

TERTIARY EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP TRUST FOR MALAWI (TEST)

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Web: www.testformalawi.org

2017/18 Annual Report



Dr. Franziska Meinck with some of the Students and Dean of Student at Bunda College

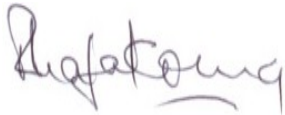
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Table of Contents

REMARKS FROM THE BOARD CHAIRMAN.....	3
1.0 INTRODUCTION.....	4
2.0 SCHOLARHIPS AWARDED DURING THE 2017/18.....	4
2.1 Number of scholarships awarded.....	4
3.0 FINANCIAL STATUS AND REQUEST FOR 2017/18.....	8
3.1 Financial request for scholarships during the 2018/19 Academic Year.....	8
3.2 TEST Administrative Costs.....	8
4.0 CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNT DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR.....	9
5.0 CONCLUDING REMARKS.....	9

REMARKS FROM THE BOARD CHAIRMAN

TEST for Malawi (T4M) continues to be one of the reliable high education scholarships in the country. During this academic of 2017/18 TEST Malawi sponsored 85 bright needy students from various public universities in the country of which 53% were males and 47% are females. All this has been achieved due to the continued support from TEST for Africa, Dr Harry L Porter Foundation and Dr Keith Keith Lloyd and Family and the all the T4M Trustees. TEST for Malawi Trustees have worked very hard to ensure quality in administering the scholarship. The government through the Ministry of Education Science and Technology, and all the University Colleges, parents and guardians of the TEST scholars hail the support T4A is providing to the Malawi's education system. On behalf of T4M Trustees I would like to thank T4A for its continued support and helping us to move this far.



Robert Kafakoma
T4M Board Chairman

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The 2017/18 academic year is another great year for TEST for Malawi. During the reporting period 85 scholarships were awarded to bright and needy students in public universities of which 53% and 47% are males and female students respectively. T4M is thankful to TEST for Africa (T4A) and their various cooperating partners for their help and support to achieve this fit during this academic year. The profile and publicity of the scholarship continue to increase as many prospective students are able to access information about the scholarship on the internet, in both print and electronic media. This has resulted in the increase of the number of applications and phone calls to ask for information about the scholarship. The Board of Trustees for T4M has remained committed despite their busy schedules and has helped the organization to profile itself as one of the reliable scholarship organizations and key stakeholder in the higher education sector in Malawi

This report summarizes progress achieved and the challenges the institution faced during the 2017/18 academic the year.

2.0 SCHOLARHIPS AWARDED DURING THE 2017/18

2.1 Number of scholarships awarded

During the reporting period, T4M received over 3500 applications for scholarships from public universities. Out of the many applicants, the Board of Trustees made a decision to only award 85 scholarships to bright needy continuing students. The increase in tuition fees in the public universities contributed to the high number of applications. Over the past year the Government established the Higher Education Loans Board which is providing loans to students in higher education institutions both public and private. However access to these loans is highly competitive and selective to an extent that only few students are accessing the loans and the budget is small compared to the demand. T4M Trustees decided to provide scholarships to only those students that have not accessed the Loans from the Higher Education Loan Board. This entailed working very closely with the colleges in particular their various finance departments to provide information of students that have accessed the loans from the Loans Board. Using this information T4M was able to select those students that are really needy but bright and on the verge of dropping out of school due lack of tuition fees. T4M recognize that the students require tuition, upkeep, accommodation, book allowance and other necessities but with the limited resources and advice from the management from the Universities, the T4M scholarship only cutters for tuition fees. There has been two cases where the particular sponsor like Dr HL Porter Foundation requested T4M to provide upkeep allowance to its 2 students on semester basis. T4M has ensured that this has been complied to. Below is table 1 is a summary of T4M scholars during the 2017/18 academic year.

Table 1 Summary of Current TEST Scholars by Institution.

Name of Institution	Male	Female	Total	% of Total
Kamuzu Collage of Nursing	2	10	12	14
Mzuzu University	4	2	6	7
Medical College	7	1	8	9
Chancellor College	12	9	21	25
LUANAR(Bunda College)	6	11	17	20
MUST(Malawi University of Science and Technology)	7	2	9	11
Malawi Polytechnic	7	5	12	14
Total	45	40	85	100

Males= 53%

Females =47%

From the table above it can be seen that Chancellor College and Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) had 25% and 20% of the students respectively while Kamuzu College of Nursing and Malawi Polytechnic have the least number of students. This is because during the 2016/17 more students from Kamuzu College of Nursing and the other colleges completed their courses and have since graduated and T4M decided not to sponsor new students from those institutions. Below in table 2 is a summary of TEST scholars by institution during the 2017/18 academic year.

