

Dated: 04.09.2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Revision of guidelines of the Central Sector Umbrella Scheme "Scholarships for Students with Disabilities" reg.

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, in respect of the Central Sector Umbrella Scheme "Scholarships for Students with Disabilities" shall be applicable with immediate effect.

(Sandeep Kumar)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

Encl:- As above

To.

1. Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries of all States/UTs.

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 AS(MKN)/PS to JS(RS)/PPS to DDG
5. PS to JS & FA
6. To all Directors/DS of DEPwD

Revision in respect of Scholarship scheme guidelines

Sl. No.	Para	Existing Provision	Revision Provision
1	1.5 (ii)	Post-matric Scholarship (For Class XI to Post-Graduate Degree/Diploma)	Post-matric Scholarship (For Class XI to Post-Graduate Degree/Diploma approved by recognized body like the University Grants Commission (UGC), State/UT Government and appropriate bodies like the National Medical Commission (NMC), Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) etc.
2	2 (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: a valid certificate of disability issued by the competent authority Aadhaar based biometric authentication. iii. UDID/UDID enrollment	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: a. Unique Disability Identity card (UDID). b. Aadhaar Card
3	5 a (v)	Employed students whose income combined with the income of their parents/guardian does not exceed the maximum prescribed income ceiling are eligible for Post-Matric scholarship to the extent of reimbursement of all compulsorily payable non-refundable fees.	Employed/intern students whose income combined with the income of their parents/guardian does not exceed the maximum prescribed income ceiling are eligible for Post-Matric scholarship for all components.

4	6.2	<p>QUANTUM OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:</p> <p>ii) Rs. 45,000/- as a one time grant in the first year of the course. (For getting the benefit, student has to submit requisite documents viz., bill/receipt as proof of purchase of the Laptop/Computer)</p> <p>iii) 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.)</p> <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>	<p>QUANTUM OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR TOP CLASS SCHOLARSHIP:</p> <p>(ii) A fixed amount of Rs. 45,000/- (no document is required) as a one time grant in the first year of the course.</p> <p>iii) A fixed amount of Rs. 30,000/- as a one time grant in the first year of the course (subject to non-availing of same through ARJUN portal).</p> <p>Deleted</p>
5	7.d	<p>d. In case, a candidate is a permanent resident of one State but studying in another State, his/her application should be recommended by the Education/Welfare Department of the State of which he is a permanent resident.</p>	<p>Pre-matric/Post matric: In case of fresh application, a candidate is a permanent resident of one State but studying in another State, his/her application should be recommended by the Education/Welfare Department of the State where student is studying.</p> <p>In case of renewal application, verification from State Nodal Officer is not required.</p> <p>Top class: In case of fresh/renewal application, verification from State Nodal Officer is not required.</p>
6	7.e	<p>e. Based on the online verification by the concerned Department/Nodal officer of the State Government and</p>	<p>Based on the online verification of fresh application by the concerned Department/Nodal officer of the State</p>

		<p>considering the number of eligible applications received State wise and the percentage of State wise population of persons with disabilities, available slots will be distributed state wise for each of the scholarship to ensure that the benefit of the Scheme is available throughout the country. Number of eligible applications received State wise will be converted in percentage terms in relation to the total number of eligible applications and thereafter State wise slot will be decided based on average percentage of State wise population of persons with disabilities and State wise percentage of eligible applications.</p> <p>h. Keeping in view the above merit criteria, final selection will be done through National Scholarship Portal as per slot distributed state wise</p>	<p>Government, merit list will be prepared as per para 7 (f) & (g).</p> <p>h. Keeping in view the above merit criteria, final selection will be done through National Scholarship Portal as per slots available for fresh applications.</p>
7	13.2	<p>vii. Candidates having an unconditional offer letter or conditional offer letter of admission compatible to the 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.</p>	<p>Candidates having an unconditional offer letter or conditional offer letter of admission compatible to the scheme guidelines from top 500 ranked foreign Institutes/Universities campus (in the main campus of University/College only and not in franchise or another small campus) 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 campus 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 like Gallaudet University etc.</p>
8	13.6	-	<p>v. Embassy will verify the following: Confirmation of offer from The University. Confirmation of the level of the course. Whether Master Degree course. (Yes or NO) ?</p>

