

**FOR IMMEDIATE MEDIA RELEASE**

06/10/2020

**A CALL FOR TERTIARY FEE REDUCTION FOR THE 2020/2021  
ACADEMIC YEAR**

The Concerned Tertiary Students of GIJ (CTSG) a vibrant student association is calling on the management and administrative bodies of tertiary institutions to rescind their decision of fee increment for the 2020/2021 academic year.

The Ghana Institute of Journalism and the University of Ghana are facing a 5% and 12% respective fee increment for the upcoming 2020/2021 academic year with hints of increment from other tertiary institutions.

To start with, the last semester of the past academic year was truncated due to the urgency to close down schools and the nation at large to curb the spread of the virus. Due to this, tertiary students did not fully benefit from the fees they paid in the 2019/2020 academic year. Several calls from some student bodies for a refund have however not been heeded to.

Concerning our school, the Ghana Institute of Journalism, there has not been any official communique from the management to students about the increase in fees. This increment, termed as proposed, has however been circulated on student platforms and equally stated on every student's academic portal.

Students of the institute are now to pay the said fees stated on the portal even before they get access to results from the 2019/2020 academic year, an academic year already paid for. It is interesting to note that a deadline i.e. October 9 has been stated on the portal when management has not even communicated officially to students about when the 2020/2021 academic year starts.

We state that since there has not been any official notice from the parliament of Ghana substantiating fee increment, it is enough to say that the fee increment is illegal, a subtle form of exploitation, and should be treated as such by all sundry.

**Recommendations**

The concerned Tertiary Students of GIJ hereby calls on the management of the institute to rescind their decision on the increment of the fees for the 2020/2021 academic year, officially inform students of the nature and structure of the coming semester, and extend the deadline for the decreased fees. We equally call on the Government of Ghana and the Ministry of education to listen to the plea of tertiary students and respond affirmatively to the fee decrement call from tertiary students.

## Press Release On Tertiary Fees Reduction

A larger number of students are on the verge of dropping out of school because of such an inconsiderate decision. The monetary commitment for the government in reducing school fees would not constitute a disadvantage to other beneficiaries of the Coronavirus Alleviation Program.

According to the World Education Service, there were 444,000 tertiary students in Ghana in 2017. Three years now, we are estimating it to be hovering around 500,000. On average, a Ghanaian tertiary student pays about GH¢2000.00 as fees annually. This means the government would have to absorb about GH¢600.00 off the tuition of every tertiary student. This amounts to about GH¢300 million.

This is one-fourth of the money allocated to the Coronavirus Alleviation Fund set up to help alleviate the suffering of Ghanaians in these tumultuous times. We believe this amount is within a range that the government can absorb.

We appreciate the relentless efforts our President to help his people during these tough times of the nation. We believe that directing funds from the Coronavirus alleviation program to help reduce fees is one of the key measures to further help the people of Ghana in these tough times.

We pray for the government to also look at education, and help Ghanaian students in these tough times. We will duly avail ourselves for more deliberations on the petition.

### **Conclusion**

With intense pressure from administrative heads, students are poised and ready to, by any means necessary, seek redress and thus issue an ultimatum of fourteen days after which we will result in using other mechanisms to seek justice due to the increasing number of student agitations.

Thank you.

Signed

**Mohammed Samira Ibn Moro**

0507 646 350

Convener.

**Efo Korku Mawutor**

0243 511 908

Member.

## **Press Release On Tertiary Fees Reduction**

**Joshua Anoumou Agbenu**

0544373025

Member.

**Ruben Kwabla Amenyedior**

0504972868

Member.

**CC: The parliament of Ghana**

**National Council for Tertiary Education**

**The Ministry of Education**

**All Public Universities**

**All Media Houses.**