



**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF HIGHER EDUCATION, ASSAM
KAHILIPARA, GUWAHATI -19**

No.E.803519/2026/14

Dated Kahilipara, the 09-07-2026

From: Smti. Pomi Baruah, ACS
Director of Higher Education, Assam,
Kahilipara, Guwahati-19.

To: 1). The Registrars,
All State Universities of Assam implementing the Fee Waiver Scheme.

2). The Principals,
All Government Colleges, Autonomous Colleges, Government Model
Colleges, Government Model Women Colleges, Pandit Deendayal
Upadhyaya Adarsha Mahavidyalayas (PDUAMs), and Provincialised
Colleges of Assam.

Sub: Forwarding of Executive Order regarding the Scheme for Fee Waiver of
admission fees, tuition fees, etc., for the Academic Session 2026-27 under Pragyan
Bharati Scheme.

Ref: Govt. Executive Order No.413540/2026/204 dated 04-07-2026.

Sir/Madam,

With reference to the subject cited above, I am directed to forward
herewith the copy of the Executive Order issued by the Govt. of Assam, Higher
Education Department, regarding the continuation of the Fee Waiver Scheme for the
Academic Session 2026-27 for free admission in H.S., Undergraduate
(B.A./B.Sc./B.Com.), and Postgraduate (M.A./M.Sc./M.Com.) courses under Higher
Education Department.

You are, therefore, requested to ensure strict adherence to the guidelines
and eligibility criteria laid down in the enclosed Executive Order while extending the
benefit under the Scheme.

(Enclo: As stated above)

Yours faithfully,

Digitally signed by
POMI BARUAH

Director of Higher Education, Assam
Kahilipara, Guwahati- 19.

Date: 09-07-2026
15:07:35

Memo No.E. 803519/2026/14-A
Copy for information to:-

Dated Kahilipara, the 09-07-2026

1. The P.S. to the Hon'ble Minister, Education, Assam for kind information of Hon'ble Minister.
2. The P.S. to the Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Higher Education Department.

(e-Signed)

Director of Higher Education, Assam
Kahilipara, Guwahati- 19

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
DISPUR:::GUWAHATI-6
Block-C, Ground Floor, Janata Bhawan, higheredn.assam@assam.gov.in.**

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Sub: Scheme for Fee Waiver of admission fees, tuition fees etc. for students taking admission in H.S., BA/BSc/BCom and M.A./M.Sc./M.Com. Courses for the Academic Session 2026–27.

In continuation of the Fee Waiver Scheme under Pragyan Bharati for free admission in H.S., BA/BSc/BCom and M.A./M.Sc./M.Com. Courses under the Higher Education Department, Government of Assam, the scheme shall continue for the Academic Session 2026–27 for eligible students whose parental annual income is below Rs. 4.00 lakh from all sources.

Aim:

To provide access to higher education to economically disadvantaged students of the State and to support them in pursuing higher education without financial hardship.

1. Scope-

- i. The Scheme shall be applicable to eligible students seeking admission into the 1st year of H.S., B.A., B.Sc., B.Com. and M.A., M.Sc., M.Com. courses during the Academic Session 2026–27.
- ii. Students taking admission in any professional, vocational and self-financing course shall not be eligible under this scheme unless otherwise instructed by Government.
- iii. In case of H.S., B.A./B.Sc./B.Com. and M.A./M.Sc./M.Com. courses, students whose fees were waived earlier shall also be eligible to avail the benefit of the scheme for subsequent year/semester admissions, subject to fulfilment of eligibility criteria and production of required documents.
- iv. Further, students enrolled in continuing semesters who could not submit valid income certificate at the time of entry-level admission but possess valid income certificate at the time of renewal/admission in the concerned semester may also be considered for the Fee Waiver Scheme, subject to due verification by the concerned Higher Educational Institution.

2. Institutes Incorporated under the Scheme

The Scheme shall be applicable to:

- i. All State Universities, Government Colleges, Autonomous Colleges, Government Model Colleges, Government Model Women Colleges, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Adarsha Mahavidyalayas and Provincialised Colleges of Assam.
- ii. The Scheme shall not cover Private Colleges, Private Universities and Central Universities situated in Assam.

