TO KNOW MORE ABOUT KANYASHREE PRAKALPA

Talk to someone in Charge

- **At your educational institution:** The Head Teacher or Head of Institution is the first person you should go to if you need any questions answered.
- **Your Block or Sub-Divisional office:** Every Block office has a Block Development Officer who is obliged to give you information and help on Kanyashree Prakalpa. (Those living in urban areas should visit their Sub-Divisional Offices and speak to the Sub-Divisional Officer)
- **Your District Office:** Every District’s Headquarters (also known as the District Magistrate’s Court or the District Collectorate) has a special office called the Kanyashree Cell. You can speak to the Kanyashree District Project Manager or the District’s Kanyashree Nodal Officer.
- In Kolkata, the Kanyashree Cell is located at the Directorate of Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal.

**REMEMBER:** there are tasks of girls applying for Kanyashree, so it is important that you keep the following information handy, and provide it correctly whenever you are approaching anyone for help—your full name, institutions' name and address, and your birth date.

If you have applied for Kanyashree and need help you must provide your Form Serial No, your Kanyashree ID and your bank account number.

To find out the progress of your application via SMS, type GETSTATUS <Application ID><Year> and send it to 9002481874

Visit www.wbkanyashree.gov.in

I AM A KANYASHREE GIRL ARE YOU?

Through Kanyashree, the West Bengal Government supports girls who want to complete their education and delay their marriages till they are at least 18 years old.

A Kanyashree girl is one who refuses to get married until she is at least 18 years old. She knows that getting married before 18 is illegal, and can do lasting damage to her health, her ability to look after herself and her family and put her entire future in danger.

A Kanyashree girl is one who is determined to get a complete education. She does so because she knows that a full education gives her many opportunities in life.

Girls receiving scholarships or stipends or benefits from other government schemes and sources can be Kanyashree girls too.

WHAT BENEFITS DOES A KANYASHREE GIRL GET?

From the age of 13, a Kanyashree girl gets a sum of Rs. 750/- once every year until she reaches age 18. At age 18 (and before she turns 19), she gets a one-time Grant of Rs. 25,000/-. What’s more ... she gets this money in a bank account in her own name... and she can decide for herself what she wants to do with the money.

However, Kanyashree girls get much more than just financial help. They get to do a lot of fun things. They become members of Kanyashree groups in their schools and communities. They participate in exciting activities, trainings and sports events specially designed for them, including self defence training and the government comes forward to provide them with benefits from other schemes.

Kanyashree Prakalpa
A scheme for the empowerment of adolescent girls

Women & Child Development & Social Welfare Department
Government of West Bengal
**YOU CAN BE A KANYASHREE GIRL IF YOU ARE**

- Between the age of 13 and 19
- Enrolled and regularly attending Class VIII or above in an educational institution
- From a family whose income is not more than Rs. 1.2 lakhs per year.
- Unmarried and pledge to stay unmarried till age 18, the legal age of marriage

*If your family’s annual income is more than Rs. 1.2 lakhs a year you can still be a Kanyashree girl if you are:*

- Living In a Home registered under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 or
- Have lost both parents or
- Specially-abled (with a disability of 40% or more).

Specially-abled girls can apply for Kanyashree’s Annual Scholarship as soon as they reach age 13, even if they have not reached Class VIII.

**WHAT KIND OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION SHOULD YOU BE IN?**

- In a school, madrasah or West Bengal open-school study centre.
- In a college or West Bengal open-university study centre
- In a Vocational Training, Technical Training or Industrial Training centre
- In a Sports Institute (only if you are 18 years old). Girls under age 18 studying in Sports Institutes cannot become Kanyashree girls.

Your educational institution must be one that is registered in West Bengal and recognized by the government.

Educational institutions also need to be registered with the Kanyashree Scheme before their students can apply for its benefits.

Check with your Head Teacher/Head of Institution if your institution is registered with the scheme.

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**STEPS TO BECOMING A KANYASHREE GIRL**

**Step 1** Open a bank account

Kanyashree’s benefits will be sent by the government DIRECTLY to a bank account which must be IN YOUR name. If you already have an account in your name, you do not need to open another account.

You must make sure your bank account stays ‘alive’ by depositing and withdrawing money regularly, even if it is in very small amounts. Bank accounts that are not used at least once every few months become ‘ineffective’, and Kanyashree money will not be transferred to your account.

Your bank will give you a passbook when you open an account. If the bank does not issue a passbook immediately, ask the bank manager to certify your bank account details on the bank’s letterhead.

**Step 2** Be prepared with necessary documents

- A photo copy of your birth certificate
- A declaration by your parent/legal guardian that you are unmarried
- A photocopy of your parent/legal guardian’s income certificate (if he/she is employed) or a declaration of family income (if he/she is self-employed)
- If you are specially-abled, a photocopy of your certificate of disability
- If your mother and father are deceased you need a declaration from your legal guardian and photocopies of death certificates of your mother and father
- A photocopy of the first page of your bank passbook or letter from bank certifying your bank account details
- A recent passport size photograph taken on a white background
- A photocopy of your Aadhaar card, if you have one.

If you are living in a shelter home and do not have your certificates available, the Home’s Superintendent will provide the certificates you need.

If you don’t have a birth certificate you can still apply for the annual scholarship by asking the Head Teacher to certify your birth date from the school’s records.

However, in subsequent years you may not be allowed to renew your scholarship unless you have one. Eighteen year old girls applying for the one-time grant also need to provide birth certificates.

You must obtain a birth certificate as soon as possible from your panchayat or municipal office.

**Step 3** Apply through your educational institution

Applying for Kanyashree Prakalpa is easy; your educational institution will give you an application form.

1. Fill up the application form with the help of your parents and sign in all the necessary places. Attach all the necessary documents and paste your photograph on the top-right of page 1 of the application form.
2. Before submitting your application check that:
   - Your name on the Kanyashree application form is identical to the one on your bank passbook, and that you have mentioned all bank details correctly. **Any mistake here will result in your application being delayed for many months, be rejected or the money meant for you could go to someone else’s bank account.**
   - The phone number is a mobile number, and that it belongs to you or a close family member. This is important because you will receive SMS messages on this number.
   - When you submit your application to your Head Teacher, make sure you collect the Acknowledgement Slip. Keep this paper carefully - it is proof that you have applied for Kanyashree Prakalpa, and contains all the details you need to track your application’s progress.
   - When you submit your application to your Head Teacher, she will enter all the details online. Your application will then be processed by various government offices until it is sanctioned by your District Magistrate, and banks will transfer money to your bank account. This process should take about two months.

**Your responsibilities**

Once you submit your application, you must:

a) Collect the Acknowledgement Slip

b) Track your application’s progress with your Head of Institution.

Every year, you must check with Head of Institution for renewing your scholarship.

As soon as you become 18 years old, you must tell your Head of Institution if you want to apply for the one-time grant.

If you are moving from one institution to another and are having problems with transfer of your Kanyashree records, you must contact your block or district office without delay.

You must regularly update your passbook to check whether you have received the money and let your Head Teacher know when you receive it.