



International Teaching Aid  
**Competition 2023**

Reconnoitering Innovative Ideas in Postnormal Times

**iTAC**

**2023**

**iTAC 2023**  
**INTERNATIONAL TEACHING AID COMPETITION**  
**E-PROCEEDINGS**

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## **PREFACE**

iTAC or International Teaching Aid Competition 2023 was a venue for academicians, researchers, industries, junior and young inventors to showcase their innovative ideas not only in the teaching and learning sphere but also in other numerous disciplines of study. This competition was organised by the Special Interest Group, Public Interest Centre of Excellence (SIG PICE) UiTM Kedah Branch, Malaysia. Its main aim was to promote the production of innovative ideas among academicians, students and also the public at large.

In accordance with the theme "Reconnoitering Innovative Ideas in Post-normal Times", the development of novel ideas from the perspectives of interdisciplinary innovations is more compelling today, especially in the post-covid 19 times. Post-pandemic initiatives are the most relevant in the current world to adapt to new ways of doing things and all these surely require networking and collaboration. Rising to the occasion, iTAC 2023 has managed to attract more than 267 participations for all categories. The staggering number of submissions has proven the relevance of this competition to the academic world and beyond in urging the culture of innovating ideas.

iTAC 2023 committee would like to thank all creative participants for showcasing their innovative ideas with us. As expected in any competition, there will be those who win and those who lose. Congratulations to all the award recipients (Diamond, Gold, Silver and Bronze) for their winning entries. Those who did not make the cut this year can always improve and join us again later.

It is hoped that iTAC 2023 has been a worthy platform for all participating innovators who have shown ingenious efforts in their products and ideas. This compilation of extended abstracts published as iTAC 2023 E-Proceedings contains insights into what current researchers, both experienced and novice, find important and relevant in the post-normal times.

Best regards,

**iTAC 2023 Committee**  
**Special Interest Group, Public Interest Centre of Excellence (SIG PICE)**  
**UiTM Kedah Branch**  
**Malaysia**

## **DO YOU CONSIDER FURTHERING YOUR STUDY? SCHOLARSHIPMY.COM**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Many students who seek scholarships face challenges due to a lack of awareness and complicated application processes. Because of lack of knowledge of available scholarships, qualifying criteria, and deadlines, students may miss out on chances to apply for it. As a result, they encounter difficulties in financing their education and may need to rely on personal savings or costly student loans. To solve this issue, we have created scholarshipmy.com website to help students create awareness and solve their problems in searching for scholarships available in Malaysia. It was the first platform in Malaysia that provided all the scholarships available in a single platform. The objective of the platform is to provide detailed information on how to apply, selection criteria and guidelines. Students also can compare the scholarships available on the platform and apply for the best fit with the criteria. This product differs from others in that it gives students a unique opportunity to acquire full information on scholarships granted by both public and private organizations. Students can use this tool to remain on top of important application deadlines, ensuring they never miss out on prospective funding possibilities. The uniqueness of the website is that students can compare the process of applying for scholarships and with the option of asking for a loan through PTPTN (National Higher Education Fund Corporation). This

website also includes a calculator that determines the loan amount that must be repaid in the future. As a result, students will be aware of the amount they need to pay in the future. In conclusion, this website helps students to save time, provide golden opportunities in applying for scholarships, motivate them to further study and create awareness of scholarships available in Malaysia. This innovation also will support the Malaysian Government's effort to attract, motivate and retain local talented human capital and meet SDG4.

**Keywords:** scholarship, financial, students, study.

## **BACKGROUND**

Many students who seek scholarships face challenges due to a lack of awareness and complicated application processes. Because of lack of knowledge of available scholarships, qualifying criteria, and deadlines, students may miss out on chances to apply for it. As a result, students encounter difficulties in financing their education and may need to rely on personal savings or costly student loans. To solve this issue, we have created scholarshipmy.com website to help students create awareness and solve student problems in searching for scholarships available in Malaysia. It was the first platform in Malaysia that provided all the scholarships available in a single platform.

## **PROBLEM STATEMENT**

Scholarship is known among students especially who want to further their study to a higher level of education and each year recorded thousands of students from diverse social groups submit applications for a variety of scholarships. However, there are still many qualified students who do not apply for scholarships due to a lack of knowledge or might be the application process being difficult to access.

In news 2021, stated that half of the school leavers chose not to continue their studies despite education can enhance their standard of living. Financial constraints must be the main reason for students to stop studying since they have to deal with the university fees and all those expenses of living. Especially students from low income families, they have no choice but to work in order to survive in life. The potential students who are not able to afford their studies should apply for scholarships to get full financial support for their studies. The lack of knowledge about the scholarship makes students lose their opportunities to improve their education level.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The objective of the platform is to provide detailed information on how to apply, selection criteria and guidelines. Students also can compare the scholarship available on the platform and apply for the best fit with the criteria. Furthermore, this website performs to encourage students to apply for a scholarship and make it easier for them to access various scholarships that are available in a single website. In addition, it can address the issue of students falling behind, help students financially to ease their burden in financing their education.

There are various scholarships which are from government and private scholarships that are available are listed in the website for students to easily find what's fit for them according to the requirements stipulated in every qualification of the scholarship. As a result, students don't need to spend so much time searching for scholarships and students become more alert of the scholarship application opening time and deadline. Moreover, this website also assists the students who are first time in applying for scholarship as the process of applying for the scholarship is provided.

Ultimately, students that achieve good results in their examination have a bright future ahead since they are aware about the scholarship that will finance their studies when they decide to further study for higher education. They won't need to worry about finances anymore because the scholarship would cover their university fees and allowances. Every excellent student deserves to get a quality education and scholarship in order for them to not feel the financial burden in continuing their studies.

