



राष्ट्रीय आयुर्विज्ञान आयोग

National Medical Commission

(Under Graduate Medical Education Board)

Address: Pocket- 14, Sector- 8, Dwarka, Phase – 1, New Delhi-
110077,

Phone: 011 25367033/25367035/25367036, E-mail: ug@nmc.org.in

U-11021/24204/2026-UGMEB

Dated: 21.07.2026

**Subject: GUIDELINES ON ASSESSMENT OF PERSONS WITH
BENCHMARK DISABILITIES (PwBD) FOR ADMISSION TO THE
MBBS COURSE, 2026**

In exercise of the powers conferred by Sections 10 and 24 of the National Medical Commission Act, 2019, read with Section 57 thereof, and in furtherance of the Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2023, the National Medical Commission hereby issues the following Guidelines, namely "Guidelines on Assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) for Admission to the MBBS Course, 2026"

2. The Guidelines shall come into force on the date of their publication by the National Medical Commission.

(Dharmender)

Deputy Secretary
UGMEB, National Medical Commission

NATIONAL MEDICAL COMMISSION
(UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION BOARD)
U-11021/24204/2026-UGMEB

NOTIFICATION

**GUIDELINES ON ASSESSMENT OF PERSONS WITH BENCHMARK
DISABILITIES (PwBD) FOR ADMISSION TO THE MBBS COURSE, 2026**

U-11021/24204/2026-UGMEB-In exercise of the powers conferred by Sections 10 and 24 of the National Medical Commission Act, 2019, read with Section 57 thereof, and in furtherance of the Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2023, the National Medical Commission hereby issues the following Guidelines, namely: —

1. Short Title and Commencement

1.1 These Guidelines may be called the "Guidelines on Assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) for Admission to the MBBS Course, 2026".

1.2 They shall come into force on the date of their publication by the National Medical Commission.

2. Objectives

2.1 The National Medical Commission recognises that Persons with Benchmark Disabilities constitute an integral part of society and are entitled to equality, dignity, non-discrimination and reasonable accommodation in all spheres of life, including medical education, in accordance with the Constitution of India and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

2.2 Simultaneously, the National Medical Commission is entrusted with the statutory responsibility of maintaining high standards of undergraduate medical education and ensuring that every medical graduate acquires the essential competencies necessary for the safe, ethical and effective practice of modern medicine in accordance with the Competency Based Medical Education (CBME) curriculum.

2.3 Medical education demands the acquisition of knowledge, professional skills, clinical competencies, communication abilities and ethical values. The

assessment of candidates with benchmark disabilities must therefore balance the rights guaranteed under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 with the statutory obligation to maintain academic standards, professional competence and patient safety.

2.4 These Guidelines introduce a competency-based and function-oriented assessment framework, whereby the determination of eligibility shall not rest solely upon the numerical percentage or category of disability reflected in the UDID Card or other disability certification. While the benchmark disability prescribed under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 shall continue to determine eligibility for reservation under the PwBD category, admission to the MBBS Course shall be based upon an objective evaluation of the candidate's functional competencies, with due regard to reasonable accommodation, assistive technology, environmental accessibility and contemporary advances in rehabilitation science.

2.5 For the purposes of these Guidelines, the certificate presently issued by the designated Medical Boards for admission to the MBBS Course, though commonly referred to as a "**Disability Certificate**", shall be known as the "**Eligibility Certificate**", as it is intended to certify the candidate's eligibility or otherwise for admission to the MBBS Course based on functional assessment rather than merely certifying the existence or extent of disability.

2.6 In order to facilitate greater accessibility, transparency and uniformity in the assessment process, the network of designated assessment centres has been expanded from **sixteen (16) to thirty-three (33)** Medical Boards across the country. For the purposes of these Guidelines, all such designated Boards shall be collectively referred to as the "**Medical Assessment Boards**", which shall undertake the functional assessment of candidates in accordance with these Guidelines.

2.7 These Guidelines accordingly establish a transparent, uniform, evidence-based and competency-oriented framework for the assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities seeking admission to the MBBS Course throughout the country, with the objective of ensuring equal opportunity while preserving academic standards, professional competence and patient safety.

3. Definitions

In these Guidelines, unless the context otherwise requires—

3.1 "Act" means the National Medical Commission Act, 2019 (30 of 2019).

3.2 "Ability Assessment Board" or "Medical Assessment Board" means an Assessment Board designated or constituted by the Medical Counselling Committee for assessing the functional competency and eligibility of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities for admission to the MBBS Course under these Guidelines.

3.3 "PwBD Candidate" means a person seeking admission to the MBBS Course under the Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) category through the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (Undergraduate) [NEET (UG)].

3.4 "CBME" means the Competency Based Medical Education curriculum prescribed by the National Medical Commission from time to time.

3.5 "Competency" means the knowledge, skills, attitudes, values and professional behaviours prescribed under the Competency Based Medical Education curriculum required to successfully complete the MBBS Course.

3.6 "Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)" means the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India.

3.7 "Disability Certificate" means the certificate issued by the Ability Assessment Board/ Medical Assessment Board designated by the Medical Counselling Committee (MCC) under the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, certifying the eligibility or otherwise of a Person with Benchmark Disability for admission to the MBBS Course in accordance with these Guidelines.

3.8 "Essential Competencies" means the minimum competencies prescribed under the Competency Based Medical Education curriculum that every medical graduate is required to acquire for the safe and effective practice of medicine.

3.9 "Functional Competency" means the demonstrated ability of a candidate, with or without reasonable accommodation or assistive technology, to acquire and perform the essential competencies required under the Competency Based Medical Education curriculum.

3.10 "Graduate Medical Education Regulations" or "GMER" means the Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2023, as amended from time to

time.

3.11 "Guidelines" means these Guidelines on Assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) for Admission to the MBBS Course, 2026.

3.12 "Medical College" means a medical institution recognised under the National Medical Commission Act, 2019 for conducting the MBBS Course.

3.13 "Medical Counselling Committee (MCC)" means the Medical Counselling Committee constituted by the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

3.14 "National Medical Commission" or "NMC" means the National Medical Commission established under Section 3 of the National Medical Commission Act, 2019.

3.15 "NEET (UG)" means the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (Undergraduate) conducted for admission to undergraduate medical education in accordance with the applicable law.

3.16 "Notification of 12th March, 2024" means the Notification dated 12th March, 2024 issued by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, published in the Gazette of India on 14th March, 2024.

3.17 "Person with Benchmark Disability" or "PwBD" shall have the same meaning as assigned to it under Section 2(r) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

3.18 "Reasonable Accommodation" shall have the same meaning as assigned to it under Section 2(y) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

3.19 "Rules" means the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules, 2017, as amended from time to time.

3.20 "Specified Disability" shall have the same meaning as assigned to it under the Schedule to the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

3.21 "State Counselling Authority" means the authority designated by the respective State Government or Union Territory Administration to conduct counselling for admission to the MBBS Course.

3.22 "Self-certified Affidavit" means the affidavit furnished by a candidate in the format prescribed in Schedule-I declaring the candidate's functional abilities and other particulars required under these Guidelines.

3.23 "Speaking Order" means a written order containing the reasons, findings and conclusions of the Medical Assessment Board in support of its decision.

3.24 "Reasoned Decision" means a decision supported by objective findings, functional assessment and reasons recorded in writing.

3.25 "UDID Card" means the Unique Disability Identity Card issued through the Unique Disability Identity (UDID) Portal by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India.

CHAPTER I

PRELIMINARY

4. Scope and Application

4.1. These Guidelines shall apply to—

- (a) every candidate seeking admission to the MBBS Course under the Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) category;
- (b) every Medical College recognised under the National Medical Commission Act, 2019;
- (c) the Medical Counselling Committee (MCC);
- (d) all State Counselling Authorities;
- (e) all Medical Assessment Boards constituted for assessment of PwBD candidates; and
- (f) every authority or institution involved in the assessment, counselling, admission or certification of candidates under the PwBD category.

5. Objectives

5.1. The National Medical Commission recognises that Persons with Benchmark Disabilities constitute an integral part of society and are entitled to equality, dignity, non-discrimination and reasonable accommodation in all spheres of life, including medical education, in accordance with the Constitution of India and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

5.2. Simultaneously, the National Medical Commission is entrusted with the statutory responsibility of maintaining high standards of undergraduate

medical education and ensuring that every medical graduate acquires the essential competencies necessary for the safe, ethical and effective practice of modern medicine in accordance with the Competency Based Medical Education (CBME) curriculum.

5.3. Medical education demands the acquisition of knowledge, professional skills, clinical competencies, communication abilities and ethical values. The assessment of candidates with benchmark disabilities must therefore balance the rights guaranteed under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 with the statutory obligation to maintain academic standards, professional competence and patient safety.

5.4. Disability shall not, by itself, constitute a ground for exclusion from medical education. Eligibility shall be determined through an objective assessment of the candidate's functional competencies, taking into consideration reasonable accommodation, assistive technology, environmental accessibility and contemporary advances in rehabilitation science.

5.5. These Guidelines seek to establish a transparent, uniform, evidence-based and competency-oriented framework for the assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities seeking admission to the MBBS Course throughout the country.

6. Statutory Framework

6.1. These Guidelines shall be read in conjunction with—

- (a) the National Medical Commission Act, 2019;
- (b) the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016;
- (c) the Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2023, as amended from time to time;
- (d) the Notification dated 12th March, 2024 issued by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment;
- (e) all applicable Regulations, Guidelines, Notifications and Circulars issued by the National Medical Commission from time to time; and
- (f) all binding judgments, directions and orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and other competent Courts governing admission of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities to the MBBS Course.

