

No. Z-11017/85/2023-SCH
Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)
5" Floor, B Wing, Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 20th September, 2024

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject:- Revision of the existing guidelines of the Scheme of Scholarship for Students with Disabilities.

The undersigned is directed to say that the competent authority has approved certain modifications in the Guidelines of the Central Sector Umbrella Scheme "Scholarships for Students with Disabilities".

2. Accordingly, the changes as per Annexure shall be applicable from the date of issue of this O.M. The complete Guidelines of the Scholarship Scheme of this Department is available on <https://depwd.gov.in/>

SANDEEP KUMAR Digitally signed by SANDEEP
KUMAR
Date: 2024.09.20 11:17:00 +05'30'

(Sandeep Kumar)
Under Secretary to the Government of India
Email: pwdcgo@gmail.com

Encl:- As above

To,

1. Chief Secretaries/ Principal Secretaries of all States/UTs- dealing with disabilities related matters
2. CMD, National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation, Unit No. 11 & 12, Ground Floor, DLF Prime Tower, Okhla Phase - I, Near Tehkhand Village, New Delhi - 110020 Ph : (011) 45803730. E-mail :nhfdc97@gmail.com Website: www.nhfdc.nic.in

Copy for information to :-

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister SJ&E
2. PS to Hon'ble MoS (RA)/PS to Hon'ble MoS (BLV)
3. Sr. PPS to Secretary. DEPwD
4. PPS to JS(RS)/PPS to DDG
5. PS to JS & FA
6. All Directors/DS of DEPwD

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Sl.No	Para	Previous Status	Current Status
1	-	Scheme of Scholarship for Students with Disabilities (Effective from 1 st April 2023)	Scheme of Scholarship for Students with Disabilities.
2	1.4	Further, Section 32 (2) of the RPwD Act states that the appropriate Government and local authorities shall ensure that every child with benchmark disability has access to free education in an appropriate environment till he attains the age of eighteen years.	Further, Section 17 (h) of the RPwD Act- 2016 mandates the provision of scholarships in appropriate cases to students with benchmark disabilities.
3	1.5	<p>To fulfill these mandates, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Government of India is implementing “Scheme of Scholarships for Students with Disabilities” with following six components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Pre-matric Scholarship (For Classes IX and X) ii. Post-matric Scholarship (For Class XI to Post-Graduate Degree/Diploma) iii. Top Class Education (For Graduate and Post-Graduate Degree/Diploma in notified institutes of excellence in education) iv. National Overseas Scholarship (For Master’s Degree/Ph.D. in Institutions/Colleges/Universities abroad) v. National Fellowship (For M. Phil and Ph.D. in Indian Universities) vi. Free Coaching (For recruitment examinations for Group A, B and C posts and entrance examinations for admission to various technical and professional courses). 	<p>To fulfill these mandates, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Government of India is implementing “Scheme of Scholarships for Students with Disabilities” with following six components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Pre-matric Scholarship (For Classes IX and X) ii. Post-matric Scholarship (For Class XI to Post-Graduate Degree/Diploma) iii. Top Class Education (For Graduate and Post-Graduate Degree/Diploma in notified institutes of excellence in education) iv. National Overseas Scholarship (For Master’s Degree/Ph.D. in Institutions/Colleges/Universities abroad) v. National Fellowship (For *M.phil/Ph.D. in Indian Universities) vi. Free Coaching (For recruitment examinations for Group A, B and C posts and entrance examinations for admission to various technical and professional courses). <p>* Note: M.Phil courses under this scheme will be restricted to those allowed by UGC from time to time. Though UGC discontinued M.Phil programme as per NEP, 2020, it has conveyed through public notice dated 30th January, 2024, that students can be admitted to an M.Phil in Clinical Psychology and M.Phil in Psychiatric Social Work Programmes by HEIs till 2025-26 academic session only and the decision regarding M.Phil courses by</p>

