

# Financial Aid for Further Education

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## INTRODUCTION

Continuing your post-SPM studies offers numerous advantages and significantly improves your chances of getting a higher salary. Nevertheless, one of the most challenging obstacles encountered by students contemplating further education is the financial burden caused by rising costs. One of the ways to lessen this financial burden is by applying for financial aid or scholarships. While some scholarships are contingent upon academic excellence or straight As in SPM, there are also provisions for others. Check out the list below to see which scholarships and financial aid align most closely with your aspirations and circumstances!



### Top Tips:

It is much easier now to find information regarding scholarships and financial aid online, and not all of these require Straight As in SPM or above average grades. Regardless of your results, background or household income level, there are lots of options available to you. Don't give up, just keep researching!



## GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AIDS

### 1. Program Dermasiswa B40 (For Vocational courses)

Program Dermasiswa B40 in Malaysia was founded in order to reduce the financial burden of students from low-income families so that they can further their education. This financial aid is focused on Diploma courses related to TVET (Technical and Vocational Education and Training) in Public Universities, Polytechnic Institutions and Skills Training Institutions (Institut Latihan Kemahiran Awam).

In order to qualify for this financial aid, one must be a Malaysian citizen whose **household income** is in the B40 Category and must be currently enrolled in a Diploma programme in Malaysia. Aside from that, students must also maintain a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 3.0 in their diploma. The application period for Program Dermasiswa B40 is closed for 2023 but make sure to check the JPA [website](#) in 2024 and beyond for the next application deadlines and frequently asked questions (FAQs)!

### 2. State Education Funding - Example: Tabung Kumpulan Wang Biasiswa Negeri Selangor (TKWBNS)

Different states in Malaysia also have different fundings and loans available for further education. One example is Selangor, which has a Tabung Kumpulan Wang Biasiswa Negeri Selangor (TKWBNS). This fund was established by the Selangor Government with the goal of providing funding in the form of an interest free loan to students from Selangor.

The funding given ranges from **RM4,000 to RM7,000** a year based on the type of course you choose to study. In order to apply for the loan, one must be a Malaysian who was born in Selangor, or whose parents were born in Selangor and have been residents in Selangor for over 10 years. Students will be expected to begin repaying their loans 6 months after they have completed their studies. For more information about the Selangor State Education Fund, check out their [website](#) for more details and FAQs.

Some of the other **state education funds** in Malaysia include:

- [Sabah State Education Fund](#)
- [Sarawak State Government Scholarship](#)
- [Melaka State Education Trust Fund](#)
- [Penang/Kelantan/Terengganu](#) State Education Loans
- [Geran Bantuan Yayasan Pahang](#)

## PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

### 3. Hong Leong Foundation Scholarships

Aside from government financial aid, many private organisations also provide scholarships and aid for students in Malaysia. One such organisation is Hong Leong Foundation. For students planning to study a Diploma or Degree in Malaysia, Hong Leong Foundation offers between **RM6,000 to RM32,000 per year** depending on your course and institution.

In order to apply for this scholarship, students need to be Malaysian citizens between the age of **17 - 25 years old** and score a minimum of 8As in SPM. Interested students can apply through the Hong Leong Foundation [website](#) which also provides more details and FAQs regarding the scholarship. Applications start on the **1st of April** every year and ends by **31st May**.

### 4. Bank Rakyat - Pembiayaan Pendidikan Boleh Ubah (PPBU)

PPBU is an education Loan offered by Yayasan Bank Rakyat for underprivileged Malaysians who wish to further their education in Malaysia. PPBU is offered for a wide variety of courses such as Skill Certificates, Diplomas, Degrees, Masters and PhDs. Priority for this funding is given to those from B40 backgrounds, and one of the attractive highlights of this loan is that if you score a CGPA of 3.5 and above, you are exempted from repaying the loan! Adding on, if you score between CGPA 3.33 - 3.49, you only need to pay back **10%** of the loan amount! Further discounts and exemptions are available and full details can be found on their website.

Loan amounts vary between **RM4,920** and **RM18,600** depending on your choice of course. Students can apply for this loan through the Yayasan Bank Rakyat [website](#) which also lists out more details and FAQs about the loan. Applications are open at different times of the year, so make sure to check the website frequently for the latest updates!

Some of the other **private organisations** offering scholarships and financial aid in Malaysia include:

- [Kuok Foundation](#)
- [The Palan Foundation](#)
- [Yu Cai Foundation](#)
- [Yayasan Sime Darby](#)
- [Genting Malaysia Scholarship Award](#)



### Top Tips:

An important consideration when agreeing to private scholarships or financial aid is the bonding criteria and period. While private organisations offer good aid, scholars might be required to work in the organisation upon graduation for several years. Though this may be a benefit for some people, it can limit your choices post-graduation as well.

## EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS' SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

### 5. UCSI University Trust Financial Assistance

If you're looking for financial aid or a scholarship but you **didn't score straight As** in SPM, this could be a great option for you! Students who come from **less privileged backgrounds** (such as from rural areas in Malaysia, low income families, single parent families, OKU individuals, or if you face any challenging circumstances) are eligible to receive financial assistance to study a Diploma at UCSI University. Successful applicants will receive a **50% discount** on their tuition fees!

In order to apply, interested students must submit their application through the UCSI website before their Diploma intake begins. In order to maintain the tuition fee waiver,



students must maintain a CGPA of 2.5 throughout their semesters. For more details and the application form, check out the UCSI [website](#). Diploma programmes in UCSI have different application periods throughout the year, so make sure to apply in time for the financial aid!

## 6. University of Technology Sarawak (UTS) Bursary Schemes

If you're a citizen of Sarawak, we have good news for you! UTS offers discounts on tuition fees if you are from B40 and M40 families! If you fall under this category, UTS offers an **80% discount** on tuition fees for Degree Programmes. In order to be eligible for this, students need to score at least a 2.0 CGPA for their Pre-University programme. There are also **100% bursaries** available for Foundation (Pre-University) programmes! The deadline for registration of these bursaries is within 2 weeks of your Course Registration date! For more information, check out the UTS [website](#)!

Some of the other financial aid and scholarships offered by educational institutions in Malaysia include:

- [MMU Scholarships & Financial Aid](#)
- [UNITAR Funding and Scholarships](#)
- [Asia Pacific University Merit Awards & Scholarships](#)
- [Sunway Scholarships & Financial Aid](#)



### Top Tips:

Many educational institutions offer discounts or financial aid. However, it is important for students to fully explore and understand the terms and conditions before committing to any of them. Important considerations include:

- 1) Duration of the financial aid/scholarship
- 2) Academic requirements to maintain the scholarship
- 3) Termination procedures