7. Purpose

7.1 The purpose of these Guidelines is to—

- (a) establish a uniform national framework for assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities seeking admission to the MBBS Course;
- (b) ensure transparency, consistency and objectivity in disability assessment;
- (c) facilitate implementation of the Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2023;
- (d) ensure compliance with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016;
- (e) promote equality, inclusion and reasonable accommodation while preserving patient safety and academic standards.

8. Equality and Non-discrimination

- a. The minimum degree of disability should be 40% (Benchmark Disability) in order to be eligible for availing reservation for persons with specified disability. Every PwBD candidate possessing a specified disability shall be entitled to equal treatment throughout the admission process.
- b. No authority shall discriminate against any PwBD candidate solely by reason of disability.
- c. Disability shall never be treated as a disqualification unless such disability demonstrably prevents the acquisition of essential competencies despite reasonable accommodation.
- d. Disability shall be understood in accordance with the rights recognized under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.
- e. Assessment shall recognize that disability arises from the interaction between an individual's impairment and environmental, institutional, social and attitudinal barriers.
- f. Efforts should be made to the extent to which reasonable accommodation, assistive technology and accessible educational practices, that can enable the candidate to successfully pursue medical education.

CHAPTER II

ELIGIBILITY, DOCUMENTATION AND DISABILITY ASSESSMENT

9. Eligibility and Documentation

9.1 A candidate seeking admission to the MBBS Course under the Persons

with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) category shall possess a benchmark disability of not less than forty per cent (40%), in accordance with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and the rules made thereunder.

9.2 Every such candidate shall possess a valid Permanent Unique Disability Identity (UDID) Card issued through the UDID Portal by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India. The UDID Card shall serve as the primary documentary evidence of the existence, nature and extent of the specified disability for the purposes of these Guidelines.

9.3 While the particulars recorded in the Permanent UDID Card, including the category, percentage and validity of the specified disability, shall ordinarily form the basis of consideration by the Medical Assessment Board, the Board shall independently determine the candidate's functional competency in accordance with these Guidelines. The determination of eligibility shall not be based solely upon the category or percentage of disability recorded in the UDID Card.

9.4 Where the Medical Assessment Board considers it necessary for determining the functional competency of the candidate or the feasibility of providing reasonable accommodation, it may require the candidate to undergo such further clinical examination, functional evaluation or verification as it considers appropriate.

9.5 Every candidate shall submit a self-certified affidavit declaring his or her functional abilities in the format specified in **Schedule-I**, which shall be verified by the Medical Assessment Board during the course of assessment.

9.6 A candidate shall not be denied consideration under the PwBD category solely on account of a procedural defect or discrepancy in the Permanent UDID Card, provided that such defect is capable of rectification and the specified disability is otherwise established in accordance with law.

9.7 Every admission to the MBBS Course under the PwBD category shall be regulated by these Guidelines, and every Medical College, Counselling Authority and Medical Assessment Board shall ensure strict compliance with the provisions contained herein.

10. Medical Assessment Board/Ability Assessment Board

10.1 Every Medical Assessment Board shall discharge its functions fairly, objectively, transparently and in accordance with the principles of natural

justice, equity and the rule of law.

10.2 Every candidate appearing before the Medical Assessment Board shall be treated with dignity, respect and fairness throughout the assessment process.

10.3 The Medical Assessment Board shall ensure that no candidate is subjected to physical, environmental, communication or attitudinal barriers during the assessment process.

10.4 The Medical Assessment Board shall undertake the assessment of candidates in accordance with—

- (a) the assessment methodology prescribed under the Notification dated 12th March, 2024 issued by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment;
- (b) these Guidelines; and
- (c) any other applicable statutory provisions governing the assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities.

11. Matters to be Verified and Evaluated

11.1 While assessing the eligibility of a candidate under these Guidelines, the Medical Assessment Board shall verify and evaluate, inter alia—

- (a) the Permanent Unique Disability Identity (UDID) Card issued by the competent authority under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment;
- (b) the nature, extent and stability of the specified disability and the underlying medical condition;
- (c) the candidate's functional abilities in relation to the essential competencies prescribed under the Competency Based Medical Education (CBME) curriculum;
- (d) the suitability and effectiveness of any assistive device, assistive technology or adaptive aid used by the candidate;
- (e) the feasibility of providing reasonable accommodation to facilitate acquisition of the prescribed competencies;
- (f) the impact, if any, of the disability upon patient safety; and
- (g) such other clinical, functional or educational factors as may be relevant for determining the candidate's eligibility under these Guidelines.

11.2 Principles Governing Determination of Eligibility

The determination of eligibility by the Medical Assessment Board shall be guided by the following principles—

(a) Functional Competency

The primary consideration shall be whether the candidate possesses, or can reasonably acquire with appropriate support and reasonable accommodation, the essential competencies prescribed under the Competency Based Medical Education (CBME) curriculum.

(b) Individualized Assessment

Every assessment shall be individualized, objective and evidence-based. No candidate shall be declared eligible or ineligible solely on account of the category or percentage of disability.

(c) Scientific Assessment

Assessment shall be based upon objective medical findings, scientific evidence, functional evaluation, contemporary rehabilitation principles and evidence-based medical practice. The Medical Assessment Board shall avoid reliance upon outdated medical opinions, stereotypes or unsupported assumptions relating to disability. Where advances in rehabilitation medicine, assistive technology or adaptive devices substantially improve the functional abilities of the candidate, due consideration shall be given to such advancements while determining eligibility.

(d) Reasonable Accommodation

Prior to declaring a candidate ineligible, the Medical Assessment Board shall examine whether reasonable accommodation, assistive technology, adaptive devices or appropriate infrastructural support would enable the candidate to successfully pursue and complete the MBBS Course without compromising the acquisition of the prescribed competencies.

Provision of reasonable accommodation shall not be construed as dilution of academic standards but shall constitute a measure to ensure substantive equality of opportunity for Persons with Benchmark Disabilities.

Reasonable accommodation may include, inter alia—

- (i) assistive devices;
- (ii) adaptive equipment;
- (iii) digital accessibility;
- (iv) accessible teaching and learning material;
- (v) communication support;

- (vi) ergonomic modifications;
- (vii) examination accommodations consistent with academic standards; and
- (viii) accessible clinical learning environments.

(e) Patient Safety

Patient safety shall remain an important consideration while determining eligibility. However, any conclusion relating to patient safety shall be based upon objective clinical and functional evidence and shall not rest upon generalized assumptions, stereotypes or preconceived notions regarding disability.

Chapter-III

Procedure for issuance of Certificate to the PwBD Candidate and Review Mechanism

12. Procedure for issuance of Certificate to the PwBD Candidate

12.1 Upon completion of the functional assessment, the Medical Assessment Board shall determine whether the candidate is Eligible; Eligible with Reasonable Accommodation, or Ineligible for admission to the MBBS Course under the Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) category in accordance with these Guidelines.

12.2 The determination of eligibility shall be based on—

- (a) the candidate's demonstrated functional competency in relation to the essential competencies prescribed under the Competency Based Medical Education (CBME) curriculum;
- (b) the feasibility of providing reasonable accommodation, assistive technology or other support measures, wherever appropriate;
- (c) the ability of the candidate to successfully complete the MBBS Course and acquire the prescribed competencies; and
- (d) considerations relating to patient safety, supported by objective medical and functional evidence.

12.3 No candidate shall be declared ineligible solely on the basis of—

- (a) the diagnosis or category of disability;
- (b) the percentage of benchmark disability recorded in the UDID Card or Disability Certificate; or

(c) generalized assumptions or stereotypes associated with any disability.

12.4 A candidate shall be declared ineligible only where the Medical Assessment Board, after due consideration of reasonable accommodation and assistive technology, records, by a reasoned and speaking order, that the candidate is unable to acquire the essential competencies prescribed under the Competency Based Medical Education (CBME) curriculum or that the disability would pose a demonstrable and unacceptable risk to patient safety which cannot be mitigated through reasonable accommodation.

12.5 Every determination of the Medical Assessment Board shall be recorded in writing and shall clearly specify—

- (a) the nature and extent of the disability;
- (b) the findings of the functional competency assessment;
- (c) the reasonable accommodation, if any, considered or recommended;
- (d) the reasons supporting the determination of eligibility or ineligibility; and
- (e) the final recommendation of the Board.

12.6 The Medical Assessment Board shall issue an **Eligibility Certificate**, in the format specified in **Schedule-II**, certifying whether the candidate is—

- (i) Eligible;
- (ii) Eligible with Reasonable Accommodation, specifying the accommodation(s) recommended; or
- (iii) Ineligible, together with the reasons recorded in accordance with clause 12.4.

13. Review Mechanism

13.1 Any candidate aggrieved by the findings or decision of the Medical Assessment Board may seek a review before any other Medical Assessment Board /Ability Assessment Board designated by the Medical Counselling Committee (MCC), within such time and in such manner as may be notified by the Medical Counselling Committee from time to time.

13.2 The designated Medical Assessment Board /Ability Assessment Board shall independently assess the candidate in accordance with these Guidelines and may examine the candidate afresh, review the relevant records, or undertake such further clinical examination or functional assessment as it considers necessary.

13.3 The designated Medical Assessment Board /Ability Assessment Board shall record its findings by a reasoned and speaking order, clearly indicating the basis for affirming, modifying or setting aside the findings of the earlier Medical Assessment Board /Ability Assessment Board.

13.4 The decision of the designated Medical Assessment Board /Ability Assessment Board shall be final for the purposes of counselling and admission under these Guidelines, subject to any order or direction of a court of competent jurisdiction.

CHAPTER VI

MISCELLANEOUS

14. Institutional Responsibilities

14.1 Every Medical College, Medical Counselling Committee, State Counselling Authority and Medical Assessment Board shall ensure that the provisions of these Guidelines are implemented in letter and spirit.

