

TAR UMT's Financial Aid – A Boon to Students



Sheryl Ho Xin Yi

AT Tunku Abdul Rahman University of Management and Technology (TAR UMT), we believe everyone should have an equal chance to pursue quality and affordable education including students from underprivileged families. This institution has been offering various kinds of financial aid for students to help lighten their parents' financial burden and this could not be more crucial especially post pandemic.

There are many types of financial aid available at TAR UMT. One of them is the TAR UMT Student Loan Fund. It is high-in-demand because it is interest free and the loan covers the entire tuition fees of the recipients. To date, there are 119 interest-free revolving student loan funds and since its inception in 1979, close to 15,000 interest-free loans have been awarded to date, with more than RM57 million disbursed.

Among the many recipients of the Student Loan Fund, Sheryl Ho Xin Yi who benefited from the TARC – Toh Kim Eng Student Loan Fund had much to say about it. "Ever since I got the student loan fund, I did not have to worry about whether I would be able to pay my class fees when the new semester comes. I still did part-time work from time to time to make a better living, but thanks to the loan, I had less stress and more rest time, which gave me more energy and time to focus on my studies and complete my assignments," she said.

Sheryl comes from a single-parent family and the financial situation in her household was not positive when she first joined TAR UMT.

"My mother did her best to pay for my food expenses and rental fees, but the semester fees were a bit too heavy for us. I initially applied for the PTPTN loan but my application was not successful. I went for counselling at the Department of Student Affairs (DSA) at TAR UMT and that is when they suggested I apply for the Student Loan Fund," she said.

Another financial aid option is the TAR UMT PRIHATIN Flexi Payment Plan which aims to bring financial relief to students by providing greater flexibility in the first-semester fees payment, where students only make an initial payment of RM263 to begin their tertiary education at TAR UMT. The balance of fees shall be paid by instalment up to Week 5 or 9 of study, depending on the intake. This plan is offered to students who have received offers of admission for Foundation, Diploma and Bachelor Degree programmes for all 2023 intakes.

Besides that, there are many scholarships or bursaries available for those who are qualified. Some of it include The Star Education Fund, Sin Chew Daily Education Fund, Nanyang Tertiary Education Fund, TAR UMT – TAA Scholarship, TAR UMT Scholarships and Grants for Students TAR UMT – TAA Scholarship (Top Glove), TAR UMT–JINBODHI Bursary, TAR UMT Sports Scholarship and Bursary for state/national players.

Apart from that, as part of their philanthropic efforts, many corporations and organisations extend their help to deserving TAR UMT students by providing scholarships and grants, namely Yayasan Ann Joo Undergraduate Scholarship, Hotayi Scholarship, Kuok Foundation Study Grants and C Y Tan Foundation, just to name a few.

Kishern A/L Asok Kumar, a bursary recipient of the TAR UMT-JINBODHI Bursary shared his experience in applying for the bursary.

"I managed to obtain this bursary for the entire duration of my studies from my Diploma right up to Bachelor's degree, which spans over four years in total. I applied for the bursary and submitted the necessary forms and files to DSA. I was then informed that I was shortlisted and was required to attend an interview. I went through the interview and was asked various questions as to why I deserve the bursary. After that, I was informed that I had been chosen to receive the TAR UMT-JINBODHI Bursary."

"At first, I was apprehensive in applying for the bursary but my financial burden left me with no choice. I am glad I decided to go for it as I was much more focused on my studies and I was really happy because I did not have to work part-time to sustain myself. With that, I could concentrate on doing well at University," he said.

For students who scored excellent academic results, they will stand to benefit from the TAR UMT Merit Scholarship. The generous scholarship which covers up to 100% waiver of tuition fees will be awarded automatically based on academic merit. Up until now, 62,778 students have been awarded the merit scholarship amounting to a total of approximately RM186.5 million.

TAR UMT also offers financial incentive such as sibling discount as a form of additional support to parents with two or more children studying at TAR UMT. Under the sibling discount, students registering for the first time and with sibling(s) who are full-fee-paying student(s) in the same semester may be eligible for a discount of RM1,000 off their first semester tuition fee.

For more information about the various programmes offered at TAR UMT and to apply online, visit www.tarc.edu.my. You can also call 0111 087 5854.

