

**S.A.G.E.**



**Scholarship for Advanced Guyanese Education**

***Application for Award of Scholarship***

***Tenable 2015***

**Submission due May 2, 2015**

***Please post this application and all additional materials to the following address:***

**University of Guyana  
Students' Welfare Division  
Registry  
Turkeyen Campus  
Greater Georgetown**

Dear UG applicants:

We are writing to introduce S.A.G.E. (Scholarship for Advanced Guyanese Education). We are a group of former World Teach volunteers who taught in secondary schools throughout Guyana. We have established a scholarship fund for promising secondary school students who would like to attend the University of Guyana, but who do not have the financial means to do so. Student applicants must also be committed to contributing to Guyana's development once they have graduated from UG. The University of Guyana will make an initial short-list of applicants. From this short list, SAGE will make a final selection.

**For selected applicants, our scholarship will fully fund a four-year degree programme at the University of Guyana, and a need based living stipend.**

In order to apply for our scholarship, students must complete the University of Guyana application, as well as additional application materials. They are attached to this cover letter, and must be mailed to the University of Guyana along with the general application by: **May 2, 2015**. They include:

- |                |                                    |
|----------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Part 1.</b> | <b>Personal Information</b>        |
| <b>Part 2.</b> | <b>Academic Interests</b>          |
| <b>Part 3.</b> | <b>Academic Qualifications</b>     |
| <b>Part 4.</b> | <b>Essay</b>                       |
| <b>Part 5.</b> | <b>Letter of Recommendation</b>    |
| <b>Part 6.</b> | <b>Proof of Financial Need</b>     |
| <b>Part 7.</b> | <b>Logistics</b>                   |
| <b>Part 8.</b> | <b>Scholarship Contract</b>        |
| <b>Part 9.</b> | <b>Notification of Application</b> |

SAGE will choose scholarship recipient(s) to start school in semester 1 of 2015. Again, we are looking for applicants who have strong academic potential, limited financial means, and are dedicated to developing Guyana. If you wish to apply, please complete **ALL PARTS** of the enclosed application, and mail them to the University of Guyana, along with your University application and proof of financial need. Scholarship recipients will hear from us shortly after notification of acceptance to UG.

*Please post this application and all additional materials to the following address:*

University of Guyana  
Students' Welfare Division - Registry  
Turkeyen Campus,  
Greater Georgetown

Please contact the Students' Welfare Division at the University of Guyana with any questions via telephone number 222-3595 or e-mail address [studentswelfare@uog.edu.gy](mailto:studentswelfare@uog.edu.gy). You may also email our organization at [apply@sageguyana.org](mailto:apply@sageguyana.org), or check out our website: [www.sageguyana.org](http://www.sageguyana.org).

Best wishes,

S.A.G.E. Board of Directors

# 1. PERSONAL INFORMATION - To be completed by the student applicant

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

**Name:**

Surname

First Name

Middle Name(s)

**Date of Birth:**

\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_  
DD MM YYYY

**Gender:**

- ☐ Male  
☐ Female

**Ethnicity:**

**(check all that apply)**

- ☐ Afro-Guyanese  
☐ Indo-Guyanese  
☐ Amerindian  
☐ Chinese-Guyanese  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone Number:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail Address :**  
**(if available)**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact Information :**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Relation to you

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

**Household Members (including yourself):**

*(For additional household members, please attach an additional sheet with requested information)*

Name Age Occupation Income (\$GUY/year)


## **2. ACADEMIC INTERESTS - To be completed by the student applicant**

### **Secondary School Information**

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
School Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Headmaster/mistress

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Telephone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
School E-mail Address (if available)

### **Extra Curricular Activities:**

*Please list and describe any extra academic or non-academic activities in which you have participated. (e.g. sports, clubs, church activities, childcare, performances, hobbies, etc...)*

**What is your intended career?**

**To what programme(s) did you apply at UG ?**

**If you are unable to enroll in the programme above, what other programmes interest you?**

**What courses at UG interest you the most?**

**How did you first hear about SAGE?**

### 3. ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS ***-To be completed by the student applicant***

Please provide the subject and scores of all CSEC/CAPE exams that you have written to date. Subjects with 'pending' scores may be included.