			<p>Accreditation status of The University.</p> <p>Duration of the mentioned course. Actual date of commencement of course and the last date by which the awardee has to join the course.</p> <p>Tuition Fee Details (for each year) for the entire course</p> <p>Whether the fee is same for other foreign national students</p> <p>Whether any scholarship has been granted to the candidate by the University</p>
9	13.6	-	vi. PwD certificate of the candidate will be cross checked by the hospital authorized by the Department before issue of final award letter.
10	14.4	<p>IMPLEMENTING AGENCY</p> <p>ii.The Department may also consider implementation of the Scheme through Central Universities/ Institutes, State Universities under the purview of the central government and state governments and any other government institutes working in the field of education/special education subject to the condition that such universities and institutes will be selected as the implementing agencies by a selection committee, whose composition is given in the succeeding para, and approved by Secretary, DEPwD.</p>	<p>ii.The Department will consider implementation of the Scheme through Central Universities/ Institutes, State Universities under the purview of the central government and state governments and any other government institutes working in the field of education/special education subject to the condition that such universities and institutes will be selected as the implementing agencies by a selection committee, whose composition is given in the succeeding para, and approved by Secretary, DEPwD.</p>
11	14.5	<p>APPROVAL OF THE IMPLEMENTING AGENCY</p> <p>The Selection Committee shall recommend the implementing agencies based on the availability of physical and academic infrastructure and other requirements to implement the free coaching scheme shall have the following composition:</p> <p>i) Joint Secretary, Scholarship, DEPwD-</p>	<p>The Selection Committee shall recommend the implementing agencies based on the availability of physical and academic infrastructure and other requirements to implement the free coaching scheme shall have the following composition:</p> <p>i) Joint Secretary and equivalent officer (dealing with Free Coaching Scheme),</p>

		<p>Chairperson</p> <p>ii) Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor, DEPwD or his/representative not below the rank of DS-Member</p> <p>iii) Director/Deputy Secretary (Scholarship), DEPwD-Member</p> <p>Secretary, DEPwD will be approving authority to the recommendation of Selection Committee.</p>	<p>DEPwD- Chairperson</p> <p>ii) Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor, DEPwD or his/representative not below the rank of DS/Director-Member</p> <p>iii) Director/Deputy Secretary (dealing with Free Coaching Scheme), DEPwD-Member</p> <p>Secretary, DEPwD will be approving authority to the recommendation of Selection Committee.</p> <p>(Amendment already in force with effect from 24.02.2025)</p>
12	14.6.	<p>GENERAL CONDITION FOR IMPLEMENTING AGENCY:-</p> <p>iv) IA will not allow outsourcing for coaching.</p> <p>v) IA will ensure that the coaching for the indicated course will be provided in the own campus.</p>	<p>(iv) The Implementing Agency will not further outsource the coaching and trainers shall be directly hired by the IAs unless specifically exempted by the Department.</p> <p>(v) The Implementing Agency will ensure that the coaching for the indicated course is provided in its own campus unless specifically exempted by the Department.</p>
13	14.7	<p>iii) Aadhar Number or Aadhar Enrolment number would be mandatory and aadhaar based bio-metric authentication of the candidates may also be done.</p> <p>iv) Unique Disability ID (UDID) number or UDID Enrolment number with disability certificate is mandatory.</p>	<p>iii) Aadhaar number would be mandatory and Aadhaar based bio-metric authentication of the candidates may also be done.</p> <p>iv) Unique Disability ID (UDID) number is mandatory.</p> <p><i>[Amendment in 14.7(iv) already in force with effect from 24.02.2025.]</i></p>
14	14.10	<p>MODE OF DISBURSEMENT OF STIPEND AND FEE:-</p> <p>i.Coaching fee/ Tuition fee shall be released on advance basis through a</p>	<p>i) Coaching fee/Tuition fee shall be released to the Implementing Agency</p>

		<p>Central Nodal Agency (CNA). CNA would release payment to the Implementing Agency on monthly/Quarterly basis.</p> <p>ii) Stipend and other admissible allowances shall be released through DBT mode in the candidate's Aadhaar enabled bank account on a monthly/quarterly basis after receiving progress report on a monthly/quarterly basis. A minimum 70% monthly attendance is a prerequisite for the candidates to be eligible for stipend/ maintenance and disability allowance for a particular month.</p>	<p>through a Central Nodal Agency (CNA).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First instalment of 50% shall be released as advance on the basis of number of candidates meeting 50% attendance during the first 10 days. Second instalment will be released on completion of course taking into account all the candidates who have attended the course beyond its halfway mark. <p>ii) Stipend and other admissible allowances shall be released through DBT mode in the candidate's Aadhaar enabled bank account.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance and disability allowance will be released on monthly/quarterly basis. A minimum 70% monthly attendance is a prerequisite for the candidates to be eligible for stipend/ maintenance and disability allowance for a particular month. Book allowance will be released in advance to the candidates meeting 50% attendance during the first 10 days and to the other candidates with the first instalment of maintenance/disability allowances provided they have continued with the course.
15	14.11	<p>PERFORMANCE AND MONITORING:</p> <p>ii. In order to ensure proper accountability, physical verification of at least 10% of the institutes/Students chosen randomly through an algorithm shall be done by the Department.</p>	<p>ii. In order to ensure proper implementation, physical/ virtual verification of at least 10% of the institutes/Students shall be done by the Department directly or through its Institutes.</p>
