CERVEAU INITIATIVE

www.cerveauinitiative.org

SONNE SCHOLARSHIP

Fuel for the Driven

Beneficiary Handbook

A guide to expectations, responsibilities, and staying connected, from admission through graduation and beyond.



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Welcome, you are now part of the family

Congratulations and welcome to the **Sonne Scholarship Programme**!

We are delighted to welcome you to the Sonne Scholarship family.
Being selected as a beneficiary is more than receiving financial support for your education. It is an opportunity, a responsibility and a reminder that someone believes in your potential and in what you can become.

We believe that education has the power to transform lives, families and communities. Through this programme, we want to help you continue your education, develop your talents and build a future that you can be proud of.

But this journey does not stop with receiving a scholarship.
It is also about making the most of this opportunity and embracing your responsibility as part of a community of young people striving to reach their potential.

We hope that you will see this scholarship not simply as financial assistance, but as a vote of confidence in you, and in the difference you can make

We believe that you can learn.
We believe that you can grow.
We believe that you can make a difference.
Now, it is your turn to believe in yourself.

Cerveau Initiative team

About us

Cerveau Initiative is a non-profit organization dedicated to empowering disadvantaged communities through education, health, and sustainable development.

We believe that collective action and compassion can create a more just and equitable world.
Our mission is to help individuals and communities reach their full potential by breaking down barriers and unlocking opportunities in education, health, and environmental sustainability. We focus on long-term, sustainable impact rather than short-term aid, building resilient communities that can thrive independently.



What do we do ?

- **Education:** We believe that education is the foundation for lasting change. We equip people with the tools to grow and create lasting change. We provide learning, mentorship, and skill-building opportunities for children and adults, supporting lifelong potential.

- **Health and Wellness:** We promote access to basic healthcare, raise awareness on preventive practices and help individuals live fuller lives.

- **Social Engagement:** We partner with local authorities, volunteers, and organizations to strengthen social cohesion and build local capacity. We do not just serve communities, we empower them to lead through active participation and inclusive growth, we foster resilience and shared ownership of development.

Our values

Our Impact

At Cerveau Initiative, we believe that meaningful change begins with action, compassion and a commitment to empowering others.
Through our initiatives in education, health, youth development and community engagement, we work to address real needs, support vulnerable communities and create opportunities for individuals to build a better future.

Our Mission

To partner with communities, leaders, and organizations to strengthen social cohesion, expand access to education and health, and promote environmental stewardship, empowering individuals and communities to shape resilient, inclusive futures.

Our Vision

We envision a world where every individual thrives, free from inequality and disadvantage, with empowered communities leading sustainable lives for generations to come.



Every story we hear, every life we touch, reminds us of the power we hold when we unite for a common cause. It's easy to feel overwhelmed by the challenges our communities face, but let us remember that every small action, every moment of kindness, ripples out into a greater wave of impact. Your dedication fuels our efforts and inspires countless individuals to rise above their circumstances.
– Founder and Board Chair.

What Sonne Scholarship means

The Sonne Scholarship Programme exists to break down financial barriers that stand in the way of education. It is designed to support your educational journey by easing the costs that can make it difficult for students to pursue their education. Depending on your individual situation, your scholarship may help cover:

- Tuition fees;
- Registration or examination fees;
- Books and educational materials;
- Uniforms and school supplies; or/and
- Other approved educational expenses.



Your specific award will be communicated to you directly. Please remember that this scholarship is dedicated to supporting your education and helping you thrive.

What we expect from you

Receiving a scholarship comes with responsibility. We do not expect you to be perfect, but we expect you to try. We expect you to take your education seriously and to make the most of the opportunity you have been given.

We ask you to:

BE COMMITTED
Attend your classes, participate actively in your education and make a genuine effort to progress.
BE RESPONSIBLE
Take responsibility for your studies, your documents, your commitments and your actions.
BE HONEST
Always provide truthful information. Never submit false documents or misrepresent your situation.
BE RESPECTFUL
Treat your teachers, classmates, family, fellow beneficiaries, programme staff, volunteers and partners with respect.
BE CURIOUS
Ask questions. Learn new things. Explore your interests. Develop skills beyond the classroom.
BE COURAGEOUS
Do not be afraid to dream beyond your current circumstances.
BE GRATEFUL
Remember the people and organisations that contribute to making this opportunity possible.

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Do's and Don'ts as a beneficiary

DO	DON'T
✓ Attend classes/training regularly and meet all academic deadlines.	✗ Miss classes or exams without informing the programme office in advance.
✓ Maintain the minimum CGPA/academic standard required by your award letter.	✗ Let your grades slip without reaching out for academic support.
✓ Submit progress reports, transcripts, and other paperwork on time.	✗ Ignore emails or requests for documentation from the scholarship office.
✓ Inform the programme office and our team immediately of any change in enrollment, address, or contact details.	✗ Change schools, programs, or withdraw from study without notifying the scholarship team.
✓ Use scholarship funds strictly for their intended purpose (tuition, fees, books, approved living costs).	✗ Use scholarship funds for unapproved or personal non-academic expenses.
✓ Represent the program with integrity in academic and public settings.	✗ Engage in academic dishonesty, misconduct, or behavior that damages the programme's reputation.
✓ Seek help early, whether it's academic, financial, or personal, through the support channels provided.	✗ Wait until a crisis to disclose that you are struggling.
✓ Participate in mentorship, alumni, and community events when invited.	✗ Disengage completely from the program community after funds are disbursed.
✓ Keep receipts and financial records if required for reporting.	✗ Assume verbal updates are enough. Always follow up in writing.
✓ Say thank you and stay connected. A short update once a term goes a long way.	✗ Disappear without a word once you've graduated.

Your academic results are important, but they are not the only measure of success. We also value effort, perseverance, personal growth and character.

Note: Repeated or serious violations of the "Don't" column may affect your funding status. When in doubt, ask the programme office before acting.



Your relationship with us

As a beneficiary of the Sonne Scholarship Programme, you are encouraged to maintain regular communication with your designated representative at Cerveau Initiative.

This relationship helps us follow your progress, understand your needs and provide support where necessary throughout your educational journey.



Monthly Follow-Up

You are expected to maintain monthly contact with your designated programme representative to share updates, discuss any challenges and communicate important changes affecting your studies or personal circumstances.

Quarterly Academic Review

At the end of every quarter, your school will be asked to provide an update on your academic reports, progress. This may include your school reports, examination results, attendance or other relevant information, depending on your educational level.

Open communication

If you encounter difficulties, need guidance or experience a situation that could affect your education, please contact your designated representative as soon as possible. You do not need to wait for your next scheduled follow-up to ask for support.

Our goal is to stay connected, follow your progress and help you make the most of this opportunity. Your commitment to regular communication is an important part of your journey with the Sonne Scholarship Programme.

Giving back during and after graduation

The Sonne Scholarship Programme is not only about receiving support; it is also about building a culture of solidarity, responsibility and giving back.

We believe that every opportunity received can become an opportunity to help someone else. As a Sonne Scholar, your journey doesn't end when you reach your goals. True success means bringing the ladder back down, so others can climb too. By mentoring, sharing opportunities, and supporting future students, you help build a cycle of empowerment where each generation lifts the next

DURING YOUR STUDIES

We encourage you to give back in ways that suit your abilities, schedule and circumstances.

Giving back may include:

- Participating in community outreach and volunteering activities organised by Cerveau Initiative.
- Sharing your knowledge and helping younger students with their studies.
- Contributing your time, skills or ideas to community projects.
- Supporting and encouraging fellow beneficiaries.
- Being a positive role model to others in your school or community.

STAYING CONNECTED AS AN ALUMNI/AS AN ALUMNI

We hope that, as you progress in your career and become more independent, you will remain connected to the Sonne Scholarship community and consider giving back in meaningful ways

