

Support schemes for students from low and lower-middle income countries.

Support for students

Centurion University operates two distinct mechanisms to support students from low and lower-middle income countries (LMICs): (1) a fee parity policy ensuring no premium pricing for international students, and (2) targeted full scholarship schemes providing 100% financial assistance to students from economically disadvantaged and conflict-affected nations.

MECHANISM 1: Fee Parity Policy for All International Students

Policy Framework: Centurion University maintains an equal fee structure for all students regardless of nationality. International students from any country pay the same tuition and associated fees as domestic Indian students for identical programs. This policy eliminates the discriminatory premium pricing (often 200-500% higher) commonly charged to foreign nationals by many institutions.

Beneficiaries:

- All international students enrolling at Centurion University benefit from this parity
- Particularly impactful for students from LMICs where purchasing power is limited
- Applies across all undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs

Financial Impact:

- Reduces cost barrier by 50-75% compared to international student fees at comparable institutions
- Makes Indian higher education accessible to middle-class families in LMICs
- Covers tuition, laboratory fees, library charges, and examination fees
- Fee parity maintained for all international students across 7 campuses
- Average tuition savings of ₹1.5-3 lakhs per annum compared to standard international student fees
- No additional documentation or application required - automatic upon admission

MECHANISM 2: Full Scholarship Schemes for Economically Disadvantaged LMIC Students

Target Population: Centurion University provides 100% scholarships specifically to students from:

1. Low-income countries as classified by World Bank income categories
2. Conflict-affected regions with limited educational infrastructure
3. Economically disadvantaged backgrounds within lower-middle income countries

Priority Countries (2024):

- South Asia: Afghanistan (conflict-affected), Nepal, Bangladesh
- Sub-Saharan Africa: Zimbabwe, Kenya, Sudan (conflict-affected), Uganda
- West Africa: Nigeria (through government partnership)
- Central Africa: Gabon (through capacity-building partnership)

Scholarship Coverage Components

Full Financial Support Includes:

A. Academic Expenses (100% Waiver):

- Complete tuition fee waiver for program duration
- All examination and assessment fees
- Registration and enrollment charges
- Laboratory and practical fees
- Library and digital resource access fees

B. Accommodation (100% Coverage):

- On-campus hostel accommodation
- Room furnishing and utilities (electricity, water)
- Wi-Fi and internet connectivity
- Security and maintenance

C. Food and Living Expenses:

- Subsidized or fully covered mess charges (three meals daily)
- Estimated monthly savings: ₹5,000-8,000
- Special dietary accommodations when needed

D. Additional Support:

- Free healthcare (doctor consultations and medicines)
- Transportation for academic activities
- Study materials and textbooks (subsidized/free)
- Access to all sports, cultural, and technical clubs (registration fee waived)

2024 Quantitative Data on LMIC Student Support

Scholarship Recipients (Academic Year 2024-25):

Nigerian Maritime Programme:

- 308 Nigerian students enrolled in School of Maritime Studies
- 100% funded by Nigerian Government in partnership with Centurion University
- Program duration: 4 years (B.Tech Marine Engineering, B.Tech Nautical Science)
- Total scholarship value per student: ₹12-15 lakhs over program duration
- Aggregate support: Approximately ₹37 crores for 308 students

Other LMIC Countries:

- 42 students from Afghanistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Sudan, and Uganda
- 100% Centurion University-funded scholarships covering all expenses
- Programs: Engineering (18), Agriculture (12), Fisheries (6), Management (4), Nursing (2)
- Average scholarship value per student: ₹8-12 lakhs over program duration
- Aggregate support: Approximately ₹4.2 crores for 42 students

Gabon Capacity Building Programme:

- 25 Gabonese agricultural professionals and students trained at Centurion University in 2024
- Short-term and long-term programs (3 months to 2 years)
- Full scholarship including training, accommodation, and living expenses
- Total investment: ₹1.8 crores

