

Madhvani offers scholarships worth sh700m

By Geoffrey Mutegeki

The Muljibhai Madhvani Foundation has launched the 2019 scholarship award worth sh700m to brilliant, but financially challenged students.

This is the 16th consecutive year the foundation is giving out scholarships. Over 2,000 needy students have so far benefited from the fund since its revival in 2003.

Last week, the chairman board of directors, Madhvani Foundation, Gerald Sendawula, revealed that 90% of the scholarship will go to undergraduate students and 10% for post-graduate students.

"The foundation is proud to be part of Uganda's education dream. Uganda is gifted with many brilliant students, who unfortunately, cannot afford to pay their fees. The foundation comes to support them," Sendawula said.

He applauded the foundation for supporting Ugandan students in a journey that begun in 1962, although it stopped in 1972 when Idi Amin expelled Asians.

Beneficiaries interested in pursuing programmes in both science and arts subjects are advised to apply for the scholarships.

Henry Kemba, the director of the foundation, urged Ugandans to grab the opportunity.

"I encourage female students to apply," Kemba advised.

Joel Bagatya, a beneficiary of the 2017 scholarship, says he had to try twice before he succeeded.

"It is very competitive, but I was hopeful. I first applied in 2016, but was not awarded. I tried again in 2017 and got it," Bagatya says.

He is a fourth-year bachelor of electrical engineering student at Ndejje University.

Proscovia Kisakye, another beneficiary and second-year student at Kyambogo University, pursuing a bachelor of science in technology, says if you are honest in the application, you can win it.

She says: "You have to be determined when applying. Submit all the required documents and always tell the truth."

The scholarship is open for sponsorship in food science and technology, agriculture, biology, chemistry, medicine, architecture, veterinary medicine, commerce, hotel management, pharmacy, nursing, engineering, information technology, and environment disciplines.

Gabriel Opio, a member of the scholarship committee, said the application process is transparent and the beneficiaries are selected on merit.