

**CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEME  
OF  
SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**



सत्यमेव जयते

Effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2018

**Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities  
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment  
Government Of India**

"Scholarships for Students with Disabilities" for operational efficiency and optimal fund utilization.

1.6 The students with the specified disabilities defined in Schedule of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 will be eligible for scholarships of the DEPwD. In the 2016 Act, the specified disabilities have increased from 7 to 21. The list of specified disabilities as included in this Act is given below:

S.No.	Disabilities in PwD Act, 1995	Disabilities in RPwD Act, 2016
1.	Blindness	Blindness
2.	Low-vision	Low-vision
3.	Leprosy-cured	Leprosy-cured person
4.	Hearing Impairment	Hearing Impairment (deaf and hard of hearing)
5.	Locomotor Disability	Locomotor Disability
6.	Mental Retardation	Intellectual Disability
7.	Mental Illness	Mental Illness
8.		Autism Spectrum Disorder
9.		Cerebral Palsy
10.		Muscular Dystrophy
11.		Chronic Neurological conditions
12.		Specific Learning Disabilities
13.		Multiple Sclerosis
14.		Speech and Language Disability
15.		Thalassemia
16.		Hemophilia
17.		Sickle Cell Disease
18.		Multiple Disabilities including deaf blindness
19.		Acid Attack Victim

20.		Parkinson's Disease
21.		Dwarfism

- 1.7 According to Census 2011, there were 2.68 crore persons with disabilities in India who constituted 2.22 per cent of the total population. This includes persons with visual, hearing, speech, loco-motor, mental retardation, and other disabilities. Details of persons with disability in India, by type of disability, as per Census 2011 are as below:

Number of Persons with Disabilities as per Census, 2011		
Type of Disability	Population (in Crore)	Percentage (%)
Loco motor	0.55	20
Visual	0.50	19
Hearing	0.51	19
Speech	0.20	07
Mentally Retarded	0.15	06
Mentally ill	0.07	03
Multiple	0.21	08
Other Disabilities	0.49	18
Total	2.68	100

- 1.8 The No. of slots in Pre-matric, Post-matric and Top Class Education have been distributed among all the States and Union Territories on the basis of percentage of population of PwDs of that State/in comparison to the total PwD population of India as per the 2011 Census, though students with the new disabilities included in the RPwD Act will also be considered within this slot till the next Census, if otherwise eligible.

- 1.9 There are six components of the umbrella scheme of "Scholarships for Students with Disabilities" as mentioned below:

1. Pre-matric Scholarship for SwDs (For Class IX & X)
2. Post-matric Scholarship for SwDs (For Class XI to Post-graduate Degree/Diploma)
3. Top Class Education for SwDs (For Graduate and Post-graduate Degree/Diploma in notified institutes of excellence in education)

4. National Overseas Scholarship (For Master's Degree/Ph.D. in Universities abroad)
5. National Fellowship for PwDs (For M.Phil and Ph.D. in Indian Universities)
6. Free Coaching for SwDs (For recruitment examinations for Group A & B and entrance examinations for admission in technical and professional courses)

## 2. CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY:

The general conditions of eligibility of all the components of the scheme are given below:

- (i) The scholarships are open to nationals of India only.
- (ii) All the six scholarships are applicable to students with disabilities **with 40% and above** and having a valid certificate of disability as prescribed under rules issued by the competent authority. Disability is as defined in "Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.
- (iii) Not more than two children with disabilities of the same parents will be entitled to receive benefits of the scheme. Provided in case the second child is a twin, the scholarship under this scheme will be admissible to both the twins.
- (iv) Scholarship for studying in any class will be available for only one year. If a student has to repeat a class, she / he would not get scholarship for that class for a second (or subsequent) year.
- (v) A scholarship holder under this scheme will not hold any other scholarship/stipend. If awarded any other scholarship/stipend, the student can exercise his/her option for either of the two scholarships/stipends, whichever is more beneficial to him/her and should inform the awarding authority through the Head of the Institution about the option made. No scholarship will be paid to the students under this scheme from the date he/she accepts another scholarship/stipend. The student can however, accept free lodging or a grant or ad-hoc monetary help from the State Government or any other source for the purchase of books, equipment or for meeting the expenses on board and lodging in addition to the scholarship amount paid under this scheme.
- (vi) Scholarship holders who are receiving coaching in any of the pre-examination training centres with financial assistance from the Central

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Government/ State Government will not be eligible for stipend under the coaching schemes for the duration of the coaching programme.

### 3. ANNUAL PARENTAL/GUARDIAN'S INCOME:

Pre-matric and Post-matric Scholarship shall be paid to the students whose parents/guardians' income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 2,50,000/- (*Rupees two lakh fifty thousand only*) per annum.

