Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Who can apply for the Scholarship?
Ans: Following target groups are eligible to apply under the Scheme:
   i) Scheduled Castes
   ii) Denotified Tribes & Semi-Nomadic Tribes
   iii) Landless Agricultural Labourers and Traditional Artisans

2. What is the eligibility criterion?
Ans: The important eligibility criterion is as follows:
   (i) Age below 35 as on 1st April of every Selection Year.
   (ii) Family Income less than Rs. 8,00,000 (Rs. Eight lakh per annum).

3. How many slots are available in each year?
Ans: 100 slots are available in each Financial Year.

4. Whether Scholarship is available for Graduation Level Courses?
Ans: No, Under the Scheme Scholarship is provided for Master and Ph.D courses only.

5. What are the main subjects/ Streams under which scholarship is provided?
Ans: Candidate can apply in any stream of study.
6. **What is the minimum Qualification Required?**
Ans: In case of Scholarship for Masters Degree abroad, minimum required qualification is Graduation Degree whereas for Ph.D, the minimum qualification requirement is Masters Degree.

7. **What is the minimum percentage of marks required?**
Ans: A minimum 60% of marks are required for availing scholarship. In case of CGPA score also, the equivalent marks should not be less than 60%.

8. **Can my brother/sister also apply for the Scholarship?**
Ans: Not more than two children of the same parents/guardians will be eligible and to this effect a self-certification will be required from the candidate. An awardee cannot be considered for the award on a subsequent occasion as the award can be given only once. The second child of the same parents/guardians will be considered only if the slots are still available for the year.

9. **How many awards are earmarked for Scheduled Castes/ Denotified Tribes & Semi-Nomadic Tribes / Landless Agricultural Labourers & Traditional Artisans?**
Ans: Following number of slots are earmarked for different target groups
   i) Scheduled Castes - 90
   ii) Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes - 06
   iii) Landless Agricultural Labourers and Traditional Artisans – 04

10. **What is the procedure for applying?**
Ans: Applicant can apply for scholarship through the online portal only. The address of the portal is as [http://nosmsje.gov.in/](http://nosmsje.gov.in/)
11. **Can the applicant apply through offline also?**  
Ans: No.

12. **What are the documents required for filling the forms?**  
Ans: Applicant can refer how to fill the form documents available in the portal http://nosmsje.gov.in/. The detailed documents required and other details for filling the form are available in the portal.

13. **What is the duration of the Scholarship?**  
Ans: A Maximum 3 year for Master’s Degree & 4 Years for Ph.D. course

14. **How much financial assistance is provided?**  
Ans: Under the scheme following assistance is provided:

   i) Tuition Fees
   
   ii) Maintenance allowance (**US Dollars** 15,400/- **Annually except UK. Great Britain Pound** 9,900/- **Annually in UK**)
   
   iii) Contingency Allowance
   
   iv) Poll Fee
   
   v) Visa fees
   
   vi) Equipment allowance
   
   vii) Fees and medical insurance premium
   
   viii) Air Passage of economy class
   
   ix) Local Travel

For details refer to scheme guideline 2019-20 available in the Portal.

15. **Who gives the assistance?**
Ans: Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment provides financial assistance for the admissible expenditure incurred in India and the expenditure incurred abroad on the awardees and is met by the concerned Indian Missions. Consequent upon final selection of a candidate for award under the scheme, the candidate is issued a provisional award letter by this Ministry, which also includes a certificate giving therein the details of financial entitlements under the scheme.

16. **Within how much period a candidate can avail the award?**

Ans: A selected candidate is required to avail the award within one year of receipt of intimation from this Ministry regarding selection for the award/assurance. On expiry of this specified period of time, the award automatically gets cancelled.

17. **How to seek admission abroad?**

Ans: Selected candidates are required to themselves arrange for their admission in foreign accredited educational institutions/universities as per the scheme guidelines.

18. **How to get visa?**

Ans: The candidate may approach the Embassy for getting appropriate visa. In Case of USA, only J1 visa will be accepted. The Government of India does not render any assistance to a candidate for obtaining visa.

19. **What are the formalities to be completed before proceeding for studies abroad?**

Ans: The selected candidates are required to furnish all such legal documents and other agreements before their departure abroad, as decided
by Government of India from time to time. The candidates on reaching abroad are also required to immediately contact the concerned Indian Mission abroad and execute such necessary legal documents and other agreements, as decided by the Mission. In case of employed candidates, they are also required to executive such bonds, agreements etc.