Prospectus
2021-22

Open Basic Education Programme

Adolescent and Adults (Above 14 years age group)

विद्याधनम् सर्वधनं प्रधानम्

National Institute of Open Schooling

ISO 9001:2008 Certified

(An autonomous Institution under Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, Government of India)

A-24-25, Institutional Area, Sector-62, NOIDA-201309, Uttar Pradesh

Learner Support Centre Toll Free No.: 1800 180 9393, **E-mail:** lsc@nios.ac.in

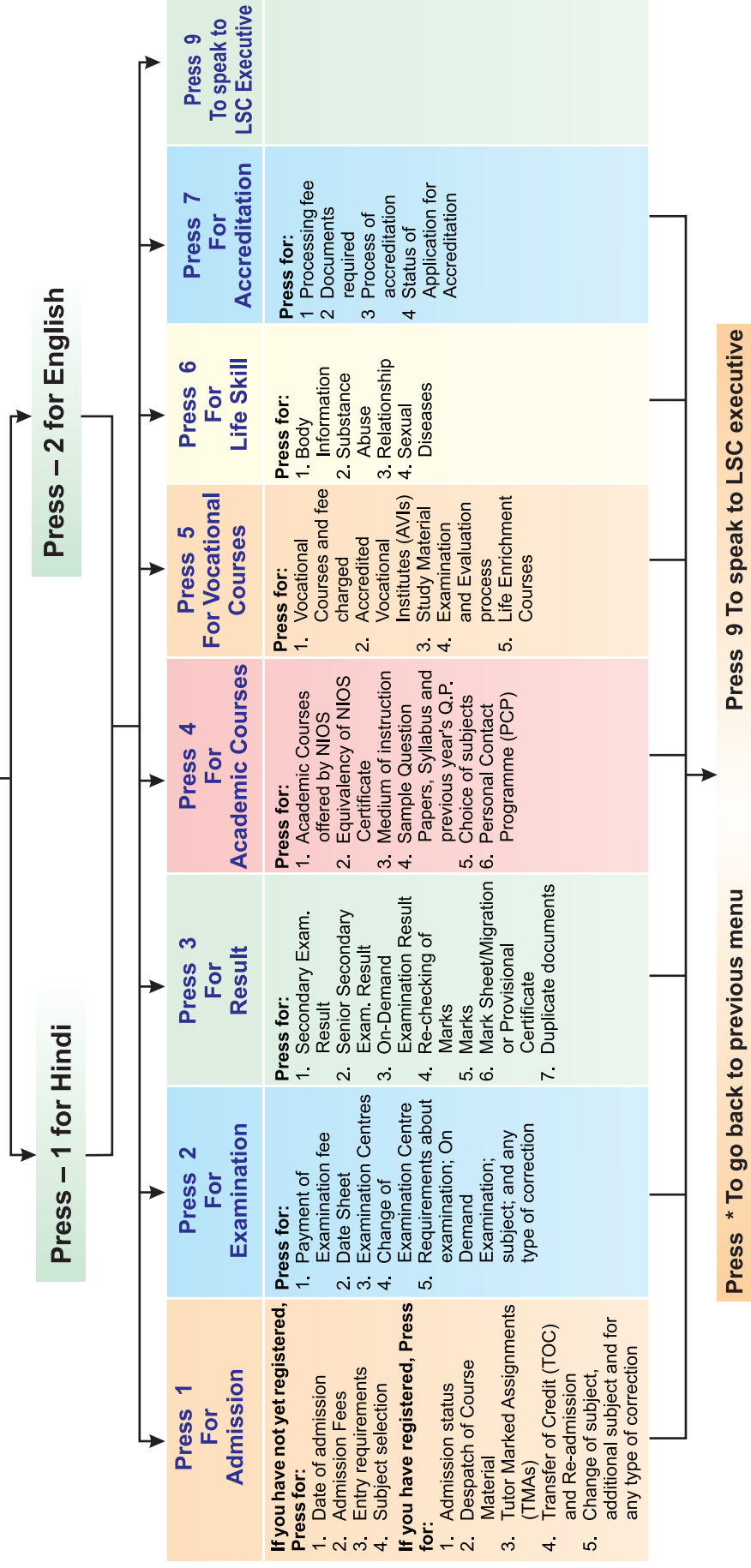**"The Largest Open Schooling System in the World"**

National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)

Learner Support Centre (LSC)

NIOS believes and hopes that learners do not face any problem and do not have any grievance while taking admission and during their studies. In this context, NIOS has established the Learner Support Centre (LSC) to redress learners related various issues through email, Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) and Toll Free No. A diagrammatic presentation of the framework of the Learner Support Services (LSC) of NIOS is given below.

Dial 1800 180 9393

Welcome Message

Press – 1 for Hindi

Press – 2 for English

Press 1 For Admission

If you have not yet registered, Press for:
1. Date of admission
2. Admission Fees
3. Entry requirements
4. Subject selection

If you have registered, Press for:
1. Admission status
2. Despatch of Course Material
3. Tutor Marked Assignments (TMAs)
4. Transfer of Credit (TOC) and Re-admission
5. Change of subject, additional subject and for any type of correction

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Press 2 For Examination

Press for:
1. Payment of Examination fee
2. Date Sheet
3. Examination Centres
4. Change of Examination Centre
5. Requirements about examination; On Demand Examination; subject; and any type of correction

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Press 3 For Result

Press for:
1. Secondary Exam. Result
2. Senior Secondary Exam. Result
3. On-Demand Examination Result
4. Re-checking of Marks
5. Marks
6. Mark Sheet/Migration or Provisional Certificate
7. Duplicate documents

Press 4 For Academic Courses

Press for:
1. Academic Courses offered by NIOS
2. Equivalency of NIOS Certificate
3. Medium of instruction
4. Sample Question Papers, Syllabus and previous year's Q.P.
5. Choice of subjects
6. Personal Contact Programme (PCP)

Press 5 For Vocational Courses

Press for:
1. Vocational Courses and fee charged
2. Accredited Vocational Institutes (AVIs)
3. Study Material
4. Examination and Evaluation process
5. Life Enrichment Courses

Press 6 For Life Skill

Press for:
1. Body Information
2. Substance Abuse
3. Relationship
4. Sexual Diseases

Press 7 For Accreditation

Press for:
1. Processing fee
2. Documents required
3. Process of accreditation
4. Status of Application for Accreditation

Press 9 To speak to LSC Executive

Press * To go back to previous menu

Press 9 To speak to LSC executive

Contents

1   **NIOS: Learning Beyond Boundaries**

1.1   NIOS: An Introduction

The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) was set up as the National Open School in 1989 by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, as an autonomous organisation. It provides educational opportunities to persons who wish to study further and qualify for a better tomorrow. The Mission of NIOS is to provide education to all with special concern for girls and women, rural youth, working men and women, SCs and STs, differently abled persons and other disadvantaged persons who because of one or other reason could not continue their education in the formal system of education. The aim of NIOS is to reach the unreached. The NIOS has taken special initiatives for imparting education to Jail Inmates by setting up Study Centres in Jails across the country and granting full fee exemption. The NIOS operates through a network of Twenty Three Regional Centres, two Sub-Regional Centres, Two NIOS Cell and more than Eight thousand Accredited Institutions (AIs), Accredited Vocational Institutions (AVIs) and Accredited Agencies (AAs) popularity known as Study Centres. These Centres are located in India, Nepal and Middle East Countries. For academic courses, admission is through Online only.

