

SPECIAL ISSUE

Garissa County Gazette Supplement No. 8 (Acts No. 5)



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REPUBLIC OF KENYA

**GARISSA COUNTY GAZETTE
SUPPLEMENT**

ACTS, 2014

NAIROBI, 28th October, 2014

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THE GARISSA COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP ACT, 2014

No. 5 of 2014

Date of Assent: 22nd October, 2014

Date of Commencement: 11th November, 2014

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GARISSA COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP ACT, 2015

AN ACT of the County Assembly of Garissa to make provision for the establishment of the County Scholarship Fund and for connected purposes

ENACTED by the County Assembly of Garissa as follows—

PART I—PRELIMINARY**Short Title and Commencement**

1. This Act may be cited as the Garissa County Scholarship Act, 2014.

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

“County” means the County Government of Garissa;

“County Assembly” means the County Assembly of Garissa County;

“Fund” means the County Scholarship Fund established under section 4 of this Act;

“County Executive Committee Member” means the County Executive Member for the time being responsible for matters relating to finance; and

“financial year” means the period of twelve months ending on thirtieth day of June.

“Priority area courses” means Engineering, Health Sciences, Actuarial Science, Architect, Education and Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET)

Object of Act

3. The objects of this Act are —

- (i) To encourage and support learning in the field of Sciences and the development of technical skills;
- (ii) Develop professional and technical skills and create opportunities for local employment;
- (iii) Rationalize training programmes with a view to giving the youth in the County comparative advantage in Kenya and beyond;
- (iv) Encourage the best students to undertake training in County and National priority areas;
- (v) Seek allocation of more funds to specialized study areas.

PART II—SCHOLARSHIP FUND**Establishment of the County Scholarship Fund**

4. (1) There is established a Fund to be known as the Garissa County Scholarship Fund.

(2) The Fund shall consist of —

- (a) Monies appropriated by the County Assembly; and
- (b) Grants and donations made into the Fund

Purpose of the Fund

5. The purpose of the Fund is to enable payments to be made in respect of bright and needy students within the County qualified to pursue the courses in priority areas. This will include those students who have completed the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education and who qualify as well as those already in institutions of higher learning already pursuing the priority area courses.

Power of County Executive Committee Member

6. (1) The County Executive Committee Member may approve payments to be made from the Fund only if satisfied that —

- (a) there is need for payment to be made out of the Fund and due process was followed in selecting the bright and needy students who qualify for the scholarship; and
- (b) the award of scholarship is intended to meet the needs of the County in priority areas.

Fund Management Committee

7. (1) There shall be the Garissa County Scholarship Fund Management Committee.

(2) The Management Committee shall comprise-

- (a) seven members nominated by the County Executive Member each member representing a sub-county; and
- (b) an officer of the County seconded to the County Scholarship Fund Management Committee by the County Executive Member who shall be an ex-officio and shall serve as a Secretary to the Management Committee.

(3) The names of the Management Committee members shall be forwarded to the County Assembly for approval.

(4) The seven persons appointed under subsection 2 (a) shall elect a chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson of the Management Committee from among themselves.

(5) The Management Committee shall serve office for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-appointment for one further term.

(6) A member of the committee may be removed from office on any one or more of the following grounds—

- (a) lack of integrity;
- (b) gross misconduct;
- (c) embezzlement of public funds;
- (d) bringing the image of the committee into disrepute through unbecoming personal public conduct;
- (e) promoting unethical practices;
- (f) causing disharmony within the committee;
- (g) physical or mental infirmity.

(7) A decision to remove a member under subsection (6) may be made through a resolution of at least five members of the Committee and the member sought to be removed shall be given a fair hearing before the resolution is made.

(8) A vacancy arising as a result of removal, resignation or death of a member shall be filled in the manner set out in subsections (2) and (3).

Eligibility Criteria

8. The Scholarship shall be issued to the bright and needy students who has qualified for any of the priority courses based on the following criteria —

- (i) Applicants must be Kenyan National and bonafide resident of Garissa County;
- (ii) Has completed Secondary Level Education and has in his possession, a leaving certificate and a result slip from the Kenya National Examinations Council;
- (iii) Demonstrate financial need;
- (iv) Has obtained admission in the University, College or a TVET institution registered and approved by the Ministry of Higher Education and Technology;
- (v) Write an essay of not more than 250 words, highlighting facts about self, academic performance, chosen field of study and reasons and how he or she thinks can contribute

to the development of the Garissa County, his or her career objectives and future goals;

- (vi) The applicant should not have benefited from any other scholarship for the same course or programme;
- (vii) Provide a letter of reference and a complete application form for the Scholarship;
- (viii) The applicant must be willing to work in Garissa County upon completion of his or her course; and

For the continuing students, they shall submit to the management committee all the necessary documents from the institution of learning including a letter from the University confirming that the student is taking his or her studies from that institution.

Scholarship funds.

9. The funds shall be disbursed directly to the institutions of higher learning in which the student(s) is admitted once the necessary details have been submitted and verified accordingly.

Allocation of the Scholarship funds

10. (1) The County Executive Member, with the concurrence of the relevant Assembly Committee, shall for each financial year allocate not less than 35 million Kenya Shillings towards the Scholarship Fund.

(2) The Management Committee shall allocate KSh. 500,000 to each Ward in the County from the fund in respect of the general amount allocated under sub-section (1). The funds so allocated to the Wards shall specifically benefit students from the Wards and be disbursed by the Management Committee.

(3) The remainder of the funds shall be allocated to students across the County fairly based on the eligibility criteria set out by Section 8 of the Act.

(4) Once funds are allocated to a particular Ward, it shall remain allocated to that Ward and shall be cumulative and carried forward from one financial year to the next.

Approval of County Assembly

11. (1) The County Executive Committee Member shall notify the County Assembly in writing within two months after payment is made out of the Fund.

(2) If the County Assembly is not sitting during the period referred to in sub-section (1) and the County Executive Committee Member has not sought the approval of the County Assembly before the end of that period, the County Executive Committee Member shall seek the approval

of the County Assembly for the payment within fourteen days after it next sits.

(3) As soon as practicable after the County Assembly has approved the payment, the County Executive Committee Member shall arrange for an Appropriation Bill to be introduced into the County Assembly for the appropriation of the money paid and for the replenishment of the Fund to the extent of the amount of the payment.

Financial Statement.

12. (1) Within three months after the end of each financial year, the County Treasury shall prepare and submit to the Auditor-General a financial statement in respect of the Fund for that year.

(2) The financial statement prepared under subsection (1) shall include the following information—

- (a) the date and the amount of each payment;
- (b) the respective students to whom the payment was made;
- (c) the purpose for which the payment was made; and
- (d) whether the student(s) to whom the payment was made utilised the money for that purpose and a statement made to that effect.

Regulations

13. The County Executive Committee Member may make regulations for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Act.