Reliance Foundation
SCHOLARSHIPS

Frequently Asked Questions

Reliance Foundation SCHOLARSHIPS

Index

Eligibility			
1	How do I know if I am eligible to apply?	14	How do I normalise my score from undergraduate percentage (%) to undergraduate CGPA?
2	Which are the eligible institutes?	15	I did not receive an activation or invitation email or a password to start the application. How can I retrieve it, and log in?
3	Which are the eligible programmes at undergraduate level?	16	I have successfully submitted the eligibility questionnaire, yet haven't received the invitation email and OTP number on my registered mobile.
4	Which are the eligible programme at postgraduate level?	17	I do Computer Sciences/ Artificial Intelligence/ Mathematics and Computing/ Electrical & Electronics as part of my programme but it's not part of the eligible programmes list. Am I eligible to apply for the scholarship?
5	I failed the eligibility questionnaire but I believe I'm eligible. What can I do?	18	I do only Artificial Intelligence as part of my programme but not Computer Sciences. Am I eligible?
6	What type of students are you looking for?	19	Can I apply for a scholarship using a deferred university offer?
7	Can I apply for the scholarships more than once?	20	Will you consider the common rank or the category rank of the JEE?
8	Do I need to have been accepted into a degree programme before I apply for the scholarship?	21	For an undergraduate scholarship, If someone has not taken the JEE Exams, are they eligible to apply?
9	I am a second year student in an eligible institution, can I apply to the scholarship?	22	For the postgraduate scholarship, if someone has not taken GATE will it affect their application process?
10	Can married students apply?	23	Can a student apply for a postgraduate scholarship if they have not taken the GATE exam?
11	Can an OCI or Non-resident Indian (NRI) student apply for scholarship even he/she is enrolled in an eligible degree programme, with eligible scores?	24	Do you have to study AI to be eligible for the scholarship? What if some degree programmes cover AI and CS but are not mentioned as eligible?
12	Am I allowed to accept scholarships or awards in conjunction with a Reliance Foundation Scholarship?	25	Is there any family income barrier for UG scholarship?
13	I previously received a Reliance Foundation Scholarship, I can apply for another one?		

Timings and Deadlines			
1	When is the deadline to submit my application?	3	Can I have an extension to my application?
2	When is the deadline to submit my reference letters?		

Reliance Foundation SCHOLARSHIPS

Application			
1	How long will it take me to complete the application?	9	How do I know that my application has been received?
2	What type of work experience are accepted?	10	How do I know if my application is complete?
3	What type of Community/service work are accepted?	11	What if I made a mistake in my application form?
4	What if my work experience is not related to the degree programme I want to study?	12	Is there a word limit for the essays?
5	I did not receive an activation or invitation email or a password to start the application. How can I retrieve it, and log in?	13	How are Reliance Foundation Scholars selected?
6	My internet browser crashes when I try to use the Scholarship application platform. What do I do? Can I submit a paper copy?	14	Could you throw some light on the overall selection process?
7	How is the application scored and who scores it?	15	As first year undergraduate, can we leave out the internship section of the application if we don't have one?
8	When will I be notified about the status of my application?	16	Can we fill the forms and save them partly and complete them gradually or do we need to fill everything in one go?

Supporting Documents			
1	What are the mandatory supporting documents for the undergraduate scholarship?	5	When do I have to upload all my supporting documents?
2	What are the mandatory supporting documents for the postgraduate scholarship?	6	Given Covid disruptions, what if students are encountering delays in getting hold of the required documents, for example official transcripts from their schools or universities?
3	I am in first year and our colleges have not yet given us the college ID. What documents can we provide as proof of enrolment?	7	What supporting documents should I provide for other Scholarships or stipends I have received (E.g. the GATE Scholarship/ Stipend)
4	Can I apply if I don't have a valid passport?	8	Do I need to submit proof of work experience, extra-curricular, and community work activities?

Reference Letters			
1	How do I submit reference letters in support of my application?	5	My referees are not competent in the English language. Can they submit the reference in their native language?
2	What is an academic reference/ letter?	6	Can I change the references listed in my application?
3	What is a character reference/ letter?	7	Do my reference letters need to be written on official letterhead?
4	Who should my reference letters be addressed to?	8	What should be included in my reference letters?