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

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4	2	<p>GENERAL CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY</p> <p>i. The scholarships are open only to Indian nationals.</p> <p>ii. All the components of scholarships are open to students with benchmark disability i.e. 40% or more disability as defined in ‘Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and having a valid certificate of disability issued by the competent authority as prescribed under Rules.</p> <p>iii. Not more than two children with disabilities of the same parents will be entitled to receive benefits of the scheme. In case the second child is a twin, the scholarship under the schemes will be admissible to the twin.</p> <p>iv. Scholarships 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 a scholarship for that class for a second (or a subsequent) year.</p> <p>v. A scholarship holder under this scheme will not avail any other scholarship/stipend. No scholarship will be paid to the students under this scheme from the date he/she accepts any other scholarship/stipend.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">the UGC will be applicable to NFWP.</p> <p>GENERAL CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY</p> <p>i. The scholarships are open only to Indian nationals.</p> <p>ii. All the components of scholarships are open to students with benchmark disability i.e. 40% or more disability as defined in ‘Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. Further, the applicants should have/possess:</p> <p>a. a valid certificate of disability issued by the competent authority</p> <p>b. Aadhaar based biometric authentication.</p> <p>iii. UDID/UDID enrollment.</p> <p>iv. Not more than two children with disabilities of the same parents will be entitled to receive benefits of the scheme. In case the second child is a twin, the scholarship under the schemes will be admissible to the twin.</p> <p>v. Scholarships 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 a scholarship for that class for a second (or a subsequent) year.</p> <p>vi. A scholarship holder under this scheme will not avail any other scholarship/stipend. No scholarship will be paid to the students under this scheme from the date he/she accepts any other scholarship/stipend.</p>																								
5	3	<p>BROAD FEATURES OF SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">S.No</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Scheme</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Admissible for Classes/Courses</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Slots *</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Parental Income (per annum) Ceiling</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Reservation of slots for female candidates **</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pre-Matric</td> <td style="text-align: center;">IX and X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">25,000 (including renewal)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Rs. 2.5 lakh</td> <td style="text-align: center;">50%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S.No	Scheme	Admissible for Classes/Courses	Slots *	Parental Income (per annum) Ceiling	Reservation of slots for female candidates **	1	Pre-Matric	IX and X	25,000 (including renewal)	Rs. 2.5 lakh	50%	<p>BROAD FEATURES OF SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">S.No</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Scheme</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Admissible for Classes/Courses</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Slots *</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Parental Income (per annum) Ceiling</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Reservation of slots for female candidates **</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pre-Matric</td> <td style="text-align: center;">IX and X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">25,000 (including renewal)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Rs. 2.5 lakh</td> <td style="text-align: center;">50%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S.No	Scheme	Admissible for Classes/Courses	Slots *	Parental Income (per annum) Ceiling	Reservation of slots for female candidates **	1	Pre-Matric	IX and X	25,000 (including renewal)	Rs. 2.5 lakh	50%
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		2	Post-Matric	XI, XII, Post-matriculation Diploma/ Certificates, Bachelor's Degree or Diploma in India, Master's Degree/ Diploma from any University recognized by UGC/AICTE.	17,000 (including renewal cases)	Rs. 2.5 lakh	50%		2	Post-Matric	XI, XII, Post-matriculation Diploma/ Certificates, Bachelor's Degree or Diploma in India, Master's Degree/ Diploma from any University recognized by UGC/AICTE.	17,000 (including renewal cases)	Rs. 2.5 lakh	50%
		3	Top Class Education	Graduate and Post-graduate Degree/ Diploma in institutes notified by DEPwD	300 (including renewal cases)	Rs. 8 lakh	50%		3	Top Class Education	Graduate and Post-graduate Degree/ Diploma in institutes notified by DEPwD	300 (including renewal cases)	Rs. 8 lakh	50%
		4	National Overseas	Master Degree and PhD in foreign universities/ institutes	20 + ongoing cases	Rs. 8 lakh	30%		4	National Overseas	Master Degree and PhD in foreign universities/ institutes	20 + ongoing cases	Rs. 8 lakh	30%
		5	National Fellowship	M. Phil. / PhD in Indian universities	200+ ongoing cases	No income ceiling	-		5	National Fellowship	M. Phil. / PhD in Indian universities	200+ ongoing cases	No income ceiling	-
		6	Free Coaching	Coaching for competitive examinations for Government jobs and entrance	1000	Rs. 8 lakh	30%		6	Free Coaching	Coaching for competitive examinations for Government jobs and entrance	1000	Rs. 8 lakh	30%

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

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				examinations for professional and technical courses				examinations for professional and technical courses			
		<p>* Slots for Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Top Class schemes include fresh as well as renewal cases. Fresh cases will be considered only against the left over slots after processing all the renewal cases. Thus, mere fulfilling the eligibility criteria will not entitle grant of scholarship due to fixed number of slots in a year.</p> <p>** In case adequate number of female candidates are not available or not found eligible as per the terms and conditions of the scheme, the unutilized slots will be utilized by selecting suitable male candidates.</p> <p>NOTE 1: Post-matric scholarships are not awarded for training courses like Aircraft Maintenance Engineer's Courses and Private Pilot license Courses, Courses at Training at Ship Dufferin (Now Rajendra), Courses of training at the Military College, Dehradun, courses at Pre-examination Training Centres of all India and State levels.</p> <p>NOTE 2: Income declaration of self-employed parents/guardian should be in the form of a certificate issued by Revenue Officers not below the rank of Tehsildar. Employed parents/guardians should obtain</p>					<p>*Slots for Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Top Class schemes include fresh as well as renewal cases. Fresh cases will be considered only against the left over slots after processing all the renewal cases. Thus, mere fulfilling the eligibility criteria will not entitle grant of scholarship due to fixed number of slots in a year. Further, the slots can be interchanged among the Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Top Class schemes, if in case adequate number of applications are not available in a particular aforesaid scheme subject to the approved financial outlay and approval of Secretary, DEPwD.</p> <p>** In case adequate number of female candidates are not available or not found eligible as per the terms and conditions of the scheme, the unutilized slots will be utilized by selecting suitable male candidates.</p> <p>NOTE 1: Post-matric scholarships are not awarded for training courses like Aircraft Maintenance Engineer's Courses and Private Pilot license Courses, Courses at Training at Ship Dufferin (Now Rajendra), Courses of training at the Military College, Dehradun, courses at Pre-examination Training Centres of all India and State levels.</p> <p>NOTE 2: Income declaration of self-employed parents/guardians should be in the form of a certificate issued by the Revenue Officers authorized by the concerned States/UTs. Employed parents/guardians should obtain a consolidated certificate from</p>				

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

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		consolidated certificate from Revenue Officer for any other additional source of income.	the concerned Revenue Officer for any other additional source of income.																																				
6	3.1	REQUIREMENT OF AADHAAR AND UNIQUE DISABILITY IDENTITY CARD (UDID) (i) Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) has notified Aadhaar as an identity document under section 7 of Aadhaar Act, 2016 for all Scholarship Schemes vide Gazette Notification No. 4-2(32)/2016/DD-I dated 3rd March, 2017. Applicants may have to undergo Aadhaar based biometric authentication to avail the Scholarship. (ii) UDID/UDID enrolment shall be mandatory for availing the benefits of the Scholarship scheme.	Deleted																																				
7	4.2	<p>SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT:</p> <p>Pre-matric scholarship includes the following for complete duration of the course:</p> <p>i. Maintenance allowance ii. Book grant iii. Disability Allowance</p> <p>4.3 Rates of scholarship:</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3" style="text-align: right;">Amount in Rs.</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Items</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Day Scholar</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Hosteller</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Maintenance allowance (Per month)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">500</td> <td style="text-align: center;">800</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Book Grant (per annum)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Disability Allowance (per annum)</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visually Impairment or Intellectual Disabilities</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All other types of disabilities</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Amount in Rs.			Items	Day Scholar	Hosteller	Maintenance allowance (Per month)	500	800	Book Grant (per annum)	1000	1000	Disability Allowance (per annum)			Visually Impairment or Intellectual Disabilities	4000	4000	All other types of disabilities	2000	2000	<p style="text-align: center;">QUANTUM OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>Rates of scholarship:</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3" style="text-align: right;">Amount in Rs.</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Sl. No.</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Components of Scholarship</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Financial Assurances</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">a)</td> <td>Maintenance Allowance</td> <td>Rs.800/- per month for hostellers, Rs. 500/- per month for day-scholars</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">b)</td> <td>Disability Allowances</td> <td>a) Rs. 4,000/- per annum for Visual Impairment/ Intellectual Disabilities. b) Rs 2000/- per annum for All other types of disabilities.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">c)</td> <td>Book allowance</td> <td>Rs. 1,000/- per annum.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Amount in Rs.			Sl. No.	Components of Scholarship	Financial Assurances	a)	Maintenance Allowance	Rs.800/- per month for hostellers, Rs. 500/- per month for day-scholars	b)	Disability Allowances	a) Rs. 4,000/- per annum for Visual Impairment/ Intellectual Disabilities. b) Rs 2000/- per annum for All other types of disabilities.	c)	Book allowance	Rs. 1,000/- per annum.
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8	5(b) & (c)	<p>SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT: The amount of Post-Matric scholarship includes the following for complete duration of the course:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Maintenance allowance ii. Disability allowance iii. Reimbursement of compulsory non-refundable fees iv. Book allowance <p>c. MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Amount in Rs.)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Groups</th> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Rate of Maintenance allowance (per month)</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Hostellers</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Day Scholars</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <p>Group I All Bachelor's/Post-Graduate Degree courses in Medicine, Engineering/Technology, Planning/Architecture, Fashion Technology, Management, Business/ Finance Administration, Computer Science/Applications, Agriculture, Veterinary and Allied Sciences. All Post-Graduate Degree/Diploma courses recognized by UGC/AICTE in any discipline</p> </td> <td style="text-align: center;">1600</td> <td style="text-align: center;">750</td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>Group II Professional courses leading to Degree/ Diploma, Certificate in areas like Pharmacy (B. Pharma), LLB, BFS, other paramedical branches like Rehabilitation, Diagnostics, etc., Mass Communication, Hotel Management &</p> </td> <td style="text-align: center;">1100</td> <td style="text-align: center;">700</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Groups	Rate of Maintenance allowance (per month)		Hostellers	Day Scholars	<p>Group I All Bachelor's/Post-Graduate Degree courses in Medicine, Engineering/Technology, Planning/Architecture, Fashion Technology, Management, Business/ Finance Administration, Computer Science/Applications, Agriculture, Veterinary and Allied Sciences. All Post-Graduate Degree/Diploma courses recognized by UGC/AICTE in any discipline</p>	1600	750	<p>Group II Professional courses leading to Degree/ Diploma, Certificate in areas like Pharmacy (B. Pharma), LLB, BFS, other paramedical branches like Rehabilitation, Diagnostics, etc., Mass Communication, Hotel Management &</p>	1100	700	QUANTUM OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	
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			Sl. No.	Components of Scholarship	Financial Assistances										
			a)	Reimbursement of admission fee and tuition fee paid/ payable to the Institution/university	Up to Rs. 1.40 lakh – per annum (subject to actual amount).										
			b)	Miscellaneous fee(Library fee, Sports fee, Medical examination and such other fee compulsorily payable by the scholar to the Institution/university/board.	Up to Rs 10,000/- per annum (subject to actual amount)										
			c)	Maintenance Allowance	Rs.1,200/- per month for hostellers, Rs. 650/- per month for day-scholars										
			d)	Disability Allowances	<p>a) Rs. 4,000/- per annum for Visual Impairment/ Intellectual Disabilities.</p> <p>b) Rs 2000/- per annum for All other types of disabilities.</p>										
			e)	Book allowance	Rs. 1,500/- per annum.										

