



Bikas Udhyami Scholarship

[Padhna Jane](#) (eng. Let's Study) is a free online educational platform serving as a gateway for young Nepali to access higher-education opportunities in Nepal and abroad. Developed by Bikas Udhyami, a social innovation hub, the platform helps students to easily find Technical and Vocational Education and Training Institutions (TVET), colleges, universities and scholarships in Nepal, Australia, Japan and USA. Padhna Jane also provides information and tips on the application process, migration requirements and living abroad.

[Bikas Udhyami](#) is a social innovation hub led by young Nepali professionals from different backgrounds who share an entrepreneurial spirit when it comes to seeking ways to do development differently. Collectively we bring together expertise on a wide range of issues including governance, economic development, environment, human rights, labour migration, gender and social inclusion, and media and technology to identify and implement innovative solutions to address Nepal's development challenges.

Through the platform Padhna Jane aims to:

1. Connect young Nepali with diverse higher education opportunities.
2. Improve equal access to educational funding for poor and marginalized communities.
3. Facilitate the ease of applying for higher-education and scholarships in Nepal and abroad.
4. Enable students to better prepare themselves for the job market upon graduation.

In keeping with these principles, the Bikas Udhyami Scholarship is awarded to brilliant students who show great potential in leadership and innovation. The Scholarship ensures that students who need financial assistance get support to pursue their higher education. We believe that every student can be a changemaker - and personal finance should not be a hindrance.

The Bikas Udhyami Scholarship is awarded to two Masters students studying any field, preferably development studies, sociology, economics, business, or statistics. The Scholarship amount is maximum Rs.50,000 for the entire Masters program. Preference is given to students at public institutions affiliated with any recognized University in Nepal.

The Bikas Udhyami Scholars will also get the opportunity to contribute 20 hours/week to Bikas Udhyami as Young Development Entrepreneurs Apprentice. This position offers a small stipend for transportation costs in addition to the Scholarship. Any Scholars living outside Kathmandu Valley will be required to contribute via online media and in their community. The length of time to contribute to Bikas Udhyami as Apprentice is as follows:

- 24 months scholarship = 24 months at Bikas Udhyami
- 18 months scholarship = 21 months at Bikas Udhyami
- 12 months scholarship = 18 months at Bikas Udhyami

Eligibility criteria

1. Academic achievements

The minimum requirement is 3.2 GPA or 55% or B+ average at the end of Bachelors. The field of study can range from arts to humanities to sciences, preferably development studies, sociology, economics, business, or statistics. The applicant must be enrolled in a Master's degree, latest in second semester, when applying. The admission form, admission letter or marksheet needs to be submitted as proof of acceptance to the Master's program.

2. Financial need

The applicant needs to demonstrate with evidence that his/her family cannot support their higher education. This will be at the discretion of the Selection Committee.

3. Leadership and Community involvement

The applicant needs to demonstrate extensive community involvement and leadership, proving that they are already actively participating to address problems in society. This can include starting your own organisation, engagement with existing organisations, participating in local government bodies, clubs etc.

Selection Criteria

Round 1: Online or Paper Application

Application forms are available in English and Nepali on our website www.padhnajane.com. All applicants should send their application to padhnajane@bikasudhyami.com or drop it off in person at the Bikas Udhyami office in [Chakupat](#).

Note that your application should include:

- Completed application form
- CV
- Essay (maximum 500 words on the topic “How are you contributing to your community in innovative ways?”)
- Two reference letters
- Admission letter/admission form/marksheet - Applicants can be about to start their masters, in their first semester or in their second semester. Applicants are not eligible if they are in their third or fourth semester.
- Bachelor's certificate or transcript
- Citizenship certificate

Only fully completed applications will be reviewed by the selection committee.

Deadline: November 15, 2017 (Kartik 29, 2074)

Round 2: Interview, Skill Test and Presentation

Selected applicants will be invited to Round 2 of the selections, which includes three components: an interview, a skill test assessment and a presentation by the applicant.

