Support for Students from Low Income Families to Enable them to Complete University

1. Feed My Lambs Project

FOREWORD

The launching of Saint Mary's University's Feed My Lambs (FML) program during its 92nd Founding Anniversary is a testament to its being a missionary Catholic school. The program, which s under the Lingkod Maria Community Development and Advocacy Center (LMCDAC) is one of the LMCDAC's many programs aimed at helping those who are in need. It was a result of collaboration amoung various units and was drawn from the University's mission or the reason why SMU was established 92 years ago. Extension services are not only carried out because it is one of the three-fold functions of the University, but because marians believe that the spirit of its founders, the CICM missionaries, which is embodied in the tagline "*Once a Marian, always a Missionary*" must live on.

With restrictions on movement brought by compliance to basic health protocols and social distancing measures. SMU had to drastically rethink about how it could continue to serve its beneficiaries. In a way, the corona virus pandemic has been a formative event that has driven the University to think of other means in carrying out its social responsibility projects and programs. The crisis also propelled members of the Marian community to contribute their time, efforts and resources to help the identified beneficiaries.

In order to sustain the program, it is imperative that a manual, which will be used as a guide in its implementation, be developed. I therefore commend the LMCDAC for coming up with its initial FML manual. May his manual provide not only the needed guidance in carrying out the project but also in inspiring everyone to promote the act of kindness and contribute to this charitable program. Along this line, let me leave you with the following Bible verses from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians:

> Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
>
> 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

In these challenging times, may the Marian virtue of Mercy or the willingness to put the needs of others before ourselves live in our hearts forever, Amen.

JOHN OCTAVIOUS S. PALINA

PART IV

Feed My Lambs Project

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I. Rationale

And the King will reply, 'Truly I tell you,
whatever you did for one of the
least of these brothers of Mine,
you did for Me.

- Matthew 25:40

The United Nations General Assembly adopted in 2015 the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. There are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and one of these is Zero hunger. Hunger happens when a population experience severe food insecurity over a period of time because of lack of money, access to food and other resources (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2020).

It was stated in the Action Against Hunger International Nutrition Security Policy, as cited in Action Against Hunger (2020), that more than 690 million people still go hungry and around 10 million

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are undernourished from 2018-2019. The 2018-2019 data on undernourishment is actually 60 million more than in 2014.

Poverty (FAO, 2020) is one of the reasons that cause people to experience hunger. Poverty affects food security as much as it affects the education of people. Poverty impedes opportunities for education. For those who have been in school despite of poverty however, experience difficulty in their academics. In the mixed methods study of Hickey, Shields and Henning (2019), there are college students who stated that their academic and/or athletic performance had been impacted by hunger. Their study supported on-campus activities that would address food security. Meza, Altman, Martinez and Leung (2019) presented the different psychosocial effects of food insecurity. These include the "stress of food insecurity interfering with daily life, a fear of disappointing family, resentment of students in more stable food and financial situations, and inability to develop meaningful relationships, sadness from reflecting on food insecurity, feeling hopeless or undeserving of help, and frustration directed at the academic institution for not providing enough support".

In the country, President Duterte created the Inter-Agency Task Force on Zero Hunger through Executive Order No. 101. As cited by Esguerra (2020), President Duterte cited the "need to carefully coordinate, rationalize, monitor and assess the efforts of concerned government agencies and instrumentalities to ensure a whole-of-government approach to eradicating hunger and achieving food security."

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Given the abovementioned information, Feed My Lambs project was conceptualized. It is to provide institutional support for deserving students of Saint Mary's University to lessen the burden in their academic lives by the provision of food. This project is also expected to improve their general well-being.

This Feed My Lambs Project is also a response to the challenge of CHED Commissioner Prospero De Vera when he said during a KUMAIN Webinar Series on October 26, 2020:

> CHED (...) is committed in harnessing the Higher Education Institutions to assist in the fight for achieving Zero Hunger. I say this because Higher Education Institutions, with their teaching, research, extension and production mandate and their public character and public responsibility must be active participants for the fight against zero hunger.

Moreover, as one of the leading Catholic educational institutions in the Philippines, most especially in the region, Saint Mary's University agrees and responds to the challenge on eradicating hunger through this FML Project. Other than the scholarships given to entrance scholars, the university provides financial assistance through the Scholarship Foundation and Development Inc., Socialized Tuition Fee Program along with other scholarships provided by private and public partners. In the academic year 2020, SMU has a total of 1094 scholars. But given its ideals on holistic learning, this FML project aims to compassionately extend help not only in the form of financial assistance.