9	Can I write the reference on behalf of my referee if they don't have time to do it?	11	Who can write my academic reference letter? Who can write my character reference letter?
10	Who should write the reference letters?	12	What if my Referee has changed colleges since my graduation? Or if my referee has retired and is no longer working in my school? Can I still ask him to refer me?
Interviews			
1	What questions will be asked during the interview?	6	Do I need to have any documents with me for the interview?
2	How will the interview be conducted?	7	Will the interview be conducted in English?
3	What will be the duration of the interviews?	8	Do I have to prepare a presentation for the interview?
4	How will the interview be assessed?	9	Will there be any technical questions asked in the interview?
5	Who will be on the interview panel?	10	When will the interviews be conducted (tentative month)?
Scholarship Benefits			
1	What are the non- financial benefits that I will get with the scholarship?	3	What is the scholarship amount for the undergraduate programme?
2	If accepted, will I need to pay to be part of the Alumni network?	4	What is the scholarship amount for the postgraduate programme?
Funding			
1	What costs do the Reliance Scholarships cover?	3	What if I have paid a deposit to secure my place in the university I am attending? Can I get that reimbursed if I receive the scholarship?
2	Can I work whilst studying?	4	How are Reliance Foundation scholarships paid?
Further Questions			
1	What is required of selected Reliance Foundation scholar to maintain year-on-year eligibility?	4	My question can't be answered here. How can I get help?
2	When will Reliance Foundation scholarships be awarded?	5	What is expected of me if I get selected for the scholarship?
3	Are Reliance Foundation scholarships renewable?	6	How will the scholarship funds be given to PG students who are doing 3-year research degree programmes, or to UG students doing 5-year dual-degree programmes?
Appendix			
1	Eligible Degree Programme Types	2	Eligible Degree Programme Subjects

Reliance Foundation SCHOLARSHIPS

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Eligibility

1. **How do I know if I am eligible to apply?**
   Students must fulfil the following eligibility criteria in order to apply:
   - Be a resident Indian citizen
   - Currently enrolled full-time in an eligible degree and programme(subjects that fall within the fields of Artificial Intelligence/ Computer Sciences/ Mathematics & Computing/ Electrical and/or Electronics Engineering)
   - Fulfil the following academic criteria:
   - Undergraduate Scholarship:
     Students who secured a rank of 1-35000 in the JEE Main (Paper 1) Examination
   - Postgraduate Scholarship:
     - Students who secured a score of 550-1,000 in the GATE Examination

     OR
     - Students who have not attempted GATE and have scored 7.5 or above in their Undergraduate CGPA (or % normalised to CGPA)

2. **Which are the eligible institutes?**
   Students from all institutes are eligible to apply, subject to meeting the Scholarship's eligibility criteria.

3. **Which are the eligible programmes at undergraduate level?**
   Please see the Appendix for the full list of eligible degree types and programme subjects within the fields of Artificial Intelligence, Computer Sciences, Mathematics & Computing, and Electrical and/or Electronics Engineering. If your degree programme is not on the list, but you think it may qualify under the eligible subject areas for the scholarship: Computer Sciences / Artificial Intelligence / Mathematics & Computing / Electrical & Electronics Engineering, please email us at RF.scholarships@reliancefoundation.org and we will get back to you confirming if your programme is eligible or not.

   To check and confirm your eligibility, please complete the eligibility questionnaire in our website:www.scholarships.reliancefoundation.org

4. **Which are the eligible programmes at postgraduate level?**
   Please see the Appendix for the full list of eligible degree types and programme subjects within the fields of Artificial Intelligence, Computer Sciences, Mathematics & Computing, and Electrical and/or Electronics Engineering. If your degree programme is not on the list, but you think it may qualify under the eligible subject areas for the scholarship: Computer Sciences / Artificial Intelligence / Mathematics & Computing / Electrical & Electronics Engineering, please email us at RF.scholarships@reliancefoundation.org and we will get back to you confirming if your programme is eligible or not.

   To check and confirm your eligibility, please complete the eligibility questionnaire in our website: www.scholarships.reliancefoundation.org

5. **I failed the eligibility questionnaire but I believe I'm eligible. What can I do?**
   You must fulfil the eligibility criteria in order to pass the eligibility questionnaire and be able to apply. There are no exceptions for passing the eligibility questionnaire.

6. **What type of students are you looking for?**
   The Reliance Foundation Scholarships aim to support Indian talented youth through their studies. We are looking for candidates who are able to demonstrate excellence (academic and non-academic), leadership potential, integrity, community commitment, growth mind-set, and courage.

   The Reliance Foundation Scholarship will support the most exceptional undergraduate and postgraduate scholars studying an eligible degree programme in Artificial Intelligence, Computer Sciences, Mathematics & Computing, Electrical and/or Electronics Engineering. We will identify students who are uniquely positioned to sit at the forefront of India's technologically driven growth, and have the highest potential to become India's global future leaders.

7. **Can I apply for the scholarships more than once?**
   No, you cannot apply for the scholarships more than once.

