

DIRECTORATE OF HIGHER SECONDARY EDUCATION, ODISHA
JANASHIKSHA BHAWAN, UNIT-V, BHUBANESWAR-751001

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No. 9392 // Date: 17-08-2026

DHSE-BUDPL-ALLOT-0003-2022-IX

From:

Smt. Niyati Pattnaik, IAS
Director.

To

The Principals,
All SAMS & Non-SAMS (CBSE/ICSE affiliated Schools, Kendriya Vidyalayas etc.) Higher
Secondary Schools of the State.

Sub: Online Applications for Junior Merit Scholarship, 2026-27.

Sir/Madam,

In inviting a reference to the subject cited above, I am to say that online applications have been invited from eligible students studying in Class-XI for Award of Junior Merit Scholarship through State Scholarship Portal (<https://scholarship.odisha.gov.in>) to 10000 (Ten thousand) meritorious students securing 60% marks in 10th Board Examination and whose parental income does not exceed Rs.6 lakh as per the schedule detailed below.

Timeline for Online Application

Sl. No.	Activities	Timeline
01	Opening & Last date of Online Application for students (Fresh - Both SAMS & Non-SAMS)	20.08.2026 to 25.10.2026
02	Opening & Last date for validation of students record by Principal/Head of the Institution (Fresh & Renewal - Both SAMS & Non-SAMS)	21.08.2026 to 31.10.2026

You are therefore requested to go through the attached guidelines and widely circulate among the students studying in your institution to apply online with relevant documents.

Those HSS/ Institutions which do not have a Scholarship cell are requested to open a cell at the earliest to facilitate the verification and validation process.

It may be noted that after the introduction of the State Scholarship Portal, all the relevant documents are uploaded in the online application and hence the submission of physical form of application is not mandatory. You may expedite the validation process basing on the online documents and the data available with the HSS and complete the process of validation within the stipulated period.

Further, you are also requested to validate the renewal cases of Class-XII students within the timeline.

Yours faithfully,

Trishna Patra
17-08-2026
Director

Memo No.: 9393 // Dated: 17-08-2026

Copy forwarded to the Additional Secretary to Govt., S&ME Department for information and necessary action.

Binita Senapati
17/8/26
Additional Director

Memo No.: 9394 // Dated: 17-08-2026

Copy forwarded to the State Project Director, OSEPA for information and necessary action with a request to support and facilitate the eligible students in online application process through Vidya Samiksha Kendra, OSEPA.

Binita Senapati
17/8/26
Additional Director

Memo No.: 9395 // Dated: 17-08-2026

Copy forwarded to the General Manager, OCAC for information and necessary action with a request to host this letter and attached Guideline in State Scholarship Portal and SAMS portal for information of all concerned.

Binita Senapati
17/8/26
Additional Director

Memo No.: 9396 // Dated: 17-08-2026

Copy forwarded to the RDHSE, Bhubaneswar (at Cuttack), Berhampur and Sambalpur for information and necessary action.

Binita Senapati
17/8/26
Additional Director

Memo No.: 9397 // Dated: 17-08-2026

Copy forwarded to all the District Education Officers for information and necessary action with a request to share the guidelines with Principals of all Higher Secondary Schools affiliated to CHSE, CBSE and ICSE etc. for circulation among students to apply for the scholarship.

Binita Senapati
17/8/26
Additional Director

Memo No.: 9398 // Dated: 17-08-2026

Copy forwarded to the OIC, PMU SAMS, SME, Odisha for information and necessary action with a request to upload this letter with enclosures in the SAMS Portal /Shiksha Jyoti Portal for information of all concerned.

Binita Senapati
17/8/26
Additional Director



Junior Merit Scholarship

**Guidelines for selection of students for award of Junior Merit
Scholarship for the year 2026-27 FRESH & RENEWAL**

Scholarshipsmed@gmail.com

Directorate of Higher Secondary Education, Odisha

Objective

The Government of Odisha in School & Mass Education Department is awarding Junior Merit Scholarship under the Scheme 'e-medhabruti' out of the State budget to provide financial assistance to the meritorious Higher Secondary School students of Odisha from families whose parental income does not exceed 6.00 lakhs to meet a part of their educational expenses while pursuing their higher studies.