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		Catering, Travel/Tourism/Hospitality, Interior Decoration, Nutrition & Dietetics, Commercial Art, Financial Services (e.g., Banking, Insurance, Taxation, etc.)													
		Group III All other courses leading to a Graduate degree not covered under Group I & II, e.g. ,BA/B.Sc/B.Com, etc.	950	650											
		Group IV All Post-matriculation level non-degree courses for which entrance qualification is High School (Class X), e.g. Senior Secondary Certificate (Classes XI and XII), both general and vocational stream, ITI courses, 3-year diploma courses in Polytechnics, etc.	900	550											
		<p>Note: The list of courses grouped (I to IV) is only illustrative and not exhaustive. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations are, thus, themselves competent to decide the appropriate grouping of courses at their level.</p> <p>d. DISABILITY ALLOWANCES: Rates of Disability allowance admissible for different types of disabilities shall be payable as under:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Amount in Rs.)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 5%;">Sl. No.</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Type of Disability</th> <th style="width: 65%;">Disability Allowance (per annum)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1.</td> <td>Visual Impairment or Intellectual Disabilities</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4000</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2.</td> <td>All other types of disabilities</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					Sl. No.	Type of Disability	Disability Allowance (per annum)	1.	Visual Impairment or Intellectual Disabilities	4000	2.	All other types of disabilities	2000
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		<p>e. REIMBURSEMENT OF COMPULSORY NON-</p>													

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		<p>REFUNDABLE FEES Students are paid enrolment/registration fees, tuition fees, games fees, union fee, library fees, magazine fees, Medical Examination and such other fees compulsorily payable by the scholar to the Institution or University/Board. The maximum fee ceiling for reimbursement of ‘Compulsory Non-refundable Fees’ for Post-Matric scholarship is Rs.1.50 lakh per annum. Refundable deposits like caution money, security deposit will, however, be excluded.</p> <p>Compulsory non-refundable fee charged by recognized institutions against free and paid seats of recognized courses can be fully reimbursed as per the fee structure approved by the competent State/Central Government authority upto maximum ceiling of Rs.1.50 lakh per annum.</p> <p>f. Book Allowance: Rs. 1500 per annum.</p>	

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				purchase of the Laptop/Computer)		
		f)	Reimbursement of expenses for purchase of Aids and Assistive devices relating to the particular disability of the selected candidates.	Rs. 30,000/- as a one time grant in the first year of the course. (The reimbursement is made based on the requisite documents viz., bills/vouchers submitted by the students to ensure genuineness of the claim.)		
					particular disability of the selected candidates.	reimbursement is made based on the requisite documents viz., bills/vouchers submitted by the students to ensure genuineness of the claim.)
					c)	Maintenance Allowance
						Rs.3,000/- per month for hostellers, Rs. 1,500/- per month for day-scholars
					d)	Special Allowances (related to types of disabilities like reader allowance, escort allowance, helper allowance etc.)
						Rs 2000/- per month.
					e)	Book allowance
						Rs. 5,000/- per annum.
					<p>Note – The approved Comprehensive List of Aids and Assistive Devices notified by the Government of India vide O.M. Z-11012/3/2020-DD-I (13119) dated 09.7.2024 and subsequent notifications, if any, shall be strictly adhered to for purchase of Aids and Assistive devices relating to the particular disability provided that the beneficiary has not claimed assistance under ADIP scheme during last three years.</p>	
10	8.2 (ii)	If a student with benchmark disabilities pursuing Group I courses in case of Post-Matric scholarship fails in the		If a student with benchmark disabilities pursuing courses in case of Post-Matric scholarship fails in the examination for		

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		examination for the first time, the award may be renewed. For second and subsequent failure in any class, the student shall bear his/her own expenses until he/she secures promotion to the next higher class.	the first time, the award may be renewed. For second and subsequent failure in any class, the student shall bear his/her own expenses until he/she secures promotion to the next higher class.
11	12.1	<p>OBJECTIVES: The objective of the scheme is to provide fellowships in the form of financial assistance to Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) to pursue higher studies leading to M.Phil/Ph.D in Science, Humanities or Social Science, in Indian Universities/Institutions/Colleges recognized by University Grants Commission (UGC).</p>	<p>OBJECTIVES: The objective of the scheme is to provide fellowships in the form of financial assistance to Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) to pursue higher studies leading to *M.Phil/Ph.D in Science, Humanities or Social Science, in Indian Universities/Institutions/Colleges recognized by University Grants Commission (UGC).</p> <p>* Note: M.Phil courses under this scheme will be restricted to those allowed by UGC from time to time. Though UGC discontinued M.Phil programme as per NEP, 2020, it has conveyed through public notice dated 30th January, 2024, that students can be admitted to an M.Phil in Clinical Psychology and M.Phil in Psychiatric Social Work programmes by HEIs till 2025-26 academic session only and the decision regarding M.Phil courses by the UGC will be applicable to NFPwD.</p>
12	12.6	<p>PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION:</p> <p>i. The selection for the award of fellowship to students will be made on the basis of scores/merit obtained in UGC National Eligibility Test (UGC- NET) and UGC Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (UGC- CSIR) tests conducted by National Testing Agency (NTA). The merit list will be prepared by NTA on all India basis from amongst the eligible candidates belonging to the category of ‘benchmark disability’ who apply for both- JRF and NET, but qualify for NET only.</p> <p>ii. The qualified candidates under NFPwD, who have not</p>	<p>PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION:</p> <p>i. National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation (NDFDC) will be the implementing agency for NFPwD Scheme and shall be responsible for undertaking all the activities leading to the selection of beneficiaries as per the scheme guidelines.</p> <p>ii. The selection for the award of fellowship to students will be made on the basis of scores/merit obtained in UGC National Eligibility Test (UGC- NET) and UGC Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (UGC- CSIR) tests conducted by National Testing Agency (NTA). The merit</p>