Table 2 List of T4M Scholars during 2017/18 Academic Year

Mzuzu University				
NO	STUDENT NAME	GENDER	PROGRAMME	YEAR
1	Isaac Kaudzu	M	BS Hospitality Management	2
2	Edger Nkhoma	M	BS Education	3
3	Dorica Phambana	F	BS Nursing	4
4	Aliness Chikopa	F	BS Education	4
5	Lloyd Nkhoma	M	BS Education	1
6	Benn Mulumbe	M	BSc Education	2
College of Medicine				
7	Tuntufye Sichinga	M	MLS Foundation	1
8	Simeon Mbamira	M	MLS Foundation	1
9	Mureko Charles	M	MBBS Foundation	1
10	Moses White	M	Pharmacy Foundation	1
11	Everess Nambuzi	F	physiotherapy Foundation	1
12	Christopher Khungwa	M	MLS	4
13	Kondwani Msofi	M	Physiotherapy	4
14	Nathan Jere	M	Physiotherapy	3
Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST)				
15	Charles Kapalamula	M	Technology Development	2

16	Desire Mtokoma	M	Technology Development	3
17	Noel Nkhoma	M	Chemical Engineering	2
18	Muza Lupia	M	Earth Sciences	2
19	Noel Mwambetani	M	Metallurgy & Material	3
20	Kelvin Posiyano	M	Engineering	2
21	Maureen M. Valle	F	Biomedical Engineering	2
22	Set N. Henry	F	Meteorology and Climate change	2
23	Chisomo Phiri	M	Disaster and Risk Management	1
Kamuzu College of Nursing				
24	Loyce Chaphaka	F	Nursing	3
25	Onester Nsinja	F	Nursing	3
26	Regnat Zimba	F	Mental Health	3
27	Omenga Mzanga	F	Adult Health Nursing	3
28	Dominic Mitengo	M	Nursing	4
29	Isaac Zeka	M	Nursing	4
30	Triza Kalimbakatha Banda	F	Nursing	2
31	Memory Chioza	F	Nursing	2
32	Catherine Dzoole	F	Nursing	2
33	Catherine Lingawo	F	Nursing	2
34	Amina Banda	F	Nursing	2
35	Charity Laurent	F	Nursing	2
Malawi Polytechnic				
36	Silica Martin	M	Accountancy	3
37	Malindima Violet F	F	Journalism	3
38	Chiphamba Sandress	M	Civil Engineering	3
39	Msango Salome C	F	Physical Planning	5
40	Simbeye Edward P	M	Business Communication	4
41	Mark Khuleya	M	Business Communication	3
42	Chimwemwe Chisambi	F	Quantity Surveying	5
43	Willson Haswel L	M	Environmental Health	3
44	Banda Demetria	F	Information Technology	3
45	Willson Thokozile D	M	Business Communication	3
46	Lucy Ngoma	F	Bachelor of Business Communication	2
47	Patrick Chimtika	M	Civil Engineering	5
Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR)				
48	Agness Kamwana	F	Enterprise Development & Microfinance	3
49	Billy Mkwezalamba	M	Agriculture Engineering	3
50	Memory Msichire	F	Agriculture Economic	3
51	Marth Msowoya	F	Irrigation Engineering	3

52	Roosevelt Mulenga	M	Environmental Science	3
53	Comfort Chabwela	F	Enterprise Development & Microfinance	3
54	Febbie Mwanga	F	Agriculture Education	3
55	Ephraim Phiri	M	Agribusiness Management	3
56	Jean Manda	F	Agriculture Engineering	4
57	Pemphelo Timothy Mary	F		3
58	Phangera Mbeya	F	Agriculture Extension	2
59	Ioveness Kanyika	F	Agriculture Education	4
60	Judith Ngwala	F	Forestry	
61	Christina Kimu	F	Wildlife & Ecotourism	4
62	Gabriel Mwale	M	Agriculture & Applied Economics	3
63	Mofolo Khumalo	M	Land & Water Resources Management	4
64	Steven Kampira	M	Land & Water Resources Management	4
Chancellor College				
65	Iman Fortunate	F	Social Science	2
66	Sani Martha	F	Humanities	2
67	Silombela Maurine	M	Education Science	2
68	Staslous Bephia	F	Social studies	2
69	Stambuli Suwedi	M	Social Science	2
70	Mofolo Maria	M	Languages	2
71	Dymon Gryceria	F	Development Studies	2
72	Kapeya Gibison	M	Humanities	1
73	Banda Shadreck	M	Social studies	2
74	Mangulenje Emmanuel	M	Education Science	2
75	Ngoma Simeon	F	Public Administration	1
76	Sabina Malimbasa	F	Education Science	4
77	Peter Matsinde	M	Law	4
78	Jones Limbani Chiwalo	M	Law	3
79	Angella Bwilani	F	Education Science	3
80	Chisale Micheal	M	Education Science	2
81	Chigamba Lucy	F	Art & Communication	2
82	Chelani Allan	M	Social Science	2
83	Hara Brian Sanderson	M	Social Science	4
84	Rhonnix Hastings	F	Social Science	1
85	Mankhokwe O	M	Education Science	2