Scope

The scholarship is awarded to students pursuing Class XI & XII in the Higher Secondary Schools of the State.

Type, Number & Duration of Scholarship

Category of Merit	No. of Scholarships	Rate of Scholarship per year	Duration of scholarship	Remarks
Junior Merit	10,000 (Boys & Girls in 50:50 ratio)	3,000/-	2 Years (XI & XII)	Students of Class XI, both SAMS and Non-SAMS Higher Secondary Schools of the State

Eligibility conditions for Junior Merit Scholarship

- The student must be a permanent resident of Odisha State.
- The student must have passed HSC with 60% or more marks from an institution recognized by BSE Odisha, CBSE, ICSE, Equivalent Boards, and pursuing regular Class XI courses of 10+2.
- The income of the parents of the students from all sources should not exceed Rs.6.00 lakh per annum.
- Students shall apply for Junior Merit Scholarship in the **1st year of the course (Class XI)**.

Exclusions

The following students shall not be eligible for Junior Merit Scholarship:

- Students pursuing their higher study through distance learning/correspondence.
- Students already availing scholarships for pursuing their study under any other schemes of State or Central Govt.
- Students studying Abroad.
- Students not validated by the concerned Principal/Institution during Class XI (1st year of his/her admission).

Merit Criteria for Selection

The following factors will be taken into consideration:

- i. Fulfillment of eligibility conditions as given in the scheme.
- ii. Online authentication/validation of student records by the principal of concerned Higher Secondary School/Institute.
- iii. Final Merit/ Selection lists of the students will be drawn in terms of percentage of marks obtained in the HSC examination from among the validated students in the merit, proportionately basing on the data. The mode of selection for scholarship shall be made through descending order of merit till it reaches the eligible quota of scholarship. For example, a student who has secured 92% of marks in the last examination shall come first then the one who has secured 91% mark and so on.
- iv. In case of a tie in percentage of marks under a particular type of scholarship and some are to be left out due to exceeding maximum quota of scholarship, then the parental income ceiling will be considered i.e. the student with lower parental income ceiling will get preference.
- v. The CBSE/ICSE grading system in the form of CGPA i.e. Grade points shall be converted to the percentage by multiplying with 9.5 formula Percentage (%) = CGPA x 9.5.

General Criteria/ Limitations For Award of Scholarship

- i. The Scholarships meant for Class XI Students shall be awarded to boys and girls in 50:50 ratios. In case requisite number of candidates (Boys/Girls) are not available under any gender, then the balance number of scholarships shall be awarded to the other eligible applicants.
- ii. Multiple registrations / applications by a student for a particular category of merit are strictly prohibited.
- iii. If any of the authenticated records are found to have invalid documents, the case will be summarily rejected.
- iv. Any type of wrong entry made by students i.e. parental income, maximum and secured mark, percentage of mark etc. leading to rejection of application (i.e. the student fails to be in the final merit list), then the applicant will be solely responsible for the rejection.

Procedure for Disbursement

The scholarship would be sanctioned subject to fulfillment of the prescribed eligibility criteria by the students and validation/authentication by the principals of the concerned Higher Secondary Schools/ Institutes in online mode only. Scholarships will

be paid to the selected students by the Directorate of Higher Secondary Education through DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer) mode only and will be transferred to Bank account of the beneficiaries.

The students must have an active and valid account in any **Nationalized Bank** which has **Electronic Clearing System (ECS)/ Core Banking** facility to facilitate transfer of scholarship amount directly to their account.

The bank account must be in the name of applicant/student only. Students must enter their Bank/Branch name, saving bank account number and IFSC code very carefully to ensure smooth transfer of scholarship amount.

Cancellation of Scholarship

The scholarship sanctioned is liable to be cancelled on the following occasions.

- i. If the student is found to have obtained scholarship by false statements/ fabricated documents.
- ii. If the student discontinues his/her studies, the scholarship shall be stopped from the subsequent year.