1.2 OBE Programme: An Introduction

The Open Basic Education (OBE) programme was initiated in June 1994 with the aim of providing primary and upper primary education through alternative means of open schooling to adult neo-literates who are not able to take advantage of the formal system of schooling. It is an equivalency programme and provides three tier education under OBE programme i.e. Level A (equivalent to class 3), Level B (equivalent to class 5) and Level C (equivalent to class 8). In the year 2000 the programme was extended to cover children between 6 to 14 years age group also with the help of Accredited Agencies (AAs).
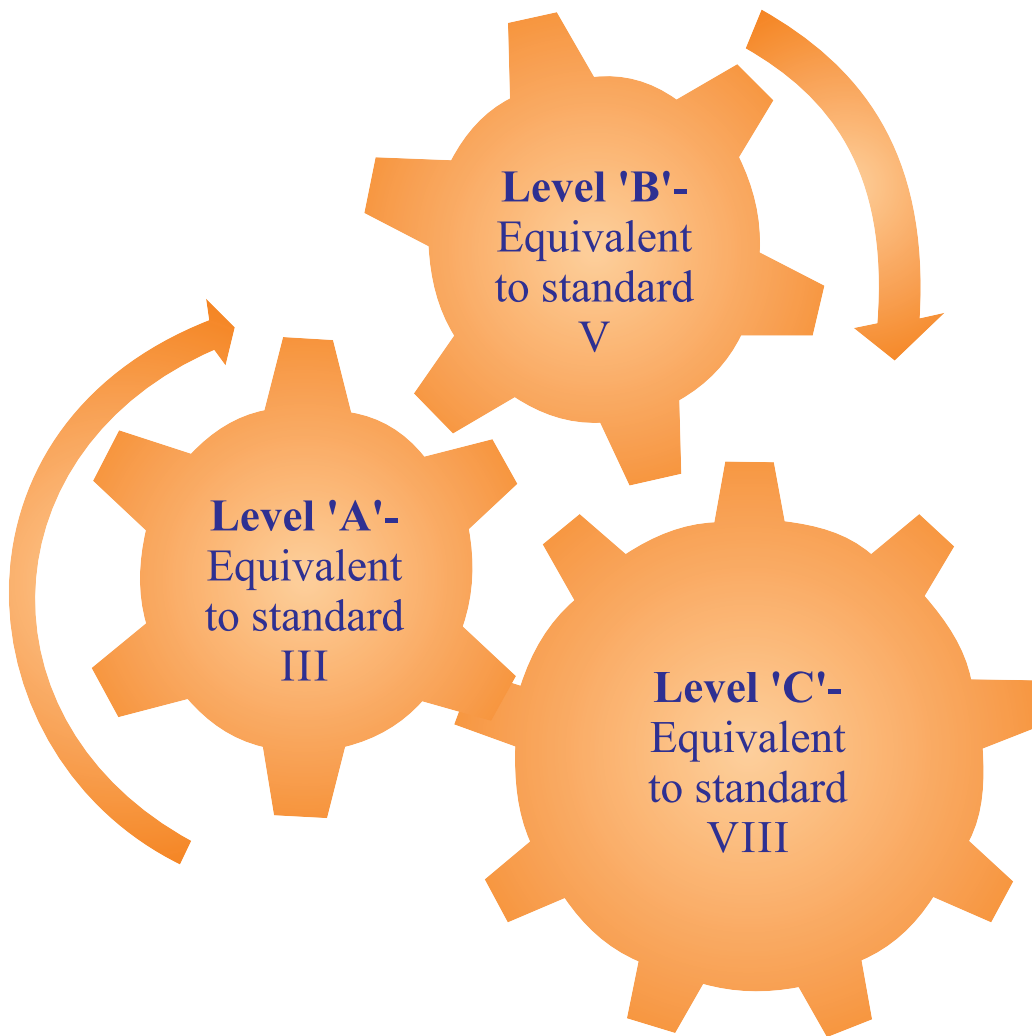
NIOS reaches out to marginalized groups who may have been unable to attend school earlier, due to physical or social inaccessibility, by offering them an alternative channel through open and distance learning (ODL) mode of education for primary schooling. The flexibility of the open learning system will further ensure a higher retention rate as well as an increase in the learning achievement as learners would now be able to pace their learning. This exercise would provide high quality schooling to children with an aim to achieve universalisation of elementary education.

The Open Basic Education programme has been recognised by the Government of India as equivalent education to that of the formal school, for purposes of further education and employment. Different States have indicated their interest in the programme for their out of school children as well as for adolescent and adult neo literates. The OBE is offered in some states as an Equivalency Programme under the Continuing Education (CE) scheme of the National Literacy Mission (NLM).

1.3   Standard of Education and Recognition

There are three National Boards of School Education viz., NIOS, CBSE and CISCE. The National Institute of Open Schooling is an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Education, Government of India. It is vested with the authority to impart school education upto pre-university level, conduct examinations and award certificates. The certificates awarded by NIOS are recognised for higher education, Government jobs and for all other purposes.
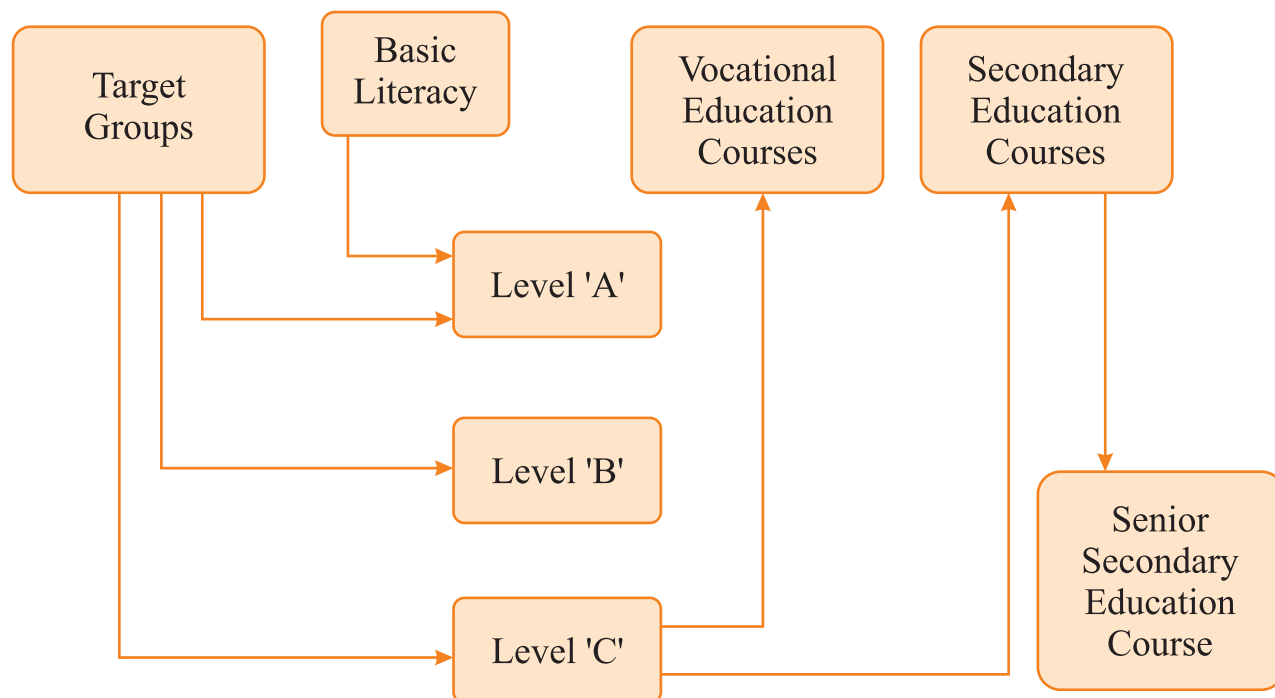
1.4   Levels of OBE Programme

Level 'B'- Equivalent to standard V

Level 'A'- Equivalent to standard III

Level 'C'- Equivalent to standard VIII

1.5 Multiple Entry System for OBE Programme

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Target          Basic           Vocational        Secondary
Groups          Literacy        Education         Education
                                Courses           Courses

                Level 'A'

                Level 'B'                          Senior
                                                   Secondary
                                                   Education
                                                   Course
                Level 'C'
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1.6   Target Group

The programme is being conducted for children of 6-14 years age group and adolescents/adults of 14 years of age and above. The target group consists of following categories of learners for adolescents/adults of 14 years of age and above:

Adolescents and Adults

➤ Dropouts from formal system of education
➤ Neo-literates of the National Literacy Mission's Continuing Education Scheme
➤ The adults of marginalized groups, in particular women such as Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), minority, Below Poverty Line (BPL) persons, nomads, migratory population and first generation learners
➤ Those who qualified the Basic Education Literacy Assessment of NLMA

1.7   Features and Flexibilities

➤ Registration period valid for a maximum period of five years
➤ Flexibility of choosing any language as the medium of study from Hindi, English, Sanskrit, Urdu or any Regional Language
➤ Minimum age for admission is 7 years as on 31st March of the year
➤ Assessment by the Accredited Agencies (AAs) as per guidelines provided by NIOS
➤ First examination at any level in the next year from the year of admission

➤ The facility of credit accumulation is available for OBE learners. A learner would be eligible for the certificate only when he/she qualifies in all the subjects for the concerned level.

