

# ANC Education Launches Scholarship Programme For IELTS

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ANC Education launched a scholarship programme for the IELTS exam. ANC Education is Sri Lanka's largest education conglomerate offering a full spectrum of education programmes, from pre-school and secondary school through to university undergraduate and postgraduate programmes as well as Executive Education programmes and IT Professional Vendor Certification Programmes. ANC Education was established in 2002 with the vision to be the first choice in education in Sri Lanka. These programmes are currently being offered to a combined student body of over 6,000 students through ANC education providers, which includes ANC Education, Wycherley International School, St Nicholas international school, NetAssist International, Modern Montessori International (MMI) and PATHE Study Medicine. ANC Education is also the largest provider of transnational education in Sri Lanka and has brought the benefits of higher education to thousands of students through its transfer programmes by placing them in some of the best universities in America, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and Malaysia to complete their degree programmes. ANC education degree completion programme in Sri Lanka provides six American degree programmes including five BBA degrees in Marketing, Management, International Business, Finance, Entrepreneurship, Hospitality management, Psychology and Pre Med Leading to MD.

Being a pioneer in foreign higher education for the past 12 years and having partnered with many prominent universities worldwide, the IELTS scholarship programme is a pioneering initiative of ANC Education to give students from both national and international schools alike seeking a foreign education, the much needed foundation to propel their endeavour.

The special event at Tintagel was graced by distinguished invitees from most leading schools in Colombo and the outskirts of the city, and saw the introduction of the programme as well as the handout of the scholarships to the schools. The programme was launched as part of ANC Education's initiative to 'give back to the community' and is a special CSR project.

3000 scholarships will be awarded to deserving school students who aspire to study abroad in 2015 and 500 scholarships will be awarded in 2014. These scholarships will be handed to the Principals and heads of schools, who are encouraged to nominate deserving students for the scholarship. The nominated student will be presented with the document and then they can contact ANC where they will be directed to take a placement exam. All students who get through this exam will be eligible for the scholarship.

The scholarship offered by the ANC entails a six week programme for students to prepare for the IELTS exam. But however the IELTS examination ticket would have to be carried by the student.

"I think it's going to be a very productive enterprise since the interest to pursue higher education in foreign universities is growing day by day. And IELTS is one of the major hurdles that students will have to clear. And it is wonderful that ANC is reaching out to give something back to the society," Lakshmi Attygalle, Vice Principal of Royal College said.

Commenting on the initiative, Professor Indra De Soysa, Warden of St Thomas' College said, "it is extremely generous on the part of ANC, to offer 3000 scholarships to deserving students to do IELTS, and then think about a university and career after that. It provides opportunities to the youth. I wish ANC all the best. I think it is a very generous offer that most people should take up and make use of the opportunity."

IELTS or the International English Language Testing System is regarded as a mandatory requirement for those who want to pursue studying abroad, especially in destinations such as USA, Canada, UK and Australia. A pioneer in testing foreign students in their English ability, the test comprises of four components, namely reading, writing, listening and speaking. Though one might be well versed in English, the test structure requires some practice in order to ensure that the student passes successfully. As such ANC coaching sessions are dedicated to teach students the methodology and the finer points of facing the IELTS confidently and ANC is proud to announce that a pass rate of 99 percent in IELTS where the students boast of an average score of 6.5.

This is a first step in a journey of a thousand miles and there are more pioneering initiatives which are planned for 2015 and beyond for both students and academics said Dr Punarjeeva Karunanayake, Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director - ANC Education.