**In order to be considered for a SAGE scholarship, you must have achieved a score of I,II, or III in at least five (5) CSEC/CAPE subjects. Pending scores cannot be used to meet this requirement.**

#### CSEC/CAPE Examination Subjects and Scores

Subject	Score	Date written

For additional scores, please attach an additional sheet with requested information

**Which CSEC exam subjects that you have written do you believe will be the most relevant to your studies at UG and why?**

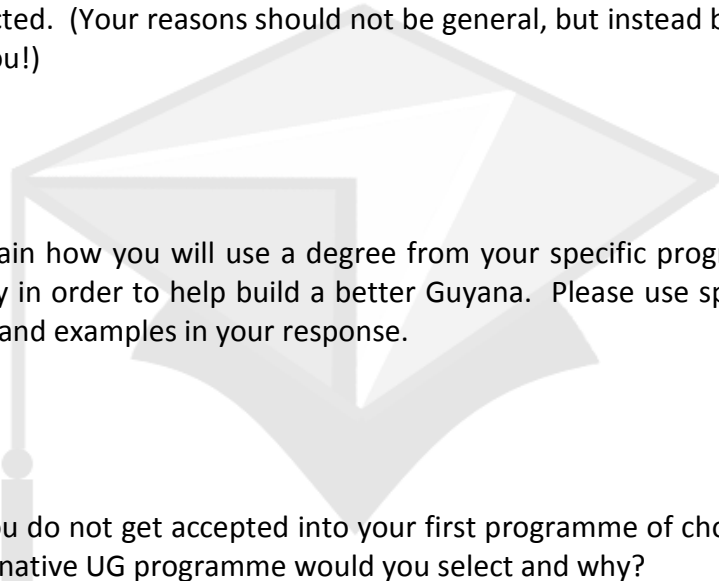
**4. ESSAY - To be completed by the student applicant**

On a separate sheet of paper, please answer all parts of the following essay prompt.

Write your response in one cohesive essay with **MORE THAN 750 words**.

**SAGE APPLICATION ESSAY**

**Answer ALL parts (A,B, and C) of the question**

- 
- (A) Give reasons (drawing from your own personal experience and point of view) why you chose to apply to the programme of study that you selected. (Your reasons should not be general, but instead be specific to you!)
- (B) Explain how you will use a degree from your specific programme of study in order to help build a better Guyana. Please use specific details and examples in your response.
- (C) If you do not get accepted into your first programme of choice, what alternative UG programme would you select and why?

## **5. LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION -**

### **To be completed by a SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHER of the applicant**

#### **To the teacher:**

Please address all of the following questions about the applicant on another piece of paper. The recommendation should be in letter format.

Since it is important that we receive honest and confidential feedback about the applicant, we request that you return this letter of recommendation to the student in a **SEALED** envelope bearing the school's official stamp. This student must mail your sealed envelope to the University of Guyana along with all other application materials.

Teacher recommendations are an important part of the SAGE selection process. They should be honest assessments of a student's academic abilities, integrity, and commitment to Guyana. These recommendations provide SAGE with important insights into each applicant's skills and potential. The more details that you can provide about an applicant, the more helpful your recommendation becomes to SAGE.

#### **Please speak to the following (in letter format):**

1. Your name, how many years have you been teaching, and what subject(s) you teach.
2. Name of Applicant, name of Secondary School, how many years you have known the applicant.
3. Describe your relationship to the applicant as his/her teacher.
4. What are the applicant's strengths? What are his/her weaknesses?
5. Explain the extent of the applicant's commitment to Guyana. How do you know he/she is committed?
6. Do you believe that this applicant deserves a scholarship to UG? If so, to what extent?
7. Do you believe that the applicant will succeed at UG?
8. How has the student's secondary school education prepared the student for the University environment? Please be as specific as you can by including references to specific coursework and its relevance to the applicant's intended area of study at UG.

Thank you for your time.

