

# **Means Testing Under the GATE Programme**

### Implementation of a Means Test to determine access to the GATE Programme

- Effective August 2017 means testing will be used to determine access to the GATE Programme
- Means testing will assess the ability of a household or individual to contribute financially to the cost of education
- Students commencing a new programme from August 2017 and beyond will be subject to means testing
- Undergraduate students enrolled in programmes as at the 2016/2017 academic year will
  continue to receive 100% funding until the completion of their programmes; or 50%
  funding in the case of post-graduate programmes
- Students enrolled in programmes prior to August 2017 will be exempted from the Means Test
- Means testing is not compulsory
- Students who do not wish to apply for means testing will be required to pay 50% of tuition fees for undergraduate programmes or 75% in the case of postgraduate programmes
- Incomplete undergraduate or postgraduate applications will not be processed. Students
  will be required to pay 50% of tuition fees for undergraduate programmes or 75% in the
  case of postgraduate programmes
- An income-only means method has been implemented for August 2017 however the model is subject to review for August 2018

## Funding of Undergraduate programmes

 Students enrolled in undergraduate programmes can access funding in accordance with the following criteria:

Where the total household income is \$10,000 per month or less

 Where the total household income is above \$10,000 per month but less than \$30,000

Where the total household income is \$30,000

Where the total household income is \$30,000 per month or more

Student eligible for 75% funding

• Student eligible for 50% funding











#### Funding of Postgraduate programmes

Students enrolled in postgraduate study will be eligible for funding in accordance with the following criteria:

Where the total household income is less than \$30,000 per month

· Student eligible for 50% funding

Where the total household income

- · Student eligible for 25% funding
- Postgraduate students in receipt of GATE funding in the 2017/2018 academic year will continue to receive funding for the duration of their programme subsequent to implementation of the developmental needs criteria

#### Access to Additional Funding

 Students can access additional assistance under the Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP) to meet the balance of tuition fees and other related costs

#### Means Testing

- GATE e-service is the online registration platform where students apply for GATE funding
- Students must apply for GATE funding via the GATE e-Service website: www.egate.gov.tt
- The Means Test system has been fully integrated into the GATE eService platform
- Students will be required to submit information on the income obtained by each member of their household
- Sources of income must be supported with official documentation (listed on website)
- Students who prefer not to complete the Means Test have the option to decline via the website and will be required to pay the associated cost of their programme
- All students must ensure that accurate information is submitted during means testing to avoid sanctions such as withdrawal of funding, reimbursement of funding or debarment from future access to the GATE Programme