The main purpose of this interview is to get to know the candidate better. Conversely, this is also an opportunity for the candidates to know more about Bikas Udhyami and the scholarship. If the candidate is outside of Kathmandu, the selection committee can make arrangements for a skype interview. It is advised that the candidates come prepared with questions to ask the selection committee.

In addition to the interview, there will be a skill test assessment where the applicant will have to write an article and/or use excel and/or do research. This component will not require any previous preparation.

The third component is a presentation to be given by the applicant. The applicant is expected to come prepared for a 10-minute presentation on the topic "This is how I will use my Masters degree." The applicant can use any means for presentation, and is not required to have a powerpoint. There will be no preparation time for the presentation on the day, so it is strongly advised to come prepared with all your talking points and other materials you may be using. There will be a computer and projector for the applicant's use, if necessary.

Date: In the week of December 4 - 8, 2017 (Mangsir 18 - 22, 2074)

Scholars Announcement

After the review of applicants in Round 2, two candidates will be announced as Bikas Udhyami Scholars.

Date: December 15, 2017 (Mangsir 29, 2074)

Timeline

Applications deadline: November 15, 2017 (Karthik 29, 2074)

Round 2: December 4 - 8, 2017 (Mangsir 18-22)

Scholars Announcement: December 15, 2017 (Mangsir 29, 2074)

Bikas Udhyami Scholar Code of Conduct

Once the scholars have been selected, they are expected to maintain the Bikas Udhyami Scholar Code of Conduct. Violation of any of the codes will subject the Scholar to be reviewed by the Selection Committee, and might even result in the forfeiture of the scholarship.

1. Minimum academic requirement

The Bikas Udhyami Scholar has to maintain an average of 3.2 GPA (B+, 55% or equivalent) or above throughout the duration of the study.

2. Tuition bill

The Bikas Udhyami Scholar has to set up the tuition payment in such a way that the bill is sent to padhnajane@bikasudhyami.com with all necessary instructions, every term. The

tuition fee will be directly paid by Bikas Udhyami to the finance department of the concerned college. The maximum amount offered is Rs. 12,500 per semester, for a total of Rs.50,000 for a two year Master's degree.

3. Young Development Entrepreneurs Apprentice

As a Bikas Udhyami Scholar, the Scholar will also get an opportunity to professionally work at Bikas Udhyami as a Young Development Entrepreneur Apprentice (YDEA). As compensation for the 20 hours/week, the Scholar will receive a travel allowance in addition to the scholarship.

4. Expectations of the Bikas Udhyami Scholar

The Bikas Udhyami Scholar is expected to regularly contribute in various outreach activities, both online and in-person. S/he is expected to also write blogs for Bikas Udhyami's various initiatives.

FAQ

Do I qualify to become a Bikas Udhyami Scholar?

You need to meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Enrolled in a Masters program, latest in your second semester. Applicants are not eligible if they are in their third or fourth semester.
- Studying at a public institution, affiliated to any Nepali university
- Minimum 3.2 GPA or 55% or B+ average in Bachelor's degree
- Demonstrated financial need
- Examples of leadership and community involvement

How can I apply?

You need to send the following documents to padhnajane@bikasudhyami.com:

- Completed application form
- CV
- Essay (maximum 500 words on the topic "How are you contributing to your community in innovative ways?")
- Two reference letters
- Admission letter/admission form/marksheet for Master's degree
- Bachelor's certificate or transcript
- Citizenship certificate

What do I need to do to maintain it?

There are two main requirements to maintain your scholarship:

- You have to maintain a minimum 3.2 CGPA or 55% or B+ average
- You have to participate in Bikas Udhyami's Young Development Entrepreneur Apprentice program.

Can students who live outside Kathmandu also apply?

Yes, students living anywhere within Nepal can apply for the Bikas Udhyami Scholarship. The Apprenticeship can be done online and in the local community.