S.A.G.E. Board of Directors

## 6. PROOF OF FINANCIAL INCOME- ***To be completed by the student applicant***

While there is no maximum household income, one factor in selection of SAGE scholars is the financial need of applicants. For this reason, SAGE requires full disclosure of household income to determine this weighting.

***Please include, as part of this submitted application, a certified letter from the employer(s) of ALL household members who bring in income, including yourself.***

These letters **MAY** be copies of those submitted as part of the general University of Guyana application.

**What do you consider as your primary method of financial support?**

☐ Self

☐ Household Income

☐ Other

If 'Other', please describe:

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**How would you compare your living conditions to other people in your community?**

☐ Much worse

☐ About the same

☐ Much better

☐ Worse

☐ Better

**Do you own a mobile phone?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

**Does your family own a computer?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

**Does your family own a television?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

**Does your family own a car?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

**Does your family own a house?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

**Does your family own land?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

**What is your primary method of accessing e-mail/the internet?**

☐ Computer

☐ Mobile Phone

☐ I don't have internet access

☐ Other

If 'Other', please describe:

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## **7. LOGISTICS - To be completed by the student applicant**

*In the event that you are selected as a SAGE scholar, it is important for us to assess your potential needs in terms of living arrangements and transportation options with respect to attending the University of Guyana. Please answer the following questions as completely as possible.*

### **Living arrangements**

*If you were to receive a scholarship to the University of Guyana, do you have a place to stay in Georgetown? Would you stay with relatives or friends? Would you need to stay in the dormitory at the University of Guyana? If you need to stay in the dormitory in your first semester at the University of Guyana you must indicate that here.*

### **Transportation**

*If you were to receive a scholarship to the University of Guyana, how would you travel to Georgetown? How much do you think it would cost to travel from your home to the University of Guyana?*

### **Communication Access**

*Please describe your current access to electronic communication, e.g., cell phone, computer, internet access, etc...*

*SAGE intends to conduct phone interviews with this year's finalists if possible. Are you available for a phone interview with a SAGE board member? If so, what is the best method of contact?*

*Responses to the above questions **DO NOT** guarantee funding for non-tuition expenses if selected as a SAGE scholar. However, if you do not identify a need for dormitory housing or transportation, SAGE **will not** provide funding for them.*

*All funds are awarded the discretion of the SAGE Board of Directors.*

### **Prerelease of Student Information**

*Student's Initials \_\_\_\_\_*

SAGE is able to award scholarships through individual donations. Individuals who donate to SAGE like to hear about the students they are funding. This information also helps SAGE raise more money for scholarships. Therefore, if you are selected as the next SAGE Scholar, may SAGE publish your information including programme information, interviews, photographs, and parts of your application essays? (Your answer will not affect your selection as a SAGE Scholar).

☐ Yes

☐ No

**SAGE will never release information on students who do not receive scholarships or information of students who do not select yes to this question!**

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SAGE is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. EIN 26-2081926

## **8. SCHOLARSHIP CONTRACT - *To be completed by the student applicant***

***Please initial after each section, sign and date the bottom and return the ENTIRE contract with your application.***

If selected as a scholarship recipient, you will be awarded the full amount of tuition for the full length of the programme you chose, provided the required conditions are met. Applying to this scholarship and signing this contract means that, if selected, you will be bound to meeting the academic expectations of your post-secondary programme, as well as required to commit to the following requirements, or forfeit the scholarship. SAGE chooses the requirements based on what is required by the University of Guyana. These requirements are an integral part of the scholarship; it will help the recipient, with new knowledge from his or her education, to give back to the community.

### **REQUIREMENTS**

#### **I. Full Time Student**

*Student's Initials* \_\_\_\_\_

SAGE recipients must take the normal course load for a full-time student at the University of Guyana. Failure to do so will result in the loss of the scholarship and the requirement to reimburse SAGE for the total expenses SAGE paid towards the student's academic studies.

#### **II. Good Standing with the School**

*Student's Initials* \_\_\_\_\_

SAGE recipients must be certified in good standing with the school, having no disciplinary problems. If recipients fail to meet this criterion, they will go on a probationary period (outlined below). If continued contact is not kept, then the SAGE recipient will lose the scholarship and be required to repay SAGE the full amount SAGE paid towards the student's academic studies.