3.0 FINANCIAL STATUS AND REQUEST FOR 2017/18

3.1 Financial request for scholarships during the 2018/19 Academic Year

The financial request for 2018/19 comprises two parts. The first part is for the scholarships and the second part is for the administration of TEST which is kindly supported by Dr. Keith Lloyd and Family. Upon the advice from the Auditors T4M is operating four Bank Accounts with National Bank of Malawi. The banks accounts comprise three Foreign Currency Denominated Accounts and one local currency account. The FCDA accounts are specifically used for the scholarships and the Malawi Kwacha account is used for the administration of T4M. Money for scholarships is transferred directly to the Universities upon receipt of an invoice and in line with the number of approved scholars of that particular institution. The money is however converted to the local currency before being transferred to the colleges for tuition fees.

During the 2018/19, T4M is expected to maintain the same number of scholars (85) as of 2017/18 despite the increased number of applications for scholarship. During the reporting period only 8 students are expected to finish their courses and graduate. T4M has already received over 1500 new applications for scholarships however the Trust will only consider proving 8 new scholarships and the rest will be continuing students. However, during the 2019/20 the number of students finishing their courses and graduating is expected to increase significantly. It is at that particular time that an increased number of new students will be considered for sponsorship.

This year therefore T4M request the same level of financing **BP25, 000.00** (Twenty-five thousand British Pounds) from T4A.

3.2 TEST Administrative Costs

Below in table 3, is a summary of the expected administration costs during the 2018/19 academic year. Because of the increased pressure of work in operating the organization, TEST recruited an Administrative Assistant to support the operations of the Trust. Currently Training Support for Partners (TSP) is providing office space and other accessories for T4M. In addition, TEST intends to constantly organize interaction meetings with the TEST scholars in the Colleges as well as with the TEST Alumni. Currently an e-based discussion group for TEST alumni has been created. Some of the TEST Alumni have indicated their willingness to provide financial support to T4M either in form of scholarship or to cover some administrative costs. However this has not materialized yet hence the need for more interaction with the Alumni.

Table 4 Administrative budget for TEST 2018/19

Item	Unit Cost	Total (MK)
Personnel		
Admin Assistant	150000	1800000
Equipment and Supplies		
Stationery	450000	450000
Internet and phones	100000	100000
Toner cartridges	350000	350000
Publicity and awareness activities		

Transport to the colleges	450,000.00	450,000.00
Total		3,150,000.00
Less available funds		195,000.00
Total Request		2,955,000.00
		BP3000.00

Exchange rate: K990= 1 BP

4.0 CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNT DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR

A number of challenges and lessons were learnt during the 2017/18 reporting period including the following:

- There has been slow response from the colleges in regards to provision of pieces of information such as student profiles. More often the students and the colleges do not respond on time when asked about pieces of information such as profiles, examination results and others. It is expected that this problem will be sorted out since TEST has an Administrative Assistant who will be visiting the colleges and also strengthen communication with the students and the colleges.
- The increase in University fees has an effect on the number of students TEST can support this year even though the pressure for scholarship has increased. Due to limited financial resources TEST maintained almost the same number of scholars and will continue with the same number of students during the 2018/19 academic and possible consider supporting at least 8 new students if the budget is approved.
- Some of the TEST Alumni has expressed willingness to contribute towards the noble course of T4M through provision of various materials and financial support. One of the former medical student has shown interest to provide funds for a least one scholarship but this has not yet materialized. There is need however to continue discussing and encouraging the Alumni to ensure that more could come forward to support the needy and bright students in the colleges.

5.0 CONCLUDING REMARKS

This has been another great year for T4M. The visit by the TEST for Africa Chairman Dr Keith Lloyd and Dr. Franziska Meinck who assisted in the development of the TEST for Africa Safeguard Policy boosted the morale of many students and team work amongst the T4M Trustees. The demand for scholarships continues to increase even though the government has established a Loan Board for Higher Education which apparently is not fully benefiting all the deserving students. T4M is thankful to the Dr. Harry L. Porter Foundation, Fund Raiser and all those that provided financial support to enable the Trust provide scholarship to the needy in Malawi.