



WHAT THE USC STUDENT SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

GATE eService

Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses

For further info. Please visit FAQs as per GATE eService/eGATE directly at <http://www.e-gate.gov.tt/gate-app/faq.htm> or view tutorial at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D8hCfTbsLJA>



What is the GATE Programme?

Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses (GATE) is a programme which provides financial assistance to citizens of Trinidad and Tobago, who are pursuing GATE-approved tertiary level programmes at public and private tertiary level institutions (local and regional). GATE Programme is managed by the Funding and Grants Administration Division (FGAD) of the Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training (MTEST).



Can I apply for GATE funding?

You can apply for GATE funding if:

- You are a citizen of Trinidad and Tobago and lived in Trinidad and Tobago for at least 3 years prior to applying for funding. (Documentary proof of citizenship and residency must be provided).
- You have been accepted to pursue a GATE approved programme at a local or regional, public or private Tertiary Level Institution (TLI).



Does the USC offer GATE approved programmes?

Yes, the USC offers GATE approved programmes*



How much funding can I receive with GATE?

- Students pursuing undergraduate programmes will access funding for **100%** of their tuition.
- Students pursuing post-graduate programmes will access funding for **50%, up to 20,000TTD** of their tuition.



Will there be any bond for GATE funding?

All students who accept GATE funds will be bound by a period of national service that will be tied to the value of the GATE funds received, usually from 1- 4 years



Would GATE cover any additional fees such as school registration fees, and other academic related fees?

Students are responsible for covering all non-tuition fees. GATE **ONLY** covers tuition expenses.



What is the duration of GATE funding?

GATE funding shall be accessible to students for the duration of the approved programme. Should the student fail to complete the approved programme within its stated duration, the student shall not be granted access to GATE funding for any period in excess of its standard duration, except where such duration is extended by reason of a leave of absence. Officials of the Funding and Grants Administration Division (FGAD) shall review an extension of the duration period of an approved programme by reason of extenuating circumstances on a case by-case basis.



What happens if I withdraw from a GATE Funded Programme?

Students withdrawing from a Programme for which they applied/received GATE funding must inform the institution as well as the Funding and Grants Administration Division in writing. Failure to do so can jeopardise eligibility to receive GATE funding for any future programme.



How can I apply for GATE funding?

You must apply for GATE funding via the online GATE Application Form in GATE e-Service.

You can access GATE e-Service using the following link: <http://e-gate.gov.tt/gate-app> or view tutorial at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D8hCfTbsLJA>

Important Note:

In order to logon to GATE e-Service, you must register for a GATE e-Service ID. Please proceed to register at the Student Finance Office at the University of the Southern Caribbean for the same.

*Note a few of our new programmes are pending GATE approval



What must I bring when registering for the GATE e-Service ID stated above?

You must present original copy of the following documentation for identity verification:

- Birth Certificate-Electronic version
- National Identification Card or Passport (at least one of the two)
- Deed Poll, Marriage Certificate (if necessary)
- Valid email address



After registering for the GATE e-Service ID, what is the next step?

Within 48 hours you would receive your username and password from the MTEST via the email address provided. Use the same to apply for GATE clearance at <http://egate.gov.tt/gate-app> or view tutorial at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D8hCfTbsLJA>



Do I need to provide any documentation for the online GATE application?

You are required to upload the following documentation (in softcopy) for the online GATE application:

- Birth Certificate with supporting affidavit (if necessary)
- National Identification Card or Passport (at least one of the two)
- Copy of Receipt for evidence of payment for your portion of tuition fees (for post-graduate student)
- Marriage / Divorce Certificate (for married / divorce student)
- Deed Poll (for name change)
- Latest Grade Slip or Transcript (for continuing student pursuing in the same programme)
- **Acceptance Letter from Institution (for new / continuing student pursuing in new programme)**
- Certificate of the previous Completed Programme (for continuing student pursuing in new programme)

Important Note:

Supported File Size: Up to 3MB

Supported File Types: .png, .jpg, .jpeg, .gif, .bmp, .tif, .tiff, .pdf, .doc, .docx, .txt.



What is GATE Clearance?

Your application must be approved by Clearance in order to access GATE funding. The objective of the GATE Clearance Policy is to reduce the detected abuses to the GATE programme, namely:

- Students dropping out of programmes without valid reasons
- Students repeatedly starting and dropping out of different programmes
- Students switching programmes without prior approval or notification
- Students repeating the same programmes at the TLIs



Is there any exemption for GATE Clearance?

Exemptions would be considered on an individual basis by the Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training. Students seeking Exemptions should write to:

Programme Administrator

GATE Programme

Funding and Grants Administration Division (FGAD)

16 Warner Street

St Augustine

Phone No.: 645-7356



What must I do after applying online via GATE e-Service?

You must regularly check your email for correspondences from GATE e-Service as well as from the USC and adhere promptly to the requirements therein.



I cannot login via GATE e-Service/I forgot my password or username, what should I do?

Queries and concerns can be directed to the FGAD via 800-GATE or you can visit the main office located at #16 Warner Road, St. Augustine. The same building at the On-The-Job/OJT Program (**Landmarks:** South Caribbean Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; UWI Open Campus).



I have financial questions and queries about my USC school fees, who can I contact?

If the documents via the USC website do not suffice, you can see your financial officer at the Office of Student Finance during their office hours (the schedule of which is located at the said office or can be gain via 662-2241 Ext. 1225/1221)