#### **III. Grade Point Average Requirement**

*Student's Initials* \_\_\_\_\_

SAGE recipients must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 for all credits with the school. Recipients must earn at least a 2.8 in every subject. If recipients fall below the required minimum, they must go on a probationary period (outlined below).

#### **IV. Submission of Transcripts**

*Student's Initials* \_\_\_\_\_

SAGE recipients must submit transcripts at the end of every school year. If a recipient fails to do so, the recipient will receive a warning letter. If the transcript is not received by the beginning of the semester, then the scholarship will be withheld and the SAGE recipient must reimburse SAGE for the total expenses SAGE paid over the course of your studies.

#### **V. Contact with SAGE representative**

*Student's Initials* \_\_\_\_\_

SAGE recipients must maintain a minimum of monthly contact with their assigned SAGE representative and respond promptly to all communications from SAGE. If a scholarship recipient fails to comply, the recipient will go on a probationary period (outlined below). If continued contact is not kept, then the SAGE recipient will lose the scholarship and be required to repay SAGE the full amount SAGE paid towards the student's academic studies.

#### **VI. Yearly Review**

*Student's Initials* \_\_\_\_\_

At the end of each year, the SAGE Board will review the status of each recipient to determine if they meet the requirements.

#### **VII. Probationary Period**

*Student's Initials* \_\_\_\_\_

In the event a recipient fails to stay in good standing with the school or meet the grade point average requirement, the recipient will be placed on a semester probationary period to fulfill the requirements (e.g. return to good standing with the school or earn a 3.00 cumulative GPA). If the recipient fails to meet these requirements, s/he will lose the scholarship. After a recipient goes on probation s/he must submit transcripts every semester.

## **8. SCHOLARSHIP CONTRACT - *To be completed by the student applicant***

**Please initial after each section, sign and date the bottom and return the ENTIRE contract with your application.**

If selected as a scholarship recipient, you will be awarded the full amount of tuition for the full length of the programme you chose, provided the required conditions are met. Applying to this scholarship and signing this contract means that, if selected, you will be bound to meeting the academic expectations of your post-secondary programme, as well as required to commit to the following requirements, or forfeit the scholarship. SAGE chooses the requirements based on what is required by the University of Guyana. These requirements are an integral part of the scholarship; it will help the recipient, with new knowledge from his or her education, to give back to the community.

### **VIII. Changes to Academic Programme**      *Student's Initials* \_\_\_\_\_

SAGE encourages the pursuit of an education that will be the most valuable and beneficial to both the scholarship recipient and Guyana, and recognizes that this path may change after beginning university. If a scholarship recipient desires to change academic programmes, the recipient must immediately notify the SAGE Board in writing with: a request to change programmes, the reason for the change, and the duration of the new programme. Similarly, if a tuition change occurs, the scholarship recipient must immediately notify the SAGE Board.

For any changes made to the academic programme or tuition, the continued receipt of funds depends on the approval of the SAGE Board. Also, the awarding of additional funds is at the discretion of the SAGE Board. If the change is not approved, the recipient will bear the cost of tuition and also be responsible for paying SAGE for any tuition awarded to the recipient.

### **IX. COMMITMENT TO GUYANA**      *Student's Initials* \_\_\_\_\_

Upon accepting this scholarship, recipients agree to work at least two years in Guyana after graduation. The SAGE Board will review the recipient's work placement at the end of each year. If the recipient has not worked in Guyana, s/he will owe SAGE the full amount SAGE paid on the scholarship.

**By signing this contract, I am agreeing that it is a fair and binding agreement if selected as a scholarship recipient. I understand and agree to all terms of the contract and will work to adhere to them. SAGE will seek legal action for a breach of any of these contractual items.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date (DD/MM/YYYY)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

## 8. UNIVERSITY OF GUYANA GENERAL APPLICATION

**To be completed by the student applicant**

In order to receive a SAGE scholarship, students **MUST** be admitted to the University of Guyana. All SAGE applicants are **REQUIRED** to complete and submit a University of Guyana General Application before being considered for a scholarship.