14.2 Every institution shall take appropriate measures to ensure that no PwBD candidate is denied admission or subjected to discrimination solely on the ground of disability, except in accordance with these Guidelines and the applicable statutory provisions.

14.3 Every institution shall endeavour to provide reasonable accommodation, barrier-free access and accessible learning environments in accordance with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and the applicable standards notified by the Government of India.

14.4 Medical Colleges are encouraged to undertake periodic sensitization and capacity-building programmes for faculty members, administrative staff and students to promote an inclusive academic environment and eliminate physical, communication and attitudinal barriers.

14.5 Every Medical College shall designate a Nodal Officer or establish an appropriate institutional mechanism to facilitate implementation of these Guidelines and to address issues concerning PwBD candidates. These measures reflect the institutional responsibilities emphasized under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and the interim framework previously adopted by the Commission.

15. Grievance Redressal Mechanism

15.1 Every Medical College and Counselling Authority shall maintain an

effective, accessible and time-bound grievance redressal mechanism for addressing complaints relating to disability assessment, denial of reasonable accommodation or any act of discrimination against PwBD candidates.

15.2 Every grievance shall be dealt with fairly, expeditiously and in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

16. Compliance

16.1 Every admission to the MBBS Course under the Persons with Benchmark Disabilities category shall be governed by these Guidelines.

16.2 Every authority concerned with the admission process shall strictly comply with these Guidelines.

16.3 No Medical Assessment Board shall declare a candidate ineligible without recording reasons in writing based upon functional assessment, scientific evidence and the principles contained in these Guidelines.

16.4 Every recommendation of the Medical Assessment Board shall be made by a reasoned and speaking order.

17. Power to Issue Clarifications

The National Medical Commission may issue such clarifications, advisories, standard operating procedures or procedural instructions, consistent with these Guidelines and the National Medical Commission Act, 2019, as may be necessary for their effective and uniform implementation.

18. Interpretation

If any question arises regarding the interpretation or implementation of these Guidelines, the matter shall be referred to the National Medical Commission whose decision thereon shall be final, subject to the provisions of the National Medical Commission Act, 2019, the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and any judgment or direction of a competent Court.

19. Repeal and Saving Clause

19.1 These Guidelines shall supersede all previous guidelines, advisories and instructions issued by the National Medical Commission or the erstwhile Medical Council of India relating to the assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities for admission to the MBBS Course, to the extent they are inconsistent with these Guidelines.

19.2 Notwithstanding such supersession, any action taken, assessment

conducted or decision made under the earlier guidelines shall be deemed to have been validly taken or made insofar as it is not inconsistent with these Guidelines.

20. Overriding Principle

While implementing these Guidelines, every authority shall ensure that the assessment of a candidate is based upon functional competency, objective medical evidence and the possibility of reasonable accommodation. No candidate shall be denied consideration or declared ineligible solely on the basis of diagnosis, disability category or generalized assumptions regarding disability. The paramount considerations shall be equality of opportunity, maintenance of academic standards and patient safety, to be harmoniously applied in accordance with the National Medical Commission Act, 2019 and the Regulations and Guidelines framed thereunder and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

SCHEDULE-I

APPENDIX- A SELF CERTIFICATION FORM- GENERAL

APPENDIX- B AFFIDAVIT FOR DECLARING THE HEARING
IMPAIRMENT

APPENDIX -C AFFIDAVIT FOR DECLARING THE LOCOMOTOR
DISABILITY (UPPER LIMB EXTREMITY)

APPENDIX-D AFFIDAVIT FOR DECLARING THE LOCOMOTOR
DIABILITY (LOWER LIMB EXTREMITY)

APPENDIX-E AFFIDAVIT FOR DECLARATION BY A PERSON WITH
MENTAL ILLNESS/ SLD/ ASD

APPENDIX-F AFFIDAVIT FOR DECLARATION BY A PERSON WITH
VISUAL DISABILITY

APPENDIX-A

Self-Certification Affidavit

(To be filled by all applicants applying under PwBD Category)

Name of Candidate: _____

NEET Roll No.: _____

NEET Score: _____

UDID No.: _____

Disability Type:

- - Locomotor
 - Hearing
 - Visual
 - Cognitive/SLD/
 - *Others
- : _____ (Please specify)

Disability Percentage as per [UDID card]: _____ %

Assistive Devices Used (If any): _____

Essential Functional Competencies:

Competency Area	Description	Candidate Declaration (✓ / X)
A. Communication	I can communicate clearly and empathetically with people using assistive devices.	
B. Hearing	I can hear and respond to speech in both quiet and noisy environments, with or without hearing aids or	

	cochlear implants. • I undertake to fulfill the eligibility criteria set under Form Appendix -B	
C.Dominant Hand Functionality	• I can write and hold instruments using my dominant or aided hand. • I undertake to fulfill the eligibility criteria set under Appendix –C and D	
D.Understanding/Communication	• I can follow and comprehend medical terminology and maintain social interaction. • I undertake to fulfill the eligibility set under Form Appendix -E	
E. Vision	• My vision improves to the percentage lower than 40% • I can perform with the help of Low vision Aid • I undertake to fulfill the eligibility criteria set under Form Appendix -F	

2. I hereby affirm that I possess the essential competencies and am capable of successfully undertaking the MBBS course.

3. I am aware that any false declaration may result in revocation of my admission.

Deponent Signature: _____

Date:

Place:

Notarized by:

***Note: Persons with benchmark disabilities other than Locomotor/Visual/Hearing/SLD/ASD/Mental Illness will have to submit the self-certified affidavit at Appendix-A only (eg.: Blood disorders - Haemophilia, Thalassemia and Sickle cell disease Chronic Neurological Conditions etc.)**

APPENDIX-B

AFFIDAVIT

(HEARING IMPAIRMENT)

I, _____, aged _____ years, son/daughter of _____, resident of _____, holding a valid UDID Card No. _____ issued by _____ on _____, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:

I have hearing loss in:

- ☐ Right Ear
- ☐ Left Ear
- ☐ Both Ears
- ☐ Neither

2. I use:

- ☐ Prescribed Hearing Aid
- ☐ Cochlear Implant
- ☐ None

3. I declare as under:

Sl. No.	Functional Ability regarding following Activities declared	Candidate Declaration (✓ / ✕)
1.	Communicate effectively using the above-mentioned assistive devices.	
2.	Engage in a conversation in a quiet and noisy environment.	
3.	Understand and respond to verbal instructions.	
4.	Carry out phone conversations.	

4. I hereby affirm that I possess the essential competencies and am capable of successfully undertaking the MBBS course.

5. I am aware that any false declaration may result in revocation of my admission.

Deponent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Place: _____

Notarized by: _____

APPENDIX-C

AFFIDAVIT

(LOCOMOTOR DISABILITY)
{UPPER EXTREMITY- COORDINATED ACTIVITY}

I, _____, aged _____ years, son/daughter of _____, resident of _____, holding a valid UDID Card No. _____ issued by _____ on _____, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:

2. I declare that I am suffering from _____ Disability.
3. The condition causing this disability is diagnosed as _____
4. I am using/not using any assistive device/artificial limb etc.
5. I declare my functional ability in performing the basic Coordinated Activities as below:

Sl. No.	Functional Ability regarding following Activities declared	Candidate Declaration (✓ / x)
1.	Can you lift overhead objects and place them at the same place?	
2.	Can you touch tip of the nose with the tip of a finger?	
3.	Can you eat by yourself?	
4.	Can you groom, comb and plate by yourself?	
5.	Can you put on a shirt/kurta/upper garment on your own?	
6.	Can you clean yourself after toileting (Act of Ablution)?	
7.	Can you Drink water holding a Glass/tumbler?	
8.	Can you button/unbutton your clothes?	
9.	Can you put on trousers/pant/lower garment/Tie Nara, Dhoti, using the Zip as the case may be?	
10.	Can you hold a Pen/Pencil and write?	

6. I hereby affirm that I possess the essential competencies and am capable of successfully undertaking the MBBS course.

7. I am aware that any false declaration may result in revocation of my admission.

Deponent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Place: _____

Notarized by:

APPENDIX-D

AFFIDAVIT

(LOCOMOTOR DISABILITY)
{LOWER EXTREMITY- STABILITY COMPONENTS}

I, _____, aged _____ years, son/daughter of _____, resident of _____, holding a valid UDID Card No. _____ issued by _____ on _____, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:

2. I declare that I am suffering from _____ Disability.
3. The condition causing this disability is diagnosed as _____
4. I am using/not using any assistive device/artificial limb etc.
5. I declare my ability to perform the following functions as below:

Sl. No.	Functional Ability regarding following Activities declared	Candidate Declaration (✓ / ✗)
1.	Can you bear weight and stand on both legs?	
2.	Can you bear weight and stand on your affected leg?	
3.	Can you walk on plain surfaces?	
4.	Can you sit on a chair by yourself?	
5.	Can you climb up stairs on your own?	
6.	Can you go downstairs on your own?	
7.	Can you take turn to the right and left side?	

6. I hereby affirm that I possess the essential competencies and am capable of successfully undertaking the MBBS course.

7. I am aware that any false declaration may result in revocation of my admission.

Deponent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Place: _____

Notarized by:

APPENDIX-E

AFFIDAVIT

(MENTAL ILLNESS/SPEECH DISORDERS/SPECIFIC LEARNING DISORDER/AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER)

I, _____, aged _____ years, son/daughter of _____, resident of _____, holding a valid UDID Card No. _____ issued by _____ on _____, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:

2. I declare that I am suffering from _____ Disability.
3. The condition causing this disability is diagnosed as _____
4. I am using/not using any assistive device/artificial limb etc.
5. I declare my ability to perform the following functions as below:

SL. NO.	Description	Candidate Declaration (✓/ x)
1.	I can communicate clearly and empathetically with people	
2.	I can listen and respond to speech in both quiet and noisy environments.	
3.	I can follow instructions, comprehend required medical terminology, and maintain social interaction	
4.	I can understand and respond to verbal instructions and can carry out phone conversations.	

