



2018 Tibetan Scholarship Program (TSP) Announcement India and Nepal

The U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), is pleased to announce the opening of the 2018 Tibetan Scholarship Program (TSP). The TSP, sponsored by ECA, is administered through a Cooperative Agreement with The Tibet Fund (TTF), in collaboration with the Central Tibetan Administration's (CTA) Department of Education (DoE). Only six (6) applicants from India and one (1) from Nepal will be selected to participate in the TSP. Applications will be accepted from eligible Tibetan refugees residing in India and Nepal for two-year Master's Degree programs in the United States, pending the availability of funds. The application form is available below.

A. TSP Application and Selection Process:

1. Applicants should be born on or after January 1, 1982.
2. Applicants must have completed at least four years of academic work after Class XII, including a three years Bachelor's degree from a recognized university. The fourth year can be your Bachelor of Education credentials or your Master's degree first year academic credentials. Partial computer courses, vocational training, and diplomas from a non-recognized academic institutions in India and Nepal will not be accepted
3. Applicants must have secured a minimum of 50% in their Bachelor's; Master's; Bachelors of Education and Post Graduate Diploma Program.
4. Applicants who have completed or are pursuing a M. Phil or a Ph. D degree will not be considered for the TSP.
5. Applicants are not required to submit your Class X and XII academic credentials.
6. The final selection panel will be chaired by the designated Public Affairs Officer at the U.S. Embassies in India and Nepal for all the viable candidates nominated by the CTA's DoE and the TSP Student Selection Committee (SSC) in Nepal.
7. During the pre-selection process, TSP applicants will not be required to submit TOEFL scores along with the application package.
8. The TSP applicants will take the Institutional TOEFL test (ITP) on the same day after the General Written Test in Tibetan (GWTT) in Delhi. The ITP test aims to get a good sense of the applicants English language ability before they sit for the final interview.
9. **TOEFL ITP test at a Glance: Level 1 (intermediate to advanced): 2 hours**

Section	Number of Questions	Administered Time	Score Scale
Listening Comprehension	50	35 minutes	31 - 68
Structure and Written Expression	40	25 minutes	31 - 68
Reading Comprehension	50	55 minutes	31 - 67
Total	140	115 minutes	310 - 677



The Tibet Fund

10. The venue for the reporting and document verification will be notified by CTA DoE staff via e-mail and telephone call.
11. On the day of the document verification, the applicants will be notified of the venue for both the GWTT and ITP test.
12. The duration of the ITP test is two hours and will be paper based. The scores of the test will be sent by the ETS to the Tibet Fund.
13. The CTA DoE and The Tibet Fund expects to receive the scores from the ETS within 12-15 business days.
14. The ITP test would only be administered for the applicants in India (as Nepal receives fewer TSP applications therefore, it is not required).
15. Once the required academic credentials are fulfilled, only then the CTA's DoE and TSP SSC in Nepal will notify the applicants for document verification process.
16. An applicant must secure a minimum of 20 points out of 50 in the GWTT in order to move on to the next round of the selection process.
17. Applicants must obtain a minimum score of 550 on the paper based ITP.
18. The CTA DoE will finalize a list of 30 applicants from the total pool of applicants based on GWTT and ITP.
19. General Written Test on Tibetan Culture and History (GWTT): Applicants will have the option to take the GWTT in Tibetan and English. Those applicants who take the test in Tibetan will receive two (2) grace points towards the total points scored.
20. GWTT and ITP will not be added towards the over-all point calculation.
21. The top 30 applicants will be called to sit for the final interview in Dharamsala coordinated by CTA DoE.
22. After finalizing interview markings, the panel will develop a short list of fifteen (15) applicants from India and five (5) from Nepal, based on their academic standing and final interview.
23. All of the 15 shortlisted applicants from India and 5 from Nepal will take the TOEFL IBT.
24. While taking the TOEFL, the applicants are requested to notify the Educational Testing Services (ETS) to forward a copy of the score to the Tibet Fund by using the TTF's institutional code 9892.
25. A minimum score of 85 out of 120 is required in TOEFL, for applicants to receive further consideration.
26. Out of the 15 applicants from India, only 6 applicants will be selected. From Nepal, out of 5 applicants only 1 applicant will be selected. The final selection will be based on the total points scored in academics, interview and the TOEFL test.
27. 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 the graduate program requirements of the U.S. host institutions.

B. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS & CRITERIA FOR AWARDDING 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 they are applying for the Tibetan Scholarship Program (TSP) and what they hope to achieve from participating.
3. **Registration Certificate (RC) / Refugee Certificate (RC):**
 - **TSP Applicants in India:** Applicants must submit photocopies of his/her Registration Certificate (RC), and that of his/her parents and spouse (if married).
 - **TSP Applicants in Nepal:** Applicants who reside in Nepal must have a Refugee Certificate (RC). If an applicant does not possess a RC, than he/she can submit either one of their parent's RCs 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; parents and spouse (if married) Green Book. 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 produce a certificate from the Settlement Officer where the applicant currently lives stating that the applicant's parents are currently in Tibet or provide a death certificate.
6. **Academic Certificates:** Applicants must submit their college and university academic records (Degree, and Mark sheets).

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 an exchange 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 in Nepal.*
9. **No Objection Certificate:** If the applicant is serving in any institution, a "No Objection Certificate" is required.
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 US DOS's BECA). They are arranged in alphabetical order.

Fields of Study

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| ➤ Computer Science / Cyber Security | ➤ Library and Information Science |
| ➤ Education | ➤ MBA |
| ➤ Environmental Studies | ➤ Neuroscience |
| ➤ International Relations / International Law | ➤ Psychology |
| ➤ Journalism | ➤ Public Health |
| | ➤ Science |
| | ➤ Intelligence Studies |

11. **Application Deadline:** Interested applicants are responsible for submitting all application forms and other relevant documents to their respective jurisdictions on or **before Wednesday, March 15, 2017 by 5:00 pm.** Late or incomplete applications will not be considered after the deadline.
12. **Applicants from India:** Applicants will submit their application and all supporting documents to CTA's Department of Education (DoE) who will administer the TSP selection process in India separately. The pre and post selection will be administered by CTA's DoE and the Tibet Fund in coordination with the U.S. Embassy's Public Affairs Section in India.
13. **Applicants from Nepal:** Applicants will submit their application and all supporting documents to TSP SSC Nepal, who 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.
14. **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) Academic Performance with maximum allotted points of 10:

Academic Performance in Bachelor's Program (percentage scored)	Allotted points
50-60	1
61-70	2
71-75	3
76-80	4
81-100	5

Academic Performance in 1 st , Year of Bachelor of Education / Master / PG Diploma (percentage scored)	Allotted points
50-60	1
61-70	2
71-75	3
76-80	4
81-100	5

b) TOEFL iBT with maximum allotted points of 20

TOEFL iBT scores	Allotted points
85 - 86	3
87 - 88	4
89 - 90	5
91 - 92	6
93 - 94	7
95 - 96	8
97 - 98	9
99 - 100	10
101 - 102	11

TOEFL iBT scores	Allotted points
103 – 104	12
105 – 106	13
107 – 108	14
106 – 110	15
111 - 112	16
113 - 114	17
115 - 116	18
117 - 118	19
119 - 120	20

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 head, Ngawang Yonten at doe.lobyon@tibet.net. For questions related to the TSP application process in Nepal, please contact Tsering Topgyal at tspscnepal@ymail.com

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

Ngawang Yonten
Department of Education (TSP 2018)
Central Tibetan Administration
Gangchen Kyishong, Distt. Kangra
Dharamsala - 176 215
(H.P.) INDIA
Tel: +91-1892-226695/222721/222572
Fax: +91-1892-223481
E-mail: doe.lobyon@tibet.net
Website: [www. http://sherig.org/en/](http://sherig.org/en/)
Facebook: www.facebook.com/doe.lobyon/

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

Tsering Topgyal
Vice Chairman
TSP – Student Selection Committee Nepal (TSP 2018)
Snow Lion Foundation
PO Box no. 1313
Kathmandu. NEPAL
Tel: +977-1-5000036/5000002
Fax: 00977-1-5000048
tspscnepal@ymail.com

Application form for Tibetan Scholarship Program (TSP)

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

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

2. Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____ City & Country of Birth: _____

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. Do you possess a Travel Document / IC? Yes No
 (If Yes, please attach a copy of your TD/IC)

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

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

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

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

Date Applied	Category Applied	Visa Granted / Denied

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, CTA's DOE and TSP SSC Nepal at the time of the selection process.

12. 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
 _____ _____ _____ ___ / ___ / ___

13. **Academic Qualification:**

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

(High School Academic Credentials are not required)

14. **Work Experience:**

Employer Name and Address	Position	Dates (From - To)

15. Field of Study: _____

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

17. Please answer the following questions:

- Check here if you have ever applied to this program before.
- Check here if you have been convicted of a felony or other crime.
- Check here if you have been dismissed from any university for disciplinary reasons.
- Check here if you have been dismissed from any university for academic reasons.
- 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.)

18. Special Achievements and Recognitions:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Please answer to the following questions in a short with a word limit of 150 words per question.

- Why did you choose the above field of study?

- Why are you interested in graduate level work?

- Why are you applying to the United States for graduate school?

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- If not selected for the TSP program, what are your plans for the future?

- How do you intend to serve the Tibetan community, if selected for this program?

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: Please Print)

(Signature)