8. **Do I need to have been accepted into a degree programme before I apply for the scholarship?**
   Yes, you need to be enrolled - in one of the enlisted eligible degree programmes, to apply for the scholarship.

9. **I am a second year student in an eligible institution, can I apply to the scholarship?**
   No, students have to be in their first year of their degree to apply for the scholarship.

10. **Can married students apply?**
    Yes, married students can apply if they fulfil the eligibility criteria.

11. **Can an OCI or Non-resident Indian (NRI) student apply for scholarship even he/she I enrolled in an eligible degree programme, with eligible scores?**
    No, the scholarship program this year, both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels is only open to Indian citizens currently residing in India (resident Indian residents).

12. **Am I allowed to accept scholarships or awards in conjunction with a Reliance Foundation Scholarship?**
    At the Undergraduate level: You are allowed to accept scholarships or awards in conjunction with a Reliance Foundation Scholarship.

    At the Postgraduate level: Scholars will be required to provide details of any financial benefits from other sources. The Scholarship Program policy will permit stipends from other sources of up to a maximum of Rs 15,000 per month during the scholarship period.

13. **I previously received a Reliance Foundation Scholarship, I can apply for another one?**
    Yes, you can apply for this scholarship if you have received a Reliance Foundation Scholarship before.

14. **How do I normalise my score from undergraduate percentage (%) to undergraduate CGPA?**
    Please use the conversion formula: undergraduate CGPA = undergraduate percentage of marks (%) divided by 9.5. (UG CPGA = UG % / 9.5).

15. **I did not receive an activation or invitation email or a password to start the application. How can I retrieve it, and log in?**
    You need to fill out the eligibility questionnaire in our website: www.scholarships.reliancefoundation.org. Once you verify that you fulfil the eligibility criteria and pass the questionnaire, an email will be triggered to you, with a link to the application portal and a one-time-password to begin, complete and submit your application.

16. **I have successfully submitted the eligibility questionnaire, yet haven't received the invitation email and OTP number on my registered mobile.**
    If you successfully filled the questionnaire, yet did not receive the invitation email with your login credentials and OTP, please check your email spam box, in case the invitation email and OTP landed there. Alternatively, we request that you try once more using a different email ID.

    If you are still encountering the same issue, please email us to RF.scholarships@reliancefoundation.org with your name, email id entered, name of the institute you are enrolled in, and the scholarship you applied for, and we will get back to you.

17. **I do Computer Sciences/ Artificial Intelligence/ Mathematics and Computing/ Electrical & Electronics as part of my degree programme but it's not part of the eligible programmes list. Am I eligible to apply for the scholarship?**
    Your main degree programme must be in the field of Computer Sciences and / or Artificial Intelligence, Mathematics & Computing, Electrical and/or Electronics Engineering.

    If your degree programme is not on the

list, but you think it may qualify under the eligible subject areas for the scholarship: Computer Sciences / Artificial Intelligence / Mathematics & Computing / Electrical & Electronics Engineering, please email us at RF.scholarships@reliancefoundation.org and we will get back to you confirming if your programme is eligible or not. If you are not enrolled in a Computer Sciences/ Artificial Intelligence/Mathematics & Computing/ Electrical and/or Electronics Engineering degree programme, but you take a course in one of these fields as part of your degree programme, you are not eligible to apply for the Scholarship (your main degree programme of study must be in one of the eligible fields).

Please fill out the eligibility questionnaire in our website to check whether you are eligible: www.scholarships.reliancefoundation.org

18. **I do only Artificial Intelligence as part of my programme but not Computer Sciences. Am I eligible?**
Please fill out the eligibility questionnaire in our website to check whether you are eligible: www.scholarships.reliancefoundation.org

19. **Can I apply for a scholarship using a deferred university offer?**
No, only students currently enrolled in the first year of an eligible undergraduate or postgraduate degree programme can apply.

20. **Will you consider the common rank or the category rank of the JEE?**
For the JEE Main Paper 1 rank, please use the Common Rank List (CRL) - All India Rank

21. **For an undergraduate scholarship, If someone has not taken the JEE Exams, are they eligible to apply?**
No, only those students who have a JEE Main Score are eligible to apply. Scores of any other entrance examination will not be accepted.

22. **For the postgraduate scholarship, if someone has not taken GATE will it affect their application process?**
No, those who have not taken the GATE can apply using their undergraduate CGPA score. Students who have not taken the GATE examination need a score of 7.5 or above in their Undergraduate CGPA to apply (or Undergraduate % normalised to CGPA). Please use the conversion formula: CGPA = % of marks / 9.5.

23. **Can a student apply for a postgraduate scholarship if they have not taken the GATE exam?**
Yes, Students who have not taken the GATE exam can apply with their Undergraduate CGPA scores (7.5 or above). Please use the conversion formula: CGPA = % of marks / 9.5 to arrive at your CGPA scores.

24. **Do you have to study AI to be eligible for the scholarship? What if some degree programmes cover AI and CS but are not mentioned as eligible?**
No, students don't need to be studying only AI to be eligible to apply. Currently only those first year students enrolled full-time in eligible degree programmes in Artificial Intelligence, Computer Sciences, Mathematics & Computing, Electrical and/or Electronics Engineering are eligible to apply. Please check the list of eligible degree types and programmes on our website: www.scholarships.reliancefoundation.org

25. **Is there any family income barrier for UG scholarship?**
There is no family income barrier for the UG scholarship. All students who meet the eligibility criteria on our website and pass the eligibility questionnaire will be invited to apply.

Timings and Deadlines

1. **When is the deadline to submit my application?**
The deadline for all applications is 11.59pm IST on Wednesday the 16th February 2022.

2. **When is the deadline to submit my reference letters?**
The deadline for referees to submit their references online is one week after the application deadline, 11.59pm IST on Wednesday, the 23rd February 2022.

3. **Can I have an extension to my application?**
No, we will not grant any exceptions to the scholarship application deadline.

Application

1. **How long will it take me to complete the application?**
We estimate that the main application form will take a couple of hours to fill. We request you to kindly read the Guidelines to Applicants and FAQs before starting your application, and prepare all your all supporting documents needed for submission. In addition, you are required to submit 2 reference letters as part of your application. We recommend that you give your referees at least 2 weeks to write and submit your letters, so it is important you start the process early. You will also need to submit two short essays as part of the application, which we expect will be carefully thought through and comprehensive in scope.

   The application form provides you with an option to save and continue at a later stage, so you will not have to complete the application in one go.

2. **What type of work experience are accepted?**
The types of work experience accepted include full time employment, part time employment, voluntary work, and paid or unpaid internships. Work experience can be completed before, during, or after graduating from your undergraduate studies (for the postgraduate scholarship) and before, during, or after high school (for the undergraduate scholarship).

3. **What type of Community/service work are accepted?**
Community/service work with a NGO/ grassroots organisation as a part of your school or college volunteering group/ National Service Scheme and other such contributions to the community will be accepted.

4. **What if my work experience is not related to the degree programme I want to study?**
We accept work experience from any field. Similarly, we accept and value any meaningful community and service work and contribution. If you are applying to the postgraduate scholarship and your degree programme choices are not related to your work experience or social work, you may want to explain why you are seeking to make a career change in your essays. Explore the transferrable skills you have gained, and how they will help you in your studies and with your future career goals.

5. **I did not receive an activation or invitation email or a password to start the application. How can I retrieve it, and log in?**
You need to fill out the eligibility questions in our scholarships website. Once you verify that you fulfil the eligibility criteria and pass the questionnaire, an email will be triggered to you with a link to the application portal and a one-time-password to begin, complete and submit your application.

6. **My internet browser crashes when I try to use the Scholarship application platform. What do I do? Can I submit a paper copy?**
All applications need to be submitted through the online application portal. Please ensure that you submit your application in advance to avoid last minute complications. The site will be best viewed in the latest version of Google Chrome which supports Windows, Mac and Linux platforms.

7. **How is the application scored and who scores it?**
A panel of external experts will be scoring the applications on the basis of the scholarship criteria and values. The expert panel will be made up of a combination of academic and professional individuals with a breadth of experience both in the technical fields and with soft-skill and leadership evaluations. The scoring and evaluation process will be highly robust and will adhere to the highest standards of neutrality and fairness. Please note that we use a plagiarism software to help us detect academic dishonesty and ensure originality and authorship of applications.

8. **When will I be notified about the status of my application?**
We will inform all candidates of the final decisions by June 2022.

9. **How do I know that my application has been received?**
You will receive an automated confirmation email once you submit your application.

Once you submit your duly filled application, you may get a pop up message on the screen, with your unique application number, you can also download the entire duly filled in Scholarship application form, in zip file format for your reference.

10. **How do I know if my application is complete?**
Before you submit your application, you will be able to verify that all the mandatory documents have been uploaded and that all the mandatory fields have been completed. The platform will point out any missing or incomplete fields, highlighted in red.

Alternatively, before you submit, go to My Application tab, click the download arrow, which will allow you to download your Application in PDF format, which you can then print to check all the details inputs for each section and make appropriate corrections if incorrect or change them use the edit icons above each section.