**University of Guyana Applications must be submitted through the UG Admissions Division.**

**SAGE applications must be submitted separately through the UG Students Welfare Division.**

SAGE **WILL NOT** consider any applicant who has not applied to the University of Guyana.

Please provide the ID assigned to your UG application: \_\_\_\_\_

*By signing below, I am certifying that I have completed and submitted a University of Guyana general application at the time of submission of this SAGE scholarship application.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date (DD/MM/YYYY)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

**9. NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATION**  
**To be completed by the student applicant**

In order for us to be able to quickly and efficiently inform you of SAGE selection decisions, we ask that you immediately let us know that you have submitted an application, **and also provide the best method of contacting you.**

To assist with this process, please do **ONE** of the following:

1. *Send an e-mail to [apply@sageguyana.org](mailto:apply@sageguyana.org) with the information requested below.*

**OR**

2. *Fill out the card below and mail it to:*

**SAGE – Application Notification**  
**1976 S. La Cienaga Blvd #542**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90034, USA**

Thank you for your help! We look forward to hearing from you!

- S.A.G.E. Board of Directors



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname

First Name

Middle Name(s)

Date of Application:

\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_  
DD MM YYYY

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Programme of Interest:

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

UOG Application ID #:

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

What's the best way to contact you? (e.g. Facebook, e-mail, letter, phone, etc...)

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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## ABOUT SAGE

### **When I apply to SAGE, am I also applying to the University of Guyana with the same application?**

No. You **MUST** apply to the University of Guyana separately. UG has its own application form that must be completed and submitted. *An applicant can only be selected as a SAGE scholar if they have been accepted for admission to the University of Guyana.* Please see the following page for more information about University of Guyana applications.

### **When will decisions be made?**

After the application deadline, the University of Guyana short-lists applicants to ensure that they meet the requirements of the University. The applications are then sent to SAGE for review, and final selections are made. Typically, selections are made by late July.

### **How will I be notified?**

If you submitted a contact card (part 9 of the application), you will hopefully have had successful communication with a SAGE representative by the time final selections are made. If selected, we will contact you through that established method and discuss any additional funds such as living expenses or transportation costs. You will also be mailed a copy of your acceptance letter that you will need to bring to University of Guyana for registration.

### **I submitted the contact information card to SAGE, but I haven't heard back!**

If you do not hear from us within a few weeks of submitting your application, please contact us again, whether through e-mail or a letter. If your contact information changes, also please let us know so we can still contact you!

### **What happens if I get selected?**

After selection, scholars must register at the University of Guyana (see details on next page). Please think about how, if selected, you would be able to get to Georgetown. In some cases, SAGE will reimburse expenses, but this will be decided on a case by case basis, and reimbursement cannot occur until after registration. If you will be moving into the dormitory, please pack appropriately.

### **What if I don't get selected?**

If you are not selected as a SAGE scholar, you will receive a letter (either through e-mail or carrier mail) informing you of the status of your application. Even if you are not selected as a SAGE scholar, we still encourage anyone who wants to go to UG to do so! UG offers a student loan programme that can allow you to complete your studies and pay back tuition fees over time. Also, consider reapplying for a SAGE scholarship next year, assuming you meet all the entry requirements. The available funds and applicant pool changes every year, so take the opportunity to revise your essay, and make sure it really says what you want it to say!

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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## ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF GUYANA

### How do I apply to University of Guyana?

Most applications are completed and submitted online: <https://turkeyenonline.uog.edu.gy/>  
Visit UG's website, <http://www.uog.edu.gy/> for more detailed information.

### What if I do not have internet access?

If you live in Regions 1,2,7,8, or 9 of Guyana, you can submit a paper application. These are available from:

- IDCE Centres – Regions 2
- Regional Administration Office – Regions 1, 7, 8, 9

Note that there is a small application fee for the University of Guyana application.

### How do I register for UG?

In order to register you must go to UG's campus with passport photos and a copy of your SAGE acceptance letter. Your registration and tuition fees for your selected programme will be billed to SAGE directly.

If you have more UG specific questions, please contact the University directly.

