



G H A N A
SCHOLARSHIPS
AUTHORITY
TRANSFORMING GHANA THROUGH EDUCATION

PRESS RELEASE

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CLARIFICATION ON THE OATH OF AFFIRMATION AND SCHOLARSHIP VALIDATION EXERCISE

The Ghana Scholarships Authority (GSA) has taken note of concerns raised by the executives of the UK PhD Cohort regarding the ongoing Oath of Affirmation and Scholarship Validation Exercise. The Authority welcomes constructive engagement from scholarship beneficiaries and takes their concerns seriously. However, given that some of the assertions made do not accurately reflect the legal and administrative basis of the exercise, the Authority wishes to provide the following clarifications:

1. LEGAL BASIS OF THE EXERCISE

The Oath of Affirmation and Scholarship Validation Exercise is lawful and is being conducted pursuant to the Ghana Scholarships Authority Act, 2025 (Act 1149) and the Oaths Act, 1972 (NRCD 6).

The exercise is being undertaken in collaboration with the Ghana High Commission in the United Kingdom, which has responsibility for consular matters in the jurisdiction.

Its purpose is to verify the status of scholarship awards, validate and update beneficiary records, and reaffirm the commitments associated with Government sponsorship. The exercise introduces no new condition or requirement to the scholarship programme.

2. THE OATH DOES NOT CREATE A NEW OBLIGATION

Every beneficiary accepted a scholarship subject to the execution of a scholarship bond, which includes an undertaking to return to Ghana within two months of completing the approved programme of study.

The Oath of Affirmation does not introduce any additional obligation. It is a formal reaffirmation of a commitment that beneficiaries had already made under their scholarship bonds. The suggestion that beneficiaries are being compelled to accept a new obligation is therefore incorrect.

3. NO RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION OF NEW RULES

The Authority has not altered, varied or imposed any new terms on existing scholarship bonds. The obligations contained in the bonds remain exactly as agreed to by beneficiaries at the time their scholarships were accepted.

The current exercise is solely intended to confirm those existing obligations and ensure that the Authority's records are accurate and up to date. It therefore does not constitute the retrospective application of a new rule.

4. LETTERS OF “NO OBJECTION” AND THE UK GRADUATE ROUTE

The Letters of “No Objection” issued in respect of the United Kingdom's Graduate Route were granted at the request of individual beneficiaries who sought to undertake post-study professional experience under the applicable two-year Graduate Route visa arrangement.

These letters did not constitute a waiver, cancellation or variation of the scholarship bond. The Graduate Route provides an opportunity for beneficiaries to acquire additional professional skills and experience which, ultimately, can contribute to Ghana's human capital development.

The obligation to return to Ghana and fulfil the commitments under the scholarship bond therefore remains in force unless it is expressly and lawfully varied or set aside by the competent authority.

5. OUTSTANDING TUITION FEES AND STIPENDS

The Authority acknowledges the concerns regarding outstanding tuition fees and stipend payments and recognises the difficulties such delays may cause beneficiaries.

The GSA is actively engaging the Ministry of Finance and other relevant institutions to facilitate the settlement of outstanding obligations and remains committed to ensuring that legitimate payments due to beneficiaries are addressed.

However, these payment issues are separate from the ongoing scholarship validation exercise.

A delay in the payment of tuition or stipends does not suspend the obligations contained in a scholarship bond, nor will any beneficiary lose a legitimate entitlement merely by participating in the validation exercise.

6. PURPOSE OF THE VALIDATION EXERCISE

The Authority does not regard the exercise as adversarial, and beneficiaries are encouraged to approach it in the same spirit.

Government scholarships represent a significant investment in Ghana's human capital. That investment carries responsibilities for both parties: the State is required to honour its commitments to scholarship beneficiaries, while beneficiaries are expected to honour the commitments they made in accepting Government sponsorship. The validation exercise is intended to strengthen accountability, protect the integrity of the scholarship programme, ensure accurate beneficiary records, and promote fairness and transparency across the system.

7. CALL TO BENEFICIARIES

The Ghana Scholarships Authority therefore urges all affected beneficiaries to honour the invitation and participate in the Oath of Affirmation and Scholarship Validation Exercise without delay.

The Authority remains committed to engaging beneficiaries respectfully, transparently and in good faith, while ensuring that the Government's scholarship programme is administered with the highest standards of accountability and integrity.

Thank you.

SIGNED
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
GHANA SCHOLARSHIPS AUTHORITY, ACCRA