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This FML project magnifies CICM's good news to the poor, which states:

> Our examination of conscience must extend to the lifestyle of all: bishops, priests, men and women religious, lay persons. In the poor countries the question will be whether belonging to the Church means entrance to an enclave of wealthy persons in a general context of poverty. In societies where consumption predominates, it will be the example of moderation we preach to others as something necessary to feed the millions of starving people in the world. (Syn. of Bishops, 1971, II ad 3.10 in Albino, 1974)
>
> Hence, this Feed my Lambs Project.

II. Objectives and Strategies

Generally, this Feed my Lambs project aims to aid student-beneficiaries in their academic learning through the provision of food.

The Feed my Lambs project specifically aims to:

1. improve the health and nutritional status of identified student-beneficiaries;
2. enhance knowledge of the beneficiaries on proper nutrition and health practices;
3. develop an appreciation of generosity; and
4. promote volunteerism and collaboration among the project partners and beneficiaries.

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2. SAMPLE MOA TO ENSURE STUDENTS WILL COMPLETE UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

I. PARTIES

YOKOHAMA TIRE PHILIPPINES, INC., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Republic of the Philippines, with office address at IE 5, Clark Freeport Zone, Philippines 2023, herein represented by its **Executive Vice President/Administration Division Manager, MR. SATOSHI MIURA** hereinafter referred to as **"YTPI"**;

-and-

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY, an autonomous institution duly recognized by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and existing under the laws of the Philippines, with principal address at Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya 3700 Philippines, herein represented by its **University President, Dr. John Octavious S. Palina** hereinafter referred to as **"SMU"**.

II. THE PROGRAM

1. The Program shall be known as **YTPI SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**.
2. YTPI Scholarship Program shall cover for the tuition, laboratory fees and miscellaneous fees for the entire semesters, including short term, until the grantees' completion of the college course.
3. YTPI Scholarship Program shall provide a maximum monthly allowance of one thousand pesos only (PHP 1,000.00) to the grantees.
4. YTPI Scholarship Program shall provide book allowance every semester amounting to two thousand pesos only (PHP 2,000.00) and shall not be provided during short term.
5. The numbers of grantees per year level shall be decided by YTPI.
6. YTPI Scholarship Program shall be represented by **MR. SATOSHI MIURA,** EVP/Administration Division Manager, or **MS. ANGELINA C. CASASOLA,** VP, CSR and Business Operation Department Manager.
7. Depending on the financial situation of YTPI, the coverage of program may be enhanced, reduced or terminated. However, the change on the coverage will only effect to newly selected grantees while previous grantees will maintain and enjoy the same coverage they have been receiving from the time they were selected until they have completed their entire college course.
8. Either party may terminate this Agreement upon the occurrence of any of the following events:
   8.1. Breach of any obligations under this Agreement and after having been notified in writing of such breach, the party at fault fails to remedy such breach to the satisfaction of the injured party within fifteen (15) days from receipt of such notice;
   8.2. Bankruptcy, insolvency, liquidation, corporate reorganization, suspension of transaction by banking organization, or a receiver or trustee is appointed for the defaulting party's assets and properties for the benefit of the creditors, or defaulting party generally becomes unable to deliver its obligation as they fail due; or
   8.3. Resolution for dissolution or merger.
9. SMU shall be free from any liability whatsoever that may arise from failure of YTPI to fulfill its obligations as herein provided. In such case, the grantee shall pay for his/her tuition and other fees. Should YTPI fail to pay its obligation within the period prescribed under Program Financing

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(item V), SMU may discontinue the scholarship grant without prejudice to its claims against YTPI, or from the grantee, at the option of SMU.

10. Notice of termination shall be given to the defaulting party and termination shall take effect fifteen (15) days from receipt of the written notice from the injured party.
11. This Agreement shall become effective as of the date written on item IX (Program Effectivity) and shall continue in full force and effect unless terminated by either party by giving to the other three (3) months written notice to terminate this Agreement.

III. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

1. Qualifications of the grantee:
   - 1.1. The grantee shall be chosen from among the academically outstanding student per year level at the time of the signing of the Agreement and are enrolled in the following courses:
     - Bachelor of Science in Electronic Engineering
     - Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering
     - Bachelor of Science in Management Accounting
     - Bachelor of Science in Business Administration Major in Financial Management
     - Other courses identified by YTPI
   - 1.2. For incoming freshman, he/she shall have a General Weighted Average (GWA) of eighty-five percent (85%) or above upon high school graduation. For first and second year applicants, he/she shall have a General Weighted Average (GWA) of eighty-five percent (85%) for the previous semesters and for third, fourth and fifth year applicants; he/she shall have a General Weighted Average (GWA) of eighty three percent (83%) for the previous semesters.
   - 1.3. He/she is a Filipino citizen.
   - 1.4. He/she should be physically and mentally fit.
   - 1.5. He/she should be a full-time student carrying the regular load as prescribed by the curriculum.
   - 1.6. All other SMU Scholarship guidelines shall apply.
2. Requirements:
   - 2.1. For incoming freshman, photocopy of Form-137A (Report Card) authenticated by the High School Principal or Registrar. For second, third, and fourth year applicants, copy of grades from the two previous semesters.
   - 2.2. A brief essay stating the reasons *why the applicant is deserving of the scholarship.*
   - 2.3. Completed YTPI Scholarship Form and YTPI Waiver Form.
3. The YTPI Scholarship Program shall be managed by SMU's Office of the Vice President for Mission and Identity following the guidelines set forth in this Agreement.
4. An updated/revised Waiver Form for the scholarship grantees can be referred to in Annex 1.
5. SMU, through the Office of the Vice President for Mission and Identity, shall provide YTPI copies of the grantees' official grades and other documents in line with their performance at the end of every semester.

IV. PROGRAM TERM AND RETENTION OF SCHOLARSHIP

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1. YTPI Scholarship Program will cover the cost for the entire or remaining college term of the grantee starting from the time he/she was officially selected as grantee of YTPI, renewable every semester/term, provided the grantee carries the full load per semester as prescribed by the SMU's curricula approved by CHED, provided further, that the grantee complies with SMU's standards on moral, health and scholastic requirements.
2. Evaluation of the Program shall be done by the SMU's Office of the Vice President for Mission and Identity and the authorized representative of YTPI at the end of every school year to determine the progress and scholarship status of its grantees.
3. The initial screening process shall be facilitated by the SMU's Office of the Vice President for Mission and Identity before recommendation to YTPI for final screening and official orientation and signing of waiver.
4. The grantees shall maintain a GWA not lower than 85% each semester for 1st and 2nd year and 83% for 3rd, 4th, and 5th year.
5. The grantees shall not withdraw from any subject without prior approval by the School Dean based on valid and meritorious reason/s.
6. The grantees shall not fail in any subject during the entire duration of their course.
7. The grantees shall exhibit integrity and proper behavior and decorum in all their actuations as grantees of the scholarship. Commission of fraud, dishonesty, or crime or a scandalous behavior shall result in termination of the grant.
8. The grantees shall forfeit their right to the scholarship if their discontinuance is due only to sickness, serious physical and mental injury, and emigration/relocation.
9. The grant may also be terminated if such illness will prevent the grantees from continuing their studies within a reasonable period.
10. The grantees shall not enjoy any other similar financial assistance from other sources.
11. The grantees are prohibited from accepting any kind of employment while they are on scholarship to require them to devote full time to their studies.
12. The grantees shall maintain communication and updates with the Office of the Vice President for Mission and Identity.
13. Failure to meet and maintain any of these requirements shall result in the termination of the grant.

V. PROGRAM FINANCING

1. YTPI shall issue check payable to SMU every semester. The amount is equivalent to the total assessment of the grantees based on the billing statement submitted by SMU's Finance and Treasury Office, to be paid as soon as YTPI receives a billing statement from SMU.
2. For book allowance, YTPI shall issue payment to the grantees by form of check or through bank-to-bank transactions amounting to two thousand pesos only (PHP 2,000.00) or the amount based on assessment of books required, whichever is lower, at the start of every semester.
3. For monthly allowance, YTPI shall issue payment to the grantees by form of check or through bank-to-bank transactions amounting to one thousand pesos only (PHP 1,000.00) every month.
4. YTPI shall pay an Administrative cost of 5% of the total amount of fees to be paid to SMU.

VI. ROLES MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

SMU's Office of the Vice President for Mission and Identity shall submit the following to YTPI:

a. Certificates of enrollment every semester.
b. Official receipt after every payment of the assessment.
c. Recommendation Report, complete with pertinent documents regarding continuity of each scholar on the Program based on the Scholarship Criteria per semester.

VII. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

YTPI shall:

1. Provide the necessary funding in accordance with the approved scholarship grant of its recipients.
2. Have the right to cancel/terminate the grants of grantees who do not comply with SMU's scholastic requirements.
3. Conduct the final screening/interview to the short-listed applicants referred by SMU.
4. Conduct company and scholarship orientation to successful grantees during the waiver signing.
5. Conduct a Scholar/School Annual Performance review through campus visit at the end of each academic year, to be facilitated by YTPI's Public Relations and General Services.