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		<p>secured admission at the time of application for Fellowship under the Scheme are required to take admission for regular and full time M. Phil./Ph. D. in a recognized research institution at the first available opportunity but not later than three years from the date of award of fellowship.</p> <p>iii. Genuineness of the PwD Certificate furnished by the candidate shall be verified by the concerned University/ Institution before allowing the fellow to avail fellowship under the scheme. After the documents of NFPwD awardees are verified by Nodal Officers of universities/ institutions, the same will be sent to the Department for final approval.</p> <p>iv. The decision of the Department with regard to awarding the Fellowship shall be final and no appeal would lie against any decision of the Department in regard thereof.</p> <p>v. The result shall be published on the Department's website and Award letters will be issued to selected candidates.</p>	<p>list will be prepared by NTA on all India basis from amongst the eligible candidates belonging to the category of 'benchmark disability' who apply for both- JRF and NET, but qualify for NET only.</p> <p>iii. The qualified candidates under NFPwD, who have not secured admission at the time of application for Fellowship under the Scheme are required to take admission for regular and full time M. Phil./Ph. D. in a recognized research institution at the first available opportunity but not later than three years from the date of award of fellowship.</p> <p>iv. Genuineness of the PwD Certificate furnished by the candidate shall be verified by the concerned University/ Institution before allowing the fellow to avail fellowship under the scheme. After the documents of NFPwD awardees are verified by Nodal Officers of universities/ institutions, the same will be sent to the Department for final approval.</p> <p>v. The decision of the Department with regard to awarding the Fellowship shall be final and no appeal would lie against any decision of the Department in regard thereof.</p> <p>vi. The result shall be published on the Department's website and Award letters will be issued to selected candidates.</p>
13	12.7 (ii)	<p>Payment files of the candidates will be digitally signed by the authorized signatory of the Department on PFMS and fellowship amount will be transferred to the respective bank accounts of the scholars through DBT mode.</p>	<p>Payment files of the candidates will be digitally signed by the authorized signatory of the NDFDC on PFMS and fellowship amount will be transferred to the respective bank accounts of the scholars through DBT mode.</p>
14	13.1	<p>Objective</p> <p>To provide financial assistance to students with benchmark disabilities for pursuing Master's level courses and Ph. D abroad in the specified fields of study: (a) Engineering and Management (b) Pure Science and Applied Sciences (c) Agricultural Science and Medicine (d) Commerce, Accounting and Finance (e)</p>	<p>Objective</p> <p>To provide financial assistance to students with benchmark disabilities for pursuing Master's Degree course and Ph.D.</p> <p>Note: No Diploma, Post Graduate Diploma, Certificate course, and such similar courses are covered under the</p>

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		Humanities, Social science including Law and Fine Arts.	scheme.
15	13.2	<p>MINIMUM QUALIFICATION AND ELIGIBILITY:</p> <p>i. For Ph.D. - Fifty five per cent (55%) marks or equivalent grade in relevant Master’s Degree.</p> <p>ii. For Masters' Degree: - Fifty five per cent (55%) marks or equivalent grade in relevant Bachelor’s Degree.</p> <p>iii. In case of equivalent grade/credit points in Semester Grade Points (SGP)/ Cumulative Grade Point Index (CGPI) etc., conversion factor duly attested by the Institute/College/University concerned will be accepted.</p> <p>iv. Candidates already pursuing Masters degree or PhD or having completed Masters/PhD from Institute/College/University abroad by availing benefits of the Scholarship Scheme implemented by any of the Ministries/Departments of the Central Government/State Government/other agency/own funds, are not eligible to apply for the scheme. Further, individuals can be awarded National Overseas Scholarship only once in a lifetime.</p> <p>v. The candidate is also eligible for scholarship under this scheme to pursue the same level (Masters/Ph.D.) course but in a different stream (Science/Arts/Commerce etc.) other than for which he/she has already acquired the qualification from any University/Institution/College either in India or abroad, subject to the condition that the candidate has not availed scholarship from Central/State Government for that same level course.</p>	<p>MINIMUM QUALIFICATION AND ELIGIBILITY:</p> <p>i. For Ph.D. - Fifty five per cent (55%) marks or equivalent grade in relevant.</p> <p>ii. Master’s Degree. For Masters' Degree: - Fifty five per cent (55%) marks or equivalent grade in relevant Bachelor’s Degree.</p> <p>iii. In case of equivalent grade/credit points in Semester Grade Points (SGP)/ Cumulative Grade Point Index (CGPI) etc., conversion factor duly attested by the Institute/College/University concerned will be accepted.</p> <p>iv. Candidates already pursuing Masters degree or PhD or having completed Masters/PhD from Institute/College/University abroad by availing benefits of the Scholarship Scheme implemented by any of the Ministries/Departments of the Central Government/State Government/other agency/own funds, are not eligible to apply for the scheme. Further, individuals shall avail the benefit of National Overseas Scholarship only once in a lifetime.</p> <p>v. The candidate is also eligible for scholarship under this scheme to pursue the same level (Masters Degree/Ph.D.) course but in a different stream (Science/Arts/Commerce etc.) other than for which he/she has already acquired the qualification from any University/Institution/College either in India or abroad, subject to the condition that the candidate has not availed scholarship from Central/State Government for that same level course.</p> <p>vi. Topic/ courses concerning Indian Culture/Heritage/History/Social studies on India based research topic shall not be covered under NOS.</p> <p>vii. Candidates having an unconditional offer letter or conditional offer letter of admission compatible to the</p>