## **NOVELTY**

Scholarshipmy.com offers several novel features that make it a unique and valuable resource for students. Firstly, the loan calculator feature allows students to calculate the potential loan amount they may borrow from PTPTN, helping them plan their finances and understand their loan obligations. Secondly, the website provides a scholarship matching platform where students can input their qualifications and preferences, enabling them to easily find scholarships that are relevant to them. This feature saves students time and effort in searching for scholarships individually. Lastly, scholarshipmy.com ensures that students stay updated on important scholarship application deadlines, including those from government, private, and corporate agencies. By providing timely information, the website helps students avoid missing out on valuable scholarship opportunities. Overall, these features combine to simplify the scholarship application process, empower students in making informed financial decisions, and enhance their chances of securing scholarships for their education.

## **COMMERCIALIZATION POTENTIALS**

We believe this website will be one of the main pillars for prospective students looking for the

best scholarships. We also get the cooperation as a partner of the Ministry of Higher Education (KPT) which is in line with their mission which is "Preserving a quality higher education ecosystem in order to develop individual potential and meet national aspirations" Furthermore, we will also work with the Teach For Malaysia agency to commercialize our excellent products. Joining together will create more bright opportunities for potential students because they are well known for their mission which is "One day, all children in Malaysia will have the opportunity to realize their potential through quality education"

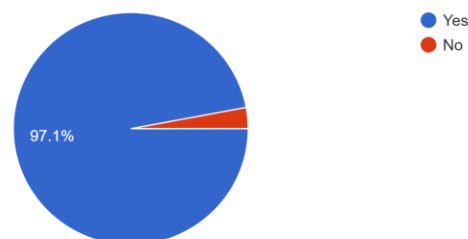
## BENEFIT TO COMMUNITY

This scholarship website will assist students in learning more about the available scholarships. Every scholarship available in Malaysia is listed below, along with the prerequisites for applying. In addition, if they choose to make a loan, we also include a student loan like PTPTN. This website might encourage more students to pursue higher education. The majority of respondents agreed that the family's financial difficulties were the main problem. Many people have stopped learning how to avoid adding to their debt because of the rise in living expenses. The help of this scholarship website, capable students who want to advance their education will have the opportunity to do so without having to worry about the cost of education. Experts will eventually be born in our nation as a result of this.

## FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNITY

According to our survey, it is clear that high school graduates who desire to continue their education will profit most from this product because they lack the experience of selecting a scholarship.

1) Do you find that scholarshipmy.com website very helpful for students that are looking for scholarship ?  
34 responses



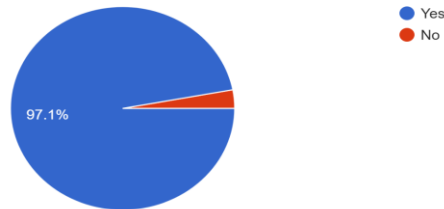
**Figure 1.** Usefulness

In Figure 1, it shows that the majority of the students vote for yes. We can see that this website



is useful for students before applying for a student loan, and find a suitable scholarship first.

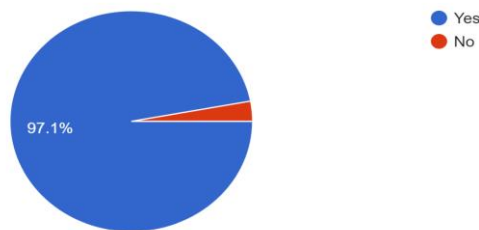
2) Do you recommend this website to commercialize?  
 34 responses



**Figure 2.** Commercialization

Majority of the respondents agree that we commercialize this website to the public. It is to make the students aware of the scholarship available in Malaysia and aware of the financial situation before they make a student loan.

3) Do you think this website is student friendly to use?  
 34 responses

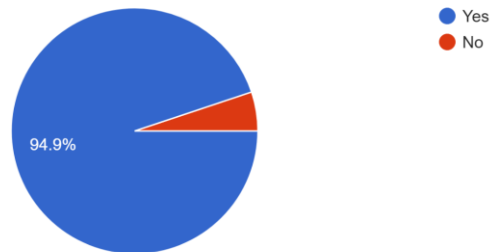


**Figure 3.** User-friendly

We made this website so that it is easy to understand by all ages and many agree that this website is easy to use. As we can see 97.1% voted for yes in the graph.

4) Has your knowledge about the existence of scholarships increased?

39 responses

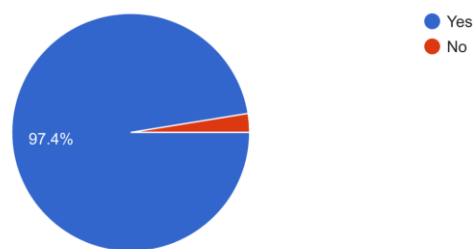


**Figure 4.** Informative

According to the survey, 94.9% of respondents agree that the existence of this product can raise students' awareness of the many kinds of scholarships offered in Malaysia.

5) Does the loan calculator feature help you make a decision before making a student loan

39 responses



**Figure 5.** Feature Usefulness

According to the preceding table, 97.4% of respondents concur that the feature loan calculator aids students in making decisions before signing up for an education loan like the PTPTN.

## CONCLUSION AND REFLECTION

Scholarships are effective tools for advancing education, recognising talent, encouraging diversity, and promoting social progress. They have the potential to change people's lives, empower them, and shape a better future. Institutions, organisations, and governments must continue to support scholarships and work towards a more equitable and accessible education system for all. Scholarship reflection is a continuous process, not a one-time event. It contributes to the intellectual growth of scholars, the quality of their work, and the advancement of knowledge. Scholars can refine their research, challenge assumptions and

make meaningful contributions to their respective fields by critically examining their own ideas and engaging in reflective practices.

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