➤ A child should have attained the age of at least 7 years at Level 'A', 9 years at Level 'B' and 12 years at Level 'C' for admission.

➤ The minimum duration of study for each level A/B/C is one academic year.

1.8 Scheme of Studies

Table 1: Scheme of Studies for OBE at Level A, B and C

Level 'A' and 'B'	Level 'C'
➤ One Language (from Group -1) + 2 subjects (Two from Group 2) + 1 Vocational Subject (from Group -3)	➤ One language (from Group -1) + 3 subjects (Three from Group 2) + 1 Vocational Subject (from Group -3)

*Note: Each subject has been given a subject code. List of subject codes is given in **Table 2***

i. A learner can take upto maximum **seven subjects** including minimum one language or more (Maximum three languages).

ii. A learner has freedom to opt for one additional Vocational subject at levels 'B' and 'C'.

Table 2: Subjects at Level A, B and C

S. No.	Subject	Code		
		Level 'A'	Level 'B'	Level 'C'
	Group 1 - Languages			
1.	Hindi	A101*	B101*	C101*
2.	English	A109	B109	C109*
3.	Bengali	A110	B110	C110
4.	Marathi	A111	B111	C111
5.	Telugu	A112	B112	C112
6.	Urdu	A113	B113	C113
7.	Gujarati	A114	B114	C114
8.	Kannada	A115	B115	C115
9.	Sanskrit	A116*	B116*	C116*
10.	Punjabi	A117	B117	C117
11.	Tamil	A118	B118	C118
12.	Oriya	A119	B119	C119
13.	Malayalam	A120	B120	C120
14.	Assamese	A121	B121	C121

15.	Kashmiri	A122	B122	C122
16.	Konkani	A123	B123	C123
17.	Dogari	A124	B124	C124
18.	Nepali	A125	B125	C125
19.	Bodo	A126	B126	C126
20.	Manipuri	A127	B127	C127
21.	Maithili	A128	B128	C128
22.	Santhali	A129	B129	C129
23.	Sindhi	A130	B130	C130
Group 2 - Academic Subjects				
24.	Environmental Studies	A102*	B102*	-
25.	Mathematics	A103*	B103*	C103*
26.	Social Science	-	-	C102*
27.	Science	-	-	C105*
28.	Basic Computer Skills	A104*	B104*	C104*
29.	Veda	A145#	B145#	C145#
30.	Vijnana	A146#	B146#	C146#
31.	Yoga	A147#	B147#	C147#
Group 3 - Vocational Subjects				
32.	Cutting, Tailoring and Dress Making	A106*	B106	C106*
33.	Beauty Culture	A107	B107	C107
34.	Food Processing	A108	B108	C108
35.	Toy Making	A131	B131	C131
36.	Painting	A132	B132	C132
37.	Bee Keeping	A133	B133	C133
38.	Art and Craft	A134	B134	C134
39.	Furniture Making	A135	B135	C135
40.	Bamboo Craft	A136	B136	C136
41.	Vermicomposting	A137	B137	C137*
42.	Agriculture	A138	B138	C138
43.	Bakery	A139	B139	C139
44.	Health and our Food	A141	B141	C141
45.	Flower Farming	A142	B142	C142
46.	Child Care Assistance	A143	B143	C143
47.	Vocational Skills	A149#	B149#	C149#

Note:

1. * - Exemplar SLM is available in Hindi and English medium.

2. # - Exemplar SLM is available in Hindi, Sanskrit and English medium.

2   Admission

NIOS offers Online admission facility to its learners at all three levels of OBE Programme. The detailed procedure for Online Admission is given below:

2.1   Online Admission

Admissions are 100% Online through website www.nios.ac.in and the Student Portal of NIOS www.sdmis.nios.ac.in in order to facilitate the learners to register for admission. Learner can directly register Online by following the procedure laid down for OBE Programme.

Under this programme, the learner has three options :

i.   Register Online directly by following the procedure laid down in **Section 2.3**.

ii.   Visit nearest AA (Study Centre) and take their help for Online registration. The list of Accreditated Agencies (AAs) is available on NIOS website.

iii.   Visit the concerned Regional Centre of NIOS and take its help for online-registration. The list of Regional Centres is at **Appendix-A**.

2.2   Admission Period

The Online Admission is open for all the learners as per the laid down eligibility criteria for the Level A, B and C. Admission period for session 2021-22 is as follows:

Table 3: Dates for Online Admission

Level	Dates of Online Admission	Examination in which the learners can appear first time
A/B/C	From 1st April to 31st May, 2021	February, 2022

2.3   Procedure for Online Admission

Log on to NIOS website **www.nios.ac.in** or the Student Portal of NIOS **www.sdmis.nios.ac.in** and read the instructions and procedures carefully and keep ready all the necessary information and scanned images(s) of Photograph, Signature and relevant Document as per Entry Requirements mentioned in Table-4 before filling the Online Application Form. Learner should also be ready with valid Mobile Number/valid e-mail ID.

