**GATE FUNDING FAQ -**

1. **Means test: Will 50% & 25% funding be applied to the before GATE tuition (eg. 50/25% of $70,750) or will it be applied to the GATE subsidy amount (eg. 50/25% of $27,500)?**

***Response:****The % will be applied to the approved GATE subsidy amount per programme which in some instances is 50% of the programme and in some instances is not.*

*Eg:  IMBA before GATE cost is $63,052, GATE subsidy is $27,500. If you are eligible for “50%” then the GATE subsidy amount $27,500 will be granted. If you are eligible for “25%” then it will be 50% or half of $27,500.*

*Is better to talk with students with the actual price of each programme and confirm the amounts they will be able to get which is only 2 options:*

*A) 100% of the GATE subsidy (when household income is less than 30K/month) or*

*B) 50% of the GATE subsidy (when household income is more than 30K/month OR student choose not to go through the Means Test)*

1. **How do we advise students about the Means Test re: household income?**

***Response:*** *All applicants can choose to apply the Means Test or Not. If you do, you will be required to submit the relevant documents outlined on the GATE eService portal, ie: pay slip, source of income, etc. for all members of your household.*

*If the student chooses not to apply for the Means test, they will automatically qualify for half of the approved GATE amount subsidy of the chosen programme.*

1. **What will be the process for GATE application and required documents?**

***Response:*** *See Attachment*

1. **How will the adjusted amounts affect internal payment plans?**

***Response:*** *Payment plans are dealt with on a case by case/individual basis and we can discuss the assistance that you require in making your payment more manageable. In addition, please remember to explore the HELP loan option as part of your funding options. (HELP Loan requirements attached)*

1. **Will the GSB GATE subsidy Scholarship of 20% still stand?**

***Response:*** *As an organisation we are unable to offer a GATE subsidy Scholarship as we would have been able to do in the past.*

1. **If student circumstances change how will it affect year two when applying for GATE funding (eg. Loss of job or reduced household income)?**

***Response:*** *GATE is applied for on a yearly basis and if you are eligible in year 1 for half of the GATE subsidy and in year 2 your circumstances change to your household income being less than $30,000 then you will be required to complete the Means Test and submit the relevant documents for your current situation to be evaluated for GATE clearance and approval. If household income is less than 30k most likely you will be approved for the full amount of the GATE subsidy*

1. **How long will the GATE application take for approval?**

***Response:*** *GATE application approval is usually three (3) months from submission date.*

1. **How do we advise students on income verification (eg. If we are asked how will GATE verify the household income?)?**

***Response:*** *GATE has indicated that field verification will be implemented. The GATE eService website can add clarity.*

1. **If students decide not to apply for the Means Test would they still receive GATE funding?**

***Response****: All \*eligible applicants should apply for GATE funding clearance. It is a personal choice to apply for the Means Test. If the applicant decides not to apply for the Means Test, they will not be required to submit any evidence of household income and they will automatically receive half of the GATE funding approved amount for the programme of choice.*

*\*Eligible:*

* *Citizen of T&T*
* *Under 50 years of age*
* *Not previously funded by GATE for a Post-Graduate Degree*

1. **Would Pensioners and grant recipients be considered as part of the household income?**

***Response:*** *Yes pensioners, grant recipients and anyone receiving financial assistance will be captured as “household income”.*

1. **What is the GSB’s plan to provide assistance to students for whom the cost of the programme might increase post means testing results?**

***Response:*** *The GSB is committed to offering on a “case by case” basis financial flexibility via payment plans.*