

The Champutai and Vinayakrao Gokhale Scholarship at Fergusson College

Purpose:

To provide tuition scholarships every year for two students of Fergusson College who have completed Bachelor's degrees in Physics or Chemistry and who plan to go on to get Masters Degrees at accredited institutes in India. The objective is to reward academic performance while recognizing financial need and encourage higher learning. One scholarship is designated for a female student, while the other for a male student. More details are below.

Background:

Champutai (nee Bhave) and Vinayakrao Gokhale were B. Sc. students at Fergusson College and met each other in the 1940s. Theirs was not an arranged marriage, quite unusual at that time. Mr. Gokhale went on to UDCT in Mumbai and then to Brooklyn Polytechnic, New York for his Masters Degree in Chemical Engineering. Mrs. Gokhale went to Columbia University in New York for her M. A. Both returned to India. Mr. V. V. Gokhale managed chemical plants for the government and later was recruited as a senior IAS officer. He was the first Secretary of Industries for Goa when it was liberated. He received the Gold Medal for his area's performance in the family planning campaign of the Government. In his retirement he was the Director for Maharashtra State for Transcendental Meditation(TM). He taught TM to prisoners and company executives. He wrote several books on DhyānVidya, Naturotherapy etc. Mrs. Gokhale was associated with several women's and social welfare organizations such as All India Women's Food Council. She directed the Sakal(a newspaper in Pune) Relief Fund after the Panshet dam broke in Pune in 1961. She was a Trustee of the Shri. Devdeveshwar Sansthan, Parvati & Kothrud Pune for ten years. Their three children are students of Fergusson College. Both of them supported several deserving students by paying their tuition fees. The tradition of supporting education goes back one more generation. Shri D K Bhave (father of Champutai) was a Patron of the D E Society and started a Scholarship at Pune University in the 1950s for supporting students in Engineering going for higher studies abroad. That Scholarship continues today. This Scholarship at Fergusson College is a modest attempt to continue that tradition.

Eligibility:

1. Students must have completed their Bachelors degree in Physics or Chemistry at Fergusson College and should be in the first 5 ranked students. Since there is a scholarship each for a male and female student, a separate ranked list is used for the first 5 male and first 5 female students.
2. The student must have received admission for a Masters Degree program at an accredited institute India. Accredited Institutes are as per the list published by **NAAC (National Assessment and Accreditation Council)**.

Time line:

1. **Application Schedule:** From 1st August to 21 August (Every Year)
2. **Interview dates:** September 8 to 12, exact date to be notified
3. **Final decision date:** 18th September
4. **Disbursement of Scholarship:** 1st October and beginning of Second Semester

Selection Criteria:

The objective is to balance academic performance with financial need. If the first ranked candidate has no financial need, and a second candidate is still in the first 5 ranked candidates, and has financial need, then that second candidate will be chosen.

Additional Information:

1. Both scholarships need not be given each year. Based on candidates, available funds etc. the Committee may decide in its sole discretion to give both, one or no scholarships each year.
2. The disbursement will be in two steps: 50% by October 1 and 50% at the beginning of the second Semester, if the candidate has achieved a minimum of "B" grade in the first Semester.
3. The money would be sent directly to the Masters Program Institute.
4. The first choice is to give scholarship to new students each year. If no suitable candidates are available then the Committee MAY consider giving the scholarship for the second year for a previously chosen candidate IF the chosen candidate has maintained a "B" grade point average in the first year of the Masters program AND his/her teachers in the Masters program recommend it.
5. All decisions of the Selection Committee will be final. There is no appeal. By applying for the scholarship the candidates agree to this condition.
6. For any questions please contact : Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Vice Principal, Fergusson College, Pune. E-mail: nmkulkarni@fergusson.edu, Phone: 020-3066 6002/43

Application form