6. I hereby affirm that I possess the essential competencies and am capable of successfully undertaking the MBBS course.

7. I am aware that any false declaration may result in revocation of my admission.

Deponent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Place: _____

Notarized by: _____

APPENDIX-F

AFFIDAVIT

(VISUAL IMPAIRMENT)

I, _____ aged, _____ years, son/daughter of _____, resident of _____, holding a valid UDID Card No. _____ issued by _____ on _____, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:

1. I have Visual Impairment in:

- Left Eye
- Right Eye
- Both Eye
- Neither

2. I am using Low Vision Aid(s) _____.

3. With the use of Low Vision Aid, I declare the fulfillment of following criteria:

SL. NO.	ALL MANDATORY CRITERIAS FULFILLED WITH THE LOW VISION AID	Candidate Declaration (✓ / X)
1.	Best corrected visual acuity improves such that the visual disability becomes less than 40%	
2.	The field of vision is > 40 degree in the eye which is using the LVA	
3.	The LVA is hands free and suitable for everyday use	

4. I hereby affirm that I can perform with the use of Low Vision Aid.

5. I am aware that any false declaration may result in revocation of my admission.

Deponent Signature: _____

Date:
Place:
Notarized by:

SCHEDULE – II
[See Clause 12.6]

ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATE
Issued by the Medical Assessment Board

1. Candidate Particulars

1. Name of Candidate: _____
2. Father's/Mother's/Guardian's Name: _____
3. Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____
4. Gender: _____
5. NEET Roll Number: _____
6. Application/Registration Number: _____
7. UDID Number: _____
8. Disability Certificate Number and Date: _____

2. Medical Assessment Board

1. Name of Medical Assessment Board: _____
2. Institution/Hospital: _____
3. Date(s) of Assessment: ____ / ____ / ____
4. Place of Assessment: _____

3. Nature of Disability

1. Category of Disability: _____
2. Medical Diagnosis: _____
3. Nature and Extent of Disability: _____
4. Percentage of Benchmark Disability (where applicable): _____ %

Note: The determination of eligibility has not been made solely on the basis of the diagnosis, category of disability, or percentage of benchmark disability.

4. Functional Competency Assessment

The Medical Assessment Board has assessed the candidate with reference to the essential competencies prescribed under the Competency Based Medical Education (CBME) Curriculum.

The Board records the following findings:

5. Assessment of Reasonable Accommodation

The Medical Assessment Board has considered the requirement and feasibility of providing reasonable accommodation, assistive technology, or other support measures.

Accommodation(s) considered:

Accommodation(s) recommended (if any):

If no accommodation is recommended, reasons:

6. Assessment of Ability to Complete the MBBS Course

The Medical Assessment Board is satisfied that the candidate:

- ☐ Is capable of successfully completing the MBBS Course and acquiring the essential competencies prescribed under the CBME Curriculum.
- ☐ Is capable of successfully completing the MBBS Course subject to the reasonable accommodation(s) specified above.
- ☐ Is not capable of acquiring the essential competencies prescribed under the CBME Curriculum despite consideration of reasonable accommodation.

Reasons:

7. Patient Safety Assessment

The Medical Assessment Board has evaluated whether the disability poses any demonstrable risk to patient safety.

Findings:

Where any risk has been identified, the Board records whether such risk can be mitigated through reasonable accommodation:

8. Final Determination

After considering—

- (a) the candidate's demonstrated functional competency;
- (b) the feasibility of reasonable accommodation and assistive technology;
- (c) the ability to successfully complete the MBBS Course and acquire the prescribed competencies; and
- (d) considerations relating to patient safety,

the Medical Assessment Board hereby certifies that the candidate is:

- ☐ **Eligible**
- ☐ **Eligible with Reasonable Accommodation**

Recommended Accommodation(s):

☐ **Ineligible**

Reasons (to be recorded in accordance with Clause 12.4):

9. Declaration of the Medical Assessment Board

The Medical Assessment Board certifies that this determination has been made after conducting an individualized assessment based on objective medical and functional evidence, taking into account the essential competencies prescribed under the Competency Based Medical Education (CBME) Curriculum, the feasibility of reasonable accommodation and assistive technology, and considerations relating to patient safety. The determination has not been based solely on the diagnosis, category of disability, or percentage of benchmark disability.

10. Signatures

Name of Member Designation Signature

Chairperson

Member

Member

Member

Member

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Place: _____

(Official Seal of the Medical Assessment Board)



No. U-11021/24204/PwBD/2026/UGMEB

Government of India
National Medical Commission



Dated: 27/07/2026

Subject: GUIDELINES ON ASSESSMENT OF PERSONS WITH BENCHMARK DISABILITIES (PwBD) FOR ADMISSION TO THE MBBS COURSE, 2026

In exercise of the powers conferred by Sections 10 and 24 of the National Medical Commission Act, 2019, read with Section 57 thereof, and in furtherance of the Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2023, the National Medical Commission hereby issues the following Guidelines, namely "**Guidelines on Assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) for Admission to the MBBS Course, 2026**"

2. The Guidelines shall come into force on the date of its publication by the National Medical Commission.

Langer 27/7/26

(Dr. Raghav Langer)
Secretary,
National Medical Commission

NATIONAL MEDICAL COMMISSION
(UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION BOARD)

U-11021/24204/2026-UGMEB

NOTIFICATION

**GUIDELINES ON ASSESSMENT OF PERSONS WITH BENCHMARK DISABILITIES (PwBD) FOR
ADMISSION TO THE MBBS COURSE, 2026**

U-11021/24204/2026-UGMEB-In exercise of the powers conferred by Sections 10 and 24 of the National Medical Commission Act, 2019, read with Section 57 thereof, and in furtherance of the Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2023, the National Medical Commission hereby issues the following Guidelines, namely: —

1. Short Title and Commencement

1.1 These Guidelines may be called the "Guidelines on Assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) for Admission to the MBBS Course, 2026".

1.2 They shall come into force on the date of their publication by the National Medical Commission.

2. Objectives

2.1 The National Medical Commission recognizes that Persons with Benchmark Disabilities constitute an integral part of society and are entitled to equality, dignity, non-discrimination and reasonable accommodation in all spheres of life, including medical education, in accordance with the Constitution of India and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

2.2 Simultaneously, the National Medical Commission is entrusted with the statutory responsibility of maintaining high standards of undergraduate medical education and ensuring that every medical graduate acquires the essential competencies necessary for the safe, ethical and effective practice of modern medicine in accordance with the Competency Based Medical Education (CBME) curriculum.

2.3 Medical education demands the acquisition of knowledge, professional skills, clinical competencies, communication abilities and ethical values. The assessment of candidates with benchmark disabilities must therefore balance the rights guaranteed under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 with the statutory obligation to maintain academic standards, professional competence and patient safety.

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2.4 These Guidelines introduce a competency-based and function-oriented assessment framework, whereby the determination of eligibility shall not rest solely upon the numerical percentage or category of disability reflected in the UDID Card or other disability certification. While the benchmark disability prescribed under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 shall continue to determine eligibility for reservation under the PwBD category, admission to the MBBS Course shall be based upon an objective evaluation of the candidate's functional competencies, with due regard to reasonable accommodation, assistive technology, environmental accessibility and contemporary advances in rehabilitation science.

2.5 For the purposes of these Guidelines, the certificate presently issued by the designated Medical Boards for admission to the MBBS Course, though commonly referred to as a "Disability Certificate", shall be known as the "Eligibility Certificate", as it is intended to certify the candidate's eligibility or otherwise for admission to the MBBS Course based on functional assessment rather than merely certifying the existence or extent of disability.

2.6 In order to facilitate greater accessibility, transparency and uniformity in the assessment process, the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, expanded the designated assessment centers from 16 (Sixteen) to 61 (Sixty One) across the country and any further expansion of such assessment boards will be notified by the Medical Counselling Committee (MCC) from time to time. For the purposes of these Guidelines, all such designated Boards shall be referred to as the "Medical Assessment Boards", which shall undertake the functional assessment of candidates in accordance with these Guidelines.

2.7 These Guidelines accordingly establish a transparent, uniform, evidence-based and competency-oriented framework for the assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities seeking admission to the MBBS Course throughout the country, with the objective of ensuring equal opportunity while preserving academic standards, professional competence and patient safety.

3. Definitions

In these Guidelines, unless the context otherwise requires—

3.1 "Act" means the National Medical Commission Act, 2019 (30 of 2019).

3.2 "Medical Assessment Board" means an Assessment Board designated or constituted by the Medical Counselling Committee for assessing the functional competency and eligibility of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities for admission to the MBBS Course under these Guidelines.

3.3 "PwBD Candidate" means a person seeking admission to the MBBS Course under the Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) category through the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (Undergraduate) [NEET (UG)].

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3.4"CBME" means the Competency Based Medical Education curriculum prescribed by the National Medical Commission from time to time.

3.5"Competency" means the knowledge, skills, attitudes, values and professional behaviors prescribed under the Competency Based Medical Education curriculum required to successfully complete the MBBS Course.

3.6 "Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)" means the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India.

3.7"Disability Certificate" means the certificate issued by the Medical Assessment Board designated by the Medical Counselling Committee (MCC) under the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, certifying the eligibility or otherwise of a Person with Benchmark Disability for admission to the MBBS Course in accordance with these Guidelines.

NOTE: For the purposes of these Guidelines, the certificate presently issued by the designated Medical Boards for admission to the MBBS Course, though commonly referred to as a **"Disability Certificate"**, shall be known as the **"Eligibility Certificate"**, as it is intended to certify the candidate's eligibility or otherwise for admission to the MBBS Course based on functional assessment rather than merely certifying the existence or extent of disability.