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			guidelines from top 500 ranked foreign Institutes/Universities as per the latest available QS rankings. If the candidate apply for special courses of disability studies in Master Degree/Ph.D in the university/institution abroad and the said university/institution does not fall within the 500 QS ranking, then the Department can consider the application if the same comes under the best ranking universities/institutions for disability studies in the world.
16	13.3	Age: Below 35 (Thirty -Five) years as on 1 st January of the year of application.	Not more than 35 (Thirty Five) years, as on the first day of April for selection year.
17	13.6	<p>i. The candidates after assessing their eligibility and suitability, as per conditions of the Scheme, shall apply to the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. After the online portal being developed is made operational, the application will be invited through that portal only. The candidates shall send duly filled up application form (available on Department's website https://disabilityaffairs.gov.in/) enclosing therewith requisite documents to this Department. The employed candidates are required to submit a "No Objection Certificate" (NOC) from their employer to this Department.</p> <p>ii. The applications shall be screened by the Screening Committee as per the Scheme guidelines. The eligible candidates shortlisted by the Screening Committee shall be placed before the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee shall assess the eligible candidates based on their educational qualifications and experience, their disability category and percentage, the University abroad and the course to which they propose to take admission etc. and draw a merit list within the sanctioned number of yearly slot which will finally and decisively complete the selection procedure.</p> <p>iii. No request for change of Institution/College/University shall be entertained at any stage. In case, the Awardee</p>	<p>i. The candidates after assessing their eligibility and suitability, as per conditions of the Scheme, shall apply to the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. After the online portal being developed is made operational, the application will be invited through that portal only. The candidates shall send duly filled up application form (available on Department's website https://depwd.gov.in/) enclosing therewith requisite documents to this Department. The employed candidates are required to submit a "No Objection Certificate" (NOC) from their employer to this Department.</p> <p>ii. Along with the application in the prescribed format the candidate has to submit the police verification report also.</p> <p>iii. The applications shall be screened by the Screening Committee as per the Scheme guidelines. The eligible candidates shortlisted by the Screening Committee shall be placed before the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee shall assess the eligible candidates based on their educational qualifications and experience, their disability category and percentage, the University abroad and the course to which they propose to take admission etc. and draw a merit list within the sanctioned number of yearly slot</p>

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Sl.No	Para	Previous Status	Current Status
		<p>desires to change the course or university, he/she can apply afresh.</p> <p>iv. After the issuance of confirmation letter to an Awardee, the candidate is required to complete all the procedures like verification of original documents, submission of Bonds, Solvency Certificates etc., within six months, otherwise the award letter will be automatically cancelled. No further time will be granted for completion of these formalities.</p>	<p>which will finally and decisively complete the selection procedure.</p> <p>iv. No request for change of Institution/College/University shall be entertained at any stage. In case, the Awardee desires to change the course or university, he/she can apply afresh and if a new award letter is issued based on the new application; his previous award letter shall stand cancelled.</p> <p>v. After the issuance of an award letter to an Awardee, the candidate is required to complete all the procedures like verification of original documents, submission of Bonds, Solvency Certificates etc., within six months, otherwise the award letter will be automatically cancelled. No further time will be granted for completion of these formalities.</p>
18	13.7	<p>MANDATORY CONDITIONS:</p> <p>i. The finally selected candidates are required to obtain admission and join an accredited university/ institution abroad within three years from the date of communication of selection. On expiry of this specified period of time, the award will automatically get canceled and come to an end. If the candidate still wants to avail the benefit of the scheme, he/she may apply afresh.</p> <p>ii. The selected candidate is required to execute a surety bond on the nonjudicial stamp paper before a notary public with two sureties separately for Rs.50,000/- (fifty thousand), and also solvency certificate separately for the same amount stating that persons are possessing property /wealth for a minimum amount of Rs. 50,000/-.</p> <p>iii. Candidates availing the benefits of this scheme are required to return to India within one month of the completion of the course. However, if a candidate wishes to stay abroad after completion of the course, the same is allowed without any financial support including return air tickets to India. The awardee intending to return to India is required to intimate the</p>	<p>MANDATORY CONDITIONS</p> <p>i. The department may direct the candidates to present all necessary original documents in person to the department during the selection process.</p> <p>ii. After the final award letter the department may direct the candidates to submit a medical assessment report concerning their disability from the recognized hospital/ medical authorities.</p> <p>iii. The finally selected candidates are required to obtain admission and join the course/ university/institute as per the award letter within three years from the date of the award letter. On expiry of this specified period of time, the award will automatically get canceled and come to an end.</p> <p>iv. The selected candidate is required to execute a surety bond on the non-judicial stamp paper before a notary public with two sureties separately for Rs.50,000/- (fifty thousand), and also solvency certificate separately for the same amount stating that persons are possessing property /wealth for a minimum amount of Rs. 50,000/-.</p> <p>v. Candidates availing the benefits of this scheme are</p>