Table 4: Entry Requirements

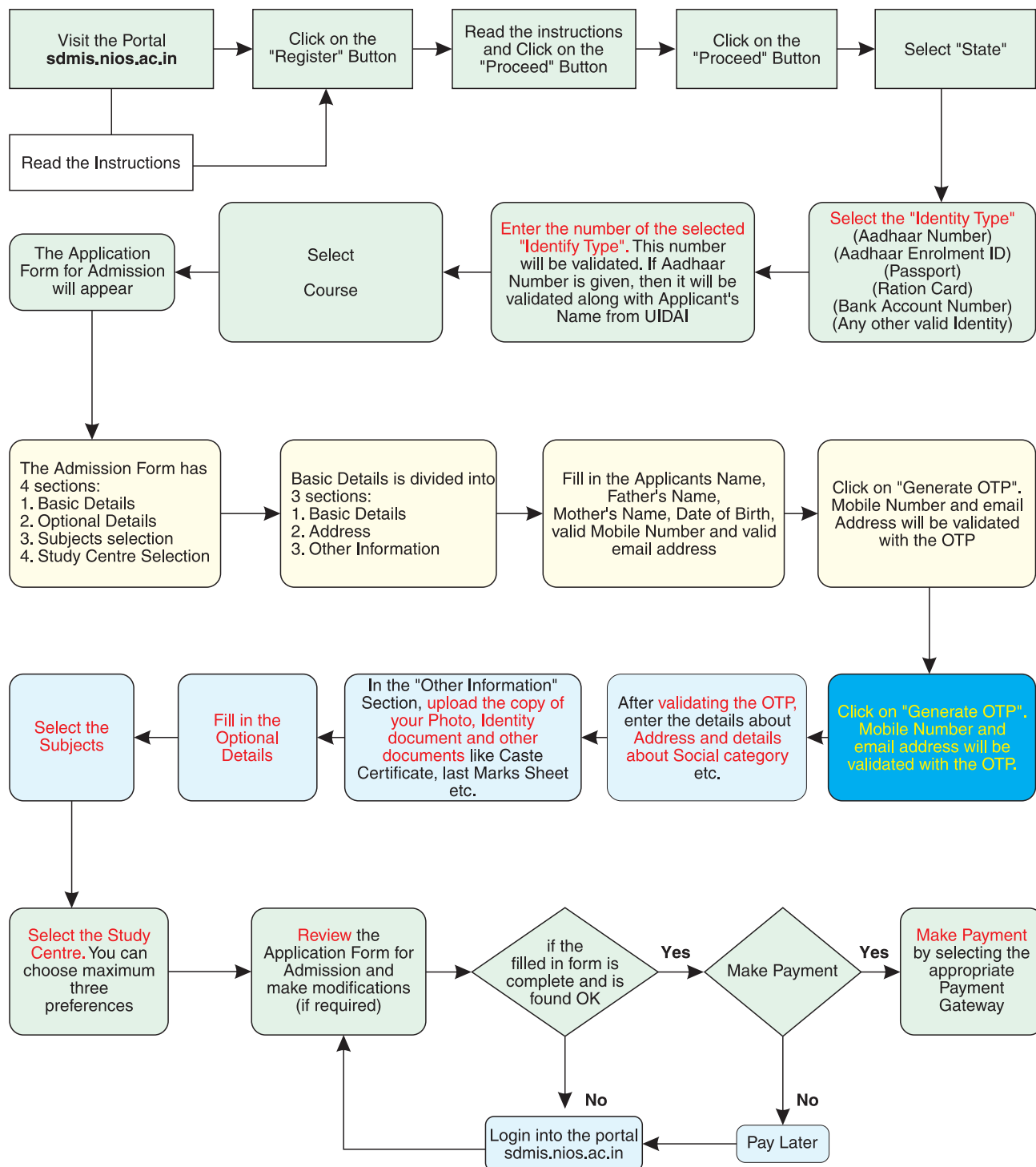| Entry Requirement	Requirements/Dates	Remarks
A. AdmissionLevel A, B and C	Minimum age – Above 14 years at any level	Learner should have completed the minimum age as on 31st March, 2021
B. Last date for admission	31st May, 2021	
C. Minimum Educational Qualification	No minimum educational qualification is required at any level	
D. Essential Supporting Documents for Date of Birth	1. Birth Certificate issued by the Municipal Authority or District Office of the Registrar of Birth and Deaths for those born on or after 26.01.1989. OR 2. Passport Issued by Govt. of India OR 3. Original Transfer Certificate/School Leaving Certificate showing applicant's date of birth, issued by the school last attended by the applicant. In case of Govt. schools, the Transfer Certificate/School Leaving Certificate should be signed by the Principal while in the case of Private schools, it should also be countersigned by the competent education authority of the State/or District Education Officer. OR 4. Aadhaar Card issued by the concerned Agency of Govt. of India	**Note:** i. In case of Orphan/Juvenile/Street Children, the Medical Legal Certificate alongwith an Affidavit issued by First class Magistrate or copy of Aadhaar Card has to be provided as proof of Date of Birth. ii. In the absence of Birth Certificate, a certificate attested by Village Sarpanch should be attached. iii. Date of birth once given in the Admission Form shall not be changed. Please check and state the correct date of birth in the Admission Form.
E. Proof of Residence	**Proof of residential address is essential for all. Attach a copy of any one of the following.** 1. Ration Card, or Aadhar Card, or Appointment Letter from the Employer on Letter Head, or Water/Telephone/ Electricity Bill/Statement of running Bank Account or Income Tax Assessment Order/ Election Commission's Voter Identity Card, Parents Passport in case of minor. 2. For the learner living in a rented accommodation, any proof of permanent address along with any proof of present rented accommodation will be accepted. 3. A learner belonging to the category of street children/ destitute/migrants/slum dwellers/orphans not having any residential address at present will have to furnish a self certificate stating the category (mentioned above) and certify to not have own residential address. However, for the purpose of correspondence with NIOS, such learner will have to furnish a contact address. The self certificate has to be countersigned by the sponsoring Guardian including NGO/Orphan Home and attested by a Govt. Servant/ Panchayat level Official/ Nagar Nigam Officer/ Block level Officer/District level Officer or higher level Officer. Both the sponsoring and the attesting authorities are required to furnish complete name, designation and address with their official stamp.	i. Online Admission Form without uploading required supporting documents will be rejected and fee will not be refunded. ii. In case a learner has been debarred by any other Board for using unfair means at any stage, he/she will not be eligible for admission in NIOS.iii. In case a learner conceals the requisite information, admission will be cancelled, even at later stage.
F. Other documents	Original scanned copy of: i. Recent Passport size colour Photograph ii. Signature of learner (preferably in Black Ink). iii. Disability Certificate (in case of having any kind of disability)	

ii. Important points to consider while filling the Application Form Online:

a. Please note that online Registration for Admission closes on the last date of admission cycle. A learner submitting application form for Admission is required to make payment of Processing Charges either with the Application or within 10 days of submitting the application online. In case, a learner submits online application form admission towards the closing date of admission cycle, then such learner is required to make online payment of the charges within five days of the closing date of the cycle.

b. After successful verification of the documents, Processing Charges and the information submitted by the learner during registration, the admission will be confirmed and an Enrolment Number will be generated. Appropriate communication will be sent to the learner through email and SMS after the admission is confirmed by NIOS.

c. If the transaction fails, then the learner has to make the transaction again.

d. The learner can make the payment later as per norms by logging into the Student Portal of NIOS (sdmis.nios.ac.in) using the User Name and Password Sent to the registered email.

e. The dashboard in the learner's login will permit management of all the student related activities through e-services.

f. The learner is advised to furnish correct and authentic information and to upload valid, authentic and relevant color photo/color documents in the respective sections in the Application Form. No changes shall be permitted in the Application Form after the payment is done. Furnishing incomplete/wrong information or uploading irrelevant Photo/Documents will result in NIOS taking action to cancel the Registration/Admission at any point of time. For queries regarding online admission, the learner can e-mail to lsc@nios.ac.in.

g. The learner is not required to send/submit the hard copy of the Admission form and the documents but it is mandatory to upload the original scanned copy of required documents online. If required by NIOS Management or if any other discrepancy is found in the submitted online Application Form/Documents, the learner shall be required to submit the printed application form along with the Documents and Photograph. This requirement will be communicated to him/her through email and SMS.

> One email address can be used only once and one Mobile Number and one Address can be used for registration of maximum three learners.

> A User Name and a Password will be created for the learner and the details will be sent to the authenticated email address which was mentioned in the basic details of the learner. This email will also contain the instructions for further processing. Keep the user Credentials (user name and Password) safe.

