



SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

Re: SSB awards 44 scholarships announces this year's Scholarship Awardees

Belize City, Belize, August 4, 2023: Twenty-two years ago, the Social Security Board (SSB) saw a gap in our society that needed to be addressed – too many students who desired to have a higher education were being denied advancement because they did not have the funds to go further. Under the banner of social protection, SSB launched its Scholarship Awards Program in 2001, and over 1,000 students and counting have benefitted from the opportunity given.

This year, 167 scholarship applications from all six districts were received for this 2023 cycle via the Scholarship Portal on SSB's website. Ninety-seven (97) finalists were shortlisted to advance to the next phase in the selection process. The selection process's criteria are based on financial need and the applicant's academic potential. The career aspirations for this year's cohort ranged from careers in education, engineering, IT, the environment, and the medical field.

Ultimately, 44 applicants were awarded scholarships: 28 high school, 15 sixth-form, and 1 vocational-technical scholarship. Recipients who attended today's award ceremony came from Orange Walk, Belize City, Belmopan City, and Santa Elena.

At this morning's Scholarship Award Ceremony held at the Best Western Belize Biltmore Plaza, excited and happy scholarship recipients formally accepted their SSB scholarships along with SSB gifts. Mrs. Emogene Habet gave the keynote address with closing remarks delivered by Mr. Fabian Green, SSB's 2021 associate degree scholarship recipient.

Of worthy note, SSB has awarded over \$4mn in scholarships since the inception of the program and continues to be committed to social responsibility for the betterment of Belize.

Social Security Board: Safeguarding You, Your Family, Your Future!

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