

FREE COACHING SCHEME FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

(DIVYANGJAN)

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SCHEME OF SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Education plays a pivotal role in socio-economic empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. Recognizing its crucial role, the Directive Principles of State Policy in the Constitution of India and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 have underlined the role of the State in realization of the Right to Education for Persons with Disabilities.

1.2. Section 31 (I) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (RPwD) states that “Notwithstanding anything contained in the Rights of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, every child with benchmark

disability between the age of six to eighteen years shall have the right to free education in a neighborhood school, or in a special school, of his choice”.

1.3. 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.

1.4. 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:

- 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).

The guidelines in respect of first five components of the Umbrella Scheme as mentioned above are being brought out separately and guidelines in respect of Free Coaching Component of Umbrella Scheme are delineated as under.

2. OBJECTIVE

To provide coaching facilities to students with benchmark disabilities (having a minimum of 40% disability) to enable them to appear in competitive examinations for government jobs and seek admission to various professional and technical courses.

3. COURSES FOR COACHING

The courses for which the coaching will be imparted shall be as follows:

- i. Recruitment examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) for Group 'A' posts, the Staff Selection Commission (SSC) for Group 'B' and 'C' posts and the various Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) for Group 'A', 'B' and 'C' posts;
- ii. Recruitment examinations conducted by the State Public Service Commissions for Group 'A', 'B' and 'C' posts in the respective States;
- iii. Recruitment examinations conducted by Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS), Nationalized Banks, Government Insurance Companies and Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) for Officer level/Clerical level posts under them;
- iv. Entrance Examinations for admission to (a) Engineering (e.g. IIT-JEE), (b) Medical (eg. NEET), (c) Professional courses like Management (e.g. CAT) and Law (e.g. CLAT), and (d) Any other such disciplines/courses as Ministry may decide from time to time.

Note: Online coaching shall not be supported under the scheme

4. NUMBER OF SLOTS AND ITS DISTRIBUTION

There will be 1000 yearly slots under Free Coaching scheme, out of which 60% slots (i.e. 600) will be earmarked for competitive examinations relating to recruitment in Government services and 40% (i.e. 400) for entrance examinations for admission to various professional courses.

Out of 600 slots earmarked for competitive examinations relating to Government jobs, further distribution of slots will be as under:

Types of Disability	No. of slots earmarked
(a) blindness and low vision	130
(b) deaf, hard of hearing and speech and language disability	130
(c) locomotor disability including cerebral palsy, leprosy cured, dwarfism, acid attack victims and muscular dystrophy	130
(d) autism, intellectual disability, specific learning disability,	130

mental illness and multiple disabilities	
(e) Other disabilities such as chronic neurological conditions (multiple sclerosis and parkinson's disease) and blood disorder (haemophilia, thalassemia and sickle cell disease)	80

However, in case of non-availability of eligible applicants in any of the above categories, unutilized slots under that category may rationally be utilized for other categories having more number of applicants.

5. IMPLEMENTING AGENCY

The Scheme will be implemented by the Department through the following implementing agencies:

- i. Empanelled Central University/Institutes under Free Coaching Scheme of Department of Social Justice and Empowerment implemented by Dr. Ambedkar Foundation (DAF) under M/o SJE.
- ii. National Institutes / Composite Regional Centers under the administrative control of Department

6. APPROVAL OF THE IMPLEMENTING AGENCY

The proposal for implementation of the scheme by various implementing agency will be considered by a Selection Committee which shall recommend the implementing agencies based on availability of physical and academic infrastructure and other requirements to implement the scheme. The composition of the Selection Committee will be as under:

- i. Joint Secretary, Scholarship, DEPwD - Chairperson
- ii. Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor, MSJE - Member
- iii. Joint Secretary or Representative not below the rank of DS/Dir. (handling with free coaching scheme), D/o SJE - Member
- iv. Director, (Dr. Ambedkar Foundation) - Member
- v. Director/DS (Scholarship), DEPWD - Convener

Secretary, DEPwD will be approving authority to the recommendation of Selection Committee.

7. GENERAL CONDITION FOR IMPLEMENTING AGENCY:-

- i. **Signing of MoU :** Implementing agency (IA) shall sign MoU with the Department indicating, among other things, the slots allocated, courses to be offered with slots per course, fee to be charged per student, duration of the course, date of commencement and conclusion of the course etc.
- ii. **Renewal of MoU :** The signed MoU shall be applicable for a period of three years from the date of its signing. The empanelment can be renewed for a further period subject to fulfillment of performance criteria, willingness of the Implementing Agency and other material factor(s) at the time of renewal of MoU
- iii. Every year performance of IA will be reviewed by the Department.
- iv. IA will not allow outsourcing for coaching.
- v. IA will ensure that the coaching for the indicated course will be provided in the own campus.
- vi. IA shall ensure recording of Aadhaar based biometric attendance of the students and shall share the same with the Department as required.
- vii. The Implementing Agency shall conduct the coaching for the indicated course as per the MoU signed between them and the Department.
- viii. **Responsibility of Implementing Agency about eligibility of students:** The Implementing Agency shall check the credentials relating to educational, UDID card/disability certificate, income etc. of the students coached by them from the originals of such documents and certify that they are satisfied that these students are genuine and eligible students. After short listing the candidates, the implementing Agency shall forward a list of all the shortlisted candidates to this Department. If at any stage it is found out that any or all of such students were not eligible on account of education, category of disability, annual family income etc., the Implementing Agency coaching such student shall be solely responsible. No fee/stipend shall be released in respect of such students and further if any payment has already released to such students before coming into knowledge of their ineligibility for availing benefits under the scheme, the amount shall be recovered from the students and concerned institute with penalty, if any, decided by the Department.

8. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND OTHER CONDITIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

- (i) The scheme is only for Indian nationals.
- (ii) The scheme 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 .
- (iii) Aadhar Number or Aadhar Enrolment number would be mandatory and aadhaar based bio-metric authentication of the candidates may also be done.
- (iv) Unique Disability ID (UDID) number or UDID Enrolment number with disability certificate is mandatory.
- (v) 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 benefits under the schemes will be admissible to the twin.
- (vi) Benefits under the Scheme can be availed by a particular student not more than once, irrespective of the number of chances he/she may be entitled to take in a particular competitive examination and irrespective of the number of stages in the exam.
- (vii) Only students with benchmark disability, having total family income from all sources of Rs. 8.00 lakh or less per annum will be eligible for benefits under the Scheme.
- (viii) Income Certificate: Income declaration of self-employed parents/guardian should be in the form of a certificate issued by a Revenue Officer not below the rank of Tehsildar/ Naib Tehsildar. Employed parents/guardians are required to obtain income certificate from their employer and submit consolidated obtain income certificate from Revenue Officer including any other additional source of income.
- (ix) For the competitive exams for which the qualifying exam is class XII, benefits under the scheme will be available to a candidate only if the

candidate has passed class XII or is studying in class XII as on date of receiving the benefits under the scheme. Student will be required to declare the marks obtained by him/her in class X in the application form which shall be reckoned for the purpose of evaluating his/her eligibility. Students having less than 50% marks in their class X exam, shall not be considered under the scheme.

(x) Further, in case of competitive exams for which the qualifying exam is at bachelor level, only students/candidates having completed the bachelor level course or studying in the final year of the bachelor degree course at the time of receiving the benefits under the scheme shall be eligible. Student will be required to declare the marks obtained by him/her in higher secondary examination which shall be reckoned for the purpose of evaluating his/her eligibility. Students having less than 50% marks in their class XII exam, shall not be considered under the scheme.

(xi) The candidate shall be precluded from availing benefits under any other coaching scheme of the Centre or State government and will be required to provide a declaration to this effect.

9. PROCESS OF APPLICATION AND SELECTION OF THE CANDIDATES:

(i). Application for free coaching will be invited by respective Implementing Agencies in OFFLINE or ONLINE mode and candidates for free coaching will be selected after assessing the eligibility and Suitability and within the approved slots.

(ii). There will be 30% reservation for the female students. 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.

10. PRESCRIBED COURSES FEE AND STIPEND

i. Prescribed course fee and duration of the courses under Free Coaching scheme are as under:

S.No.	Coaching Course	Maximum Total Course Fee in Rupees	Minimum and *maximum duration of course in months
1.	Civil Services Exam by UPSC/SPSCs	75,000/-	9 months - 12 months
2.	SSC/RRB	40,000/-	6 months - 9 months
3.	Banking/Insurance/PSU/CLAT	50,000/-	6 months - 9 months
4.	JEE/NEET	75,000/-	9 months - 12 months
5.	IES	75,000/-	9 months - 12 months
6.	CAT/CMAT	50,000/-	6 months - 9 months
7.	CA-CPT/GATE	75,000/-	9 months - 12 months

*A minimum physical coaching of 16 hours per week will be mandatory for all the above courses.

ii. Stipend and Other Allowances to be paid to the candidates:

- a. Stipend/ Maintenance allowance : Rs. 4000/- per month
- b. Disability Allowances : Rs.2000/- per month
- c. Book Allowance: Rs. 5000 per course (One Time)

Note: stipend/maintenance allowance/ Disability Allowance shall be paid for the actual months of coaching or for the maximum prescribed duration, whichever is less, even if the concerned Implementing agency has imparted coaching for a period beyond the maximum duration prescribed.

11. MODE OF DISBURSEMENT OF STIPEND AND FEE:-

- i. Coaching fee, Stipend and other admissible allowances shall be released through DBT mode in the candidate's Aadhar enabled bank accounts in two installments of 50% each of the admissible amount. The first installment shall be released immediately at commencement of course and the second installment will be released after conclusion of more than 75% of the course duration. Book allowance will be paid in full as part of 1st installment.
- ii. On receiving the coaching fee, the students will be required to remit or pay the portion of the institution fee immediately, not exceeding 15 days, to the implementing agency where they are getting coaching.

12. PERFORMANCE AND MONITORING:

- i. Concerned Implementing agency will review of the performance of the selected candidates availing the benefits of the scheme based on the information obtained from the candidates about their success or otherwise in the competitive exams.
- 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.

13. FURNISHING OF FALSE INFORMATION

If any candidate has furnished any false information/document which is established on verification, he/she will be liable for criminal proceedings and action will be initiated for recovery of the amount released, with 15% compound interest thereon. Such Candidate will also be black listed for any future benefits under the Government Schemes.