National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)
Diagrammatic Presentation of the Process of Online Admission in the OBE Programme, Level A, B and C

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┌─────────────────┐    ┌─────────────────┐    ┌─────────────────┐    ┌─────────────────┐    ┌─────────────────┐
│ Visit the Portal │ →  │ Click on the    │ →  │ Read the        │ →  │ Click on the    │ →  │ Select "State"  │
│ sdmis.nios.ac.in │    │ "Register"      │    │ instructions    │    │ "Proceed"       │    │                 │
│                  │    │ Button          │    │ and Click on    │    │ Button          │    │                 │
│                  │    │                 │    │ the "Proceed"   │    │                 │    │                 │
│                  │    │                 │    │ Button          │    │                 │    │                 │
└─────────────────┘    └─────────────────┘    └─────────────────┘    └─────────────────┘    └─────────────────┘
        │                      ↑
        ↓                      │
┌─────────────────┐            │
│ Read the        │────────────┘
│ Instructions    │
└─────────────────┘
```

Flow continues:

- **Select the "Identity Type"** (Aadhaar Number) (Aadhaar Enrolment ID) (Passport) (Ration Card) (Bank Account Number) (Any other valid Identity)
- **Enter the number of the selected "Identify Type".** This number will be validated. If Aadhaar Number is given, then it will be validated along with Applicant's Name from UIDAI
- Select Course
- The Application Form for Admission will appear

Next row:

- The Admission Form has 4 sections:
  1. Basic Details
  2. Optional Details
  3. Subjects selection
  4. Study Centre Selection
- Basic Details is divided into 3 sections:
  1. Basic Details
  2. Address
  3. Other Information
- Fill in the Applicants Name, Father's Name, Mother's Name, Date of Birth, valid Mobile Number and valid email address
- Click on "Generate OTP". Mobile Number and email Address will be validated with the OTP

Next row:

- **Click on "Generate OTP". Mobile Number and email address will be validated with the OTP.**
- After **validating the OTP**, enter the details about **Address and details about Social category** etc.
- In the "Other Information" Section, **upload the copy of your Photo, Identity document and other documents** like Caste Certificate, last Marks Sheet etc.
- **Fill in the Optional Details**
- **Select the Subjects**

Next row:

- **Select the Study Centre.** You can choose maximum three preferences
- **Review** the Application Form for Admission and make modifications (if required)
- **if the filled in form is complete and is found OK** — Yes → Make Payment — Yes → **Make Payment** by selecting the appropriate Payment Gateway
- No → Login into the portal sdmis.nios.ac.in
- Make Payment — No → Pay Later → Login into the portal sdmis.nios.ac.in

2.4 Procedure for Online Admission through Regional Centres/AA (Study Centre)

All AAs (Study Centres) of NIOS are authorised to open an Online Registration Counter for facilitating learners to take Online admission. They will also help learners in pre-admission counseling and features of NIOS. **The AA will follow the same procedure for Online registration as mentioned in section 2.3 above.**

2.5 Processing Charge Structure for Admission

The processing charge is charged for Registration, verification of admission, data processing, monitoring of examinations, processing of result data, preparation of Joint Certificates and sending them to AAs for issuing to learners. The level wise charges are:

<div align="center">

Table 5: Level Wise Processing Charge

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Level	Charges (in Rs.) per learner
'A'	300*
'B'	500*
'C'	800*

> **Processing Charges does not include the price of Study Material as it is not provided by NIOS.**

* In addition to the above Rs. 50/- will be admissible for every online transactions

2.6 How to Pay the Processing Charges

The fee can be deposited Online through Credit Card /Debit Card/Net Banking, available Payment Gateways.

2.7 Cancellation of Admission

Learner's admission will be cancelled in case:

i. The Processing charge paid is short,

ii. The supporting documents are not appropriate,

iii. False documents have been submitted, if incorrect or wrong information is given,

Note:

a. Admission once cancelled will not be re-considered.

b. Processing charge once paid will not be refunded on any account.

2.8 Confirmation of Admission

i. Admission to a particular level is confirmed by NIOS by issuing an online Identity Card having learner's admission particulars as per the record available in NIOS. In case any discrepancy is noticed at any stage

of admission and even if the Identity Card has been issued, the admission will be cancelled and result will not be declared even if the learners appeared in examination.

ii.   Do check the particulars given in the Identity Card. In case, there is any discrepancy in learner's personal details, address, photo etc., the same should be corrected through E-service immediately. The Learner should retain the Identity Card carefully till completion of study in NIOS.

The Correction in the Admission Record will be made as per rules only (which are available on NIOS website).

2.9   Other Facilities after Admission through E-services

Services which can be availed through e-services are:

i.   Issue of Duplicate Identity Card

ii.   Change of Subject/Additional Subject

iii. Change of Study Centre/AA

➤ Issue of Duplicate Documents

➤ Minor Corrections in Spelling of Name, Father's Name, Mother's Name and/or Guardian's Name

➤ Change of learner's name

➤ Correction of Date of Birth, Name, Father's Name, Mother's Name, Guardian's Name

2.10 Procedure for Correction in the Admission Records through e-services only

The admission to a particular level is confirmed by NIOS by issuing an online Identity Card having details of Learner's Name, Date of Birth, Subjects opted etc. These details are the same as filled in by the learner at the time of admission in NIOS. The learner is requested to check the details immediately on the Student Portal of NIOS **www.sdmis.nios.ac.in**.

In case, there is any discrepancy in learner's personal details, address, photo etc., the same should be corrected through e-services.

➤ Correction in the admission records will be considered prior to appearing in the first examination or within 3 years of learners from the date of registration for admission upon uploading of supporting documents.

➤ No request for correction will be accepted after 3 years from the date of registration.

➤ Applicable fee for above corrections, in addition to fee for revised document as per NIOS norms, will be charged online.

➤ 'Latest correction rules' will be applicable at the time of making request for correction in the record.

➤ The revised corrected document (Achievement-cum Transfer Certificate) will be issued only after submission of the Original Document with incorrect details issued by NIOS and requisite fee.

Table 6: Fee for Correction in Admission Record

Sl. No.	Type of Correction	Amount (In Rs.)
1.	Correction in Learner's name / Father's name / Mother's name / Guardian's name after admission	100
2.	Correction in the Date of Birth of the learner	100
3.	Change in Learner's name / Mother's name / Father's name/ Guardian's name	200
4.	Change in the Date of Birth of the learner (as per rule)	200
5.	Correction of Photograph	100
6.	Change in learner's address	100
7.	Change of Study Centre	400
8.	Duplicate Identity Card	100
9.	Issue of Duplicate Identity Card for the second time.	500

3 Instructional Process at NIOS

3.1 Curriculum and Self Learning Material

➤ The curriculum for OBE programme has been developed by NIOS.

➤ The subjects offered under OBE Programme at different levels include Academic and Vocational Subjects. This has been done in order to introduce the learners to the world of work.

➤ The curriculum gives opportunity to learners to think about life related issues.

➤ It also talks about National concerns and issues related to societal concerns, social harmony, national integration, peace and values.

➤ Efforts have been made to provide activity based learning.

➤ The talent and virtues of learners are also recognised.

➤ Sample learning materials for OBE are available on NIOS website.

➤ AAs may also use the text books developed by the State Government or other national level Board of School Education. Therefore, **learners are advised to contact the concerned AA for the Self Learning Material/Text Book used by the AA.**

3.2 Study Hours under OBE Programme

➤ The Curriculum of OBE Programme requires minimum 100 hours of study time per subject.

➤ However, in case of a pre-vocational subject, additional time of 50 hours should be given for practical work (Total 150 hours for One vocational subject.)

