



2015 Tibetan Scholarship Program (TSP) Announcement (India, Nepal and Bhutan)

The U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), is pleased to announce the opening of the 2015 Tibetan Scholarship Program (TSP). The TSP, sponsored by ECA, is administered through a Cooperative Agreement with The Tibet Fund, in collaboration with the Central Tibetan Administration's (CTA) Department of Education (DOE). Applications will be accepted from eligible Tibetan refugees residing in India, Nepal and Bhutan for two-year Master's Degree programs in the United States, pending the availability of funds. Application forms are available below.

TSP Application and Selection Process:

- a) Applicants should be born on or after January 1, 1979.
- b) Applicants must have completed at least four years of academic work, after Class XII including a Bachelor's Degree, from a recognized university in India, Nepal or Bhutan. Partial computer courses, vocational training and diplomas from non-recognized academic institutions will not be accepted.
- c) Applicants must have secured a minimum of 45 percent in their Bachelor's Degree program and post-graduate programs.
- d) The final selection panel, chaired by the designated Public Affairs Officer for the TSP at the U.S. Embassies in India and Nepal will interview all viable candidates nominated by the CTA's DoE and the TSP Student Selection Committee (SSC) in Nepal.
- e) During the pre-selection process, TSP applicants **will not be required to submit TOEFL scores** along with their application packages.
- f) The CTA's DOE and the TSP SSC in Nepal will finalize the list of applicants to take the General Written Test on Tibetan Culture and History (GWTT) based on their academic performance. The GWTT test score will be calculated on the number of correct answers obtained out of a total of 50 questions. Applicants must secure a minimum of 17 correct responses out of 50 in the GWTT in order to qualify for the final interview.
- g) **Selection Criteria for Interviews:** Applicants will be selected to be interviewed for the TSP award if they secure a minimum of 50 percent on their aggregated scores from the GWTT and academic performance in Class XII and in their Bachelor Degree program.
- h) During the interview process, the panel will develop a short list of fifteen (15) applicants from India and Bhutan and five (5) applicants in Nepal, to take the TOEFL internet based test (ibt). The TOEFL test is required to demonstrate the applicants' English-language proficiency skills and a minimum score of 90 out of 120 is required for the application to receive further consideration. The Institutional Code for the Educational Testing Service (ETS)'s official score reporting for the Tibet Fund DI code is 9892.
- i) **Final Selection of TSP Cohort:** Final Selection of the TSP cohort will be based on the total score from the applicant's performance on the TOEFL ibt test, GWTT and academic record.
- j) Final selected participants will be required to take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) or Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) as determined by their field of study and graduate program requirements of the U.S. host institutions.



The Tibet Fund

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS & CRITERIA FOR AWARDING SCHOLARSHIP:

- 1) **Photo:** Applicants must submit one (1) passport size photo.
- 2) **Resume and a Short Essay:** The applicant must submit a copy of his/her resume and a short essay, no more than 500-700 words, explaining why you are applying for the Tibetan Scholarship Program (TSP) and what you hope to achieve from participation in this program.
- 3) **Registration Certificate (RC) / Refugee Certificate (RC):**
 - (1) **TSP Applicants in India and Bhutan:** Applicants must submit photocopies of his/her Registration Certificate (RC), and that of his/her parents and spouse (if married).
 - (2) **TSP Applicants in Nepal:** Applicants who reside in Nepal must have a Refugee Certificate (RC). If an applicant does not possess a RC, then he/she can submit either one of their parent's RC with the applicants' name stated in the document. In addition, the applicant must obtain a letter from his/her respective Settlement Officer, certifying that he/she is a Tibetan refugee residing in Nepal.
- 4) **Green Book:** The applicant must submit photocopies of his/her Green Book (identification documents), and that of his/her parents and spouse (if married). If parents or spouse are deceased, the applicant must submit a copy of their death certificate.
- 5) Applicants whose parents live in Tibet or have passed away must either produce a certificate from the Settlement Officer where the applicant currently lives stating that the applicant's parents are currently in Tibet or a death certificate.
- 6) **Academic Certificates:** Applicants must submit their college and university mark sheets and degree certificates.
- 7) **Attestation:** All documents submitted for the TSP must be attested either by a CTA gazette officer (the rank of Joint Secretary and above) or notarized by a Notary Officer/Settlement Officer.
- 8) **U.S. Visa:** Participants will be required to apply for a J-1 exchange visitor visa from the U.S. Embassy. Selection as a TSP candidate does not guarantee approval for a visa. Applicants who have prior visa denials from the U.S. Embassy must inform The Tibet Fund, the CTA's DoE and the Tibetan Student Selection Committee (TSP SCC) in Nepal at the time of application.
- 9) **No Objection Certificate:** If the Applicant is serving at any institution, he or she should furnish a "No Objection Certificate" from his/her respective employer.
- 10) **Program:** Applicants should choose one major or program of study from the following fields. The fields of study specified below were identified based on the needs of the Tibetan community by the Central Tibetan Administration (in consultation with the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy and ECA). They are arranged in alphabetical order.