Total LMIC Support in 2024:

- 375 students from low and lower-middle income countries
- Combined scholarship value: ₹43 crores (approximately USD 5.2 million)
- Countries represented: 8 LMICs and conflict-affected regions
- Success rate: 87% retention and completion rate among scholarship recipients

Table 1: Geographic Distribution of LMIC Students (2024) Program-wise Enrollment (LMIC Students, 2024)

Country/Region	Number of Students	Scholarship Type	Total Value (₹ Crores)
Nigeria	308	Govt-sponsored	37.0
Zimbabwe	12	Centurion University scholarship	1.2
Afghanistan	8	Centurion University scholarship	0.8
Nepal	7	Centurion University scholarship	0.6
Kenya	6	Centurion University scholarship	0.6
Bangladesh	5	Centurion University scholarship	0.5
Sudan	3	Centurion University scholarship	0.3
Uganda	1	Centurion University scholarship	0.1
Gabon	25	Partnership program	1.8
Total	375	-	43.0

Table 2: LMIC Students (2024) Program Category

Program Category	LMIC Students	% of Total
Maritime Studies (B.Tech)	308	82.1%
Engineering (B.Tech/M.Tech)	28	7.5%
Agriculture & Allied Sciences	22	5.9%
Management (BBA/MBA)	8	2.1%
Fisheries Sciences	6	1.6%
Nursing	3	0.8%

International Student Cell: Institutional Support Framework

Dedicated Infrastructure (2024):

- Full-time staff: 8 professionals managing international student affairs
- Operating across: 7 Centurion University campuses
- Annual operating budget: ₹1.2 crores for student services and integration programs

Pre-Arrival Support Services:

- Visa assistance: 100% success rate for student visa applications (375/375 in 2024)
- Documentation guidance and sponsor letter provision
- Pre-departure orientation conducted online
- Airport pickup arrangements (coordinated for 375 arrivals in 2024)

Post-Arrival Integration:

- Mandatory orientation program: 5-day comprehensive induction covering academics, culture, campus life
- Healthcare registration: All 375 students enrolled in campus health services
- Banking assistance: 362 students (96.5%) facilitated bank account opening
- Communication setup: SIM cards and network activation for all students
- Peer buddy system: Each international student paired with senior Indian student mentor

Academic Support Mechanisms:

- Specialized counseling: Bi-weekly sessions for first-year LMIC students addressing language barriers
- Remedial classes: Available in English, Mathematics, and foundational subjects
- Tutorial support: Small group sessions (5-8 students) twice weekly
- Academic performance tracking: Monthly progress reports for scholarship recipients

2024 Academic Outcomes (LMIC Students):

- Average attendance rate: 89%
- Pass rate: 87% (compared to 82% institutional average)
- Semester promotion rate: 91%
- Student satisfaction score: 4.3/5.0 (annual survey)

Healthcare and Wellness Support

On-Campus Medical Services (2024 Utilization by LMIC Students):

- Total consultations: 1,847 doctor visits by 375 students
- Free medicines dispensed: ₹4.2 lakhs worth of pharmaceuticals
- Emergency medical support: 12 cases requiring hospitalization (all expenses covered)
- Mental health counseling: 68 students accessed professional counseling services
- Health insurance: All 375 students covered under group mediclaim policy

Wellness Programmes:

- Monthly health check-up camps
- Preventive healthcare workshops (nutrition, hygiene, disease prevention)
- 24/7 medical emergency helpline
- Referral network with local hospitals for specialized treatment

Government and International Partnerships

Nigerian Maritime Programme (Detailed)

Partnership Structure:

- Bilateral agreement between Nigerian Government and Centurion University (renewed 2024)
- Funding source: Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA)
- Program objective: Develop skilled maritime professionals for Nigeria's blue economy

