

## CHAPTER 4 - ELIGIBILITY AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR MBBS AND BDS COURSE

### 4.1 Eligibility to appear in NEET (UG) – 2021

Eligibility for appearing in **NEET (UG)**, as per related Regulations of NMC and DCI are as follows:-

- 4.1.1. He/she has completed 17 years of age at the time of admission or will complete that age on or before 31 December of the year of his/her admission to the first year **Undergraduate Medical Course**.

Accordingly, the lower age limit shall as under:

For Candidates of General (UR)/General-EWS	born on or before 31.12.2004
For Candidates of SC/ST/OBC-NCL/PwBD Category	

- 4.1.2. The upper age limit for **NEET (UG)** is 25 years as on the date of examination with a relaxation of 5 years for the candidates belonging to the SC/ST/OBC-NCL category and PwBD Candidates.

**NOTE:** The upper age limit of 25 years as prescribed under the Regulations on Graduate Medical Education, 1997 vide amendment dated 22.01.2018, was challenged before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi and the said upper age limit had been upheld vide judgement dated 11.05.2018 in W.P. No.1813/2018 & other connected matters. The said judgement dated 11.05.2018 was challenged before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in SLP (C) No. 14320/2018 & other connected matters when vide interim order dated 29.11.2018, candidates who are 25 years and above were provisionally permitted to appear in NEET-UG-2019 subject to the final outcome of the said matters. The Supreme Court thereafter, vide order dated 29.04.2019 had permitted the candidates to appear provisionally in the Counselling subject to the adjudication of the matters. The aforesaid matters are pending adjudication before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and the authorities shall abide by any order that may be passed for NEET-UG-2021.

**Thus, the candidates above 25 years are provisionally permitted to appear and their candidature is subjected to the outcome of pending Petitions before the Hon'ble Supreme Court.**

- 4.1.3. Indian Citizens/ Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) intending to pursue Undergraduate Medical Courses in a foreign Medical/ Dental Institute also need to qualify **NEET (UG)**.

## 4.2 Criteria for NRI / OCI / Foreign Nationals

**4.2.1.** Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), Overseas Citizen of India (OCI), and Foreign Nationals are eligible for admission in Medical /Dental Colleges subject to rules and regulations framed by the respective State Governments, Institutions and Government of India, as the case may be. The NRI and OCI Applicants / Candidates have to upload a Certificate from the concerned Indian Diplomatic Mission in the country of their residence in support of their claim as an NRI / OCI Candidate, along with their online application form for NEET (UG) 2021 and retain the original of such document for producing it at the time of Counselling / Admission to the Courses covered under NEET (UG). Similarly, a foreign applicant for NEET (UG) 2021 shall also upload Documentary Proof (e.g. relevant pages of a valid passport or a Certificate from Competent Authority in the country of his/her nationality regarding his/her citizenship status) in support of his / her Nationality, along with online application form. The Embassy Certificate and Citizenship Certificate or any Documentary proof of Citizenship are given in Annexure- XIV A and XIV B.

**4.2.2.** Foreign nationals may confirm their eligibility from the concerned Medical/Dental/ College/State.

**4.2.3.** Eligibility of OCI cardholders for NEET (UG):

The Ministry of Home Affairs vide Notification dated 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021 specified the rights to which an OCI cardholder shall be entitled under the Citizenship Act, 1955.

Clause (4) (ii) of the said Notification reads as under:

“(4) parity with Non-Resident Indians in the matter of,-

*(ii) appearing for the all India entrance tests such as National Eligibility cum Entrance Test, Joint Entrance Examination (Mains), Joint Entrance Examination (Advanced) or such other tests to make them eligible for admission only against any Non-Resident Indian seat or any supernumerary seat:*

*Provided that the OCI cardholder shall not be eligible for admission against any seat reserved exclusively for Indian citizens.”*

The above Notification provides the following Explanation:

“The OCI Cardholder (including a PIO card holder) is a foreign national holding passport of a foreign country and is not a citizen of India.”

Similarly, the PIO cardholder and foreign nationals shall not be eligible for admission against any seat reserved exclusively for Indian citizens.

### 4.3 Participation of UT of J&K Ladakh in All India Quota

- i. Students from UT of J&K and Ladakh were not eligible for 15% All India Quota seats as erstwhile J&K opted out of the All India Scheme since its inception. So far as the UT of J&K is concerned, the matter for inclusion of the UT in the All India Quota is under deliberation and any decision in this regard shall be placed on the website of NTA in due course. Hence, the candidates from J&K qualifying NEET (UG) 2021 shall not be entitled to participate in the counselling conducted by MCC/DGHS for admission to the MBBS / BDS seats under the All India 15% quota. However, depending upon their marks/ score, they would be able to participate in the counselling conducted by the J&K Board of Professional Entrance Examinations (JKBPEE) for admission to MBBS/ BDS Courses in the Medical Colleges in J&K. For details, the website of JKBPEE ([www.jkbopee.gov.in](http://www.jkbopee.gov.in)) and Directorate of Medical Education, J&K Administration, may be visited by the candidates from J&K from time to time for latest updates. The Candidates from the UT of J&K, if they claim eligibility, must submit an online Self Declaration which will be generated and printed automatically along with **Confirmation Page** for the record and they need to present the same during counselling. The Self-Declaration Form is given in **Appendix-III**. If the declaration is found to be false at any time, the candidature/admission of such candidates shall be cancelled and criminal proceedings may be initiated against such candidates. Candidates from the UT of J&K can appear in NEET (UG) 2021 for admission to Private Medical/Dental/ Colleges or any Private/Deemed University and AFMC, AIIMS, JIPMER subject to the fulfillment of respective eligibility conditions.
- ii. However, from the academic year 2021-22, the students of UT of Ladakh shall be eligible for admission to 15% of All India Quota seats.

### 4.4 Qualifications and Qualifying Examination Codes

To be eligible for NEET (UG) – 2021, candidates need to refer to the following table for qualifying examination criteria.

<b>CODE: 01</b>	<p>A candidate who is appearing in the qualifying examination, i.e., 12 Standard in 2021, whose result is awaited, may apply and appear in the test but he/she shall not be eligible for admission to the <b>Undergraduate Medical Courses</b> if he/she does not pass the qualifying examination with the required pass percentage at the time of first round of Counselling.</p> <p>Candidates who have appeared or are appearing at the qualifying Examination with English, Physics, Chemistry and Biology as the main subject and expect to pass the Examination with the required percentage of marks are also eligible to apply and appear in the Competitive Entrance Examination. However, their candidature will be</p>
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	considered only if they provide documentary evidence of having passed the qualifying Examination with the required subjects and percentage of marks.
<b>OR</b>	
<b>CODE: 02</b>	<p>The Higher/Senior Secondary Examination or the Indian School Certificate Examination which is equivalent to 10+2 Higher/Senior Secondary Examination after a period of 12 years study, the last two years of such study comprising of Physics, Chemistry, Biology/Bio-technology (which shall include practical tests in these subjects) and Mathematics or any other elective subject with English at a level not less than the core course for English as prescribed by the National Council of Educational Research and Training after the introduction of the 10+2+3 educational structure as recommended by the National Committee on Education.</p> <p><i>Candidates who have passed 10+2 from Open School or as private candidates shall not be eligible to appear for the 'National Eligibility Cum Entrance Test'. Furthermore, a study of Biology/Biotechnology as an Additional Subject at 10+2 level also shall not be permissible.*</i></p> <p><i>*The candidates who have passed 10+2 level with Biology as an additional subject will also be eligible for MBBS Entrance Examination (as per Hon'ble High Court Order No. 2341/-W/DHC/WRIT/D-1/2019 dated 24/09/2019 in the Writ Petition (C) No. 6773/2019.</i></p> <p>If the institute has to consider an examination of an Indian University or of a foreign/university to be equivalent to the 12 Class under 10+2 scheme/intermediate science examination, the candidates shall have to produce a certificate from the concerned Indian University/Association of Indian Universities to the effect that the examination passed by him/her is considered to be equivalent to the 12 class under 10+2 scheme/intermediate science examination.</p> <p><b><i>*(NOTE: The proviso in italics has been a subject matter of challenge before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, Hon'ble High Court of Allahabad, Lucknow Bench and Hon'ble High Court of Madhya Pradesh at Jabalpur. The provisions of the regulations disqualifying recognised Open School Board candidates and the candidates who have studied Biology/Biotechnology as an Additional Subject has been struck down. The Medical Council of India has preferred Special Leave Petitions before the Hon'ble Supreme Court and Appeals in the Hon'ble High Courts. Therefore, the candidature of candidates in the NEET (UG)-2021 who have passed the qualifying examinations i.e. 10+2 from National Institute of Open Schooling or State Open Schools or as private candidates from recognised State Boards; or with Biology/Biotechnology as an additional subject shall be allowed but subject to the outcome of Special Leave Petitions/Appeals filed by the Medical Council of India)</i></b></p>
<b>OR</b>	
<b>CODE: 03</b>	The Intermediate/Pre-degree Examination in Science of an Indian University/Board or other recognised examining body with Physics, Chemistry, Biology /Biotechnology (which shall include practical test in these subjects) and also English as a compulsory subject.
<b>OR</b>	

<b>CODE: 04</b>	The Pre-professional/Pre-medical Examination with Physics, Chemistry, Biology/Biotechnology and English after passing either the Higher Secondary Examination or the Pre-University or an equivalent examination. The Pre-professional/Pre-medical examination shall include practical tests in these subjects and also English as a compulsory subject.
<b>OR</b>	
<b>CODE: 05</b>	The first year of the three years' degree course of a recognised University with Physics, Chemistry and Biology/Biotechnology including practical tests in these subjects provided the examination is a University Examination and candidate has passed the earlier qualifying examination with Physics, Chemistry, Biology/ Biotechnology with English at a level not less than a core course.
<b>OR</b>	
<b>CODE: 06</b>	B.Sc. Examination of an Indian University provided that he/she has passed the B.Sc. Examination with not less than two of the subjects Physics, Chemistry, Biology (Botany, Zoology)/Biotechnology and further that he/ she has passed the earlier qualifying examination with Physics, Chemistry, Biology and English.
<b>OR</b>	
<b>CODE: 07</b>	Any other examination which in scope and standard (Last 02 years of 10+2 Study comprising of Physics, Chemistry and Biology/Biotechnology; which shall include practical test in these subjects) is found to be equivalent to the Intermediate Science Examination of an Indian University/Board, taking Physics, Chemistry and Biology/Biotechnology including practical tests in each of these subjects and English.

- Provided also that to be eligible for **NEET (UG) - 2021**, the candidate must have passed in Physics, Chemistry, Biology/Biotechnology and English individually and must have obtained a minimum of 50% marks taken together in Physics, Chemistry and Biology/Biotechnology at the qualifying examination as mentioned in the Regulations of NMC and DCI. *In addition, they must have got a rank in the merit list of NEET (UG) - 2021 for admission to Undergraduate Medical Courses.*
- In respect of the candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes or Other Backward Classes (NCL), the minimum marks obtained in Physics, Chemistry and Biology/Biotechnology taken together in qualifying examination shall be 40% marks instead of 50% marks for Unreserved and General-EWS Candidates. In respect of PwBD candidates as per NMC and DCI Regulations, the minimum marks in the qualifying examination in Physics, Chemistry and Biology (or Botany & Zoology)/Biotechnology taken together shall be 40% instead of 50%.
- Provided further that the students who have received education abroad and wish to seek admission into medical colleges in India must have passed in Physics, Chemistry, Biology/Biotechnology and English with 50% marks in class 12 and their equivalency determined by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) as per regulations of the Medical Council of India and the concerned University.

- The criteria for minimum qualifying marks to be eligible for admission to MBBS courses shall also be applicable to concerned INIs like AIIMS and JIPMER.

**Note:** *In all other cases, the States/Institutes that have cut-offs for eligibility other than those mentioned above, may follow their own criteria.*

**Note:**

- *The Pre-medical course may be conducted either at a Medical College or at a Science College.*
- *Marks obtained in Mathematics are not to be considered for eligibility for admission to Undergraduate Medical Courses.*
- *The candidates who have studied from the Foreign/International Board should ensure that the qualifying examination passed by them are, in scope and standard, as explained in CODE: 07.*
- *Any interpretation regarding the requirement of Biology / Biological Sciences as one of the subjects of the Qualifying Examination for NEET (UG) will be subjected to Regulation No. 4 (1) of the Graduate Medical Education Regulations (1997) as amended upto 2018 and the Judgement dated 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021 of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Civil Appeal No. 390 of 2021 in the matter of "Kaloji Narayana Rao University of Health Sciences Vs. Srikeerti Reddi Pingle & Ors." (Para 20 & 21).*