

Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai.

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7.2.1 Describe two best practices successfully implemented by the Institution as per NAAC format provided in the Manual

Title of the Practice: Generous Scholarships and Freeships to Needy, Meritorious and Extraordinary Students.

Objective of the Practice:

- ✓ Enhancing Access: Ensure deserving students can pursue engineering education regardless of financial constraints.
- ✓ **Recognizing Excellence:** Reward and motivate students for outstanding academic performance.
- ✓ **Promoting Meritocracy:** Establish a system that values and supports students based on their achievements.
- ✓ **Fostering Diversity:** To promote inclusivity in engineering education, support students from diverse backgrounds.
- ✓ Alleviating Financial Burdens: Reduce financial barriers to higher education and student success.
- ✓ Facilitating Student Achievement: Financial support empowers students to succeed academically and professionally.
- ✓ Building Reputation and Attraction: Enhance the college's reputation and attract talented students by demonstrating commitment to student support.

The Context:

In this region of India, higher education is often viewed as a luxury due to social barriers and widespread financial constraints. Many families cannot afford to send their children for higher studies. Recognizing this challenge, the Government has introduced numerous student scholarships and financial aid programs aimed at enabling a larger number of students to pursue higher education, thus contributing to societal upliftment.

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The Shree Sathyam College of Engineering and Technology, Sankari acts as an intermediary between the state government and students, facilitating their access to financial support through scholarships and other initiatives. However, it is believed that government-level support alone is insufficient to address the multifaceted challenges hindering access to higher education.

Realizing that many students fall outside the scope of government assistance but still face financial hardship, SSCET has taken proactive measures. It has identified and supported economically disadvantaged students using its own resources, offering them partial and full fee waivers for extraordinary students, as well as scholarships based on specific academic cutoff criteria and merit in sports.

Practice:

We extend various forms of financial assistance to engineering students who meet certain academic benchmarks and are eligible for different levels of scholarship support. This includes partial fee waivers for students achieving a specific academic performance threshold and full fee waivers for those surpassing a higher academic cutoff. The college's scholarship programs aim to acknowledge academic excellence and offer financial assistance to students, taking into account their achievements and potential.

By providing these opportunities, the college aims to foster a supportive and inclusive environment that enables students from diverse backgrounds to access quality engineering education.

Overall, these fee waivers and scholarships reflect the college's commitment to empowering talented and deserving students to excel in their engineering studies, irrespective of financial circumstances. The goal is to promote meritocracy and equitable access to education while nurturing future leaders in engineering.



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Evidence of Success:

- ✓ **Graduation rates:** Higher graduation rates among scholarship recipients indicate that financial support contributes to students' ability to complete their degree programs.
- ✓ Employment outcomes: After graduation, scholarship recipients' job placement rates, starting salaries, and career trajectories increased due to the scholarship's impact on career advancement.
- ✓ **Higher retention rates**: Among scholarship recipients indicate increased levels of student engagement and commitment facilitated by financial support.
- ✓ Alumni Success Stories: scholarship recipients have achieved notable accomplishments in their careers or made significant contributions to their field. Alumni testimonials serve as powerful evidence of how scholarships have positively influenced their professional and personal development.

Overall, management scholarships provide students with the means to pursue their educational goals, develop leadership skills, and establish a solid foundation for a successful career in management.

Impact

The poor students who could not afford to get a higher education because of financial burdens now feel free and capable of getting a higher education at the college. Most of the girl students who were not sent to college are also able to get themselves admitted to college. Poor parents who once upon a time got their daughters married off before reaching college now feel comfortable sending their girl child to college.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

We encountered some problems during the implementation,

✓ One of the primary challenges is obtaining sufficient funding to support all deserving students. Budget constraints may limit the number and scope of fee waivers and scholarships offered.



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- ✓ Ensuring fairness and transparency in the distribution of scholarships based on academic performance and financial need can be complex. Developing clear criteria and selection processes is essential to avoid bias or favoritism.
- ✓ The demand for financial aid often exceeds available resources, leading to difficult decisions regarding which students receive support.
- ✓ Tracking the impact of scholarships on student outcomes and adjusting programs accordingly requires dedicated resources for data collection, analysis, and reporting.

Resources required to address these challenges:

To address challenges in providing financial assistance:

- ✓ Secure additional funding through partnerships and grants.
- ✓ Implement fair selection processes with technology and training.
- ✓ Create data systems to ensure effective monitoring.
- ✓ Foster community partnerships for sustainable support.
- ✓ Offer student support services and improve communication to ensure transparency.



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