

National Overseas Scholarship for SC etc. Candidates

(Applicable from the year 2025-26)

1 Objective of the Scheme

The Central Sector Scheme of National Overseas Scholarship is to facilitate the low income students belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Denotified Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes, Landless Agricultural Labourers and Traditional Artisans category to obtain higher education viz., Master degree or Ph.D courses by studying abroad thereby improving their Economic and Social status.

2 Scope

a. The Scheme provides financial assistance to the selected candidates for pursuing Masters level courses and Ph.D. courses abroad in Institutions/Universities accredited by the Government/authorized body of that country in any field of study..

b. In each Selection Year, 125 fresh awards, subject to availability of funds, will be given under the Scheme. However, there will be a cap of 10% of the total slots i.e. Scheduled Castes, Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes and landless Agricultural Labourers and Traditional Artisans for each State while allotting the slots. In case, the slots in the 1st round of selection remains unfilled after applying the 10% cap, these slots will be filled in 2nd round.

c. The following will be the category-wise distribution of slots for various groups eligible for scholarships under the scheme:

S. No.	Category	Numbers
a)	Scheduled Castes	115
b)	Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes	06
c)	Landless Agricultural Labourers and Traditional Artisans	04
	Total slots	125

d. Definitions:

i. Landless agricultural laborer means an individual and their family members who do not own any property, land, or business and whose principal means of livelihood is manual labour on agricultural land.

ii. Traditional artisans means individuals and their families who earn their livelihood through traditional artisanal practices.

e. If for any specific year, successful candidates are not available to the extent prescribed for each of the above listed categories, the awards for that year will become open for candidates belonging to other categories mentioned above as per merit **criteria under the scheme.**

f. 30% of the awards for each year shall be earmarked for women candidates. However, in case, adequate women candidates are not available as per the stipulations of the scheme, then the unutilized slots will be utilized by selecting suitable male candidates.

g. Bachelors Level courses in any discipline are not covered under the Scheme.

h. Candidates already staying or studying or having completed studies abroad in any course by utilizing any other scholarship from Central Government, State Government, other agency, or through own funds are not eligible to apply under NOS.

i. Candidates having unconditional offer of admission to top 500 ranked foreign Institutes/Universities as per the latest available QS World University Rankings for the year 2025 only will be selected for grant of scholarship during the first round of selection. The QS ranking of the University for its campus in any other country will be considered as per the QS ranking of the University Campus in that country. If there is no QS ranking available for its campus in other country then it will not be considered. In the second round of selection in the year, the following priority will be given:

(i) Candidates having unconditional offer letter of admission from Top 500 QS Ranking Institutions applying in the second cycle.

(ii) Candidates having unconditional offer letter of admission from other QS ranked Institutions, who have applied for scholarship under the scheme during the previous cycles or current cycle of the current year for admission.

(iii) Candidates having unconditional offer letter of admission from other recognized Institutions, who have applied for scholarship under the scheme during the previous cycles or current cycle of the current cycle for admission.

However, any financial condition mentioned in the offer of admission such as deposit of fee or any other amount, or proof of source of funds, shall not be a bar for consideration of application under the Scheme guidelines.

3 Minimum Qualification

In order to be eligible for scholarship, at least 60% marks or equivalent grade in the qualifying examination would be required. In case of Ph. D