



Departamento Archipiélago de San Andrés, Providencia y Santa Catalina Reserva de Biosfera Seaflower Nit: 892,400,038-2

# FUND "NUEVO COMIENZO" TO ACCESS HIGHER EDUCATION - ICETEX CALL 2023-1

# I. PURPOSE OF THE NEW BEGINNINGS FUND FOR ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

The purpose of this fund is to encourage and facilitate access, permanence and graduation in higher education for young people of the Archipelago Department of San Andres, Providencia and Santa Catalina, through the granting of educational credits 100% forgivable to cover all tuition costs of graduates as of year 2019 of the Educational Institutions of the Archipelago Department of San Andres, Providencia and Santa Catalina, to access undergraduate academic programs, which have at least qualified registration at the technical, professional, technological and university levels in Higher Education Institutions IES, approved by the Ministry of National Education, Providencia and Santa Catalina, to access undergraduate academic programs, which have at least qualified registration at the professional technical, technological and university levels in Higher Education Institutions, approved by the Ministry of National Education. In accordance with the conditions and requirements established in the Fund's Operating Manual.

#### II. AMOUNTS AND ITEMS TO BE FINANCED.

The Archipelago Department will finance the following through the present fund:

**Tuition:** 100% of tuition cost for the total duration of the undergraduate academic program, which is at least legally registered at the professional technical, technological or university level selected by the beneficiary, in a Higher Education Institution - approved by the Ministry of National Education.

**Allowances:** The amount for allowances for the beneficiaries who choose this item will be 4.5 SMMLV per semester, which may be used to cover expenses such as transportation, food, stationery, among others.

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Each beneficiary will be able to choose between tuition or allowances according to his or her needs. In neither case will they be able to benefit from both items.

## III. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Be a high school graduate of an Educational Institution of the Department of San Andres, Providencia and Santa Catalina as of 2019, which will be validated by the Secretary of Education's Office.
- 2. Not older than 21 years.
- 3. To have taken the secondary education national exam PRUEBAS SABER 11 in the year 2019 or following.
- 4. To have obtained a minimum score of 220 points on the Saber 11 Test.
- 5. To have been admitted to an undergraduate academic program, which at least has been legally registered at the technical, technological or professional level in a Higher Education Institution approved by the Ministry of National Education or to be enrolled in an undergraduate academic program, which has at least is legally registered in an Higher Education Institution approved by the Ministry of National Education, maximum in the fourth (4th) semester, and to have obtained a minimum academic average of three six (3.6) in the last academic period.
- 6. To have a guardian who will act as joint debtor of the credit and/or legal representative of the beneficiary.
- 7. To have the OCCRE residence and circulation card.
- 8. To be of 1, 2 and 3 social status.
- 9. The family of the applicant of candidate should be residing in the Archipelago Department.
- 10. The best high school graduate as of year 2021 of each public or private Educational Institution of the Archipelago Department will be a direct beneficiary of a forgivable loan, fulfilling the conditions established in the present Operational Manual.
- 11. The high school graduates with the 10 best scores on the Saber 11 Test as of the year 2021 of the Archipelago Department shall also be direct beneficiaries of the forgivable loan granted by this Fund, fulfilling the requirements established in these Operating Manual.
- 12. Register through the ICETEX website within the deadlines, terms and conditions set forth in the call for applications.
- 13. All others defined in each call for applications.

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#### IV. 2023-1 CALL CALENDER

Registration:	From December 05, 2022, to January 05, 2023
OCCRE validation	From January 10 to January 13, 2023
Scoring Secretary of Education's Office	From January 16 to January 20, 2023
Approval by the Administration Board	January 24, 2023
Publishing of results	January 30, 2023

#### V. SELECTION CRITERIA AND SCORING OF THE CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

For each of the calls there will be a selection and scoring process that will be carried out by the Secretary of Education's Office of the Department of San Andres, Providencia and Santa Catalina among the applicants with the highest scores in the SABER 11 Tests. Students who meet the requirements will be selected in a descending order of SABER 11 test scores until the Fund's budget availability is exhausted.

In case of equal scores between two or more candidates, when the resources available in the Fund are not sufficient to meet more applications, the tie-breaking methodologies will be established in each call and the following criteria will be taken into account for the tie-breaker:

- Socioeconomic Status
- Nature of the Higher Education Institution
- Accreditation of the program.

#### **IMPORTANT**

 The beneficiaries of the Fund must be students who have not been selected and/or are beneficiaries of the Ser Pilo Paga program of the Ministry of National Education in any of its versions and of the forgivable credit program of the San Andres Plan of the Presidency of the Republic and the Ministry of National Education.

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- The best high school graduates as of the year 2021 from each public or private educational institution and the 10 high school graduates with the best scores on the saber 11 tests of the Archipelago Department as of the year 2021 may be of any socioeconomic status, since the benefit is given for their academic performance.

The legality and veracity of the documentation to be submitted and the information provided in the application form is the sole and exclusive responsibility of the applicant. Consequently, if in any instance of the selection process, scoring and awarding of credits, anomalies, inconsistencies or irregularities attributable to or previously known by the applicant are found; this will result in the annulment of the entire process, without prejudice to any penalties and criminal charges that may be applicable.

Real and correct contact information must be filled out, that is to say, the e-mail, cell phone number, home telephone number and address information must be complete and correctly written, both for the student and for the guardian or joint debtor, since the credit legalization process will be carried out through the e-mail.

- The FULL NAMES AND LAST NAMES, that is to say, as they appear in the identification document, must be REGISTERED IN THE FORM, both of the student and of the guardian or joint debtor.

## VI. FORMALIZATION OF THE FORGIVABLE LOAN

Once the awarding of the forgivable loans by the Fund's Board of Administrators has been made, the ICETEX will send the selected applicants the legalization instructions, through the means of communication provided for this purpose.

Those selected must upload the legalization documents through the platform provided by the ICETEX, within the term established by the Board of Administrators.

ICETEX will notify each beneficiary of the process for the constitution of guarantees through the means established by this Entity.

Once ICETEX has verified compliance with the requirements and supports, the respective disbursement will be made in accordance with the disbursement authorization sent by the Board of Administrators.

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#### **Academic documents:**

- 1. Receipt of enrollment or proof of admission from the institution of higher education, specifying the academic period to be attended, total duration of the academic program and tuition fee.
- 2. Copy of the results of the Saber 11 Tests with a score equal or higher than 220.
- 3. Transcript of grades of the year/semester, of the immediately previous academic period for students in second, third and fourth semester.

#### **General documents:**

- 1. Completed ICETEX form.
- 2. Legible photocopy of the beneficiary's identity document.
- 3. Legible photocopy of the OCCRE Residence and Circulation Card.
- 4. Copy of the utility bill of the place of residence of the beneficiary's family nucleus showing the socioeconomic status.
- 5. Legible photocopy of the identification document of the joint debtor.

ICETEX and the Higher Education Institutions will be responsible for reviewing this documentation and verifying the information reported in the registration form. It is worth noting that requests for legalization that are submitted with incomplete documentation or with inconsistencies with the information recorded in the application form or in an untimely manner will not be considered.

In the event that adjustments must be made to this documentation, applicants will be contacted so that they can make them immediately.

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