11. **What if I made a mistake in my application form?**
If you have made a mistake, unfortunately you cannot resubmit your application.

12. **Is there a word limit for the essays?**
There is a character limit of 4,000 characters for each essay.

13. **How are Reliance Foundation Scholars selected?**
The Reliance Foundation Scholarships will identify and select the best and brightest students in India through a rigorous and competitive selection process. We welcome applicants from all socio-economic backgrounds and scholarships will be granted on the basis of merit. Additional consideration may also be given to applicants from underprivileged sections of society and specially abled candidates.

14. **Could you throw some light on the overall selection process?**
The selection will be a two-step process, with each step being an elimination round:
- **Step 1:**
  Screening and shortlisting of applications along with document verification
- **Step 2:**
  Virtual interview of shortlisted candidates

15. **As first year undergrads, can we leave out the internship section of the application if we don't have one?**
Yes, we do not expect undergraduate applicants to have completed an internship before their first year of university.

16. **Can we fill the forms and save them partly and complete them gradually or do we need to fill everything in one go?**
Yes, you can fill the application form in parts. However, you will need to save your application every time to ensure that your inputs are not lost.

Supporting Documents

1. **What are the mandatory supporting documents for the undergraduate scholarship?**
- Passport photograph
- Address Proof (for address ticked as preferred physical correspondence address)
- Current Resume
- Marksheet of 10th Class Board Examination
- Marksheet of 12th Class Board Examination
- Marksheet of JEE Main Entrance Examination
- Bona fide Student Certificate of current college/ institution of enrolment, or Student ID Card
- 2 Reference Letters: 1 academic and 1 character

If Applicable:
- Experience certificate/ letter/s from work experience/ internships
- Official Disability Certificate
- Family Income Proof (Students with household income of 10 lakhs or less)

- Marksheet of JEE Advanced Entrance Examination

2. **What are the mandatory supporting documents for the postgraduate scholarship?**
   - Passport photograph
   - Address Proof (for address ticked as preferred physical correspondence address)
   - Current Resume
   - Marksheet of 10th Class Board Examination
   - Marksheet of 12th Class Board Examination
   - Official transcript/ Marksheet of your undergraduate degree
   - Bona fide Student Certificate of current college/ institution of enrolment, or Student ID Card
   - 2 Reference Letters: 1 academic and 1 character

If Applicable:
   - Experience certificate/ letter/s from work experience/ internships
   - Official Disability Certificate
   - Marksheet of GATE Entrance Examination

3. **I am in first year and our colleges have not yet given us the college ID. What documents can we provide as proof of enrolment?**
   You can apply using your college enrolment letter as a proof of your college admission if you haven't received your college ID yet. You can also provide your college fee receipt as an alternative to your student ID or enrolment letter.

4. **Can I apply if I don't have a valid passport?**
   Yes, you can apply even if you don't have a valid passport.

5. **When do I have to upload all my supporting documents?**
   You have to upload all the supporting documents on the Supporting documents tab, along with the application form within the application deadline, 11.59pm IST on Wednesday the 16th February 2022.

6. **Given Covid disruptions, what if students are encountering delays in getting hold of the required documents, for example official transcripts from their schools or universities?**
   You should provide whatever proof you can provide for now, for example marksheets where all semesters are mentioned, if you can't get hold of official transcripts in time; or an email confirming an internship, if an internship letter is not available. We understand that this year it is harder to get hold of official documentation. We may ask you to provide further proofs if you are selected for the scholarship in June 2022, by which time you should aim to retrieve all the official documentation needed.

7. **What supporting documents should I provide for other Scholarships or stipends I have received (e.g. the GATE Scholarship/ Stipend)?**
   At the Postgraduate level, scholars will be required to provide details of any financial benefits from other sources. The Scholarship Program policy will permit stipends from other sources of up to a maximum of Rs 15,000 per month during the scholarship period.

   Students can attach a scanned copy of the receipt of the scholarship/stipend received to date (e.g. of their GATE stipend), or if they haven't received the stipend yet, they can add the certificate or notification awarding the scholarship/stipend itself.

   The selected scholars may be required to provide declaration on utilisation of their total scholarship funds for various types of expenses.

8. **Do I need to submit proof of work experience, extra-curricular, and community work activities?**
   In instances where you mention work experience, including internships, you will need to provide supporting documents. You may submit a letter of experience/ employment/ appointment, or a certificate of experience/ employment/ appointment. For extra-curricular activities, community/ social work, awards, and publications, you do not need to provide supporting documents.

