



BEST PRACTICES

Best Practice I

1) **Title:** SAF

2) **Objectives:**

To make education affordable for economically challenged deserving bonafide students.

3) **The Context:**

A substantial student's crowd comes from the economically challenged background. Therefore, with a vision to bring higher education to the doorsteps of the economically underprivileged students, Maharashtra College has been providing assistance to such students to pursue higher education via multiple ways. One of it is SAF – Students Aid Fund.

4) **The Practice:**

The teachers of various faculties identify economically weak students and recommend them for SAF. The student approach SAF secretary for the application form wherein they are subjected to interview about their family constraints, residence, family dependents and other related details. The detail of the interview is written on the back of the application form. Once the application form is duly filled and submitted along with the Xerox of ration card and last year's mark sheet to the secretary. An investigation is carried out with reference to their suitability of availing the facility. This activity is carried throughout the year. The fund for the same is generated from all students enrolled in the college as a part of admission fee. There is a separate bank account for it at Bombay Mercantile Co-operative Bank with the name as 'SAF account, Maharashtra College'. The students receive the aid through cheque. There are three signatories for the issuance of cheque. They are: - The Principal of the College, The Chairman (Management representative) and the Secretary (Member of teaching faculty). On an average students receive Rs. 2000/- to Rs. 2500/- as financial support. For the much needy student the fund amount may be raised to Rs. 3000/-. The duration required for receiving of financial support is on an average of one week from the time of submission of application form. In urgent cases especially at the time of admission, the duration of receiving financial support is reduced to couple of hours.

5) **Evidence of Success:**

A total of 20 students benefitted from SAF for the academic year 2022-23. An amount of Rs. 48500/- was disbursed among 20 students under the facility of SAF.

6) **Problems Encountered and Resources Required:**

Identifying needy students is a challenge. The SAF committees screen the applicants thoroughly to choose the deserving students to avail the financial assistance. The teachers through their regular interactions identify such candidates and refer them to respective committees for them to avail above facilities.

Best Practice -II

1) Title:

Library Book Bank Facility

2) Objectives:

To cater the need of economically challenged students to have access to costly textbooks.

3) The Context:

A substantial student's crowd comes from the economically challenged background. Affording the fees for education is very challenging for them let alone the ability to buy books for themselves for studies. The library issues only one book at a time and the book needed to study may not be available at the time when required. This limitation affected the performance level of the students. To cater to the need of such poor students and increase their academic performance this practice of Library Book Bank was started.

4) The Practice:

Library book bank facility is performed through a book bank committee which takes all policy making decisions. Procedure: - the notice regarding the invitation for availing book bank facility is displayed on the notice board at beginning of the academic year or at the beginning of the semester. The library distributes the book bank form to the students who wants to avail the said facility. Within a week they are asked to submit the form along with the photocopy copy of their ration card so as to check the authenticity of their being actually being needy for availing the book bank facility. This is followed by personal interview of students by the book bank committee members. Worthy students are then loaned the textbooks accordingly at a very meagre amount for the academic year or the semester.

5) Evidence of Success:

The statistics given below is self-explanatory regarding the benefits availed by the students under the Book bank facility.

Book Bank Distribution Statistics for Aided College Sections 2022-23

Faculty	Year			
	Arts	Science	Commerce	Total
F.Y. J.C.	44	40	12	96
S.Y.J.C.	46	39	22	107
First Year	71	66	60	197
Second Year	85	54	73	212
Third Year	55	34	69	158
Total	301	233	236	770

Book Bank Distribution Statistics for Self-Finance Courses 2022-23

Faculty	Year			Total
	First Year	Second Year	Third Year	
BMS	15	18	22	55
M. Com.	11		N.A.	11
Total				66

Library Book Bank facility distribution record for past five years (2017 – 2023)

Sr. no.	Academic year	No. of beneficiaries
1	2017 – 18	599
2	2018 – 19	675
3	2019 – 20	719
4	2020 – 21	704
5	2021 – 22	858
6	2023 – 23	836

6) Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

A specific amount of budget for buying the textbook is allotted by the college. In addition to it students donate their textbooks of their earlier class to the book bank. Even the subject departments which receives textbooks from their ex-students donate such books to the book bank.