Fields of Study

- **Agriculture:** Hydroponics & Fungal Cultural (Mushroom)
- **Business Administration:** Banking Management; Public Finance or Accounting
- **Autonomy and Minority Rights and Multiculturalism**
- **Computer Science:** Multimedia; Visual Communication; Software Engineering; Web Technology or Cyber Security / Hacking
- **Counseling:** Emotional Intelligence Specialist
- **Development:** Project Management
- **Education:** Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology or Pedagogy Training
- **Environmental Studies:** Highland Ecosystem; Exploration of Renewal Energy Sources; Solar or Wind Expert
- **Food Protection:** Food Processing Technology
- **Human Resource Development:** Labor Welfare / Public Relations Building

- **International Law:** International Organization Specialization; Human Rights (HR) or HR Defenders Issues
- **International Negotiation**
- **Inter-Religious Studies**
- **Library and Information Studies**
- **Management and Development:** Project Cycle Management
- **Natural Resource Management:** Soil and Water Management or Rain Water Harvesting Technology
- **Public Administration:** Public Policy or Research Methodology
- **Public Health:** Public Health General; Hospital and Health Management or Epidemiology and Health Informatics
- **Refugees and International Migration**
- **Security and Intelligence Study:** Personal Security and Information Collection or VIP Protection
- **Sinology:** Sinology and Chinese Studies or CCP Expert
- **Social Work:** Planning; Need Analysis or Community Involvement

Note: Applicants are directed to seek advice from DOE Chief Counselor Donker Wangmo with regard to the choice of majors.
(email: doe.counseling@tibet.net)

- 11) **Application Deadline:** Interested applicants are responsible for submitting all application forms and other relevant documents to their respective jurisdiction on or **before March 31, 2014 at 5:00 pm**. No late or incomplete applications will be considered after the deadline.
- 12) **Applicants from Nepal:** Applicants will submit their application and all supporting documents to TSP SSC Nepal, which has been appointed to administer the TSP selection process in Nepal separately. The pre and post selection of TSP Nepal recipients will be administered by TSP SSC Nepal under the direction of the Tibet Fund in coordination with the U.S. Embassy in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- 13) **Applicants from India and Bhutan:** Applicants will submit their application and all supporting documents to CTA Department of Education (DoE) who will administer the TSP selection process in India and Bhutan separately. The pre and post selection from these two countries will be administered by CTA's DoE under the direction of the Tibet Fund in coordination with the U.S. Embassy in India.
- 14) **General Written Test on Tibetan Culture and History (GWTT):** Applicants will take the GWTT in Tibetan only. The final test score will be calculated on the number of correct responses obtained out of a total of 50 questions. The applicants must secure a minimum of 17 marks out of 50 on the GWTT in order to participate in the final interview.
- 15) **Points System:** The following scoring system will be used to calculate each short listed candidate's total score. Please see section below for details on the point system.

a) TOEFL iBT with maximum allotted points of 20.

| TOEFL iBT scores | Allotted points |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 90-91 | 7 |
| 92-93 | 8 |
| 94-95 | 9 |
| 96-97 | 10 |
| 98-99 | 11 |
| 100-101 | 12 |
| 102-103 | 13 |

| TOEFL iBT scores | Allotted points |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 104-105 | 14 |
| 106-107 | 15 |
| 108-109 | 16 |
| 110-112 | 17 |
| 113-115 | 18 |
| 116-118 | 19 |
| 119-120 | 20 |

b) GWTT with maximum allotted points of 20.

| GWTT marks | Allotted points |
|------------|-----------------|
| 17-18 | 7 |
| 19-20 | 8 |
| 21-22 | 9 |
| 23-24 | 10 |
| 25-26 | 11 |
| 27-28 | 12 |
| 29-30 | 13 |

| GWTT marks | Allotted points |
|------------|-----------------|
| 31-33 | 14 |
| 34-36 | 15 |
| 37-39 | 16 |
| 40-42 | 17 |
| 43-45 | 18 |
| 46-48 | 19 |
| 49-50 | 20 |

c) Academic Performance with maximum allotted points of 10.