Reliance Foundation SCHOLARSHIPS

Reference Letters

1. **How do I submit reference letters in support of my application?**
   You must register your referees on the portal so that they can upload their recommendation letters directly into the application. Once you input each referee's information in the table and save it, an email will be triggered to them with a link to upload their letter. We recommend that you give referees at least 2-3 weeks to complete the recommendation letters. Referees will be able to access the Guidance to Referees within the Referee Portal.

   The deadline for referees to submit their references through the online portal is one week after the application deadline. It is your responsibility to ensure that referees submit their references online by the reference deadline, 11.59pm IST on Wednesday, the 23rd February 2022.

2. **What is an academic reference/ letter?**
   The academic reference should be from an academic who can comment in detail on your academic ability and how well they think you would do at the university you are applying to. They should have formally taught and graded you in your undergraduate or high school (or, if relevant, postgraduate) studies.

3. **What is a character reference/ letter?**
   The character reference should testify to your character and/or your involvement in extra-curricular/service or leadership activities. These referees should be persons who are able to speak in detail to your character and comment critically on whether your extra-curricular, non-academic requirements and leadership traits are aligned with the scholarship's criteria. The character referees need not necessarily be affiliated to your current university.

4. **Who should my reference letters be addressed to?**
   Referees may address their letters to the Scholarships Evaluation Committee. Please refer to the Guidance to Applicants and Guidance to Referees documents for more details.

5. **My referees are not competent in the English language. Can they submit the reference in their native language?**
   We only accept reference letters in English.

6. **Can I change the references listed in my application?**
   If you need to exclude a referee from your referee list, there is an option to do so by selecting the exclude option. If you exclude any referees, any letters they submit will not be reviewed and evaluated by our panellists. Once you exclude a referee, you may add another one in their place. Referees will have one week longer to submit their references after the application deadline. Please ensure that you submit 2 reference letters, 1 academic and 1 character, by the reference deadline, 11.59pm IST on Wednesday the 23rd February 2022. You may exclude and re-add another referee up to the reference deadline on the 23rd February 2022.

7. **Do my reference letters need to be written on official letterhead?**
   If your reference letters are being uploaded in PDF format, they do not need to be written on official letterhead and signed by the referee. The referee may also input his/ her letter directly into the text box in the platform.

8. **What should be included in my reference letters?**
   You must submit 2 letters in order for your application to be considered complete: one academic and one character letter. The academic reference letter comments on your academic ability and the character letter testifies your character and/or involvement in extra-curricular/service or leadership activities. Please refer to the Guidance to Applicants document for further details.

9. **Can I write the reference on behalf of my referee if they don't have time to do it?**
   No, you cannot write the reference on behalf of your referee. Please provide your referee with at least 2 weeks to complete your letters so that they are not pressed for time. It is your responsibility, to ensure that referees submit your letters, before the reference letter submission deadline.

Valid Academic Referee (Someone who has directly taught the applicant)	Valid Character Referee (Someone who has supervised or closely observed the applicant)	Invalid Referee
• High School Teacher • University Teacher • Coaching Institute Teacher (should not be blood relative / family member of applicant)	• Teacher as in previous column • Sports /Extra-curricular Activities Supervisor • Internship/Job Supervisor • Voluntary Activity Supervisor (should not be blood relative / family member of applicant)	• Family Member • Senior or Fellow Students • Person of Eminence who does not know the applicant • Employees of Reliance Foundation

10. **Who should write the reference letters?**
While it is useful to have someone with a known reputation in the field, the best criteria for recommendations is someone who knows your work and character extensively. We also advise mixing internal and external letters to demonstrate the breadth of your contacts. You may also contact a professional reference who knows you well.

11. **Who can write my academic reference letter? Who can write my character reference letter?**
Please see below some guidance on the types of people who we recommend should write your academic and character reference letters.

12. **What if my Referee has changed colleges since my graduation? Or if my referee has retired and is no longer working in my school? Can I still ask him to refer me?**
Yes, referees who have moved on from previous positions or who have retired are still valid as referees. You can put "ex- "or "former-"as their designation. E.g., "Former-professor" or "ex-supervisor". And you can also mention the former institution where he/she taught.

Interviews

1. **What questions will be asked during the interview?**
The interview will be an opportunity for us to delve deeper into some of the information you provided in your application. The panel will ask questions that will enable you to further explain how the Reliance Foundation Scholarship, will facilitate your career goals, elucidate your passion towards your chosen area of study and how it aligns with your future goals. The interview will also explore how you, your actions to-date and future aspirations reflect the Reliance Foundation Scholarships values of Excellence, Leadership Potential, Integrity, Community Commitment, Growth Mind-set, and Courage.

2. **How will the interview be conducted?**
The interviews will be conducted virtually over video call this year.

3. **What will be the duration of the interviews?**
Interviews will last for approximately half an hour.