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		<p>Indian Embassy abroad in advance and should also inform the Department of his/her returns.</p> <p>iv. The candidate will give an undertaking that he will allow his university to share information with concerned Indian Mission abroad and the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.</p> <p>v. The candidate has to give an undertaking that he/she is not in receipt of any scholarship from any government /other organization including University/College for the course he/she is applying under this scheme.</p> <p>vi. No financial assistance of any kind/any other support coverage will be provided for spouse/children/siblings/parents/guardian of the awardee under the Scheme.</p> <p>vii. All administrative matters like study leave salary, etc., will be directly resolved by the candidate with his/her employer and as per rules of the serving organization. The DEPwD will not take any responsibility or render any assistance in this regard.</p> <p>viii. In case of some exigency at home, where the candidate is required to return to India for some time to attend to it, the awardee is permitted to return to India for the specific purpose, after having informed the Indian Mission and the educational institution where one is pursuing studies about it. The awardee will, however, be required to bear to and fro journey expenses for the visit and shall also not be entitled to receive maintenance allowance under the scheme, for the period of being away from the place of his/her educational institution abroad and the maintenance allowance shall be paid by this Department only from the date of his/her resuming the same course at the same institution. The awardee after having dealt with the situation at home, is required to return to the place of his/her educational institution, as early as possible, failing which, he/she shall be liable to be declared a defaulter and the recovery proceeding will be initiated against him/her.</p>	<p>required to return to India within one month of the completion of the course. However, if a candidate wishes to stay abroad after completion of the course, the same is allowed without any financial support including return air tickets to India. The awardee intending to return to India is required to intimate the Indian Embassy abroad in advance and should also inform the Department of his/her return.</p> <p>vi. The candidate will give an undertaking that he will allow his university to share information with concerned Indian Mission abroad and the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.</p> <p>vii. The candidate has to give an undertaking that he/she is not in receipt of any scholarship from any government /other organization including University/College for the course he/she is applying under this scheme.</p> <p>viii. No financial assistance of any kind/any other support coverage will be provided for spouse/children/siblings/parents/guardian of the awardee under the Scheme.</p> <p>ix. All administrative matters like study leave salary, etc., will be directly resolved by the candidate with his/her employer and as per rules of the serving organization. The DEPwD will not take any responsibility or render any assistance in this regard.</p> <p>x. In case of some exigency at home, where the candidate is required to return to India for some time to attend to it, the awardee is permitted to return to India for the specific purpose, after having informed the Indian Mission and the educational institution where one is pursuing studies about it. The awardee will, however, be required to bear to and fro journey expenses for the visit and shall also not be entitled to receive maintenance allowance under the scheme, for the period of being away from the place of his/her educational institution abroad and the maintenance allowance shall be paid by this Department only from the date of his/her</p>

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		<p>ix. It will be for the candidate to obtain the appropriate visa for the country where he/she intends to study under award from the scheme. The Government of India will render no assistance to a candidate for obtaining a Visa.</p> <p>x. Selected candidates are required to furnish all such documents and enter into such agreements as shall be decided by the Government of India from time to time before their departure.</p> <p>xi. In case the awardee has received over/excess payment from the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities or through any other agency acting on its behalf, he/she is liable to refund the same to the Government of India and his/her employer (if any) is authorized to recover the excess amount from his/her dues, on request from Government of India, and refund the same to the Government of India.</p> <p>xii. The decision of the Government of India will be final in all such issues, as may come up during the course of time.</p> <p>xiii. The candidate shall not change the course of study or research for which scholarship has been sanctioned. However, if situation arise where an awardee pursuing Ph.D. in a university/ institution, finds a serious situation where his/her guide has left and there are no immediate replacements thereof or the university/ institutions has discontinued the research support facilities in the area; the Indian Missions abroad in such cases are authorized to allow the awardee to change the university/ institutions, after the Missions are satisfied about such a need, however, subject to the condition that the credits if any earned by the awardee in the earlier university/ institution are acceptable for transfer by the second university/ institutions and that the total period of award will remain unchanged, and such a transfer/change, will be permitted only once during the award.</p> <p>xiv. Decisions of the Department will be final and binding on the awardees on all issues arising due to unforeseen</p>	<p>resuming the same course at the same institution. The awardee after having dealt with the situation at home, is required to return to the place of his/her educational institution, as early as possible, failing which, he/she shall be liable to be declared a defaulter and the recovery proceeding will be initiated against him/her.</p> <p>xi. It will be for the candidate to obtain the appropriate visa for the country where he/she intends to study under award from the scheme. The Government of India will render no assistance to a candidate for obtaining a Visa.</p> <p>xii. Selected candidates are required to furnish all such documents and enter into such agreements as shall be decided by the Government of India from time to time before their departure.</p> <p>xiii. In case, the awardee has received over/excess payment from the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities or through any other agency acting on its behalf, he/she is liable to refund the same to the Government of India and his/her employer (if any) is authorized to recover the excess amount from his/her dues, on request from Government of India, and refund the same to the Government of India.</p> <p>xiv. The decision of the Government of India will be final in all such issues, as may come up during the course of time.</p> <p>xv. The candidate shall not change the course of study or research for which scholarship has been awarded. However, if situation arise where an awardee pursuing Master Degree/ Ph.D. in a university/ institution, finds a serious situation where his/her guide has left and there are no immediate replacements thereof or the university/ institutions has discontinued the research support facilities in the area; the Indian Missions abroad in such cases are authorized to allow the awardee to change the university/ institutions, after the Missions are satisfied about such a need, however, subject to the condition that the credits if any earned by the awardee in</p>