3. Applicability

The following categories of students shall be eligible under the Scheme:

- i. Students whose parental annual income is less than Rs. 4.00 lakh from all sources.
- ii. Students whose parents, either father or mother, are not employees of the State Government, Central Government, Semi-Government organisations, State Government undertakings or Central Government undertakings. However, provided that, where either or both parent of the student is employed as Grade-IV/MTS post under the State Government, Central Government, Semi-Government organisation, State Government undertaking or Central Government undertaking, the student may be considered eligible for the Fee Waiver Scheme, subject to fulfilment of all other prescribed eligibility conditions.
- iii. The student must be a permanent resident of Assam and must possess domicile of Assam in order to avail benefit under the Fee Waiver Scheme. The concerned Higher Educational Institution shall verify the residential/domicile status of the student through valid supporting documents as may be prescribed or notified by the Government.
- iv. To avail free admissions in the subsequent years, the attendance of the respective student should not be less than 70% in the academic year.
- v. Students who have arrears/backlogs in the previous academic year shall not be eligible to avail the Fee Waiver Scheme. Further, students who have not enrolled for the final examinations of the previous academic year shall also not be eligible to avail of the Fee Waiver Scheme.

- vi. Fee waiver will be revoked if any beneficiary student indulges in vandalism, ragging, misconduct, and anti-social activities, which may affect the academic atmosphere of the HEIs.

4. Proof of Income / Documents Required

- i. Ration Card issued by the competent authority shall be treated as the primary proof of income. The Ration Card must be issued by the competent authority of the State of Assam. Ration Cards issued by any other State shall not be accepted for claiming benefit under the Fee Waiver Scheme.
- ii. If the Ration Card is not available, only then will an income certificate issued by the concerned Revenue Circle Officer shall be accepted.
- iii. Applicants must possess a valid Aadhaar number and this information must be submitted along with a signed consent to the institution.
- iv. The College/University authority may grant admission to the student without examining the original marksheet at the time of admission. However, the admitted student must produce the original marksheet within the stipulated time, failing which the admission shall be liable to be cancelled.
- v. A declaration shall be obtained from the student stating that neither parent, father or mother, is an employee of the State Government, Central Government, Semi-Government organisation, State Government undertaking or Central Government undertaking. Such declaration form shall be devised by the concerned Registrar/Principal. If such declaration is found to be false, the admission under the Fee Waiver Scheme shall be cancelled and the admission fee shall be realised from the student.
- vi. If, however, either or both parents of a student are employed as Grade IV/Multi-Tasking Staff (MTS) under the State Government, Central Government, Semi-Government organisation, State Government undertaking or Central Government undertaking and fulfil the eligibility criteria prescribed above, the student shall submit a declaration in the prescribed format to that effect. Such declaration form shall be devised by the concerned Registrar/Principal.
- vii. The concerned Higher Educational Institution shall verify the authenticity of the documents submitted by the student before granting benefit under the Scheme.

5. Power of Admission Committees

- i. The Admission Committee of the concerned College or University shall have the power to enquire into the income status of the family in case of doubt regarding the claim of any student. If the Committee is of the view that the income of the parents exceeds Rs. 4.00 lakh per annum, it may recommend cancellation of the benefit under the Fee Waiver Scheme, notwithstanding the documents submitted by the student.
- ii. Such enquiry may be initiated suo motu by the Institution or on the basis of any complaint received against any student availing benefit under the Scheme.
- iii. Each Institution covered under the Scheme shall constitute an Admission Committee comprising senior faculty members of the Institution. The Principal/Registrar of the Higher Educational Institution shall exercise due diligence and shall ensure that no undeserving candidate is allowed to avail the benefit.
- iv. The Admission Committee shall have the discretion to check and verify the Ration Card, income certificate and other documents produced by applicants at the time of admission or renewal admission. In case of any doubt, the Institution may ask the candidate to produce further relevant documents to ascertain the validity of the claim.
- v. Only after being fully satisfied with the authenticity of the claim shall the Institution grant admission under the Fee Waiver category. If the Institution is not satisfied with the claim, the applicant shall be informed in writing with justification and admission may be granted under the non-fee waiver category, subject to fulfilment of other admission norms.
- vi. The Director of Higher Education, Assam may conduct random checks of documents uploaded in the portal or submitted in hard copy. Disciplinary action may be initiated against the student, official or Principal/Registrar, as applicable, in case of false claim, negligence or irregularity.

6. Fee to be Waived under the Scheme

The fees to be waived shall include all fees that a College or University normally realises from students in the regular course of admission, subject to the condition that the fee shall not exceed the normal course fee approved/realised for the previous academic session, unless otherwise approved by the Government.