4. **How will the interview be assessed?**
A panel of external experts will be conducting interviews on the basis of the scholarship criteria and values. The expert panel will be made up of a combination of academic and professional individuals with a breadth of experience both in the technical fields and with soft-skill and leadership evaluations. The interview scoring process will be highly robust and will adhere to the highest standards of neutrality and fairness. In view of the health and safety concerns, as well as travel restrictions prevalent across the country, we anticipate that the interviews will take place virtually via a video platform. Relevant details will be communicated to applicants shortlisted for the interview stage.

5. **Who will be on the interview panel?**
A panel of external experts made up of a combination of academic and professional

individuals with a breadth of experience both in the technical fields and with soft-skill and leadership evaluations.

6. **Do I need to have any documents with me for the interview?**
   No, you do not have to have any documents with you for the interview.

7. **Will the interview be conducted in English?**
   Yes, the interview will be conducted in English.

8. **Do I have to prepare a presentation for the interview?**
   No, you don't have to prepare a presentation for the interview.

9. **Will there be any technical questions asked in the interview?**
   We will be holding special webinar sessions for shortlisted students, to give them more tips on how to prepare. We will include communication techniques as well as the types of questions to prepare.

10. **When will the interviews be conducted (tentative Month)?**
    The interviews will be conducted in April - May 2022.

Scholarship Benefits

1. **What are the non- financial benefits that I will get with the scholarship?**
   Apart from financial support towards tuition fees, the scholars can utilise the scholarship amount for other activities such as participation in seminars, conferences etc. for professional development, purchase of IT equipment and books etc.

2. **If accepted, will I need to pay to be part of the Alumni network?**
   No, all Reliance Foundation Scholars will gain automatic access to the Alumni network.

3. **What is the scholarship amount for the undergraduate programme?**
   At the undergraduate level the total amount of scholarship available over the duration of the degree programme will be up to Rs /INR 4 Lakhs.

4. **What is the scholarship amount for the postgraduate programme?**
   At the postgraduate level the total amount of scholarship available over the duration of the degree programme will be up to Rs/INR 6 Lakhs.

Funding

1. **What costs do the Reliance Scholarships cover?**
   The scholarship will be contingent on utilization of the scholarship funds for tuition fee and other academic related expenses.

2. **Can I work whilst studying?**
   There are no scholarship restrictions on studying while working. Please disclose details of any current jobs, in the work experience section of the application.

3. **What if I have paid a deposit to secure my place in the university I am attending? Can I get that reimbursed if I receive the scholarship?**
   If you are selected for the scholarship, you may use the funds to pay for your academic tuition, including any deposits you may have already paid.

4. **How are Reliance Foundation scholarships paid?**
   By direct transfer into students' bank accounts.

Further Questions

1. **What is required of selected Reliance Foundation scholar to maintain year-on-year eligibility?**
   The disbursement of subsequent year's scholarship funds will be contingent on scholar meeting the following academic requirements. Satisfactory documentation must be provided to Reliance Foundation for these requirements on a yearly basis.
   - Full time enrolment in an undergraduate/ postgraduate programme in one of the eligible degree programme subjects.
   - Maintain good academic standing (defined as a GPA of 7.5, on a 10.0 scale, or equivalent).
   - Comply with the requirements set forth in Terms & Condition of the Scholarship Award, which are signed by scholars upon Scholarship acceptance.

2. **When will Reliance Foundation scholarships be awarded?**
Scholarship funds will be awarded annually. 80% of the scholarship funds will be awarded in advance at the start of the academic year for direct academic expenses including tuition fees. The remaining 20% will be awarded upon request for professional development purposes, including conference attendance. The final disbursement plan will be communicated to selected scholars.

3. **Are Reliance Foundation scholarships renewable?**
Reliance Foundation Scholarships are renewed every degree programme year. Please note that scholars will need to maintain and provide evidence of certain academic standards, in order to be eligible to renew their scholarship, each consecutive year.

4. **My question can't be answered here. How can I get help?**
If we haven't been able to answer your question, please reach out to us through email at: RF.scholarships@reliancefoundation.org

5. **What is expected of me if I get selected for the scholarship?**
Selected scholars will need to comply with the requirements set forth in scholarship Terms and Conditions signed upon acceptance. Two of the basic expectations are:
   - Maintain academic excellence year on year to avail the following years scholarship funds and
   - Maintain enrolment in the eligible degree programme

6. **How will the scholarship funds be given to PG students who are doing 3-year research degree programmes, or to UG students doing 5-year dual-degree programmes?**
The scholarship funds will be distributed over the duration of the programme. For postgraduate students who are taking 3-year research degree programmes, the 6 Lakhs will be distributed over the 3-year programme. For undergraduate students taking 5-year programmes the 4 Lakhs will be distributed over the 5-year programme. 80% of the scholarship funds will be granted in advance at the start of each academic year, to use for tuition and direct academic expenses. The remaining 20% of the funds will be granted upon request to support professional development purposes, including conference attendance. The final disbursement plan will be communicated to selected scholars.

