07 June 2016

From: Rector

To: Responsible Parties of Form IV and Lower VI students

Subject: Payment of October/November Cambridge SC/HSC/GCE Examination Fees 2017

Please find hereunder the contents of the Circular Letter from the Ministry of Education & HR, TE & SR in connection with the above subject.

As you are aware, the decision regarding the payment of examinations fees in respect of eligible school candidates sitting for the SC/HSC/GCE examinations was implemented in 2015.

2. Your attention is drawn to the following:

i). Government will meet the full cost of the Cambridge SC/HSC/GCE examination fees ONLY for school candidates sitting for the above examinations for the first time, subject to the candidate having an attendance level of at least 90% and eligibility conditions as detailed in this Circular.

ii). The measure is applicable to school candidates sitting for the Cambridge SC/GCE ‘O’ level Examinations in October/November in up to eight subjects, or the Cambridge HSC/HSC Pro/GCE ‘A’ level examinations in October/November in up to five subjects.

iii). For students sitting for the HSC/HSC Pro/GCE ‘A’ Level examinations, a maximum of 4 Principal subjects and GP would be covered under this scheme.

iv). Payment of the above examination fees by Government applies only to school candidates who are NOT beyond the age of 20 by the end of the school year in which they sit for such examinations.

v). The Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions will consider requests for payment of Cambridge October/November SC/HSC/GCE ‘O’ and ‘A’ level examination fees in respect of students who have failed in their first attempt, and

   • whose households are registered in the Social Register of Mauritius at the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions; or

   • whose parents are recipients of either social or unemployment hardship relief, or basic pensions, in which case a means test would be carried out to ascertain their eligibility.

3. Furthermore, in order to benefit from the full payment of examinations fees, Form V and Form VI candidates would need to reckon attendance levels of at least 90% in the year of examinations and in the preceding year (i.e. Form IV and Lower VI as applicable).
i). For students sitting for the SC/HSC/GCE examinations in 2017, the period covered will extend from the day of admission in Form IV or Lower VI (as applicable) in 2016 up to the day the examinations time table is officially issued to them in 2017.

ii). The 90% attendance rate will entail absences of not more than 15 days cumulated in each of the academic years 2016 and 2017.

iii). The above will exclude internal examinations periods, days of official school holidays and absences due to prolonged illness supported by medical certificates.

4. With regard to students competing for scholarships, the provisions made under Regulation (24) of the Education Regulations 1957 will remain applicable.

5. Responsible Parties will be required to make a refund to MES in case of
i). Non-compliance with the 90% attendance requirement;

ii). Withdrawal from one or more subjects/withdrawal from the examination beyond the month of July, when payment would have already been effected to Cambridge International Examinations (CIE); and

iii). Absence from the examinations for one or more subjects except for absences due to illness supported by medical certificates.

6. The refund will consist of the total amount paid by MES for the subject(s) or examination as applicable. Cancellation fees claimed by CIE will also be applicable in cases of withdrawal. The eligibility conditions governing the payment of fees are reproduced below and have to be acknowledged with and agreed upon by the Responsible Parties.

7. Responsible Parties are kindly requested to fill in and sign the annexed Eligibility Conditions Form and return same to the school by Monday 13th June 2016 at the latest.

Mr. M. Ramjee
Rector
Cambridge SC/HSC/GCE October/November Examinations 2017
Eligibility Conditions Form
(to be filled in by Responsible Parties of Form IV and Lower VI students 2016)

I, Responsible Party of candidate ……………………………………………………………………………. acknowledge having taken note of the contents of the above circular dated …………………… and confirm acceptance of the eligibility conditions contained therein stating *inter alia* that :-

(a) The eligibility of 100 % payment of fees by MES in respect of SC/ HSC/ GCE ‘O’/ ‘A’ level will be subject to my ward having satisfied the 90% attendance requirement failing which an amount representing 100% of the examinations fees paid by MES will have to be refunded.

(b) In case of withdrawal from one or more subjects or from the whole examinations after **Friday 21 July 2017** or in case of absence from the part/whole examinations, without a medical certificate, the amount paid will have to be refunded.

Name of Candidate : …………………………………………………………………………………...

Form / School : …………………………………. / …………………………………………………

Name of Responsible Party : ……………………………………………………………………………

National Identity Card No. : ………………………………………………………………………

Signature of Responsible Party : ………………………………………………………………………

Date : …………………………………………………………………………………