Top Class Education, National Overseas Scholarship and Free Coaching for SwDs shall be paid to the students whose parents/guardians' income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 6,00,000/- (*Rupees six lakh only*) per annum.

There is no annual income ceiling in National Fellowship for PwDs.

**NOTE 1:** So long as either of the parents is alive, only income of the parents, as the case may be, from all sources has to be taken into account only and of no other member even though they may be earning. In the form of income declaration, income is to be declared on this basis. Only in the case where both the parents have died, the income of the guardian who is supporting the student in his/her studies has to be taken. Such students whose parent's income is affected due to unfortunate death of one of earning parents and resultantly comes within the income ceiling prescribed under the scheme, shall become eligible for scholarship, subject to their fulfilling other conditions of eligibility, from the month in which such unfortunate incident happened. Applications for scholarships from such students can be considered even after lapse of last date of receipt of applications, on compassionate grounds.

**NOTE 2:** Income certificate is required to be taken once only i.e. at the time of admission to courses which are continuing for more than one year.

### 4. RESERVATION OF SLOTS FOR GIRL STUDENTS:

50% of the total scholarships available each year for pre-matric, post-matric and top class education shall be reserved for girl candidates. In National Overseas Scholarship, 30% of the slots are reserved for female students. However, in case adequate number of girl candidates are not available or not found eligible as per the terms and conditions of the scheme, the unutilized slots can be utilized by selecting suitable male candidates.

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e) In case a candidate is a permanent resident of one State but studying in another State, his application will be considered under the slot of his home State and his application needs the recommendation of the Education/Welfare Department of the State of which he is a permanent resident.

f) **Merit Criteria for Selection:** The following factors will be taken into consideration:

- (i) Fulfillment of eligibility conditions as given in the scheme.
- (ii) Recommendation of the State Education Department.
- (iii) No. of slots available to the State.
- (iv) Merit of the candidate in terms of percentage of marks obtained in the qualifying examination.
- (v) In case of a tie in percentage of marks, the percentage of disability will be considered i.e. the candidate with higher percentage of disability will get preference. In case there is still a tie, the age will be considered i.e. the older candidate will get preference.

### **13.7 MODE OF DISBURSAL OF SCHOLARSHIP:**

The scholarship scheme shall be implemented through the National Scholarship Portal and the amount will be directly credited into the bank account of the beneficiaries through PFMS system by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.

### **13.8 MONITORING:**

- a) Monitoring of the scheme will be done by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities through the on-line portal.
- b) The State Government shall ensure that list of beneficiaries, with necessary particulars, are maintained district-wise, and category-wise.

## **14. POST-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDENT WITH DISABILITIES:**

### **14.1 OBJECTIVES:**

- (a) To support students with disabilities to study further in order to prepare themselves to earn their livelihood and to find a dignified place for themselves in the society as they face several barriers physical, financial, psychological, mental in pursuing studies and living with dignity. At times such students are deprived of harnessing their latent skills and thereby miss the opportunity.

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- (b) To support students with disabilities for their study in classes XI and XII onwards so that the incidence of drop-out, especially in the transition from the secondary to the higher secondary stage is minimized,
- (c) To improve participation of students with disabilities in Class XI and XII and at the post-matric stage of education.
- (d) All Graduate Degree & Post-graduate Degree/Diploma courses recognised by UGC/AICTE shall be covered under Post-matric Scholarship

#### 14.2 SCOPE:

Scholarships under this scheme shall be available for studying in classes XI, XII, Post-matriculation diploma/certificates and Bachelor's Degree or Diploma in India and Master's Degree/Diploma from any University recognised by UGC/AICTE.

#### 14.3 NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS:

- a) Number of Post-matric scholarships to be sanctioned every year is 17,000 + Renewal (seventeen thousand only).
- b) The number of slots of scholarships as mentioned above will be distributed among all the States and Union Territories of India. The no. of slots available to any State/UT is decided on the basis of percentage of population of PwDs of that State/UT in comparison to the total PwD population of India. The No. of scholarships allocated to each of the State/UT is shown in Annexure I.  
Provided that in case the numbers of scholarships so allocated to a State/UT are not fully utilized, due to non-availability of eligible candidates, the unutilised slots shall be allocated amongst the other States/UTs where the number of eligible candidates is much more than the slots allocated to that State/UT.

#### 14.4 ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS:

- (i) These scholarships will be given for the study of all recognized post-matriculation or post-secondary courses pursued in recognized institutions with the following exceptions:  
"Scholarships are not awarded for training courses like Aircraft Maintenance Engineer's Courses and Private Pilot license Courses. Courses at Training - Ship Dufferin (Now Rajendra), courses of training at the Military College, Dehradun, courses at Pre-examination Training Centres of all India and State levels."

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