SMU, through its Office of the Vice President for Mission and Identity shall:

1. Assume responsibilities in the implementation of the Program.
2. Facilitate the initial screening process of the scholarship applicants.
3. Follow-up the grantees to ensure the avoidance of problems that may cause them to drop-out or in any way disrupt the Program.
4. Submit to YTPI reports and grantees' academic performance as stipulated in this Agreement by the end of every semester.
5. Both institutions shall be responsible in monitoring the grantees' abidance of the terms and conditions stipulated in the waiver.

VIII. RELATIONSHIP

YTPI acknowledges that this Agreement is not intended, or should be construed to create a partnership, agency, joint venture or employment relationship.

IX. PROGRAM EFFECTIVITY

This Memorandum of Agreement is made effective on **AUGUST 01, 2019** until **JULY 31, 2021** by and between:

YOKOHAMA TIRE PHILIPPINES, INC.
By:

SATOSHI MIURA
EVP/Administration Division Manager

And

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY
By:

DR. JOHN OCTAVIOUS S. PALINA
President

SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF:

ANGELINA CASASOLA
VP-Admin, Dept. Manager – CSR and Business Operation
Yokohama Tire Philippines, Inc.

FR. PHILIP A. YU, JR., CICM
Vice President for Mission and Identity
Saint Mary's University

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BAYOMBONG) S.S

BEFORE ME, a Notary Public for and in _____ this _____ day of _____ 2019, personally appeared the following:

Name	**Passport No./CTC No.**	**Date Issued/Place Issued**
SATOSHI MIURA	**TK1265898**	**FEBRUARY 18, 2010/ JAPAN**
DR. JOHN OCTAVIOUS S. PALINA		

Known to me to be the same persons who executed the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that the same is their free act and deed.

This instrument consists of eight (8) pages whereon this acknowledgment is written properly by the parties and their witnesses and refers to a Memorandum of Agreement.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL.

NOTARY PUBLIC

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Series 2019.

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ANNEX 1

GRANTEE'S WAIVER
YOKOHAMA TIRE PHILIPPINES, INC. SCHOLARSHIP
SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

As a recipient of YTPI Scholarship, I, _____ enrolled as *(Course and Year-level)* _____ at *(Name of School)* _____ agree to the following policies, guidelines and conditions of my grant:

I. Qualifications

a. That I am single and will remain so for the duration of my grant.
b. That I am a Filipino citizen.
c. That I am physically and mentally fit with no medical records of serious illness/es.
d. That I comply with the University standards on moral and scholastic requirements.

II. Conditions

a. That I shall maintain a Grade Point Average (GPA) not lower than 85% or 2.00 rating each semester.
b. That I will not drop any subject without prior approval of the school.
c. That I will follow the prescribed curriculum of my course.
d. That I shall not fail in any subject during the entire duration of my course.
e. That I shall exhibit integrity, proper behavior and decorum in all my actuations as grantee of the scholarship. Commission of fraud, dishonesty, or crime or a scandalous behavior shall result in termination of the grant.
f. That I shall forfeit the right to the scholarship if I discontinue my studies, unless such discontinuance is due to serious illness or emigration/relocation. The grant may also be terminated if such illness will prevent me from continuing my studies within a reasonable period.
g. That any disciplinary action taken against me by the school will be a ground for the termination of my grant.
h. That I shall not enjoy any similar financial assistance/scholarship from other sources while I'm on YTPI scholarship.
i. That I will participate in YTPI's corporate social activities whenever I am invited and free from academic obligations.
j. That I shall maintain communication and updates with the school.
k. That I shall religiously submit all official receipts/withdrawal slips and other documents that may be required from me by the school and YTPI as part of reference for my scholarship grant.

III. Employment

a. That I am prohibited from accepting any kind of employment while I am on YTPI scholarship, the intent of being is to require me to devote full time to my studies.
b. That I shall render the required practicum of my course at YTPI if deemed possible.

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c. That I shall commit to be part of YTPI's workforce for at least two (2) years upon graduation when invitation for employment was given to me by YTPI. An official invitation will be provided within (1) month after graduation and/or while waiting for the results of my licensure examinations.
d. In case I decline employment from YTPI, I am required to refund the full monetary benefits accorded to me within three (3) months after declining the offer.

Failure to meet and maintain any of these requirements may be grounds for terminating the grant.

CONFORME:

_____	_____
Signature over Printed Name of Grantee	Date
_____	_____
Signature over Printed Name of Parent/Guardian	Date
_____	_____
Witness	Date
_____	_____
Witness	Date

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