## State Merit Scholarship (SMS) Kerala

The State Merit Scholarship Kerala (SMS) aims to provide financial assistance to meritorious and needy students pursuing their graduation and post-graduation. This scholarship is offered by the Department of Collegiate Education, under the purview of the Government of Kerala.

The total scholarship slots are 450, with 300 for graduate students and the remaining 150 for post-graduate students. Furthermore, this scholarship aims to improve employability and reduce unemployment by removing one of the biggest hurdles – poverty and financial crisis. Read on to explore the eligibility criteria, selection process and award amount.

## Eligibility Criteria

Candidates must ensure that they fulfill the following criteria to ensure eligibility:

- Candidates must be domiciled in Kerala.
- Must have scored at least 50% or above in the last qualifying exam.
- Annual family income from all sources must not exceed INR 1,00,000.
- Candidates must be a first-year student pursuing graduation or post-graduation courses from a government college or an aided college.

## State Merit Scholarship Amount

Selected candidates will receive the following benefits:

- 300 graduate students will receive INR 1,250 per annum.
- 150 postgraduate students will receive INR 1,500 per annum.

## **Documents Required**

Candidates are required to ensure that the following documents are readily available during the time of application.

- Passport Photograph
- Attested copies of marks cards
- Income certificate
- Caste certificate
- Birth certificate (Class 10th board certificate)
- Residential address proof (ration card, voter ID, Aadhar card)
- Disability certificate, if any