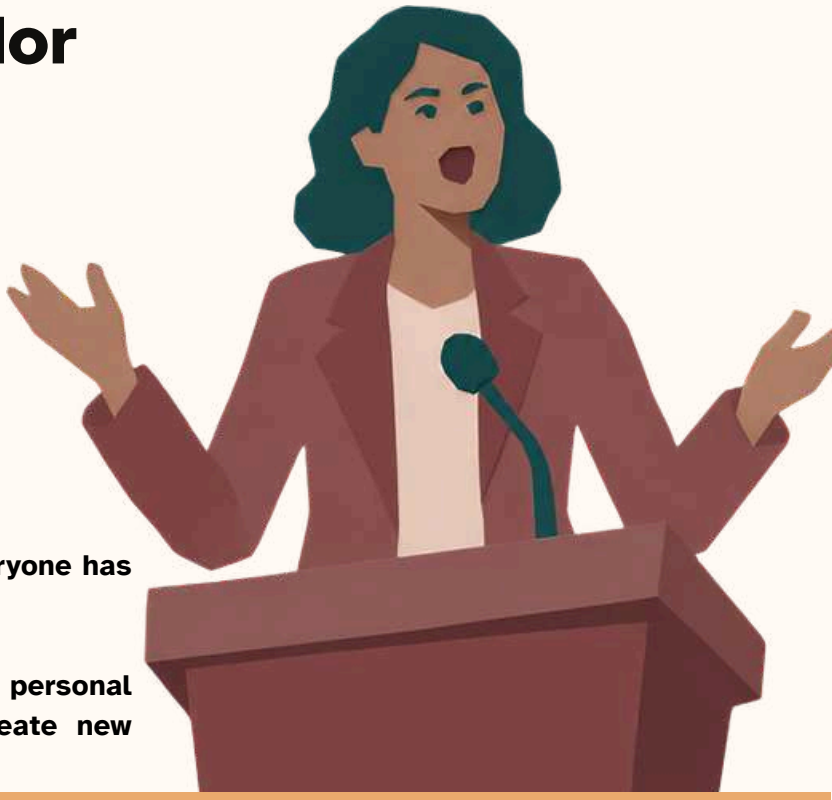
This could include:

- Mentoring current or future scholarship beneficiaries.
- Sharing your professional experience, knowledge and skills.
- Participating in career talks, workshops or educational activities.
- Supporting Cerveau Initiative through volunteering or professional contributions.
- Connect Cerveau Initiative and Sonne Scholarship Programme with your employer's corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives or donation programmes.
- Share or offer internships, job shadowing, or entry-level roles to new beneficiaries and recent graduates.
- Contribute financially, when able, to support the education of future students/beneficiaries.

> ***By mentoring, sharing opportunities, and supporting future students, you help build a cycle of empowerment where each generation lifts the next.***



Becoming a Mentor, Speaker, or an Ambassador



At Cerveau Initiative, we believe that everyone has something valuable to share.

Your experiences, knowledge, skills and personal journey can inspire others and help create new opportunities.

1 Mentorship

As you progress in your studies and career, you may have the opportunity to guide and encourage younger students or fellow beneficiaries. By sharing your experiences, offering advice and helping others navigate their educational journey, you can make a meaningful difference in someone's life.

2 Guest Speaking and Panels

We welcome beneficiaries who wish to share their experiences, knowledge and perspectives through educational workshops, career talks, community events and other Cerveau Initiative activities.
Whether you speak about your field of study, professional journey, personal challenges or lessons learned, your voice can encourage others to believe in their potential.

3 Ambassador and Selection Support

As a Sonne Scholarship beneficiary, you can help promote the values of education, solidarity, integrity and community engagement. Ambassadors may represent the spirit of the programme at selected events, encourage other young people, participate in awareness campaigns and help raise visibility for initiatives that create positive change.

Ready to Make a Difference?

You do not need to have all the answers or all the resources to get started. What matters is your willingness to contribute, collaborate and be part of something meaningful.
Get in touch with Cerveau Initiative to discover current opportunities and find the best way to get involved.
Together, we can turn ideas into action, partnerships into opportunities and collective efforts into lasting change.

Our message to you

We are not asking you to become someone else; we are asking you to become the best version of yourself.
Study hard, stay curious, be kind, respect others, ask for help, learn from your mistakes, dream boldly. And when you reach your goals, remember where your journey started.

One day, we hope you will be the person opening a door for someone else.

We believe in your potential and we are excited to support your journey.
Now make the most of this opportunity.

Welcome to the Sonne Scholarship Programme.

Cerveau Initiative Team

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