2024 Cohort Details:

- Total enrollment: 308 students (Year 1: 82, Year 2: 78, Year 3: 74, Year 4: 74)
- Gender distribution: Male: 256 (83%), Female: 52 (17%)
- Programs offered:
 - B.Tech Marine Engineering: 168 students
 - B.Tech Nautical Science: 140 students
- Scholarship per student: ₹12-15 lakhs (4-year program)
- Total program value: ₹37 crores

Curriculum Alignment:

- Designed to meet International Maritime Organization (IMO) standards
- Addresses Nigeria's Sustainable Development Goals particularly poverty reduction and economic growth
- Includes mandatory internships on commercial vessels
- Certification aligned with Nigerian and international maritime regulations

2024 Outcomes:

- 74 Nigerian students graduated (July 2024 convocation)
- 100% placement rate in maritime sector (shipping companies, ports, offshore services)
- Average starting salary: USD 3,500-5,000 per month (10-15x Nigerian per capita income)

Gabon Agri-SEZ Capacity Building (Detailed)

"Gajapati to Gabon" Initiative (Launched 2024):

- Inaugurated by: Union Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan (March 2024)
- Objective: Establish Gabon's first Agricultural Special Economic Zone with Centurion University technical support

2024 Training Programme:

- 25 Gabonese participants: Agricultural officers (12), farmers (8), students (5)
- Training duration: 3-18 months depending on program
- Curriculum focus:
 - Sustainable agriculture practices
 - Agri-enterprise development
 - Agricultural mechanization
 - Post-harvest management
 - Organic farming techniques

Scholarship Coverage:

- 100% funded by Centurion University as development partnership
- Includes: Training fees, accommodation, food, study materials, field visits
- Total investment: ₹1.8 crores (₹7.2 lakhs per participant average)

Expected Impact in Gabon:

- Enhanced food security through improved agricultural productivity
- Rural employment generation (estimated 5,000 jobs over 5 years)
- Technology transfer reducing post-harvest losses by 30%
- Strengthened institutional capacity in agricultural extension

Zimbabwe Convocation Programme (July 2024)

Event Details:

- Date: July 24, 2024
- Graduates: 12 Zimbabwean students across Engineering (7), Agriculture (3), Management (2)
- Degree programs completed: B.Tech (7), B.Sc Agriculture (3), MBA (2)
- Success rate: 100% (all 12 students who began programs in 2020-21 successfully graduated)

Significance:

- Demonstrates institutional commitment to supporting LMIC students through degree completion
- All 12 students were 100% scholarship recipients (aggregate value: ₹1.2 crores over 4 years)

- Special recognition ceremony acknowledging achievement despite challenges (COVID-19 disruptions, financial constraints)
- Post-graduation outcomes: 10 students secured employment in home country, 2 pursuing postgraduate studies

Alumni Impact:

- Zimbabwean alumni serving in agricultural development NGOs, engineering firms, and business enterprises
- Contributing to Zimbabwe's economic recovery and poverty reduction
- Maintaining connection with Centurion University as ambassadors for future student recruitment

Academic Programme Offerings for LMIC Students

Undergraduate Programmes (2024 Enrollment):

- Engineering (B.Tech): 336 LMIC students across 12 specializations
- Agriculture & Allied Sciences: 22 students
- Fisheries Sciences: 6 students
- Business Administration (BBA): 5 students
- Nursing: 3 students
- Computer Applications (BCA): 3 students

Postgraduate Programmes:

- M.Tech (Engineering): Currently no LMIC enrollment (expansion planned 2025)
- MBA: 3 students
- M.Sc Agriculture: Included in Gabon capacity building

Skill-Based Certifications:

- Maritime short courses: 15 Nigerian students (3-6 month programs)
- Agricultural technology training: 25 Gabonese participants
- Digital literacy and IT skills: Available to all LMIC students (85% participation rate)
- Entrepreneurship development: 42 LMIC students enrolled

Direct Poverty Alleviation Mechanisms

Target 1.4 - Equal Rights to Economic Resources:

- 375 LMIC students gained access to higher education despite financial constraints
- ₹43 crores in scholarships (2024) eliminated economic barriers to education
- Skill development enabling income generation capacity increase of 5-10x post-graduation

Target 1.5 - Building Resilience of the Poor:

- Technical education in high-demand sectors (maritime, agriculture, engineering) providing crisis-resistant skills
- 87% completion rate ensuring students successfully acquire qualifications
- Alumni networks providing ongoing professional support in home countries

Systemic Poverty Reduction Impact

Individual Level:

- Average graduate salary: USD 3,000-5,000/month (maritime), ₹3-6 lakhs/annum (other sectors)
- Family income upliftment: Graduates supporting average 4-6 family members
- Intergenerational impact: Educated parents enabling better outcomes for next generation

National Level (Partner Countries):

- Capacity building: 375 trained professionals contributing to national development priorities
- Technology transfer: Agricultural practices, maritime management, engineering innovations
- Reduced brain drain: Graduates return with intent to contribute locally (92% return rate based on alumni surveys)
- Institutional strengthening: Alumni establishing educational institutions, training centers, enterprises

Global South-South Cooperation:

- Model demonstrating LMIC-to-LMIC knowledge transfer (India-Africa, India-South Asia)
- Alternative to North-South aid dependency
- Sustainable, reciprocal partnerships based on shared development challenges

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Accountability

2024 Performance Metrics:

Financial Accountability:

- 100% scholarship disbursement rate - no delays or defaults
- Transparent accounting: All international scholarship expenditures audited annually
- Government partnership compliance: Nigerian programme funds audited by both Nigerian and Indian authorities

Academic Quality Assurance:

- Monthly academic progress reviews for all scholarship recipients
- Early intervention protocols: 23 students provided additional support when performance dipped below 60%
- Semester retention rate: 95% (18 out of 375 students deferred/withdrew, primarily for health/family reasons)

Student Satisfaction:

- Annual survey conducted: 362 responses (96.5% response rate)
- Overall satisfaction score: 4.3/5.0

Satisfaction dimensions:

- Academic quality: 4.5/5.0
- Financial support adequacy: 4.7/5.0

- Healthcare services: 4.2/5.0
- Social integration: 3.9/5.0
- Career preparation: 4.1/5.0

Areas for Improvement (Identified 2024):

- Social integration scores lower than other dimensions - action plan developed for enhanced cultural programming
- Career services need expansion for non-maritime students - dedicated placement cell for LMIC students planned 2025

Centurion University operates two complementary mechanisms supporting students from low and lower-middle income countries:

Mechanism 1: Fee Parity Policy

- All international students benefit from equal pricing with domestic students
- Eliminates discriminatory premium pricing
- Saves international students ₹1.5-3 lakhs annually

Mechanism 2: Full Scholarships for Economically Disadvantaged

- 375 LMIC students received 100% scholarships in 2024
- ₹43 crores total support covering tuition, accommodation, food, healthcare
- 8 countries prioritized: Nigeria (308), Zimbabwe (12), Afghanistan (8), Nepal (7), Kenya (6), Bangladesh (5), Sudan (3), Uganda (1), Gabon (25)
- 87% completion rate demonstrating effective support through graduation

These schemes directly contribute to SDG 1 (No Poverty) by:

- Removing financial barriers to higher education for 375 LMIC youth
- Building human capital in partner nations (particularly Nigeria, Gabon, Zimbabwe)
- Enabling income increases of 5-10x post-graduation
- Fostering South-South cooperation and sustainable development

Evidence-based impact: 74 Nigerian maritime graduates (2024) placed at average USD 4,000/month salary; 12 Zimbabwean graduates contributing to home country development; 25 Gabonese agricultural professionals equipped for food security initiatives.



Figure 1: Centurion University Empowers Gabon's Agri-SEZ Project: Cultivating Excellence Across Borders



Figure 2: Zimbabwe Convocation Program, held on 24/07/2025