

CIRCULAR NO. 6(a)

Grade 10

16th March 2026

Dear Parents/Students

Please find below, a circular from the educational authorities together with an Eligibility Conditions Form to be completed and returned to this office by **Wednesday 18th March 2026**.

Payment of October/November 2027 SC/GCE 'O' Level/ NSC Examination Fees

Eligibility Conditions

1. Government will meet the full cost of the **October/November 2027 Cambridge SC/GCE 'O' Level examination fees** and that of **the National School Certificate (NSC) examination fees, for Grades 10 and 11 school candidates** who are attending State, Private Grant-Aided and Private Fee-Paying Secondary Schools registered with the PSEA and who are sitting for the above examinations for the **first time**.

2. The above is subject to

(i) the candidate having an attendance level of at **least 90%** and other eligibility conditions as detailed below; and

(ii) the candidate **NOT** exceeding the **age of 21** by 31 December 2027.

3. The measure is applicable to school candidates sitting for the October/November 2027 SC/GCE 'O' Level /NSC Examinations in up to **EIGHT (8)** subjects.

4. Grade 11

In order to benefit from the full payment of examination fees, candidates of **Grade 11** would need to reckon attendance levels of at least 90% that is, absences of not more than 15 school days in the 2026 school year and not more than 15 school days in the 2027 school year.

The period covered will extend from the day of their admission in Grade 10 up to the day the SC/GCE 'O' Level/NSC examinations timetable, as applicable, is officially issued to them.

5. Grade 10

In order to benefit from the full payment of October/November 2026 examination fees, candidates of Grade 10 would need to reckon attendance level of at least 90% (that is absences of not more than 15 school days in the 2026 school year).

The period covered will thus extend from the day of their admission in Grade 10 up to the day the October/November 2026 SC/GCE 'O' Level/NSC examinations timetable, as applicable, is officially issued to them.

6. The 90% attendance rate will exclude internal examinations periods, days of official school holidays and absences due to prolonged illness supported by Medical Certificates. As regards school candidates having sat for the October/November 2026 as private candidates and/or sitting for the May/June 2026 examination series, absences strictly on the days of examinations as per the examination timetable will be excluded.

7. In the case of prolonged illness, the Medical Certificate should be submitted on the day the student resumes school after the period of illness and in no case, will such Medical Certificate be accepted if submitted later than 5 days after the first day of resumption.

8. Where a student has already exceeded the number of absences allowed by the school at the time of making the entry for the October/November 2027 examinations, the Responsible Party would have to pay the examination fees to the MES, failing which the entry would not be forwarded to Cambridge International (CI).

9. Furthermore, where the payment of Government subsidy would already have been effected to CI, Responsible Parties will be required to make a refund to MES in case of either

- i. non-compliance with the 90% attendance requirement as computed at the end of the year;
- ii. withdrawal from one or more subjects / withdrawal from the examination beyond the month of July 2027; or
- iii. absences from the examinations for one or more subjects except for absences due to illness supported by Medical Certificates.

The refund by the parents will consist of the total amount paid by MES for the subject(s) or examination as applicable. Parents will also be liable for cancellation fees claimed by CI in cases of withdrawal.

10. Responsible Parties of school candidates should return to the school, the **Eligibility Conditions Form duly filled in and signed**, failing which the entry of the candidate for the examinations would **not** be processed.

11. NOTE

Scheme under the Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity

The following schemes are available at the Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity for eligible school candidates having a second attempt at the Cambridge October/November Cambridge SC/ GCE 'O' level and/or NSC Examinations:

a) The Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity (Social Security and National Solidarity Division) will consider requests for payment of Cambridge October/November SC/GCE 'O' level and/or NSC Examinations examination fees in respect of school candidates who are attending State and Registered Private Secondary Schools:

- i. who have failed at their first attempt or who have passed with less than 3 credits and wish to reappear for the SC/GCE 'O' Level/NSC Examinations for a second time; and
- ii. whose parents are recipients of either social or unemployment hardship relief, or basic pensions, in which case a means test would be carried out to ascertain their eligibility.

b) The Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity (Social Integration Division) also provides a Free Examinations Scheme for school candidates coming from eligible households that are registered on the Social Register of Mauritius, having a second attempt at the Cambridge October/November SC/ GCE 'O' level and/or NSC Examinations.

This scheme is applicable to school candidates attending State and Registered Private Secondary Schools.

It provides for the payment of fees for the above stated examinations irrespective of the outcome of their first attempt, subject to the candidates having an attendance rate of at least 90%.

Responsible Parties of eligible students should apply to the Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity for assistance under these schemes.

.....
V. R. BOODHOO
RECTOR

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S. SUNNASSEE
D. RECTOR

.....
Y. CAULEECHURN
D. RECTOR

(Please keep this circular at hand for future reference)

MEMO

TO BE DETACHED AND RETURNED TO AREA SUPERVISOR BY WEDNESDAY 18th MARCH 2026.

We acknowledge receipt of circular No. 6(a) and shall comply with.

Name of responsible Party:

Signature:

Name of Student:

Signature:

Grade:

Date: