



# Tertiary Scholarship & Loans Board

**“Building a Smarter Fiji”**

## APPLICATION FOR THE FIJIAN GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS AND TERTIARY EDUCATION LOANS SCHEME (TELS) FOR 2020

### 1. NATIONAL TOPPERS SCHEME (NTS) – SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications are now invited from the Fijians for one of the 970 Fijian Government National Toppers Scholarships to undertake full time undergraduate studies from term one of 2020 in one of the priority areas. These are full scholarships funded by the Fijian Government in line with its vision of “Building a Smarter Fiji”.

#### Fijian Government Priority Areas 2020

Category of Award	Programs	No. of Awards
<b>Tourism</b>	Bachelor of Commerce in Hotel Management/ Hospitality and Tourism Management.	30
<b>Engineering</b>	Bachelor of Engineering, Civil Engineering, Electrical/Electronic Engineering, Energy Engineering and Mechanical Engineering.	105
<b>Medicine and Health</b>	MBBS ( <b>110 Awards</b> ), Bachelor’s Degree in: Oral Health, Dental Surgery, Dietetics, Nursing, Public Health, Medical Lab Sciences, Physiotherapy, Pharmacy and Medical Imaging Science.	250
<b>Agriculture, Fisheries &amp; Forests</b>	Bachelor’s Degree in: Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering, Agribusiness, Veterinary Sciences, Forestry, Fisheries, Aquaculture, Fish Technology and Food Technology.	40
<b>Technology</b>	Bachelor Degree in: Networking, Software Development, Programming, Library Sciences, Media and Journalism, Information System, Computing Science, Information Technology and Applied Computing.	50
<b>Social Sciences</b>	Bachelor’s Degree in: Social Work, Social Policy and Policy Administration.	15
<b>Environment/ Marine Science</b>	Bachelor’s Degree in: Environmental Science, Environmental Management, Climate Change and Marine Management.	50
<b>Land/Town Planning</b>	Bachelor’s Degree in: Land Surveying, Urban and Regional Planning, Real Estate and Property Management, Geo-Spatial Engineering, GIS/Land Acquisition, Real Estate and Property Valuation.	30
<b>Commerce</b>	Bachelor of Commerce in: Accounting, Economics, Finance, Official Statistics, Project Planning & Management, Property Management and Valuation, Occupational Health and Safety, Information Systems, Professional Accounting, HRM and Industrial Relations, Public Administration and Management.	200
<b>Education</b>	Bachelor of Education in: Primary Education ( <b>80 Awards</b> ), Counselling and Psychology ( <b>20 Awards</b> ), Special and Inclusive Education ( <b>10 Awards</b> ), and Secondary Ed. (Mathematics, Physics, Food & Textiles, Home Economics, Computer Sciences, Early Childhood Education, Industrial Arts) ( <b>40 Awards</b> )	150
<b>Special Areas –Diploma and Certificates</b>	Marine Studies (Nautical Sciences & Engineering), Culinary Arts, Mining, Land Surveying, Aviation (Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and Avionics), Early Childhood Education, Forensic Science and Fashion, Counselling, Special and Inclusive Education, Social and Community Work, Project Management, Geospatial Science, Organic Farming, Aquaculture, Horticulture, Animal Health and Husbandry	30
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>950</b>

### Local Eligible Higher Education Institutions for NTS:

- Fiji National University, The University of the South Pacific, University of Fiji, Corpus Christi Teachers College, Fulton University College and Sangam Institute of Technology.

Category	Programs or it's equivalence	No: of Awards
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Bachelor's Degree in: Engineering in Hydrology, Hydraulic Engineering, Architecture, Road Engineering and Chemical Engineering.	20
<b>Mining and Milling</b>	Bachelor's Degree in: Mining, Rock Mechanics, Geology, Mill Engineering and Diploma & Certificate in Mining.	
<b>Medicine and Health</b>	Bachelor's Degree in: Occupational Therapy, Biomedical Engineering, Dermatology, Genetic Science and Molecular Biology, Speech Therapists and Clinical Psychologist.	
<b>Environment/ Marine Science</b>	Bachelor's Degree in: Meteorology and Applied Climatology (Climate Change).	
<b>Land/ Town Planning</b>	Bachelor's Degree in: Land Surveying and Architecture.	
<b>Commerce</b>	Bachelor's Degree in: Customs, Forensic Science, Forensic Accounting, Actuarial Science /Finance, Project Planning & Management.	
<b>Education</b>	Bachelor's Degree in Educational Psychologist, Counselling	

