

C.GOPABANDHU SIKHYA SAHAYATA YOJANA

C.1. Program Aim:

The central aim of this program is to extend annual financial aid to students hailing from under-privileged, economically disadvantaged and marginalized families, facilitating their pursuit of undergraduate and postgraduate courses within Odisha. The scheme seeks to supplement other existing scholarships, improving access to higher education and fostering social and economic upliftment.

C.2. Eligibility Requirements:

1. To apply for this financial aid program, the student must fall under one of the following categories:
 - a. Families impacted by HIV/AIDS.
 - b. Homeless households' family.
 - c. Begging or destitute families.
 - d. Manual scavenger families.
 - e. Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups.
 - f. Legally emancipated bonded labourers' family.
 - g. Families led by a single mother, be it through widowhood, divorce, or being unmarried.
 - h. Specially Cared Child (Orphan children without any biological or adoptive or legal parents)
 - i. Student belonging to Transgender community.
 - j. Girl student rescued from Child Marriage by W&CD Department and continues to stay in shelter home for rehabilitation or hostel.
2. Be a permanent resident of Odisha.
3. Be enrolled in either undergraduate, postgraduate courses or any other professional course offered by accredited institutions in Odisha.
4. Have a total household income less than Rs.2.50 lakhs per annum.

5. Students falling under category 'j' (girl student rescued from child marriage) will be eligible to receive support as long as she remains in the rehabilitation shelter or hostel for the major part of the academic year and till the academic year in which she either turns 21 years old or gets married, whichever comes first.

C.3. Covered Courses:

Financial aid is available for all undergraduate, postgraduate courses, technical and non-technical, professional and non-professional courses offered by government recognized institutions or institutions set up by the statute of the Union or State Government.

C.4. Financial Aid Amount:

Annual financial support of Rs.20,000/- is available for both undergraduate and postgraduate studies until the course is completed. This scheme is also available to students who are receiving other scholarships.

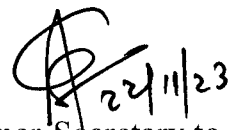
C.5. Application Procedure:

1. Eligible students must submit their applications through the Odisha State Scholarship Portal.
2. Submitted applications will be forwarded to the respective educational institution for validation.
3. The institution will then confirm the eligibility based on documentation and send the validated applications to the District Collectors.
4. A committee formed by the District Collector will finalize the eligible applicants and send the list after duly filling and signing certificate in the prescribed format by the District Collector, clearly mentioning whether the applicant is eligible under the scheme or not and to upload the same through online mode to the Higher Education Department for disbursement of funds to the students' Aadhaar-linked bank accounts. The prescribed format is at Appendix-IV.

The hard copy of the proceeding of the committee constituted by the concerned District Collector along with the list of students recommended for Gopabandhu Sikhya Sahayata Yojana Scholarship will also be sent to the Department.

C.6. Required Documentation:

- I. Residence certification from a competent authority i.e. from the concerned Tahasildar / Addl. Tahasildar.
- II. Current financial year income certificate issued by the competent authority, i.e. the Revenue Officer not below the rank of Tahasildar or Addl. Tahasildar.
- III. HIV/AIDS medical certificate, from the concerned Medical Officer regarding suffering from HIV/AIDS, if applicable.
- IV. Homelessness certificate, from the competent Revenue Authority that the person is homeless.
- V. Single mother status certificate, from District Social Welfare Officer, if applicable.
- VI. Destitute status certificate, from the local Sarpanch/ Urban Local Body authority, if applicable.
- VII. Manual scavenger status certificate, from the competent authority, if applicable.
- VIII. Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group certificate, from the District Welfare Officer, if applicable.
- IX. Legally released bonded labourer certificate, from the District Welfare Officer/ District Labour Officer/ any competent authority, if applicable.
- X. Specially Cared Child certificate (orphan), from District Child Protection Officer, if applicable.
- XI. Transgender Certificate issued from National Portal of Transgender persons.
- XII. Copy of student's bank passbook showing the relevant account information.
- XIII. Certificate from District Social Welfare Officer regarding girl student rescued from child marriage and her stay in rehabilitation home as part of her rehabilitation.
- XIV. Any document in support of age proof, like Adhaar, birth certificate, metric certificate etc.

 22/11/23

Commissioner-Secretary to Government
Department of Higher Education

PART-II

Responsibilities of Educational Institutions:

- The Head of Institution / Principal has to constitute a Scholarship Cell and declare one senior faculty as the Nodal Officer of the Scholarship Cell.
- The Nodal Officer has to formulate plan and programme for better awareness of the students about the scholarships granted by Government of Odisha through the State Scholarship Portal.
- The Nodal Officer has to constitute a committee of three members.
- The Committee has to :
 - i. Download the list of students applied for scholarship (scheme wise), available in the report site of the portal.
 - ii. Scrutinize the applications received in the institute log in under different scheme basing on the eligibility criteria.
 - iii. The Committee has to ensure the genuineness of the student, i.e. he/she is studying in the College/Institution for the particular year.
 - iv. The Committee has to ensure that no student pursuing any Self-Financing Course in General U.G. / P.G. Merit.
 - v. Check correctness of data regarding parental income, marks secured, bank Account details, College ID card and residence.
 - vi. If any error is found, the Principal/Head of Institution will rectify/revert the applications to students for rectification and resubmission within seven days for consideration.
 - vii. Prepare the eligible/Ineligible list in the prescribed format (to be downloaded from the portal). Format has been detailed in **Appendix III**.
 - viii. Sign the report and countersign the same by Head of Institution / Principal & upload the report in the portal.
- If all data are correct, the Head of Institution / Principal will authenticate the record of the student to be considered for scholarship by the Department.

- Merit or selection list for particular category of merit will be drawn only from the records authenticated by the Principal/Head of institutions within the timeline given for the purpose.

Role of District Collectors: (Applicable only for GSSY scholarship)

- District Collectors will confirm eligible candidates for this scheme through a dedicated committee.

Role of Higher Education Department:

- Advertise the program and invite applications.
- Prepare a merit list based on validated applications.
- Disburse financial aid through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

Role of OCAC and Service Providers:

- Provide a smooth online application process.
- Offer technical support to all stakeholders.
- Online uploading of guidelines, instructions, letters and round-wise selection list (one time residual) which have been processed for payment.

Application Steps:

- Follow the online application process at <https://scholarship.odisha.gov.in/>.
- Use a valid Aadhaar number for registration.
- Complete the application with accurate information.
- Download and print the completed application form for future reference.

General Limitations:

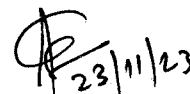
- Scholarships will be distributed on a district/block level.
- Incorrect information will lead to application rejection.

Disbursement Method:

- Funds will be transferred directly to students' Aadhaar-linked bank accounts, following confirmation by the concerned educational institutions.

Miscellaneous:

- For queries, contact the scholarship section at 0674-2396550 or email scholarshipedgov@gmail.com.


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