| Academic Performance in Class XII (percentage scored) | Allotted points |
|--|-----------------|
| 55 - 59 | 1 |
| 60 - 65 | 2 |
| 66 - 70 | 3 |
| 71 - 75 | 4 |
| 76 - 100 | 5 |

| Academic Performance in Bachelor Degree Program (percentage scored) | Allotted points |
|---|-----------------|
| 45 - 55 | 1 |
| 56 - 60 | 2 |
| 61 - 65 | 3 |
| 66 - 70 | 4 |
| 71 - 100 | 5 |

If you have any questions regarding the Tibetan Scholarship Program (TSP), please send your queries to the attention of the Tibet Fund's TSP Program Coordinator, Tenzing Choephel Chumeego at tchoephel@tibetfund.org or the CTA's DoE Scholarship Section at scholarship@tibet.net. For questions related to the TSP application process in Nepal, please contact Mr. Tsering Topgyal at tspsscnepal@ymail.com.

Applicants from India and Bhutan, please send your application materials to the following address:

Secretary
Department of Education
Central Tibetan Administration
Gangchen Kyishong, Dist Kangra
Dharamsala - 176 215
(H.P.) INDIA
Tel: +91-1892-226695/222721/222572
Fax: +91-1892-223481
E-mail: scholarship@tibet.net
Website: www.sherig.org/www.tcewf.org

Applicants from Nepal, please send your application materials to the following address:

Mr. Tsering Topgyal
Vice Chairman
TSP – Student Selection Committee Nepal
Snow Lion Foundation
PO Box no. 1313
Kathmandu. NEPAL
Tel: +977-1-5000036/5000002
Fax: 00977-1-5000048
tspsscnepal@ymail.com

Tibetan Scholarship Program (TSP) Application Form

1. Applicant's Full Name (as it appears on your Travel Document and Academic Credentials):

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

2. Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____ City and Country of Birth: _____
(mm/dd/yyyy)

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|
| 3. RC Number | Date of Issue | Place of Issue | Valid Until |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|
| 4. Green Book Number | Date of Issue | Place of Issue | Valid Until |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 5. Current Address: | Permanent Address: |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

6. E-mail Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

7. Have you ever applied for a U.S. visa in the past? ☐ Yes ☐ No

8. If you have stated **YES**, please fill in the following details:

| Date Applied | Category Applied | Visa Granted / Denied |
|--------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Participants will be required to apply for a J-1 exchange visitor visa from the U.S. Embassy. Selection as a TSP candidate does not guarantee approval for a visa. Applicants who have prior visa denials from the U.S. Embassy must inform the Tibet Fund and the Tibetan Scholarship Program's Student Selection Committee (TSP SCC) at the time of application.

9. Are you married? Yes: _____ No: _____ (If married fill in A, if not fill in B & C)

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| A. Spouse's Name | Green Book # | Date and Place of Issue | Valid Until |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| B. Father's Name | Green Book # | Date and Place of Issue | Valid Until |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| C. Mother's Name | Green Book # | Date and Place of Issue | Valid Until |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

10. Field of Study: _____

11. Explain briefly what you want to study in the field of study you have chosen:

12. Have you ever studied any subject related to that which you are applying?

13. Academic Qualification:

| Name of Institution | Date of Attendance (From - To) | Type of Degree | Year of Completion | Percentage Achieved |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

14. Work Experience:

| Employer Name and Address | Position | Dates (From - To) |
|---------------------------|----------|----------------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

15. Special Achievements:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

16. How will you serve the community upon your return from the U.S. after the completion of your studies?

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

17. How did you find out about the TSP? Do you have any suggestions about how awareness of the TSP could be increased within the Tibetan community in India, Nepal and Bhutan?

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

18. Do you possess a Travel Document / IC?

Yes ☐

No ☐

19. If yes, what is the Travel Document Number / IC Number: _____

20. When does your IC expire: (MM/DD/YYYY): ___/___/____

21. Please answer the following questions:

- 1) Check here ☐ if you have ever applied to this program before.
- 2) Check here ☐ if you have been convicted of a felony or other crime.
- 3) Check here ☐ if you have been dismissed from any university for disciplinary reasons.
- 4) Check here ☐ if you have been dismissed from any university for academic reasons.
- 5) Check here ☐ if you ever left your school, were given a re-exam, or resigned from work for any reason.

(If you are selected to participate in the program, and you have checked one of the above items, you will be required to submit an explanation.)

Oath of Acceptance/ Commitment:

- I hereby assure that all of the information provided in the form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- I take oath that I will abide by the TSP Terms and Conditions, which I will sign, if I am selected to receive a TSP award.

Date: ___/___/____
(mm/dd/yyyy)

(Full Name)

(Signature)