The Vice Chancellor
Usman Dan Fodio University
Sokoto
Sokoto State

IMPORTANT UPDATES ON THE TETFUND SCHOLARSHIP INTERVENTION FOR
ACADEMIC STAFF GUIDELINES

In line with the approval of the Board of Trustees, I hereby convey the following
updates to the guidelines of the TETFUND Scholarship for Academic Staff
intervention as follows:

i. You may recall that sponsorship by the Fund for the acquisition of higher
degrees had hitherto excluded unconfirmed academic staff of beneficiary
institutions. The Board has decided that this will no longer be a requirement
for accessing the TETFUND scholarship grant and has accordingly excised it
from the guidelines. Institutions are now free to present their unconfirmed
academic staff to be beneficiaries of the TETFUND scholarship;

ii. Sponsorship for Bench work had all along been restricted to only scholars
being sponsored locally by TETFUND. This also will no longer apply as a
requirement for sponsorship for Bench work. Accordingly, beneficiary
institutions are free to present for sponsorship, PhD scholars desirous of
sponsorship for Bench work abroad, notwithstanding whether they are being
sponsored by TETFUND locally or not. Beneficiaries of this are restricted
only to those doing their PhD programme in Nigeria.

2. The Fund has also refined its operational processes towards ensuring the
smooth processing of applications for scholarship that will substantially eliminate
delays towards the eventual commencement of study programmes by prospective
scholars. Accordingly, the following will now apply forthwith from January 1 2020
for study programmes commencing in September 2020:

a) Applications for scholarship will now be processed for payment en-bloc by
the Fund at two (2) different times of the year, i.e., May for those commencing
their study programme in September and October for those commencing their
study programme in January 2021;

All correspondence should be addressed to the Executive Secretary
b) All prospective scholars who wish to be sponsored by the Fund and who would be commencing their study programmes by September 2020 are mandatorily required to submit their applications for sponsorship to the Fund not later than 31st May 2020. Any application that is received after this date will only be considered against the next due date of commencement of studies, which is January of the following year;

c) Prospective scholars are specifically required to obtain a tuition fee invoice from their intended training institutions that would state the total amount payable as tuition for the entire duration of their study programme and forward this to TETFUND with their Admission letters. The invoice should contain the total fee payable for the entire duration of study and NOT for one (1) year only as has been the practice all along. The same invoice should bear the full name of the prospective scholar, and the bank account details of the institution, where the tuition will be paid. For the avoidance of doubt, the details should include: Total Amount Payable for the Course duration, which must be shown on the invoice, Bank Name, Bank Address, Account Number, Sort Code, ABA Routing No (for USA institutions)/SWIFT/BIC Code, IBAN No for Europe and UK institutions, Transit code (for Canadian institutions), and IFSC Number for Indian institutions and other such parameters that will easily enable payment of the applicable fees. Any application for scholarship that does not meet this mandatory requirement will not be considered for sponsorship by the Fund;

d) Conveyance of approval will only be given as a notification, but the release of funds will be put on hold until after the end of the period for submission, that is, May and October. Tuition will be paid directly to the training institution, while the upkeep and other related allowances will be credited to the home institution's TETFUND-dedicated account for the scholar.

3. The Fund is poised to ensure a hitch-free delivery of its intervention programmes and therefore enjoins all beneficiaries to keep abreast of the updated guidelines and comply accordingly.

4. Meanwhile, you are please reminded to forward to the Fund, details of your institution's domiciliary account. The Fund may not consider further applications for scholarship if this is not forwarded.

5. While thanking you for your understanding, please accept the kind regards of the Executive Secretary.

[Signature]

Arc. Babatunde Olajide, CFPM, PMP, MNIA
Ag. Director, Academic Staff Training & Development
For: Executive Secretary