duration

The grants are generally of one year's duration. Any renewal applications will be assessed considering both the academic results achieved and the personal circumstances of the recipient.

Grant value

The monetary value of the grant is determined taking account of the different contexts and needs. The grant is intended to cover a specific student need (books, transport, food, accommodation, tuition fees etc.) rather than the student's entire expenses, with the aim of fostering shared responsibility on the part of the recipient.

Selection criteria

Grants are awarded on the criteria of:

- real economic need;
- academic merit.

Payment

The grants are paid at three-, four- or six-monthly intervals, depending on the specific need covered by the grant. For students in secondary education, payment of the grant is made to tutors, appointed by the relevant National Board, who ensure that the funds are spent on the real needs of the students.