➤ The Study Hours per Subjects are as follows:

Table 7: Study Hours

Level	Subject	Total Hrs.	Study Hrs. at Study Centre (PCP)	Study Hrs for self Study
A and B	One Language	100	50	50
	Two Academic Subjects	200	100	100
	One Vocational Subject	150	30 (Theory) +70 (Practical)	20 (Theory)+30 (Practical)
Total	**Total subjects= 4**	**450**	**250**	**200**
C	One Language	100	50	50
	Three Academic Subjects	300	150	150
	One Vocational Subject	150	30 (Theory) +70 (Practical)	20 (Theory)+30 (Practical)
Total	**Total Subjects = 5**	**550**	**300**	**250**

Learner may develop habit of self and independent learning. This will help in mainstreaming and continuation in lifelong learning.

3.3   About AA/Study Centre of the Learner

The Accredited Agency (Study Centre) will provide the following services **without any additional charges:**

➤ Academic support to learners to the extent prescribed in the curriculum at each level.

➤ Counseling to solve learner's problems/queries related to the course.

➤ Informing the examination date sheet, examination centre and other important information.

➤ Conducting Examination.

➤ Issue achievement-cum transfer certificate jointly after receiving from NIOS without any additional fee.

4   Evaluation System

The following important points should be remembered for examination:

i.   Examination is held once in a year in the month of February on the dates fixed by concerned Accredited Agency.

ii.   The learner registering for the first time would be required to study for one year before appearing for an examination.

iii.   The medium of examination may be Hindi/Sanskrit/English/Urdu/ Regional Language.

iv.   The examination papers for levels A and B shall be of 100 marks of two and half hours duration; while that for Level C shall be of 3 hours and 100 marks.

v.   The date sheet of examination will be prepared by concerned Accredited Agency.

4.1   Credit Accumulation

A learner can avail five chances to appear in the Public Examinations spread over a period of five years within the validity of the admission. NIOS accumulate credits in concerned subjects in its database till the learner clears all the required subjects for certification. Learners can avail this flexible scheme of examination in order to learn well and to get good results.

4.2   Issue of Achievement cum Transfer Certificate

A Joint Certificate would be issued to the eligible candidates jointly signed by the concerned Accredited Agency and the National Institute of Open Schooling, (NIOS).

4.3   Certification Criteria

In order to pass at any level and get a certificate of OBE Programme, the criteria laid down by NIOS are given in Table-8:

Table 8: Certification Criteria at different levels of Open Basic Education Examinations

Level 'A' and 'B'	Level 'C'
One Language (from Group -1) + 2 subjects (Any Two from Group 2) + 1 Vocational Subject (from Group -3)	One language (from Group -1) + 3 subjects (Any Three from Group 2) + 1 Vocational Subject (from Group -3)

4.4   Evaluation Norms (Grading Pattern)

Table 9: Grading Pattern

Marks Range (in %)	Grade	Description
75-100	A	Excellent
60-74	B	Very Good
45-59	C	Good
33-44	D	Satisfactory
Below 33	E	Subject yet to be (SYC) cleared

4.5   Issue of Duplicate Documents

The fee for revised duplicate documents will be charged as mentioned below:

Table 10: Miscellaneous Fee

Nature of Fees	Amount of Fees (in Rs.)
Duplicate copy of the Achievement cum Transfer Certificate	200/-
Postal Charges (If the above documents are required by Speed Post)	50/-
Verification of NIOS documents (for Private companies and individual learners)	500/-
Verification of certificate on urgent basis within 48 hours from the date of receipt (for Private companies and individual learners)	1000/-
Postal Charges (If the above documents are required by Speed Post)	50/-

Note:

➤   Apply online through E-service for obtaining duplicate copy of Achievement cum Transfer Certificate.

➤   Duplicate I-cards will not be issued to certified candidates.

➤   In case of duplicate certificate, an affidavit is required.

4.6   Unfair Means (UFMs)

In case of use of unfair means by the learner in examination, the examination will be cancelled and could be further debarred from appearing in the future examinations. The learner's admission may also be cancelled.

5 General and Specific Provisions (Disability wise) in the context of NIOS Examinations

The learners with disabilities like blindness, low vision, speech impairment, locomotor disability and any other disability which causes difficulty in writing the examinations are to be provided with need based provisions such as amanuensis, technological devices etc. The provisions shall be according to their disabilities as per the procedure notified by NIOS from time to time.

The provisions made have been precisely defined in clauses and sub-clauses for clarity.

5.1 Procedural Requirements

The learners with disabilities as defined in the Persons with Disabilities Act 1995 and the National Trust Act, 1999 and those with specific learning difficulties who wish to avail certain facilities or need some reasonable accommodations in the examinations are required to submit an application in the given format to the concerned Regional Centre of NIOS. A learner should clearly indicate the support required along with the certificate issued by an appropriate authority indicating the nature of disability and the extent of the disability.

A Medical Certificate issued by any of the following authorities is required for availing specific provisions by learners with disability:

i. Disability Certificate(s) issued by Government Hospitals under Central or State Governments.

ii. Disability Certificate(s) issued by recognized institutes of national level such as National Association for the Blind, Spastic Society of India etc.

iii. Disability Certificate(s) issued by non- governmental organizations/ practitioners registered with Rehabilitation Council of India/ Central Government/ State Government of the respective States.

While appearing in the examination, the learner should write disability as mentioned in the certificate on the top of the answer book.

5.2 General Provisions

5.2.1 Provision of Additional Time

The condition of learners with disabilities will have to be certified as per approved procedure as mentioned above for determining requirement of additional time.

i. An additional 20 minutes per hour of examination for each of the subject will be provided to compensate for additional time required for reading by the amanuensis, understanding the questions, fatigue while dictating to the Amanuensis, sitting continuously etc.

ii.   If the condition indicated in the Medical Certificate specified above requires short break, a break of not more than ten minutes per hour will be permitted in addition to above.

5.2.2 Provision of Amanuensis

The services of an amanuensis, reader, lab assistant can be availed as per requirement of the subject concerned. The following categories of learners will be eligible for this facility:

a.   Learners with Autism

b.   Cerebral Palsy

c.   Intellectual Disability including Mental Retardation

d.   Multiple Disabilities

e.   Blindness, Low Vision

f.   Speech Impairment or Hearing Impairment

g.   Any other disability such as learners with specific learning disabilities like dyslexia, dysgraphia, dyscalculia, dyspraxia and developmental aphasia certified as per procedure mentioned above.

   (i)   A learner with poor hand function and speech and hearing impairments may be provided an amanuensis who can understand communication including sign language.

   (ii)   A learner with hand injury may be provided the facility of an amanuensis.

   (iii)   In case of sudden illness resulting in temporary disability, services of an amanuensis will be allowed on furnishing duly certified Medical Certificate specified above.

   (iv)   A learner with disabilities who may choose the use an amanuensis may be permitted to draw the diagrams etc., himself/herself if he/she so desires.

   (v)   A learner with disabilities may be provided the services of a Reader as and when required.

   (vi)   In case a learner needs a Care Giver inside the Examination Hall during the examination, a prior application in the given format is required to be submitted along with the Application Form, and permission has to be obtained.

   (vii)   In case a learner needs a Care Giver to help in reaching the examination room and find particular seat, a prior application in the given format is required to be submitted along with the Application Form and permission has to be obtained.

   (viii)   In specific cases, near relative, Care Giver or concerned teacher may be present in the examination hall only for the purpose of motivation and support to the candidate. Prior permission for this needs to be obtained from the concerned Regional Director, Regional Centre, NIOS.