### General NTS Eligibility Criteria

1. The applicants must be an ordinarily resident in Fiji for at least three years before the award commencement date.
2. Applicants must complete Year 13 locally in 2019. **Students completing foundation studies by the end of 2019 are eligible to apply for the NTS Scholarship for 2020.**
3. Applicants must be ranked as a National Topper in the priority area applied for.
4. Applicants must apply for NTS Scheme and list three choices in the order of priority from the most preferred to the least preferred choice.
5. Applicants must list their 3 choices carefully as priority will be given to the first stated choice. Second and Third listed choices will only be considered if there are scholarships available in the category after all first choices have been processed.
6. Applicants for overseas awards must apply directly with a University of their choice and upload the University offer letter with the NTS application. Preference will be given to the most cost-effective countries and universities

## 2. TERTIARY EDUCATION LOANS SCHEME (TELS)

The Scheme provides student loans to eligible citizens of Fiji to enable them access to higher education at affordable rates, in line with the Fijian Government's vision of "Building a Smarter Fiji".

### Categories of Tertiary Education Loans Scheme

#### 1. Tertiary Education Loans Scheme for New Students

- For Fijians who have successfully completed their Year 13 or equivalent foundation studies in the year 2011 or thereafter.

#### 2. Tertiary Education Loans Scheme for Existing Tertiary Students

- For Fijians who were enrolled for any higher education program in years before 2014 and wish to apply for financial assistance to complete their program of study.
- For any other students with an existing higher education qualification seeking to upgrade their qualification up to the first Bachelor's degree. However, the upgrade must be in the same area

of study as the existing qualification.

### **3. Tertiary Education Loans Scheme for Technical College of Fiji (FNU Campuses).**

- For Fijians who are of the age 15 years and above and are accepted by any Technical College of Fiji (FNU) campuses.

### **4. Tertiary Education Loans Scheme for Private Sector Employees in Service.**

- For Fijian employees working in the private sector earning an annual income of not more than \$25,000 seeking to attain an academic qualification or upgrade existing qualifications at an eligible institution either as a part-time or full-time student.
- For upgrade of qualification, application must be in the same area of studies as the existing qualification.

### **5. Tertiary Education Loans Scheme for Public Sector Employees in Service**

- For Fijian employees working in the public service seeking to attain an academic qualification or upgrade existing qualifications at an eligible institution.
- For upgrade of qualification, application must be in the same area of studies as the existing qualification.

### **6. Tertiary Education Loans Scheme for Pilot Training**

- For Fijians who are in Year 13 or Equivalent Foundation Studies in 2019 and wish to pursue pilot training at Advanced Aviation Training (Fiji) Ltd or Pacific Flying School from 2020. Only a limited number of spaces are available.

### **7. Tertiary Education Loans Scheme for Graduates seeking to upgrade to MBBS.**

- For Fijians with a relevant undergraduate qualification wishing to upgrade their qualification to Bachelor of Medicine –Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) and are accepted in the MBBS program by the Higher Education Institutions.
- The applicant must not be under any existing scholarship or loans bond.

### **8. Tertiary Education Loans Scheme for Students completing Year 12 in 2017 or thereafter for FNU Engineering Programs**

- For Fijians who have completed Year 12 in 2017 and thereafter and wish to pursue approved engineering programs at FNU only.
- The Scheme is not available for any other programs and institution.

### **General TELS Eligibility Criteria**

1. Applicants must be Fijian Citizens.
2. Applicants must meet the eligibility criteria for the category of TELS applied for. Full particulars of the award and the eligibility criteria is available on [www.tslb.com.fj](http://www.tslb.com.fj)
3. Applicants must fill the online application form and list three choices in the order of priority from the most preferred to the least preferred choice. Multiple applications from the Fijians will not be accepted.
4. The following are not funded under any of the TELS Schemes:
  - Overseas Studies;
  - Foundation Studies;
  - Unclassified/Undergraduate Programs;
  - Short Courses;
  - Programs not attracting sufficient cross credits for the next level of studies in the same program. This includes but is not limited to Pacific TAFE programs (Early Childhood program offered by Pacific TAFE is eligible for TELS funding) ;
  - Professional Accreditation Courses e.g. FIA, CPA, CISCO etc.; and
  - Post Graduate Qualifications.

### 3. TELS ACCOMODATION SUPPORT SCHEME

This scheme is for full-time students on TELS who can borrow at nominal interest rates to support accommodation costs (hostel or rental), food expenses, bus fares if traveling from home or rented premises and stationary and incidental allowances subject to **Study Where You Live (Zoning ) Policy**.