The benefit shall be applicable as follows:

Level	Year	Category of Admission	Nature of Fees to be Waived
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Higher Secondary	1st Year / New Admission	Eligible students of H.S. who are seeking admission	All Fees that a college or University realizes from students in Normal Course rate. This benefit will accrue to those students whose parental annual income is less than Rs. 4.00 lakh per annum from all sources.
	2 nd Year / Continuing Admission:	Eligible students of H.S. who are seeking renewal admission in the subsequent year.	
Under-Graduate	1st Year / New Admission	B.A., B.Sc., B.Com. for the Academic Session 2026–27.	
	2 nd /3 rd and 4 th Year / Continuing Admission	Eligible students of B.A., B.Sc. and B.Com. courses who are seeking renewal admission in the subsequent year/semester.	
Post Graduate	1st Year / New Admission	M.A., M.Sc., M.Com. courses for the Academic Session 2026–27.	
	2 nd Year Continuing Admission	Eligible students of B.A., B.Sc. and B.Com. renewal admission in the subsequent year/semester.	

7. Responsibility of Colleges and Universities

- i. All Colleges and Universities shall upload the names and details of students admitted under the Fee Waiver Scheme in the Assam SAMARTH Portal or any other portal/system as notified by the Directorate of Higher Education, Assam.
- ii. The Registrars/Principals shall ensure that all student data uploaded in the portal are correct, complete and duly verified.
- iii. The concerned Higher Educational Institution shall maintain proper records of all students admitted under the Fee Waiver Scheme, including copies of Ration Card, income certificate, declaration and other relevant documents.
- iv. Higher Educational Institutions shall be required to collect and submit valid Aadhaar number of all students admitted under the Fee Waiver Scheme process, in the format and manner to be notified by the Directorate of Higher Education, Assam.
- v. The Higher Educational Institutions shall ensure that Aadhaar information submitted by students is correct, complete and properly recorded for the purpose of verification and processing of claims under the Fee Waiver Scheme.

8. Marking at the Reverse of Marksheet of Candidate Given Free Admission

- i. The Universities and Colleges granting free admission under this Scheme shall give an endorsement on the reverse of the relevant marksheet of the student so that the student does not seek free admission in multiple Institutions.
- ii. The Universities and Colleges shall devise a rubber seal and use the same on the reverse of marksheets of beneficiary students.
- iii. Where admission is processed fully through digital mode and physical endorsement on marksheet is not immediately feasible, the Institution shall maintain a digital record of such endorsement and ensure that duplicate benefit is not allowed.

9. Cancellation and Recovery

- i. If at any stage it is found that a student has availed benefit under the Fee Waiver Scheme by furnishing false information, false declaration, invalid document, ineligible Ration Card or by suppressing material facts, the benefit shall be cancelled.
- ii. In such cases, the applicable admission fee shall be realised from the student by the concerned Institution.
- iii. The Institution shall report such cases to the Directorate of Higher Education, Assam for further necessary action.

10. Reimbursement

- i. Reimbursement to the Higher Educational Institutions shall be subject to submission of correct and verified beneficiary data in the prescribed portal/format.
- ii. Reimbursement under the Fee Waiver Scheme shall be made to the Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in respect of only those eligible students whose valid Aadhaar numbers have been submitted by the institution.
- iii. No reimbursement shall be admissible in respect of any student whose eligibility documents are found invalid or whose claim is found to be in violation of the provisions of this order.

The earlier orders, memoranda, corrigenda, clarifications or instructions issued on the aforesaid matter shall stand modified to the extent covered by this order.

Digitally signed by
NARAYAN KONWAR
Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam
Higher Education Department
Date: 04-07-2026
09:56:23

Memo No. 413540/2026/204-A

Copy forwarded to:

1. The P.P.S. to the Hon’ble Chief Minister, Assam for kind information.
2. The P.S. to the Hon’ble Minister, Education, Assam for kind appraisal of Hon’ble Minister.
3. The P.S. to the Chief Secretary, Assam for kind information.
4. The P.S. to the Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Higher Education Department for kind information.
5. The Director of Higher Education, Assam for necessary action. The Director of Higher Education, Assam shall communicate the order to all concerned Institutions and upload the same in the official website.
6. The Director of Information and Public Relations, Assam with a request for wide publicity.
7. All Registrars of State Universities of Assam for information and necessary action.
8. All Principals of Government Colleges, Government Model Colleges, Government Model Women Colleges, PDUAMs and Provincialised Colleges of Assam for information and necessary action.
9. Guard file.

(e-Signed)

Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam
Higher Education Department