Duration of Scholarship and its Renewal

A student will be eligible for the scholarship for a total duration of the course. Scholarship awarded to any student under State Scholarship Portal is automatically renewable, subject to student continuing in Class XII (2nd Year) and online validation / authentication done by the institute.

For renewal of Scholarship for the 2025-26, the names of selected students in previous selection year will be listed in Principal's log in ID. Only students continuing in the concerned academic year have to be authenticated online by the principal. If any student found to have dropped out/ passed out from the HSS, their records shall not be validated.

The Principal / Head of Higher Secondary School / Institution will be personally held responsible for authenticating eligible students from the records displayed in their login.

Announcement and Mode of Submission of Scholarship Application for Fresh Scholarship.

Applications will be invited from eligible students each year on the State Scholarship Portal. All information relating to this scheme will be uploaded in the State Scholarship Portal. Submission of physical application would not be accepted. Only verified online applications will be considered for scholarship.

- i. All eligible Students studying in SAMS & Non-SAMS Higher Secondary Schools need to upload the required documents such as family income certificate of the current year, mark sheet of HSC, resident certificate and bank account details (first page of bank account which should be in the name of student), Aadhaar Card and Higher Secondary School ID card. For details, instruction manuals are available in the State Scholarship portal may please be glanced through.
- ii. Aadhaar Card authentication is mandatory to avoid any duplicity.
- iii. Outside students (students of Odisha but studying outside Odisha) are also required to apply online for this scholarship.
- iv. Applications which are not validated / authenticated by the Higher Secondary School/ Institute will be treated as "Invalid".
- v. Merit/ selection list as per quota would be generated from the verified applications.

List of Documents required for Scholarship

The following legible documents will be uploaded at the time of applying under the scheme.

- i. Domicile certificate to be issued by the competent authority, i.e. from the concerned Tahsildar /Addl. Tahsildar. The students whose parents are working under Odisha State Govt. can produce resident proof from the employer.
- ii. Proof of annual income to be issued by the competent authority, i.e. the Revenue Officer not below the rank of Tahsildar or Addl. Tahsildar.
- iii. Mark sheets & Certificate of last qualifying examination i.e. HSC from an institution recognized by BSE Odisha, CBSE, ICSE, Equivalent Boards.
- iv. Bank Account details of the student concerned (First page of bank account containing account number and IFSC).
- v. Higher Secondary School ID card issued by concerned authorities. While in the absence of the same, the student may provide Admission receipt/Library Card/Letter of Undertaking from concerned Higher Secondary School authority (Any one).
- vi. Aadhaar Card of the student concerned.

Role and Responsibility

Higher Secondary Schools:

- The Head of Institution has to ensure genuineness of the student i.e. he/she is studying in the Higher Secondary School / Institution for the particular year

- Correct data regarding parental income, marks secured, bank account, Aadhar card details, Higher Secondary School ID card and residence certificate submitted by the applicant to be verified.
- **If any error is found in the application of the student, the Principal / Head of Institution will rectify the error.** If all data are correct, he/she will authenticate the record of the student to be considered for scholarship by the Directorate. **Merit or selection list will be drawn only from the records authenticated by the Principal /Head of institutions within the timeline given for the purpose.**
- If any student had applied more than one time, only a single record will be authenticated by the principal.

OCAC through the Service Provider:

- Complete online system for SAMS and Non-SAMS Colleges will be developed** as per the prescribed criteria mentioned in the Junior Merit guidelines for the year 2025-26.
- Technical support to all stakeholders shall be provided by OCAC, BBSR.
- Submission of Validated data for Fresh applications immediately after the closure of Principal's validation for scrutiny, preparation of selection list at the level of Directorate of Higher Secondary Education.
- Online uploading of guidelines, instructions, letters and round-wise selection list, which have been processed for payment.

Directorate of Higher Secondary Education:

- Inviting online applications for award of Junior Merit scholarship through print and electronic media.
- Scrutiny / Verification of validated data received from OCAC.
- Preparation of merit/selection list for Fresh category.
- Online payment to eligible candidates under fresh and renewal category through IOTMS.

Nayan Pathak
17-08-2026
Director

Higher Secondary Education

For more details please contact Helpline (Toll Free) Number 155335/18003456770