Appendix

Eligible Degree Programme Types
(Undergraduate and Postgraduate)

- Bachelor of Engineering (B. E.)
- Bachelor of Science (B. Sc.)
- Bachelor of Technology (B. Tech.)
- Bachelor of Technology and Masters of Technology (B. Tech. and M. Tech. Dual Degree)
- Master of Engineering
- Master of Science (by Research) (M. Sc.)
- Master of Science (M. Sc.)
- Master of Technology (by Research) (M. Tech.)
- Master of Technology (M. Tech)
- Integrated Master of Science (Integrated M. Sc.)
- Integrated Master of Technology (Integrated M. Tech.)
- Bachelor of Engineering and Master of Engineering Dual Degree (B.E. and M.E. Dual Degree)
- Bachelor of Technology and Master of Science (B.Tech and M.Sc. Dual Degree)

Eligible Degree Programme Subjects
Undergraduate and Postgraduate degree programme subjects falling within the fields of Artificial Intelligence, Computer Sciences, Mathematics & Computing, Electrical and/or Electronics Engineering are eligible

- Applied Mathematics and Computing
- Applied Statistics and Data Analytics
- Artificial Intelligence
- Artificial Intelligence TA / self-sponsored
- Artificial Intelligence and Data Science
- Big Data and Data Analytics
- Cloud Computing
- Communication Engineering and Networks
- Communication Systems
- Communication Systems and Signal Processing
- Computational and Data Science
- Communication Engineering
- Computer and Communication Engineering
- Computer Applications
- Computer Engineering
- Computer Science
- Computer Science and Automation
- Computer Science and Data Processing

- Computer Science and Engineering - Artificial Intelligence
- Computer Science and Engineering - Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
- Computer Science and Engineering – Information Security
- Computer Science and Engineering (CSE)
- Computer Science and Engineering (Cyber Security)
- Computer Science and Engineering (Information Security)
- Computer Science and Engineering (Machine Learning)
- Computer Science and Engineering (Spl. in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning)
- Computer Science and Engineering (Spl. in Big Data Analytics)
- Computer Science and Engineering (Spl. in Cyber Physical Systems)
- Computer Science and Engineering (Spl. In Information Security)
- Computer Science and Information Security
- Computer Science and Technology
- Computer Technology
- Control and Automation
- Cyber Security
- Cyber Security Systems and Networks
- Data Analytics
- Data Science
- Data Science (flexible 3-4 year for self-sponsored only)
- Data Science and Engineering
- Digital Electronics and Communication
- Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Electrical and Electronics Engineering
- Electrical and Instrumentation Engineering
- Electrical Engineering
- Electronic System Design
- Electronics and Communication Engineering
- Electronics and Computer Engineering
- Electronics and Electrical Communication Engineering
- Electronics and Instrumentation Engineering
- Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering
- Electronics System Engineering
- Embedded Systems
- Embedded Systems Technology
- Energy Systems & Management
- Industrial Mathematics and Scientific Computing
- Information and Communications Technology
- Information Security
- Information Technology
- Instrumentation Engineering
- Instrumentation Engineering /Control System Engineering
- Instrumentation & Signal Processing Engineering
- Integrated Electronics and Circuits
- Mathematics and Computing
- Mathematics and Scientific Computing
- Mechatronics and Robotics
- Microelectronics
- Microwave and Radar Engineering
- Networks and Information Security
- Power Electronics
- Power Electronics & Drives
- Power Electronics, Electrical Machines and Drives
- Power Systems
- Robotics and Automation
- Signal & Image Processing
- Signal Processing
- Signal Processing and Machine Learning
- Software Engineering
- Statistics & Data Science
- Telecommunication
- Visual Information & Embedded Systems Engineering
- VLSI Design
- VLSI Design & Embedded Systems
- VLSI System
- VLSI Technology
- Wireless & Optical Communication
- Wireless & Mobile Communication Systems
- Wireless Networks & Applications

If your degree programme is not on the list, but you think it may qualify under the eligible subject areas for the scholarship: Computer Sciences / Artificial Intelligence / Mathematics & Computing / Electrical & Electronics Engineering, please email us at RF.scholarships@reliancefoundation.org and we will get back to you confirming if your programme is eligible or not.