Note:

i.   The terms **scribe** and **amanuensis** are synonymous and any other term signifying the same can be used for this purpose. In this document, the term **amanuensis** has been used.

ii.   The learner is allowed to opt for different amanuensis for different subjects, if necessary. The learner will have to clearly specify the language in which the Amanuensis is required.

iii.   The format of application for the entry of the Care Giver inside the premises of the Examination Centre is available in the Examination Centre and on the NIOS website.

iv.   Amanuensis/scribe can be arranged by the learner himself/herself or can be provided by the Centre Superintendent. The procedure of approval and eligibility of amanuensies is subject to provisions mentioned of in this chapter.

5.2.2

(a)   Eligibility to be an Amanuensis

i.   The amanuensis should not be from the same subject(s) in which the learner shall be appearing for the examination. However, if the learner and the amanuensis, reader, lab assistant are from the same stream, then the educational qualification of the amanuensis, reader, lab assistant should be at least one class lower than that of the learner with disability appearing for examination.

ii.   There will be flexibility in accommodating any change in amanuensis, reader, lab assistant in case of emergency. More than one amanuensis, reader for writing different papers as per requirement of the learner will be allowed.

iii.   The learner shall also have the option of meeting the amanuensis a day before the examination in presence of the Centre Superintendent.

iv.   The Centre Superintendent will ensure that the facilitative provisions are granted to the learner with disabilities and inform the compliance to the Regional Director, Regional Centre, NIOS. The Centre Superintendent of the Examination Centre concerned may choose a suitable person from the school as far as possible and forward name with photograph immediately to the concerned Regional Centre with a report giving full particulars of the learner and of the amanuensis, reader, lab assistant for consideration and approval.

(b)   Fee for amanuensis, reader interpreter using sign language:

i.   A fee of Rs. 100/- per session of examination will be given to the amanuensis per learner (with disability) by the Superintendent of the Examination Centre. The learners under the category Para 6.2.2 (except for iv) will not be required to pay any charge/fee.

ii.   The learners with temporary disabilities using the facility of amanuensis will have to pay the fee themselves.

5.2.3   Use of Computers

The learners with minimal hand function, blindness and low vision and learners with learning disability, cerebral palsy, autism and any other disability will be allowed to use computer if he/she makes a request in advance to the concerned Regional Director.

i.   The learners may bring their own computers along with assistive devices if they so wish.

ii.   The learner may also bring the required software (including the Text Reading Software) to enter the responses to the questions.

iii.   The Centre Superintendent would ensure adequate power supply and a printer to print the answer scripts of the learners using computers.

Note: The Centre Superintendent will have the right to check the machines for no pre-fed information. Learners will need to report one hour in advance to complete these formalities.

5.2.4   Seating Arrangements and Other Support

a.   Wheel Chair user, and mobility impaired learners will be given the facility to write the examination on the ground floor in case the examination room is inaccessible.

b.   The Building should be accessible and proper ramps and other support should be available. The Centre Superintendent will ensure availability of an accessible toilet for learners with disability.

c.   The Centre Superintendent will make arrangements to seat maximum of four learners in a separate Examination Room with a separate Invigilator for supervision.

d.   However, a single room with an invigilator may be made available for learners with specific disability, if so required.

e.   The examination room should be well lit, ventilated and away from noise and distraction.

5.3   Specific Provisions

These are specific provisions in addition to the general provisions mentioned under Section

5.3.1 Learners with Blindness and Low Vision

i.   Learners with blindness and low vision will be provided alternate questions wherever applicable, in the theory papers in place of the questions related to marking and labelling of maps, construction of geometrical figures and diagrams/ graphs etc.

ii.   Visually Impaired learners may be allowed to use amanuensis/take examination using Braille Typewriter, or Computer. The learners should arrange to bring their own Braille Typewriter, etc., for examination purposes.

5.3.2 Learners with Hearing Impairment

i.   Interpreter using sign language may be allowed in the Examination Room to help the learner with hearing impairment to understand the instructions.

ii.   One interpreter may be adequate for each Examination Room. The Centre Superintendent may take decision regarding arrangement of an Interpreter.

Note: The learner is allowed to opt for different scribes for different subjects, if necessary. The learner will have to clearly specify the language in which the scribe is required.

5.3.3   Learners with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Intellectual Disability (Mental Retardation), Multiple Disabilities

i.   Computers with adapted hardware like trackball instead of mouse, augmentative communication boards (illustrative and not exhaustive) may be allowed.

ii.   Adapted chair, table, bed, etc., may be allowed in the Examination Room in case of learners with specific disabilities.

iii.   Provision may also be made for reading the questions wherever necessary.

Note: The learners may arrange for their own tools and equipment.

5.3.4   Learners with Learning Disability

Provision of amanuensis, use of computer and additional time is permitted as per the procedure specified under section 6.1 and also as mentioned under General Conditions.

5.3.5   Leprosy-Cured Learners

General provisions will be applicable to leprosy cured learners on submitting Medical Certificate as mentioned under Section 6.1.

List of the Regional Centres of NIOS

Name of the Region	Address of the Regional Centre	Jurisdiction
1. ALLAHABAD	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre 19/17, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, Kachahari Road Allahabad - 211002 (Uttar Pradesh) Ph.: (O) 0532-2548154 (Fax) 0532-2548149 e-mail: rcallahabad@nios.ac.in	Uttar Pradesh
2. AMETHI	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre Lakhara House, Munshiganj Road, Sarvanpur-227405, Amethi, (Uttar Pradesh) Email: rcamethi@nios.ac.in	Amethi & Gauriganj
3. BENGALURU	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre Office of the Director (Vocational Education) 3rd Floor, PUE Bhawan, 18th Cross Sampige Road, Malleswaram, Bengaluru - 560012, Karnataka, Ph.: 23464223 Fax: 23464222 Email: rcbengaluru@nios.ac.in	Karnataka
4. BHOPAL	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre Manas Bhawan, Shyamla Hills, Bhopal - 462002 (M.P.) Ph.: 0755-2661842, 2660331 Fax : 0755-2661842 e-mail: rcbhopal@nios.ac.in	Madhya Pradesh
5. BHUBANESHWAR	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre ELTI Campus Maitrivihar, Chandrashekhar Pur, Bhubaneswar-751023 Ph. No. 0674-2302688 Email.: rcbbsr@nios.ac.in Website: htpp://rcbbsr.nios.ac.in	Odisha
6. CHANDIGARH	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre YMCA Complex, Sector-11C, Chandigarh-160 001 Ph.:(O) 0172-2744915, 3950979 Fax : 0172-2744952 e-mail: rcchandigarh@nios.ac.in	Haryana (Excluding Gurgaon, Faridabad Palwal & Jhajjar) Punjab and Chandigarh
7. CHENNAI	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre Lady Willington Campus, Kamrajar Salai, Triplicane, Chennai-600005, Tamilnadu Ph. no. 044-28442237 Fax: 044-28442239 e-mail: rcchennai@nios.ac.in	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry
8. DEHRADUN	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre Amrit Plaza Building, Near Bengali Kothi Chowk Moth Rowala Road, P.O. Ajapur Kalan, Dehradun - 248001 Ph.: (O) 0135- 2532566; 2532592; Fax : 0135-2629166 e-mail: rcdehradun@nios.ac.in	Uttrakhand, Meerut, Bagpat Saharanpur , Muzaffar Nagar, Moradabad and J.P. Nagar (Amroha) districts of U.P.
9. DELHI	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre A-31, Institutional Area, NH-24, Sector-62, NOIDA- 201309 Distt. - Gautam Buddha Nagar (U.P.) Ph: (O) 0120-2404914-15, Fax : 0120-2404916 e-mail: rcdelhi@nios.ac.in	NCT of Delhi and bordering Distts. of NCT in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana comprising of Distts. of Gautam Buddh Nagar (Noida and Greater Noida), Ghaziabad, Gurgaon, Palwal, Faridabad and Jhajjar
