

02<sup>nd</sup> April 2024

**Grade 12**

Dear Parents/ Students,

Please find below, a circular from the educational authorities together with an Eligibility Conditions Form to be completed and returned to the office by **Thursday 04<sup>th</sup> April 2024**.

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**Payment of October/November 2025 HSC/GCE 'A' Level Examination Fees**

**ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS**

1. Government will meet the full cost of the **October/November Cambridge HSC/GCE 'A' Level examination fees**, for school candidates who are attending State, Private Grant-Aided and Private Fee-Paying Secondary Schools registered with the PSEA and who are sitting for the above examinations for the first time.

2. The above is subject to

- (i) the candidate having an attendance level of at least 90% and other eligibility conditions as detailed below; and
- (ii) the candidate **NOT** exceeding the age of 21 by 31 December of the school year in which he/she sits for such examinations.

3. The measure is applicable to school candidates sitting for the October/November HSC/ HSC Pro/GCE 'A' level examinations in up to **FIVE** subjects.

For students sitting for the HSC/HSC Pro/GCE 'A' Level examinations, a maximum of FOUR Principal subjects and General Paper/Global Perspectives (GP) is covered under this scheme.

4. In order to benefit from the full payment of October/November examination fees, candidates would need to reckon attendance levels of at least 90% that is, absences of not more than 15 school days in the school year in which they sit for the examinations and 15 school days in the preceding school year.

The period covered will thus extend from the day of their admission in Grade 12, as applicable, up to the day the October/November Cambridge HSC/GCE examinations timetable, as applicable, is officially issued to them.

5. The 90% attendance rate will exclude internal examinations periods, days of official school holidays and absences due to prolonged illness supported by medical certificates. As regards school candidates having sat for the October/November as private candidates and/or sitting for the May/June examination series, absences strictly on the days of examinations as per the examination timetable will be excluded.

6. In the case of prolonged illness, the Medical Certificate should be submitted on the day the student resumes school after the period of illness and in no case will such Medical Certificate be accepted if submitted later than 5 days after the first day of resumption.

7. Where a student has already exceeded the number of absences allowed by the school at the time of making the entry for the October/November examinations, the Responsible Party would have to pay the examination fees to the MES, failing which the entry would not be forwarded to the Cambridge International (CI).

8. Furthermore, where the payment of the Government subsidy would already have been effected to CIE, Responsible Parties will be required to make a refund to MES in case of either

- (i) non-compliance with the 90% attendance requirement as computed at the end of the year;
- (ii) withdrawal from one or more subjects/withdrawal from the examination beyond the month of July in the school year in which he/she sits for the examinations; or
- (iii) absence from the examinations for one or more subjects except for absences due to illness supported by medical certificates.

The refund by the parents will consist of the total amount paid by MES for the subject(s) or examination as applicable. Parents will also be liable for cancellation fees claimed by CI in cases of withdrawal.

9. Responsible Parties of school candidates should return to the school the Eligibility Conditions Form, duly filled in and signed, failing which the entry of the candidate for the examinations would not be processed.

**10. NOTE**

**Scheme under the Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity**

The following schemes are available at the Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity for eligible school candidates having a second attempt at the Cambridge October/November HSC/GCE 'A' level examinations:

i. The Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity (Social Security and National Solidarity Division) will consider requests for payment of Cambridge October/November HSC/GCE 'A' level examination fees in respect of school candidates who are attending State and registered Private Secondary Schools

- a. who have failed at their first attempt. and wish to reappear for the HSC examinations for a second time; and
- b. 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.

ii The Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity (Social Integration Division) also provides a Free Examinations Scheme for school candidates coming from eligible households that are registered on the Social Register of Mauritius. having a second attempt at the Cambridge October/November HSC/GCE 'A' level examinations.

This scheme is applicable to school candidates attending State and Registered Private Secondary Schools.

It provides for the payment of fees for the above stated examinations irrespective of the outcome of their first attempt, subject to the candidates having an attendance rate of at least 90%.

Responsible Parties of eligible students should apply to the Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity for assistance under these schemes.

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**V. R. BOODHOO**  
**RECTOR**

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**S. SUNNASSEE**  
**D. RECTOR**

.....  
**Y. CAULEECHURN**  
**D. RECTOR**

**(Please keep this circular at hand for future reference)**

**MEMO**

**TO BE DETACHED AND RETURNED TO AREA SUPERVISOR BY THURSDAY 04<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024.**

We acknowledge receipt of circular No. 7(b) and shall comply with.

Name of responsible Party: .....

Signature: .....

Name of Student: .....

Signature: .....

Grade: .....

Date: .....