

## **Letter to the IUB Students**

Dear students,

Different private universities have recently published announcements regarding across-the-board tuition waivers (20-25%) for the upcoming semester, while still asking the students to pay on time. At IUB, we have decided for a more varied and personalized approach, acknowledging that all of our students are not in the same situation. Some of you are struggling financially, some academically – to a various degrees – and some are not struggling at all.

So, this is what we are going to do:

- 1) We will not charge the activity fee for Summer 2020, as a large part of activities (if not all) will be conducted online.
- 2) Returning students in financial difficulties will be allowed to pay their registration fee in three EQUAL installments (normally, the installments have been 50%, 30% and 20%, respectively). Furthermore, no interest will be charged for payment of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> installments for Summer 2020.
- 3) New students (freshers) in financial difficulties will be allowed to start attending classes by paying just the admissions fee of Tk 25,000 to secure their admission. Freshers in financial difficulties may also pay their registration fee for Summer 2020 in three EQUAL installments like the returning students. However, to make it easier for the freshers as they are also paying the admission fee, the last date for payment of the 1<sup>st</sup> installment will be in the first week of August 2020.
- 4) Students may continue as regular students of IUB with 6 credits [2 courses] only instead of the usual 9 credits. In extreme extenuating circumstances, a student may also continue the semester with only 3 credits [1 course] for Summer 2020.
- 5) Students availing financial aid /scholarship may register for 6 credits only (instead of the usual 12 credits) to continue with financial aid/scholarship for Summer 2020. If registered for 6 credit hours, the students who have availed any Financial Aid in Spring 2020 may be allowed to continue with the same percentage of discount during Summer 2020.
- 6) No cancellation of admission will be executed for students on probation at the end of Spring 2020 and Summer 2020.
- 7) New applications for financial aid will be processed according to our Financial Aid Policy. To be able to extend financial aid to a maximum number of the needy students, the employees of IUB are in the process of creating a Student Welfare Fund, with our personal contributions. Students in a dire financial situation will be able to continue their studies with support from this fund. In addition, our Trustees are also stepping up by creating endowed scholarship funds for our needy students. One such fund has already been established (The Bilquis Saifuddin Endowed Scholarship Fund), while some others are in the process.

Finally, dear students, I am making a personal appeal to you. In deciding to apply for any of the available options, make your decisions judiciously. Keep in mind that our means are limited, so if some benefit is granted to you, it will have to be denied to somebody else. Please realistically assess your situation – as compared to that of your peers – before you apply.



**Prof. Dr Milan Pagon**  
Vice Chancellor [Acting]  
Independent University, Bangladesh