10. DHARAMSHALA	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre 2nd Floor, Chamunda Complex, (Near Income Tax Office) Dari Road, Dharamshala, Distt. Kangra-176057, Himachal Pradesh, Ph. (O) 001892-222251 e-mail: rcdharamshala@nios.ac.in	Himachal Pradesh

Name of the Region	Address of the Regional Centre	Jurisdiction
11. GANDHINAGAR	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre Multi Storied Building, D Wing, 7th Floor, Sector-11, Near Pathikaashram, Gandhinagar-3820011, Gujarat, Ph.: 079-23220410, Fax: 079-23220411 Email: rcgandhinagar@nios.ac.in	Gujarat
12. GANGTOK	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre Teacher's Guest House, Syari Gangtok - East Sikkim-737102 email: srcgangtok@nios.ac.in	Sikkim and Bordering Dist. of West Bengal Comprising of Distt. Silliguri and Darjling
13. GUWAHATI	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre Building of Assam Publication Board, (Near Assam Board of Secondary Education) Ist Floor, Bamunimaidan, Guwahati-781021 (Assam) Ph. (O): 0361-2650541, 2651201 (Fax) 0361-2650542 e-mail: rcguwahati@nios.ac.in	Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura
14. HYDERABAD	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre IV Floor, Sri Krishna Devaraya, Telugu Basha Nilayam, Trust, No 4-4-8, Sultan Bazar, Hyderabad - 500095. Ph.: (O) 040-24162859, Fax : 040-24060712	Telangana
15. JAIPUR	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre Sri Krishnan 5-6, Padmavati Colony, Mansarovar Metro Station, Kings Road, Nirman Nagar, Jaipur (Rajasthan) – 302006 Ph.: (O) 0141-2812418, Fax.: 0141-2812519 e-mail: rcjaipur@nios.ac.in	Rajasthan
16. JAMMU	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre, 105, Karan Nagar, Opposite Trikuta Yatri Niwas, Ved Mandir Road, Ambphala, Jammu-180005 rcjammu@nios.ac.in	Jammu and Kashmir
17. KOCHI	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre 6th Floor, Kerala State Housing Board Building, Panampilly Nagar, Kochi-682036 Ph.: 0484-2310032, 4035540 (T/F) 0484-2310033 e-mail: rckochi@nios.ac.in	Kerala
18. KOLKATA	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre CL-18A, Sector-2, Salt Lake City, (Near C.K. Market, Tank No. 9 and Karunamoyee Bus Stand) Kolkata-700 091 (W.B.) Ph.: (O) 033-24797714, Fax : 033-24797707 e-mail: rckolkata@nios.ac.in	West Bengal (Excluding Silliguri and Darjling) and Andaman and Nicobar Island
19. PATNA	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre Lalit Bhawan, Ground Floor, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, Bailey Road, Patna - 800001 (Bihar) Ph.: (O) 0612-2545051, 0612-2545470 e-mail: rcpatna@nios.ac.in	Bihar
20. PUNE	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre C/o Indian Institute of Education Campus, 128/2 JP Naik Road, Sriniketan Society, (Near Solaris Club) Kothrud, Pune-411029 (Maharashtra) Ph. (O) 020-25444667, 25439763 (Fax) 020-25456496 e-mail: rcpune@nios.ac.in	Maharashtra, Goa and Daman & Diu

Name of the Region	Address of the Regional Centre	Jurisdiction
21. RAIPUR	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre B.T.I Ground, DIET Campus, Shankar Nagar Ph: (O) 0771-2442147, 2442167 Raipur-492001, Chhatisgarh e-mail: chhatisgarh@nios.ac.in	Chhatisgarh
22. RANCHI	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre Schooling, Hostel Premises, Amar Shahid Thakur Vishavanath Shahdev Zila School, Zilla School Parishad, Ranchi Phone No.: 0651-2217030; Fax: 0651-2217060 e-mail: rcranchi@nios.ac.in	Jharkhand
23. VISAKAPATNAM	**National Institute of Open Schooling** Regional Centre 5th Floor, B Block, VUDA Complex, Siripuram, Visakapatanam, Andhra Pradesh Ph.: 0891-2564584, E-mail : srcvisakhapatnam@nios.ac.in	Andhra Pradesh
	SUB REGIONAL CENTRE	
24. KOTA	**National Institute of Open Schooling** **Sub Regional Centre Kota** 2nd Floor, 2-PA-1, Vigyan Nagar Main Road, Kota-324005 E-mail : srckota@nios.ac.in Ph. No. 0744-2428555	
25. DARBHANGA	**National Institute of Open Schooling** **Sub Regional Centre Darbhanga** Mohalla Kadirabad, Near Bus Stand (West of Pashu Palan Vibhag) Beside Churi Market Distt. Darbhanga-846004	
	NIOS CELL	
26. SHILLONG	**NIOS Cell Shillong** Directorate of Educational Research & Training Campus (DERT), Laithumkhram Shillong, Meghalaya-793011	Meghalaya
27. PORT BLAIR	**NIOS Cell Port Blair** Adult Education in the Directorate A&N Administration Shiksha Sadan A&N Island, Port Blair	Port Blair

Nomenclature of Common Service Centres (CSCs) in Different States

S. No.	State	CSC Name
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Rajiv Citizen Service Centre
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	eDweep
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Common Services Centres (CSCs)
4.	Assam	Arunodoy Kendra
5.	Bihar	Vasudha
6.	Chandigarh	Gram Sampark Centres
7.	Chhattisgarh	Grameen Choice Centres
8.	Delhi	Jeevan Centres
9.	Goa	Lok Seva Kendras
10.	Gujarat	e-Gram
11.	Haryana	e-Disha
12.	Himachal Pradesh	Lok Mitra Kendra
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	Khidmat Centre
14.	Jharkhand	Pragya Kendra
15.	Karnataka	Nemmadi Kendra
16.	Kerala	Akshaya Centres
17.	Lakshadweep	Aashraya
18.	Madhya Pradesh	Nagrik Suvidha Kendra
19.	Maharashtra	Maha e Seva Kendra
20.	Manipur	Common Service Centres
21.	Meghalaya	Rainbow Centres
22.	Mizoram	Mizoram Online Centres (MOC)
23.	Nagaland	Nagaland One, Common Service Centre
24.	Odisha	Common Services Centre
25.	Puducherry	Common Services Centre
26.	Punjab	Gram Suvidha
27.	Rajasthan	e-Mitra
28.	Sikkim	Common Services Centre
29.	Tamil Nadu	People's Computer Centre
30.	Tripura	e-Pariseva Kendra
31.	Uttar Pradesh	Jan Seva Kendra
32.	Uttarakhand	e-Uttara
33.	West Bengal	Tathya Mitra Kendra

No. F 3-11/2002-EGS-I
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Elementary Education & Literacy

New Delhi-110001
11th December 2002

To
Education Secretaries,
All States/UTs

Subject: According recognition to the Examinations at Primary and Middle level Courses conducted by National Institute of Open Schooling (formerly National Open School (NOS).

Sir,

The National Institute of Open Schooling (N.I.O.S.) (formerly National Open School (NOS) is an autonomous organization set up the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, in 1989 as per the Resolution issued vide No. F 6-2/89-Sch. III dated 21.11. 1989 to provide education upto pre-degree level to those who for one or the other reason could not make use of the formal education system. N.I.O.S. has also been vested with the authority to conduct and certify examinations for Secondary and Senior Secondary levels by the Government of India as per the resolution issued vide No. F 5-24/90-Sch. III dated 14.9.1990 (copy enclosed).

The Association of Indian Universities (AIU) has also intimated the Registrars of all Indian Universities vide their Notification No. EV /11 (354)91/ dated 25.7.1991 (copy enclosed) of its decision to grant equivalence to N.I.O.S. courses with those of other examinations of recognized Boards for purposes of admission to higher courses of study at Indian Universities.

As you would be aware, the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) also runs Open Basic Education Programmes through Distance Education Mode (Open Learning System) at the Elementary stage and awards Joint Certificate with the partnering NGOs at three levels- A level (equivalent to' class III or class II of the Southern States where elementary stage is only till class VII), B level (equivalent to class V /IV) and C level (equivalent to class VIII/VII). This is applicable to their programme of equivalency under distance education programme where similar certificates are provided at the same level of competency and equivalency.

You may like to issue necessary instructions to all concerned to consider certificates issued by N.I.O.S. jointly with partnering NGOs for the above levels as equivalent to concerned stage of education in matters of admissions and employment etc. Formal communication/Notificatian regarding grant of recognition to the examination conducted by National Institute of Open Schooling may issue and the same widely circulated to all concerned.

For further details / clarifications in the matter, the Chairman, National Institute of Open Schooling may be contacted at N.I.O.S., B-31 B, Kailash Colony, New Delhi-110048 or visit their Website at **http: //www.nios.ac.in.**

ours faithfully.

Sd/-
(Amit Kaushik)
Director
Tel No. 23382604

Copy for forwarded for information to :-
1. All the Ministries/Departments of the Govt. of India.
2. All the Officers / Sections in the Deptt. of Elementary Education and Literacy and Department of Secondary and Higher Education.
3. Chairman, National Institute of Open Schooling, B-31 B, Kailash Colony, New Delhi-l10048 with reference to his letter No. NIOS/CMOI1-l/02/2607 dated the 10th October 2002

Sd/-
(Amit Kaushik)
Director