3.8"Essential Competencies" means the minimum competencies prescribed under the Competency Based Medical Education curriculum that every medical graduate is required to acquire for the safe and effective practice of medicine.

3.9"Functional Competency" means the demonstrated ability of a candidate, with or without reasonable accommodation or assistive technology, to acquire and perform the essential competencies required under the Competency Based Medical Education curriculum.

3.10"Graduate Medical Education Regulations" or "GMER" means the Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2023, as amended from time to time.

3.11"Guidelines" means these Guidelines on Assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) for Admission to the MBBS Course, 2026.

3.12"Medical College" means a medical institution recognized under the National Medical Commission Act, 2019 for conducting the MBBS Course.

3.13"Medical Counselling Committee (MCC)" means the Medical Counselling Committee constituted by the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

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- 3.14 "National Medical Commission" or "NMC"** means the National Medical Commission established under Section 3 of the National Medical Commission Act, 2019.
- 3.15 "NEET (UG)"** means the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (Undergraduate) conducted for admission to undergraduate medical education in accordance with the applicable law.
- 3.16 "Notification of 12th March, 2024"** means the Notification dated 12th March, 2024 issued by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, published in the Gazette of India on 14th March, 2024.
- 3.17 "Person with Benchmark Disability" or "PwBD"** shall have the same meaning as assigned to it under Section 2(r) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.
- 3.18 "Reasonable Accommodation"** shall have the same meaning as assigned to it under Section 2(y) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.
- 3.19 "Rules"** means the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules, 2017, as amended from time to time.
- 3.20 "Specified Disability"** shall have the same meaning as assigned to it under the Schedule to the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.
- 3.21 "State Counselling Authority"** means the authority designated by the respective State Government or Union Territory Administration to conduct counselling for admission to the MBBS Course.
- 3.22 "Self-certified Affidavit"** means the affidavit furnished by a candidate in the format prescribed in Schedule-I declaring the candidate's functional abilities and other particulars required under these Guidelines.
- 3.23 "Speaking Order"** means a written order containing the reasons, findings and conclusions of the Medical Assessment Board in support of its decision.
- 3.24 "Reasoned Decision"** means a decision supported by objective findings, functional assessment and reasons recorded in writing.
- 3.25 "UDID Card"** means the Unique Disability Identity Card issued through the Unique Disability Identity (UDID) Portal by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India.

CHAPTER I

PRELIMINARY

4. Scope and Application

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4.1. These Guidelines shall apply to—

- (a) every candidate seeking admission to the MBBS Course under the Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) category;
- (b) every Medical College recognized under the National Medical Commission Act, 2019;
- (c) the Medical Counselling Committee (MCC);
- (d) all State Counselling Authorities;
- (e) all Medical Assessment Boards constituted for assessment of PwBD candidates; and
- (f) every authority or institution involved in the assessment, counselling, admission or certification of candidates under the PwBD category.

5. Objectives

5.1. The National Medical Commission recognizes that Persons with Benchmark Disabilities constitute an integral part of society and are entitled to equality, dignity, non-discrimination and reasonable accommodation in all spheres of life, including medical education, in accordance with the Constitution of India and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

5.2. Simultaneously, the National Medical Commission is entrusted with the statutory responsibility of maintaining high standards of undergraduate medical education and ensuring that every medical graduate acquires the essential competencies necessary for the safe, ethical and effective practice of modern medicine in accordance with the Competency Based Medical Education (CBME) curriculum.

5.3. Medical education demands the acquisition of knowledge, professional skills, clinical competencies, communication abilities and ethical values. The assessment of candidates with benchmark disabilities must therefore balance the rights guaranteed under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 with the statutory obligation to maintain academic standards, professional competence and patient safety.

5.4. Disability shall not, by itself, constitute a ground for exclusion from medical education. Eligibility shall be determined through an objective assessment of the candidate's functional competencies, taking into consideration reasonable accommodation, assistive technology, environmental accessibility and contemporary advances in rehabilitation science.

5.5. These Guidelines seek to establish a transparent, uniform, evidence-based and competency-oriented framework for the assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities seeking admission to the MBBS Course throughout the country.

6. Statutory Framework

6.1. These Guidelines shall be read in conjunction with—

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- (a) the National Medical Commission Act, 2019;
- (b) the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016;
- (c) the Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2023, as amended from time to time;
- (d) the Notification dated 12th March, 2024 issued by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment;
- (e) all applicable Regulations, Guidelines, Notifications and Circulars issued by the National Medical Commission from time to time; and
- (f) all binding judgments, directions and orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and other competent Courts governing admission of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities to the MBBS Course.

7. Purpose

7.1 The purpose of these Guidelines is to—

- (a) establish a uniform national framework for assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities seeking admission to the MBBS Course;
- (b) ensure transparency, consistency and objectivity in disability assessment;
- (c) facilitate implementation of the Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2023;
- (d) ensure compliance with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016;
- (e) promote equality, inclusion and reasonable accommodation while preserving patient safety and academic standards.

8. Equality and Non-Discrimination

- a. The minimum degree of disability should be 40% (Benchmark Disability) in order to be eligible for availing reservation for persons with specified disability. Every PwBD candidate possessing a specified disability shall be entitled to equal treatment throughout the admission process.
- b. No authority shall discriminate against any PwBD candidate solely by reason of disability.
- c. Disability shall never be treated as a disqualification unless such disability demonstrably prevents the acquisition of essential competencies despite reasonable accommodation.
- d. Disability shall be understood in accordance with the rights recognized under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

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- e. Assessment shall recognize that disability arises from the interaction between an individual's impairment and environmental, institutional, social and attitudinal barriers.
- f. Efforts should be made to the extent to which reasonable accommodation, assistive technology and accessible educational practices, that can enable the candidate to successfully pursue medical education.

CHAPTER II

ELIGIBILITY, DOCUMENTATION AND DISABILITY ASSESSMENT

9. Eligibility and Documentation

9.1 A candidate seeking admission to the MBBS Course under the Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) category shall possess a benchmark disability of not less than forty per cent (40%), in accordance with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and the rules made thereunder.

9.2 Every such candidate shall possess a valid Permanent Unique Disability Identity (UDID) Card issued through the UDID Portal by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India. The UDID Card shall serve as the primary documentary evidence of the existence, nature and extent of the specified disability for the purposes of these Guidelines.

9.3 While the particulars recorded in the Permanent UDID Card, including the category, percentage and validity of the specified disability, shall ordinarily form the basis of consideration by the Medical Assessment Board, the Board shall independently determine the candidate's functional competency in accordance with these Guidelines. The determination of eligibility shall not be based solely upon the category or percentage of disability recorded in the UDID Card.

9.4 Where the Medical Assessment Board considers it necessary for determining the functional competency of the candidate or the feasibility of providing reasonable accommodation, it may require the candidate to undergo such further clinical examination, functional evaluation or verification as it considers appropriate.

9.5 Every candidate shall submit a self-certified affidavit declaring his or her functional abilities in the format specified in **Schedule-I**, which shall be verified by the Medical Assessment Board during the course of assessment.

9.6 A candidate shall not be denied consideration under the PwBD category solely on account of a procedural defect or discrepancy in the Permanent UDID Card, provided that

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such defect is capable of rectification and the specified disability is otherwise established in accordance with law.

9.7 Every admission to the MBBS Course under the PwBD category shall be regulated by these Guidelines, and every Medical College, Counselling Authority and Medical Assessment Board shall ensure strict compliance with the provisions contained herein.

10. Medical Assessment Board

10.1 Every Medical Assessment Board shall discharge its functions fairly, objectively, transparently and in accordance with the principles of natural justice, equity and the rule of law.

10.2 Every candidate appearing before the Medical Assessment Board shall be treated with dignity, respect and fairness throughout the assessment process.

10.3 The Medical Assessment Board shall ensure that no candidate is subjected to physical, environmental, communication or attitudinal barriers during the assessment process.

10.4 The Medical Assessment Board shall undertake the assessment of candidates in accordance with—

(a) the assessment methodology prescribed under the Notification dated 12th March, 2024 issued by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment;

(b) these Guidelines; and

(c) any other applicable statutory provisions governing the assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities.

11. Matters to be Verified and Evaluated

11.1 While assessing the eligibility of a candidate under these Guidelines, the Medical Assessment Board shall verify and evaluate, inter alia—

(a) the Permanent Unique Disability Identity (UDID) Card issued by the competent authority under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment;

(b) the nature, extent and stability of the specified disability and the underlying medical condition;

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- (c) the candidate's functional abilities in relation to the essential competencies prescribed under the Competency Based Medical Education (CBME) curriculum;
- (d) the suitability and effectiveness of any assistive device, assistive technology or adaptive aid used by the candidate;
- (e) the feasibility of providing reasonable accommodation to facilitate acquisition of the prescribed competencies;
- (f) the impact, if any, of the disability upon patient safety; and
- (g) such other clinical, functional or educational factors as may be relevant for determining the candidate's eligibility under these Guidelines.

11.2 Principles Governing Determination of Eligibility

The determination of eligibility by the Medical Assessment Board shall be guided by the following principles—

(a) Functional Competency

The primary consideration shall be whether the candidate possesses, or can reasonably acquire with appropriate support and reasonable accommodation, the essential competencies prescribed under the Competency Based Medical Education (CBME) curriculum.

(b) Individualized Assessment

Every assessment shall be individualized, objective and evidence-based. No candidate shall be declared eligible or ineligible solely on account of the category or percentage of disability.

(c) Scientific Assessment

Assessment shall be based upon objective medical findings, scientific evidence, functional evaluation, contemporary rehabilitation principles and evidence-based medical practice. The Medical Assessment Board shall avoid reliance upon outdated medical opinions, stereotypes or unsupported assumptions relating to disability. Where advances in rehabilitation medicine, assistive technology or adaptive devices substantially improve the functional abilities of the candidate, due consideration shall be given to such advancements while determining eligibility.