#### **Study Where You Live (Zoning) Policy**

- Under Study Where You Live (Zoning) policy to qualify for TELS-Accommodation Support Scheme students seeking financial assistance from TSLB under TELS, must enroll at campuses within their locality. A campus within their locality means that the program is offered by the institution of their choice at campuses close to their home on a full time basis and they can commute from home to attend classes or can complete their studies via alternative mode of studies without having to re-locate.
- Students enrolling at campuses within their locality may be eligible for bus fare and incidental allowances only. No Food and Rent/Hostel Allowance will be paid.
- In case a student still prefers to move to the main campus regardless of the program being offered in their locality, the allowance eligibility will be restricted to bus fare and incidental only.

Qualifying students need to apply for the accommodation support scheme together with the TELS application.

The combined annual parental income threshold for eligibility for the Accommodation Support Scheme \$50,000 or less.

Qualifying Fijians can apply for the following maximum rates of allowances:

- Hostel Fees with or without meals as per the invoice raised by the Institution. Applicants must produce evidence of hostel offer;
- Rent- \$250 per month upon production of FRCS stamped rental agreement. All tenancy agreement must have full name and contact details of the landlord and the student, exact residential address and the student and landlords TIN.
- Bus Fare- \$30/week;
- Food expenses- \$50/week; and
- Incidental and Stationary allowance- \$1000/annum.

### 4. SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Twenty (20) full time scholarships for any award program are available for students with special needs for the year 2020. The scholarship will cover full tuition and general service fee with an annual allowance of \$6,800 per successful applicant.

Applicants must be Fijian citizens and a full medical report must be attached with the application.

#### **General Application Requirements for all Fijian Government Schemes**

- A completed online application form. Visit [www.tslb.com.fj](http://www.tslb.com.fj) to access the online application portal.
- An official academic transcript for Year 12 and 13 or equivalent Foundation Studies (For TELS Only) including GPA. *(To be submitted as soon as the results are out).*
- Offer letter from the Higher Education Institute. *(To be submitted before an offer is made from TSLB).*
- Certified true copy of the Birth Certificate.

- Copy of Students TIN Letter/FRCA-FNPF Joint Card.
- Evidence of Parents'/Guardians' Income (Salary Slip for working parents/guardians or Statutory Declaration prepared and signed by the parents/guardians and witnessed by a Justice of Peace (JP) or Commissioner of Oaths for parents/guardians who are not working or are in self-employment. Parents /Guardians running a business must submit the most recent tax assessment by FRCS).
- For applicants for the TELS for employee's scheme, the employment confirmation letter from the employer clearly stating the annual salary/wages must be submitted. Applicants for the employee's scheme must also submit their recent FNPF statement, or the most recent tax assessment if self-employed and three most recent salary slips.
- Copy of Parents'/Guardians' TIN Letter/FRCA-FNPF Joint Card.
- Copy of bank statement with account under the applicant's name.
- Recent passport size photo.

### **How to Apply**

1. Scan and get all the required documents ready before starting the process of applying online in the pdf, png, or jpg format.
2. Visit [www.tslb.com.fj](http://www.tslb.com.fj) and register for TSLB online application. Applicants cannot apply online unless registered first.
3. Once registered fill the appropriate information.
4. Upload all the required documents.
5. Submit the online application.
6. Applicants for NTS need not fill another TELS application as all unsuccessful applications for NTS will be considered for TELS if they successfully passed Y13 or equivalent foundation studies.
7. Students will not be able to submit the form unless all mandatory fields are filled. Year 13 results and offer letter from the institutions need to be uploaded before the application will be processed.
8. Applicants for the Scholarship Scheme for Students with Special Needs are to submit a hard copy of the application to TSLB. Application Form TSLB 03 can be downloaded from the TSLB website at [www.tslb.com.fj](http://www.tslb.com.fj)

***Students applying online will be able to log in and check the application status at any time and also print and submit the TSLB Offer Letter, Bond Forms and award confirmation letters online.***

**Opening Date: 27 July 2019**

**Closing Date: 15 December 2019**

Late and incomplete applications will not be considered and the same will be declined after the closing date.

**Provision of False Information is a serious offence under the False Information Act 2016.**

For further enquiries /information, please visit TSLB website [www.tslb.com.fj](http://www.tslb.com.fj), like us on Facebook or email us on [it@tslb.com.fj](mailto:it@tslb.com.fj)

**Bobby Maharaj  
Chief Executive Officer  
Tertiary Scholarship and Loans Board**