

**UNIVERSITY OF KERALA**

**(Abstract)**

Department of Student Services – Budget Proposal 2021-22– Special Protection Scheme for Transgender students from 'Student Welfare Fund' – Proposal - Sanctioned - Orders issued.

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**Ad D I**

1572/2022/UOK

Dated: 02.03.2022

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*Read:-*1) Budget Proposal 2021-22, Item No.30.

2) Minutes of the meeting of the Budget Implementation Cell held on 26.04.2021(Item No.30)

3) Minutes of the 31st Meeting of the Syndicate held on 17.08.2021, Item No. 31.108.07

4) Finance Endorsement. FOS.4277/Finance I/2021-22, dated 04.12.2021

**ORDER**

The Budget Speech 2021-22 had introduced a 'Special Protection Scheme for Transgender students' to provide learning assistance from the 'Student Welfare Fund' to transgenders who do not receive other government benefits. Accordingly, Dr. Shaji A, Director (i/c), Department of Student Services submitted a proposal for the "Special Protection Scheme for Transgender Students".

The matter was placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Student Services held on 12.08.2021 and the committee recommended to approve the same. The Syndicate, vide paper read as (3) above resolved to approve the recommendation

Sanction has therefore been accorded by the Vice-Chancellor to the following proposal regarding "Special Protection Scheme for Transgender Students", being implemented.

**"Special Protection Scheme for Transgender Students"**

University of Kerala has formulated a policy to help students belonging to the Transgender community to pursue their education without any social discrimination. The objectives of this policy include:

1. Identify Transgender students in educational institutions under University of Kerala.
2. Protect the identity and self respect of Transgender students.
3. Provide Transgender students with proper educational ambience and thus help them to gain confidence, acceptance, and acknowledgement in society.
4. Provide them with support systems to bring them into the mainstream societal framework and to provide adequate platforms for their overall development.
5. Provide ample opportunities for their education and employment.
6. Sensitize the teaching, non-teaching staff and student community in all educational institutions so that there is no discrimination and that the TGs are treated as normal citizens with self-respect and dignity.
7. Ensure the removal of impediments existing in the society against Transgenders from pursuing higher education.
8. Ensure penal action against persons who discriminate, harass, deny or violate the special rights given to the TGs.

9. Establishment of proper mechanism and its effective implementation to address the issues of violence and harassment faced by Transgender students.

**Steps to be implemented to address the problems of Transgender students:**

Identification of Transgender Students:

1. All educational institutions affiliated to the University of Kerala to take steps to identify TG students in their institution.
2. Transgender student should be asked to submit an affidavit that She / He/TG is a Transgender along with a Certificate duly issued by an authorized person entrusted by the State Government stating that she/he/TG is a transgender.
3. While dealing with the TG students, the institution should be extremely careful in managing their special needs and create an academic ambience congenial to them. iv. Appoint a Contact Person, who shall keep the details of the TG students with due confidentiality.

Equal Opportunities

1. Include the Transgender category in the Application Forms and in all types of Certificates for courses in all the educational institutions under the University. It should be given as – He/She/Mx. Use the pronoun TG, instead of 'He' or 'She' in certificates issued to them.
2. Additional seats should be reserved for TG students in all courses offered by the University/Colleges.
3. All institutions affiliated to University of Kerala to publicise the special opportunities for TG students for all courses offered by the institutions.

Safety

1. Implement anti-ragging laws for the protection of TG students.
2. Establish Counseling Centres to TG students in every institution.
3. A Special Transgender Safety Cell at the University level should coordinate and supervise the activities of the Equal Opportunity Cell and Counseling Centres at the College level which is entrusted with the safety and security of TG students.

Syllabus

1. Include contents on Transgender in the syllabi of the Degree/PG Programmes to help students to know the different dimensions – biological, sociological, psychological, political, and constitutional - of transgender issues.
2. Research Centres to include the issues of Transgenders in their studies and research projects and take initiatives to sensitize the community about the problems of Transgenders.

Scholarships/Entitlements

1. Provide admissions to TG students by reserving seats to them in all courses with scholarships.
2. Provide hostel facilities for transgender students in Colleges/University at subsidized rates.

TG Friendly Infrastructure

1. Colleges to provide special washrooms and rest rooms to TG students. University should help Colleges to get the UGC fund for this purpose.
2. Special care should be given in health care of Transgender students.

Awareness programmes

1. University and all other institutions under it should take initiatives in organizing programmes to conscientise all the stakeholders on issues related with Transgenders.
2. University should take the initiative to give an orientation to the teaching and non-teaching community regarding the issues of transgenders.

Mode of implementation of Special financial Assistance

- (1) Information regarding the financial assistance to the transgender students may be intimated to the target institutions.
- (2) Application for financial assistance may be invited from the transgender students who wish to

avail the opportunity. The genuineness of the application should be certified by the Head of the concerned institution.

(3) The Director, Department of Student Services should also verify the genuineness of the application with supporting documents and recommend the same to the University.

(4) The University section dealing with scholarship may process the file and submit to the committee duly constituted by the University for the purpose of awarding financial assistance.

Orders as issued with the concurrence of the Finance vide paper read as (4) above.

ABBY ABRAHAM CYRUS

DEPUTY REGISTRAR Admin II  
For REGISTRAR

To

1. The Director(i/c), Department of Students Services
2. The Finance I/ Audit VI
3. The Government Auditor
4. IQAC
5. Stock file/ File Copy

Forwarded / By Order

Sd/-

Section Officer