(d) Reasonable Accommodation

Prior to declaring a candidate ineligible, the Medical Assessment Board shall examine whether reasonable accommodation, assistive technology, adaptive devices or appropriate infrastructural support would enable the candidate to successfully pursue and complete the MBBS Course without compromising the acquisition of the prescribed competencies.

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Provision of reasonable accommodation shall not be construed as dilution of academic standards but shall constitute a measure to ensure substantive equality of opportunity for Persons with Benchmark Disabilities.

Reasonable accommodation may include, inter alia—

- (i) assistive devices;
- (ii) adaptive equipment;
- (iii) digital accessibility;
- (iv) accessible teaching and learning material;
- (v) communication support;
- (vi) ergonomic modifications;
- (vii) examination accommodations consistent with academic standards; and
- (viii) accessible clinical learning environments.

(e) Patient Safety

Patient safety shall remain an important consideration while determining eligibility. However, any conclusion relating to patient safety shall be based upon objective clinical and functional evidence and shall not rest upon generalized assumptions, stereotypes or preconceived notions regarding disability.

Chapter-III

Procedure for issuance of Certificate to the PwBD Candidate and Review Mechanism

12. Procedure for issuance of Certificate to the PwBD Candidate

12.1 Upon completion of the functional assessment, the Medical Assessment Board shall determine whether the candidate is Eligible; Eligible with Reasonable Accommodation, or Ineligible for admission to the MBBS Course under the Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) category in accordance with these Guidelines.

12.2 The determination of eligibility shall be based on—

- (a) the candidate's demonstrated functional competency in relation to the essential competencies prescribed under the Competency Based Medical Education (CBME) curriculum;
- (b) the feasibility of providing reasonable accommodation, assistive technology or other support measures, wherever appropriate;

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- (c) the ability of the candidate to successfully complete the MBBS Course and acquire the prescribed competencies; and
- (d) considerations relating to patient safety, supported by objective medical and functional evidence.

12.3 No candidate shall be declared ineligible solely on the basis of—

- (a) the diagnosis or category of disability;
- (b) the percentage of benchmark disability recorded in the UDID Card or Disability Certificate; or
- (c) generalized assumptions or stereotypes associated with any disability.

12.4 A candidate shall be declared ineligible only where the Medical Assessment Board, after due consideration of reasonable accommodation and assistive technology, records, by a reasoned and speaking order, that the candidate is unable to acquire the essential competencies prescribed under the Competency Based Medical Education (CBME) curriculum or that the disability would pose a demonstrable and unacceptable risk to patient safety which cannot be mitigated through reasonable accommodation.

12.5 Every determination of the Medical Assessment Board shall be recorded in writing and shall clearly specify—

- (a) the nature and extent of the disability;
- (b) the findings of the functional competency assessment;
- (c) the reasonable accommodation, if any, considered or recommended;
- (d) the reasons supporting the determination of eligibility or ineligibility; and
- (e) the final recommendation of the Board.

12.6 The Medical Assessment Board shall issue an **Eligibility Certificate**, in the format specified in **Schedule-II**, certifying whether the candidate is—

- (i) Eligible;
- (ii) Eligible with Reasonable Accommodation, specifying the accommodation(s) recommended; or
- (iii) Ineligible, together with the reasons recorded in accordance with clause 12.4.

13. Appellate Mechanism

13.1 Any candidate aggrieved by the findings or decision of the Medical Assessment Board may prefer an appeal before the **Appellate Authority** constituted by the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, within such time and in

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such manner as may be notified by the Medical Counselling Committee (MCC) from time to time.

13.2 The Appellate Authority shall independently examine the appeal and may, where considered necessary, call for the records of the Medical Assessment Board, direct a fresh medical assessment by an appropriate expert or specialist, seek additional medical opinion, or undertake such further examination as it deems fit in accordance with these Guidelines.

13.3 The Appellate Authority shall pass a reasoned and speaking order, clearly recording the basis for affirming, modifying, or setting aside the findings of the Medical Assessment Board.

13.4 The decision of the Appellate Authority shall be final for the purposes of counselling and admission under these Guidelines, subject to any order or direction of a court of competent jurisdiction.

CHAPTER IV

MISCELLANEOUS

14. Institutional Responsibilities

14.1 Every Medical College, Medical Counselling Committee, State Counselling Authority and Medical Assessment Board shall ensure that the provisions of these Guidelines are implemented in letter and spirit.

14.2 Every institution shall take appropriate measures to ensure that no PwBD candidate is denied admission or subjected to discrimination solely on the ground of disability, except in accordance with these Guidelines and the applicable statutory provisions.

14.3 Every institution shall endeavor to provide reasonable accommodation, barrier-free access and accessible learning environments in accordance with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and the applicable standards notified by the Government of India.

14.4 Medical Colleges are encouraged to undertake periodic sensitization and capacity-building programmes for faculty members, administrative staff and students to promote an inclusive academic environment and eliminate physical, communication and attitudinal barriers.

14.5 Every Medical College shall designate a Nodal Officer or establish an appropriate institutional mechanism in the nature of an enabling unit to serve as a single point of contact to address the PwBD candidates seeking clinical accommodations and further to facilitate implementation of these Guidelines and to address various other issues concerning PwBD candidates. These measures reflect the institutional responsibilities emphasized under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

15. Grievance Redressal Mechanism

15.1 Every Medical College and Counselling Authority shall maintain an effective, accessible and time-bound grievance redressal mechanism for addressing complaints relating to disability assessment, denial of reasonable accommodation or any act of discrimination against PwBD candidates.

15.2 Every grievance shall be dealt with fairly, expeditiously and in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

16. Compliance

16.1 Every admission to the MBBS Course under the Persons with Benchmark Disabilities category shall be governed by these Guidelines.

16.2 Every authority concerned with the admission process shall strictly comply with these Guidelines.

16.3 No Medical Assessment Board shall declare a candidate ineligible without recording reasons in writing based upon functional assessment, scientific evidence and the principles contained in these Guidelines.

16.4 Every recommendation of the Medical Assessment Board shall be made by a reasoned and speaking order.

17. Power to Issue Clarifications

The National Medical Commission may issue such clarifications, advisories, standard operating procedures or procedural instructions, consistent with these Guidelines and the National Medical Commission Act, 2019, as may be necessary for their effective and uniform implementation.

18. Interpretation

If any question arises regarding the interpretation or implementation of these Guidelines, the matter shall be referred to the National Medical Commission whose decision thereon shall be final, subject to the provisions of the National Medical Commission Act, 2019, the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and any judgment or direction of a competent Court.

19. Repeal and Saving Clause

19.1 These Guidelines shall supersede all previous guidelines, advisories and instructions issued by the National Medical Commission or the erstwhile Medical Council of India relating to the assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities for admission to the MBBS Course, to the extent they are inconsistent with these Guidelines.

19.2 Notwithstanding such supersession, any action taken, assessment conducted or decision made under the earlier guidelines shall be deemed to have been validly taken or made insofar as it is not inconsistent with these Guidelines.

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20. Overriding Principle

While implementing these Guidelines, every authority shall ensure that the assessment of a candidate is based upon functional competency, objective medical evidence and the possibility of reasonable accommodation. No candidate shall be denied consideration or declared ineligible solely on the basis of diagnosis, disability category or generalized assumptions regarding disability. The paramount considerations shall be equality of opportunity, maintenance of academic standards and patient safety, to be harmoniously applied in accordance with the National Medical Commission Act, 2019 and the Regulations and Guidelines framed thereunder and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

Layhan
27/7/26

SCHEDULE-I

APPENDIX- A SELF CERTIFICATION FORM- GENERAL

APPENDIX- B AFFIDAVIT FOR DECLARING THE HEARING IMPAIRMENT

APPENDIX-C AFFIDAVIT FOR DECLARING THE LOCOMOTOR DISABILITY (UPPER LIMB EXTREMITY)

APPENDIX-D AFFIDAVIT FOR DECLARING THE LOCOMOTOR DISABILITY (LOWER LIMB EXTREMITY)

APPENDIX-E AFFIDAVIT FOR DECLARATION BY A PERSON WITH MENTAL ILLNESS/ SLD/ ASD

APPENDIX-F AFFIDAVIT FOR DECLARATION BY A PERSON WITH VISUAL DISABILITY

APPENDIX-A

Self-Certification Affidavit

(To be filled by all applicants applying under PwBD Category)

Name of Candidate: _____

NEET Roll No.: _____

NEET Score: _____

UDID No.: _____

Disability Type:

- ☐ Locomotor
- ☐ Hearing
- ☐ Visual
- ☐ Cognitive/SLD/
- ☐ *Others : _____ (Please specify)

Disability Percentage as per [UDID card]: _____ %

Assistive Devices Used (If any): _____

Essential Functional Competencies:

Competency Area	Description	Candidate Declaration (✓ / X)
A. Communication	I can communicate clearly and empathetically with people using assistive devices.	
B. Hearing	- I can hear and respond to speech in both quiet and noisy environments, with or without hearing aids or cochlear implants. - I undertake to fulfill the eligibility criteria set under Form Appendix	

	-B	
C.Dominant Hand Functionality	• I can write and hold instruments using my dominant or aided hand. • I undertake to fulfill the eligibility criteria set under Appendix –C and D	
D.Understanding/Communication	• I can follow and comprehend medical terminology and maintain social interaction. • I undertake to fulfill the eligibility set under Form Appendix -E	
E. Vision	• My vision improves to the percentage lower than 40% • I can perform with the help of Low vision Aid • I undertake to fulfill the eligibility criteria set under Form Appendix -F	

2. I hereby affirm that I possess the essential competencies and am capable of successfully undertaking the MBBS course.

3. I am aware that any false declaration may result in revocation of my admission.

Deponent Signature: _____

Date:

Place:

Notarized by:

***Note: Persons with benchmark disabilities other than Locomotor/Visual/Hearing/SLD/ASD/Mental Illness will have to submit the self-certified affidavit at**

**Appendix-A only (eg.: Blood disorders - Haemophilia, Thalassemia and Sickle cell disease
Chronic Neurological Conditions etc.)**

APPENDIX-B

AFFIDAVIT

(HEARING IMPAIRMENT)

I, _____, aged _____ years, son/daughter of _____, resident of _____, holding a valid UDID Card No. _____ issued by _____ on _____, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:

I have hearing loss in:

☐ Right Ear

☐ Left Ear

☐ Both Ears

☐ Neither

2. I use:

☐ Prescribed Hearing Aid

☐ Cochlear Implant

☐ None

3. I declare as under:

Sl. No.	Functional Ability regarding following Activities declared	Candidate Declaration (✓ / X)
1.	Communicate effectively using the above-mentioned assistive devices.	
2.	Engage in a conversation in a quiet and noisy environment.	
3.	Understand and respond to verbal instructions.	
4.	Carry out phone conversations.	