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Sl.No	Para	Previous Status	Current Status
		<p>circumstances and situations which are not covered under the Scheme guidelines.</p>	<p>the earlier university/ institution are acceptable for transfer by the second university/ institutions and that the total period of award will remain unchanged, and such a transfer/change, will be permitted only once during the award.</p> <p>xvi. Decisions of the Department will be final and binding on the awardees on all issues arising due to unforeseen circumstances and situations which are not covered under the Scheme guidelines.</p>
19	13.10	<p>Role of Indian Mission</p> <p>i. Indian Mission will make payment of tuition fees directly to the colleges /universities abroad and maintenance allowance/other allowances to the students studying in their jurisdiction.</p> <p>ii. In case the awardee is unable to complete the course successfully, he will be declared defaulter and will become liable for refund of the entire amount spent on him/her along with interest as prescribed in the defaulter clause. However, if the guide/head of the department of the candidate certifies that the candidate has not been found wanting in his/her commitment/dedication/attention to studies then the DEPwD shall have the right to exempt him/her from the penalty clause of defaulter under the scheme. The Indian Missions, in all such cases, will provide the return air passage to India by shortest route and economy class.</p> <p>iii. The Indian Missions are required to intimate to this Department about the return of the awardee to India.</p>	<p>Role of Indian Mission</p> <p>i. The Department will forward the copy of the application received from the candidate along with the offer letter and other credentials from the universities/institutes abroad for Embassy Verification Report about the course, university/institute before granting award letter to the applicant.</p> <p>ii. Indian Mission will make payment of tuition fees directly to the colleges /universities abroad and maintenance allowance/other allowances to the students studying in their jurisdiction.</p> <p>iii. In case the awardee is unable to complete the course successfully, he will be declared defaulter and will become liable for refund of the entire amount spent on him/her along with interest as prescribed in the defaulter clause. However, if the guide/head of the department of the candidate certifies that the candidate has not been found wanting in his/her commitment/dedication/attention to studies then the DEPwD shall have the right to exempt him/her from the penalty clause of defaulter under the scheme. The Indian Missions, in all such cases, will provide the return air passage to India by shortest route and economy class.</p> <p>iv. The Indian Missions are required to intimate to this Department about the return of the awardee to India.</p>
20.	13.11	<p>MONITORING</p> <p>i.The Indian Missions abroad will obtain bi-annual progress reports from the University/College/Institution where the</p>	<p>MONITORING</p> <p>i. The Indian Missions abroad will obtain bi-annual progress reports from the University/College/Institution</p>

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Sl.No	Para	Previous Status	Current Status
		<p>awardee is pursuing his/her studies. The Missions will inform this Department about such serious adverse developments in case of the awardee which requires decision towards further continuation of the award or otherwise.</p> <p>ii. The payment of Maintenance Allowance is linked with furnishing of progress report. For the first semester/six months, the maintenance allowance may be paid to the awardee in the first instance as an advance. Thereafter, the maintenance allowance for the next semester/six months may be paid only after receipt of the satisfactory progress report of the awardee for the first six months/semester. No funds would be released by the Indian Mission in case of non-receipt of progress report.</p> <p>iii. Disbursement of scholarship amount/reimbursement of miscellaneous expenses etc. incurred by candidate will be done by Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) through Indian Missions abroad.</p>	<p>where the awardee is pursuing his/her studies. The Missions will inform this Department about such serious adverse developments in case of the awardee which requires decision towards further continuation of the award or otherwise.</p> <p>ii. The payment of Maintenance Allowance is linked with furnishing of progress report. For the first semester/six months, the maintenance allowance may be paid to the awardee in the first instance as an advance. Thereafter, the maintenance allowance for the next semester/six months may be paid only after receipt of the satisfactory progress report of the awardee for the first six months/semester. No funds would be released by the Indian Mission in case of non-receipt of progress report.</p> <p>iii. Disbursement of scholarship amount/reimbursement of miscellaneous expenses etc. incurred by candidates will be done by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) through Indian Missions abroad.</p> <p>iv. The documents submitted by the candidate shall be open to inspection/reassessment by the Central Government as and when required by the Department.</p>
21	14.6 (vi)	IA shall ensure recording of Aadhaar based biometric attendance of the students and shall share the same with the Department as required.	IA shall ensure recording of Aadhaar based biometric attendance of the students and shall share the same with the Department as required. A minimum 70% monthly attendance is a prerequisite for the candidates to be eligible for stipend/maintenance and disability allowance for a particular month.