--	--	--

4. I hereby affirm that I possess the essential competencies and am capable of successfully undertaking the MBBS course.

5. I am aware that any false declaration may result in revocation of my admission.

Deponent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Place: _____

Notarized by:

APPENDIX-C

AFFIDAVIT

(LOCOMOTOR DISABILITY)

(UPPER EXTREMITY- COORDINATED ACTIVITY)

I, _____, aged _____ years, son/daughter of _____, resident of _____, holding a valid UDID Card No. _____ issued by _____ on _____, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:

2. I declare that I am suffering from _____ Disability.
3. The condition causing this disability is diagnosed as
4. I am using/not using any assistive device/artificial limb etc.
5. I declare my functional ability in performing the basic Coordinated Activities as below:

Sl. No.	Functional Ability regarding following Activities declared	Candidate Declaration (✓ / X)
1.	Can you lift overhead objects and place them at the same place?	
2.	Can you touch tip of the nose with the tip of a finger?	
3.	Can you eat by yourself?	
4.	Can you groom, comb and plate by yourself?	
5.	Can you put on a shirt/kurta/upper garment on your own?	
6.	Can you clean yourself after toileting (Act of Ablution)?	
7.	Can you Drink water holding a Glass/tumbler?	
8.	Can you button/unbutton your clothes?	
9.	Can you put on trousers/pant/lower garment/Tie Nara, Dhoti, using the Zip as the case may be?	
10.	Can you hold a Pen/Pencil and write?	

6. I hereby affirm that I possess the essential competencies and am capable of successfully undertaking the MBBS course.

7. I am aware that any false declaration may result in revocation of my admission.

Deponent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Place: _____

Notarized by:

APPENDIX-D

AFFIDAVIT

(LOCOMOTOR DISABILITY)
(LOWER EXTREMITY- STABILITY COMPONENTS)

I, _____, aged _____ years, son/daughter of _____, resident of _____, holding a valid UDID Card No. _____ issued by _____ on _____, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:

2. I declare that I am suffering from _____ Disability.
3. The condition causing this disability is diagnosed as _____.
4. I am using/not using any assistive device/artificial limb etc.
5. I declare my ability to perform the following functions as below:

Sl. No.	Functional Ability regarding following Activities declared	Candidate Declaration (✓ / X)
1.	Can you bear weight and stand on both legs?	
2.	Can you bear weight and stand on your affected leg?	
3.	Can you walk on plain surfaces?	
4.	Can you sit on a chair by yourself?	
5.	Can you climb up stairs on your own?	
6.	Can you go downstairs on your own?	
7.	Can you take turn to the right and left side?	

6. I hereby affirm that I possess the essential competencies and am capable of successfully undertaking the MBBS course.

7. I am aware that any false declaration may result in revocation of my admission.

Deponent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Place: _____

Notarized by:

APPENDIX-E

AFFIDAVIT

(MENTAL ILLNESS/SPEECH DISORDERS/SPECIFIC LEARNING DISORDER/AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER)

I, _____, aged _____ years, son/daughter of _____, resident of _____, holding a valid UDID Card No. _____ issued by _____ on _____, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:

2. I declare that I am suffering from _____ Disability.
3. The condition causing this disability is diagnosed as _____.
4. I am using/not using any assistive device/artificial limb etc.
5. I declare my ability to perform the following functions as below:

SL. NO.	Description	Candidate Declaration (✓/ X)
1.	I can communicate clearly and empathetically with people	
2.	I can listen and respond to speech in both quiet and noisy environments.	
3.	I can follow instructions, comprehend required medical terminology, and maintain social interaction	
4.	I can understand and respond to verbal instructions and can carry out phone conversations.	

6. I hereby affirm that I possess the essential competencies and am capable of successfully undertaking the MBBS course.

7. I am aware that any false declaration may result in revocation of my admission.

Deponent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Place: _____

Notarized by: _____

APPENDIX-F

AFFIDAVIT

(VISUAL IMPAIRMENT)

I, _____ aged, _____ years, son/daughter of _____, resident of _____, holding a valid UDID Card No. _____ issued by _____ on _____, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:

1. I have Visual Impairment in:

- ☐ Left Eye
- ☐ Right Eye
- ☐ Both Eye
- ☐ Neither

2. I am using Low Vision Aid(s) _____.

3. With the use of Low Vision Aid, I declare the fulfillment of following criteria:

SL. NO.	ALL MANDATORY CRITERIAS FULFILLED WITH THE LOW VISION AID	Candidate Declaration (✓ / X)
1.	Best corrected visual acuity improves such that the visual disability becomes less than 40%	
2.	The field of vision is > 40 degree in the eye which is using the LVA	
3.	The LVA is hands free and suitable for everyday use	

4. I hereby affirm that I can perform with the use of Low Vision Aid.

5. I am aware that any false declaration may result in revocation of my admission.

Deponent Signature: _____

Date:

Place:

Notarized by:

SCHEDULE – II

[See Clause 12.6]

ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATE

Issued by the Medical Assessment Board

1. Candidate Particulars

1. Name of Candidate: _____
2. Father's/Mother's/Guardian's Name: _____
3. Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____
4. Gender: _____
5. NEET Roll Number: _____
6. Application/Registration Number: _____
7. UDID Number _____
8. Disability Certificate Number and Date: _____

2. Medical Assessment Board

1. Name of Medical Assessment Board: _____
2. Institution/Hospital: _____
3. Date(s) of Assessment: ____ / ____ / ____
4. Place of Assessment: _____

3. Nature of Disability

1. Category of Disability: _____
2. Medical Diagnosis: _____
3. Nature and Extent of Disability: _____
4. Percentage of Benchmark Disability (where applicable): _____ %

Note: The determination of eligibility has not been made solely on the basis of the diagnosis, category of disability, or percentage of benchmark disability.

4. Functional Competency Assessment

The Medical Assessment Board has assessed the candidate with reference to the essential competencies prescribed under the Competency Based Medical Education (CBME) Curriculum.

The Board records the following findings:

5. Assessment of Reasonable Accommodation

The Medical Assessment Board has considered the requirement and feasibility of providing reasonable accommodation, assistive technology, or other support measures.

Accommodation(s) considered:

Accommodation(s) recommended (if any):

If no accommodation is recommended, reasons:

6. Assessment of Ability to Complete the MBBS Course

The Medical Assessment Board is satisfied that the candidate:

- ☐ Is capable of successfully completing the MBBS Course and acquiring the essential competencies prescribed under the CBME Curriculum.
- ☐ Is capable of successfully completing the MBBS Course subject to the reasonable accommodation(s) specified above.
- ☐ Is not capable of acquiring the essential competencies prescribed under the CBME Curriculum despite consideration of reasonable accommodation.

Reasons:

7. Patient Safety Assessment

The Medical Assessment Board has evaluated whether the disability poses any demonstrable risk to patient safety.

Findings:

Where any risk has been identified, the Board records whether such risk can be mitigated through reasonable accommodation:

8. Final Determination

After considering—

- (a) the candidate's demonstrated functional competency;
- (b) the feasibility of reasonable accommodation and assistive technology;
- (c) the ability to successfully complete the MBBS Course and acquire the prescribed competencies; and
- (d) considerations relating to patient safety,

the Medical Assessment Board hereby certifies that the candidate is:

☐ **Eligible**

☐ **Eligible with Reasonable Accommodation**

Recommended Accommodation(s):

☐ **Ineligible**

Reasons (to be recorded in accordance with Clause 12.4):

9. Declaration of the Medical Assessment Board

The Medical Assessment Board certifies that this determination has been made after conducting an individualized assessment based on objective medical and functional evidence, taking into account the essential competencies prescribed under the Competency Based Medical Education (CBME) Curriculum, the feasibility of reasonable accommodation and assistive technology, and considerations relating to patient safety. The determination has not been based solely on the diagnosis, category of disability, or percentage of benchmark disability.

10. Signatures

Name of Member Designation Signature

Chairperson

Member

Member

Member

Member

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Place: _____

(Official Seal of the Medical Assessment Board)

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Miscellaneous Application No. 378/2025 in C.A. No. 14333/2024

ANMOL

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

([TO BE TAKEN UP AT 2:00 P.M.]

IA No. 220153/2025 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS

IA No. 220152/2025 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT)

Date : 21-07-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE K.V. VISWANATHAN

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN PALLI

By Courts Motion

For Petitioner(s) :

Mr. Atif Inam, AOR

For Respondent(s) :

No.1-UOI

Mr. Vikramjit Banerjee, A.S.G.

Ms. Madhulika Upadhyay, AOR

Mr. Raghav Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Nachiketa Joshi, Adv.

Mr. Ayush Anand, Adv.

Ms. Astha Singh, Adv.

Ms. Aaditya Shankar Dixit, Adv.

For respondent No.3-NTA

Ms. Pankhuri Shrivastava, Adv.

Mr. Rajeev Sharma, Adv.

Ms. Neelam Sharma, AOR

Mr. Mukul, Adv.

For respondent No.4-NMC

Mr. Gaurav Sharrma, Sr. Adv.

Mr. Prateek Bhatia, AOR

Mr. Dhawal Mohan, Adv.

Signature invalid
Digitally signed by
ANITA K. SHARMA
Date: 2026.07.21
19:42:15 IST
Reason:

For respondent No.6

Mr. Krishna Kant Dubey, Adv.
Mr. Varun Chugh, Adv.
Mr. Bhuvan Kapoor, Adv.
Mr. Shreekant Neelappa Terdal, AOR

For Applicant(s)

in IA 220152/2025

Mr. Senthil Jagadeesan, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Punit Agarwal, Adv.
Mr. Rishit V., Adv.
Ms. Niharika Shukla, Adv.
Mr. Sajal Jain, AOR

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

1. Heard Mr. Senthil Jagadeesan, learned senior counsel appearing for the intervenor (IA No.220152/2025) and Mr. Gaurav Sharrma, learned senior counsel appearing for the respondent-National Medical Commission (NMC).
2. Learned senior counsel for the respondent-NMC submits that the Guidelines on Assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PvBD) For Admission to MBBS Course, 2026 (for short, "the Guidelines") which had gone for vetting, have been duly vetted and now it is in the process of being sent to the Director General, Health Services (DGHS). Learned senior counsel assures the Court that the Guidelines will be included in the prospectus of NEET Under Graduate Brochure for 2026-2027 which is likely to be issued very shortly. Learned senior counsel also submits that the Guidelines for Under Graduate will also be uploaded on the website.

3. Mr. Senthil Jagadeesan, learned senior counsel drawing attention to page 4 paragraph 10 of the additional affidavit dated 14th July, 2027 of the respondent No.1-Union of India submits that admittedly as of now only 33 notified Disability Assessment Boards are available. The affidavit states that is is proposed to be increased to 43. Learned senior counsel points out that as per the judgment of this Court, there should be minimum of one Disability Assessment Board in each State and each Union Territory. The affidavit of the Union of India is not clear on this aspect of the matter.

4. Let a better affidavit be filed by the respondent No.1-UOI setting out the correct position and also explaining whether the direction of this Court has been complied with.

5. Learned senior counsel for the intervenor further points out that under the directions of this Court each Disability Assessment Board must include a doctor or health professional with disability. Drawing attention to page 5 para 13 of the affidavit of the union of India dated 14th July, 2026, learned senior counsel submits that all that is set out is that steps are being taken. The matter pertains to the rights of individuals under the Right of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and also about enforcement of the orders of this Court. By the next date of hearing, the Union of India will set out the

composition of each Disability Assessment Board and ensure that there is in each of the Board a doctor or health professional with disability.

6. On the aspect of training and sensitization of members of the Disability Assessment Boards, as directed by this Court in its judgment in *Om Rathore v. Director General of Health Services and Others*¹, the affidavit is completely silent. The Union of India by the next date of hearing will explain and set out their stand on this aspect of the matter.

7. Learned senior counsel submits that with regard to the constitution of Appellate Body, the direction in *Onkar Ramchandra Gond v. Union of India & Ors.*² is to constitute Appellate Body at the level of the Director General of Health Services to hear challenges. What is suggested is that conclusion of one Disability Assessment Board be reviewed laterally by another Disability Assessment Board. This is not the purport of the judgment. The idea was to provide a higher hierarchy. The respondent No.1-Union of India to explain in its affidavit as to why no steps have been taken in this regard.

8. Learned senior counsel further points out that the judgments of this Court have directed constitution of enabling units at Medical Colleges to act as points of

1. 2024 SCC OnLine SC 3130

2. 2024 SCC OnLine SC 2860

contact for persons with disabilities seeking clinical accommodations and to inform students of the same. The affidavit is completely silent on this aspect.

9. The matter pertains to the Rights of Persons under the and it is a very serious matter. The respondent No.1-Union of India is directed to bestow its highest attention and file a detailed affidavit so that the directions of this Court are complied with and are operational for the Academic Year 2026-2027 itself.

10. List the matter on 28th July, 2026 at 2.00 p.m.

(ANITA MALHOTRA)
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

(MANOJ KUMAR)
COURT MASTER

Phone: 25367033, 25367035, 25367036
Fax : 0091-11 25367024, E-mail :
ug@nmc.org.in

Pocket- 14, Sector- 8, Dwarka,
Phase – 1, New Delhi-77

**National Medical Commission
(Undergraduate Medical Education Board)**

File No.: U-11021/24204/PwBD/2026/ UGMEB

Dated: 31.07.2026

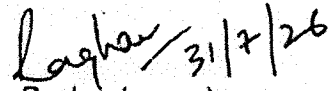
CORRIGENDUM

Subject: Guidelines on Assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) for Admission to the MBBS Course, 2026

In partial modification of earlier Public Notice dated 27/07/2026 vide no. U-11021/24204/PwBD/2026/UGMEB enclosing the Guidelines on Assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD); the Competent Authority has decided to revise Appendix- D ie Locomotor Disability Affidavit of the said guidelines.

2. All other terms and references of the aforesaid Guidelines shall remain the same as mentioned in Public notice vide no. 11021/24204/PwBD/2026/UGMEB dated 27/07/2026. The revised Appendix- D of the Guidelines is attached for information of all stakeholders.

Encl: As stated above.


(Dr. Raghav Langer)
Secretary,
National Medical Commission

All stakeholders for admission to the MBBS course, 2026

AFFIDAVIT

(LOCOMOTOR DISABILITY)
(LOWER EXTREMITY- STABILITY COMPONENTS)

I, _____, aged _____ years, son/daughter of _____, resident of _____, holding a valid UDID Card No. _____ issued by _____ on _____, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:

2. I declare that I am suffering from _____ Disability.
3. The condition causing this disability is diagnosed as
4. I am using/not using any assistive device/artificial limb etc.
5. I declare my ability to perform the following functions as below:

Sl. No.	Functional Ability regarding following Activities declared	Candidate Declaration (✓ / X)
1.	Can you bear weight and stand on both legs?	
2.	Can you bear weight and stand on your affected leg?	
3.	Can you walk on plain surfaces?	
4.	Can you sit on a chair by yourself?	
5.	Can you take turn to the right and left side?	

6. I hereby affirm that I possess the essential competencies and am capable of successfully undertaking the MBBS course.

7. I am aware that any false declaration may result in revocation of my admission.

Deponent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Place: _____

Notarized by:



राष्ट्रीय आयुर्विज्ञान आयोग

National Medical Commission

(Under Graduate Medical Education Board)

Address: Pocket- 14, Sector- 8, Dwarka, Phase – 1, New Delhi-110077,
Phone: 011 25367033/25367035/25367036, E-mail: ug@nmc.org.in

U-11021/24204/PwBD/2026/UGMEB

Dated: 05.08.2026

ADDENDUM

Subject: Addendum to the Notification dated 27.07.2026 regarding the "Guidelines on Assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) for Admission to the MBBS Course, 2026"

Attention is invited to Clause 9.2 of the Guidelines on Assessment of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) for Admission to the MBBS Course, 2026, notified vide Notification No. U-11021/24204/2026-UGMEB dated 27.07.2026, which provides that every candidate seeking admission under the PwBD category shall possess a valid Permanent Unique Disability Identity (UDID) Card. Attention is also invited to Office Memorandum No. 18-25/2024-Policy dated 17.12.2025 issued by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, regarding the validity of temporary UDID Cards/Disability Certificates for extending statutory benefits to eligible persons with benchmark disabilities.

2. That, in order to provide clarity and to ensure that the provisions of the Guidelines are interpreted in consonance with the Office Memorandum No. 18-25/2024-Policy dated 17.12.2025 issued by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, the following addendum is hereby issued. The said Office Memorandum clarifies that persons with benchmark disabilities which are progressive, non-progressive or not likely to improve shall not be denied statutory benefits merely because their disability certificate is temporary in nature.
3. Accordingly, it is clarified that Clause 9.2 shall be read harmoniously with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Amendment) Rules, 2024, and the aforesaid Office Memorandum dated 17.12.2025.
4. Therefore, for the purposes of admission to the MBBS Course under the PwBD category:
 - (i) A candidate shall not be denied consideration solely on the ground that the UDID Card or Disability Certificate is temporary, where the disability has been

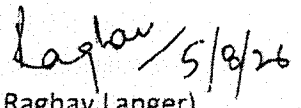
2

categorized as "progressive, non-progressive or not likely to improve", subject to verification by the Medical Assessment Board in accordance with the Guidelines dated 27.07.2026.

(ii) In cases of Candidates holding Temporary UDID with a disability condition recorded as "likely to improve", the Medical Assessment Boards shall re- assess benchmark disability of the candidates as per the assessment methodology prescribed under the Notification dated 12th March, 2024 issued by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, apart from assessing the functional competency as per the provisions prescribed under the Guidelines dated 27.07.2026.

(iii) The Medical Assessment Board shall continue to independently assess the candidate's functional competency in accordance with the Guidelines dated 27.07.2026, before issuing the Eligibility Certificate.

5. This clarification is issued to ensure uniform implementation of the Guidelines dated 27.07.2026 and shall be read as an integral part of said Guidelines.


(Dr. Raghav Langer)
Secretary
National Medical Commission

All stakeholders for admission to MBBS course, 2026