

**GUIDELINES FOR ENABLING MULTIPLE ENTRY – MULTIPLE EXIT IN  
STATE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS OF JHARKHAND**

**(Draft Document for Citizen Feedback)**

As per Provisions of NEP-2020  
implemented from the Academic Year 2022-23 onwards

**DRAFT**

For the State Universities of Jharkhand

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## 1. PREAMBLE

Flexible learning is important to choose one's academic pathway leading to the award of certificate, diploma, and degree. There are occasions when learners have to give up their education mid-way for various reasons. The records of the clearance of credits for such incomplete academic programmes remain unaccounted. It will reduce the drop-out rate, thus improving Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER), which is one of the major objectives of the National Education Policy, (NEP), 2020. Flexible learning also facilitates lifelong learning. These objectives can be achieved on the principle of a multiple entry and exit system along with the opportunity of learning from anywhere, anytime.

To enable multiple entry and exit of students in academic programs of State Higher Education Institutions of Jharkhand, the "GUIDELINES FOR ENABLING MULTIPLE ENTRY – MULTIPLE EXIT IN STATE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS OF JHARKHAND" is being incorporated by the State Universities of Jharkhand with modifications, considerations of the need and resources of the state.

## 2. ACADEMIC LEVELS

The NHEQF levels represent a series of sequential stages expressed in terms of a range of learning outcomes against which typical qualifications are positioned/located. NHEQF level 4.5 represents learning outcomes appropriate to the first year (first two semesters) of the undergraduate programme of study, while Level 8 represents learning outcomes appropriate to the doctoral-level programme of study (Table: 1). Learning outcomes descriptors for qualifications at level 4.5 to 8 is described in the National Higher Education Qualifications Framework (NHEQF) issued by the University Grants Commission on May, 2023.

Level	Stage	Duration	Grades
Level 4.5	Undergraduate (1 year)	1 yr (Sem 1 & 2)	UG Certificate
Level 5	Undergraduate (2 years)	1 yr (Sem 3 & 4)	UG Diploma
Level 5.5	Undergraduate (3 years)	1 yr (Sem 5 & 6)	UG Bachelor
Level 6	Undergraduate (4 years)/ Undergraduate (4 years)	1 yr (Sem 7 & 8) 1 yr (Sem 7 & 8)	UG Honours/ UG Hons with Research
Level 6	Post graduate Diploma	1 yr	PG Diploma
Level 6.5	Postgraduate	1 yr*/ 2 yrs**	Master's Degree
Level 7	Postgraduate (M.E., M.Tech. etc.)	2 yrs	Master's Degree
Level 8	Doctoral, Postdoctoral & Higher	3-6 yrs for Ph.D.	Ph.D. & others

\*- Applicable for students of UG Honours/ UG Honours with Research

\*\* - Applicable for students of UG Bachelor

**Table 1:** Levels of Education & Training in NHEQF India.

### 3. MULTIPLE ENTRY AND EXIT POINTS

**Level 4.5: Undergraduate Certificate:** Entry will be based on the Certificate obtained after successful completion of Grade 12 or equivalent stage of education and the marks/grade imposed by the institution. The Undergraduate Certificate will be awarded to the student seeking exit after the successful completion of two-semesters with courses of 40 credits and one vocational course/ internship/ project of 4 credits during the summer vacation.

**Level 5: Undergraduate Diploma:** Continuation of study or lateral entry in the second year of the undergraduate programme will be possible for those who have met the entrance requirements, including attainment of prescribed levels as specified in the programme. The continuation of the study will be based on the evaluation of documentary evidences (including the academic record) of the applicant's ability to pursue an undergraduate programme of study. The Undergraduate Diploma will be awarded to the student seeking exit after the successful completion of four-semesters with courses of 80 credits and one vocational course/ internship/ project of 4 credits during the summer vacation.

**Level 5.5: Bachelor's Degree:** Continuation of study or lateral entry in the third year (fifth semester) of the undergraduate programme will be possible for those who have met the entrance requirements, including attainment of prescribed levels as specified in the programme. The continuation of the study will be based on the evaluation of documentary evidences (including the academic record) of the applicant's ability to pursue an undergraduate programme of study. The Bachelor's Degree will be awarded to the student seeking exit after the successful completion of Six-semesters with courses of 120 credits.

**Level 6: Bachelor's Degree with Hons. / Research:** An individual seeking admission/ continuation to the Bachelor's Degree with Honours/ Research in a specified field of learning, should have completed all requirements of the relevant 3-year Bachelor's degree with a **minimum CGPA of 7.5**, will be allowed to take the Research courses in fourth year of the undergraduate programme. Preference shall be provided to the students securing higher marks/ grade in major paper in case of equal CGPA. In lieu of Research courses (for students securing less than 7.5 CGPA and qualified otherwise) three Advanced Major (disciplinary/ interdisciplinary/ multidisciplinary) courses will be offered leading to Hons. Degree.

In case of non-availability of CGPA, students who secure aggregate **75% marks and above in the first six semesters** and wish to undertake research at the undergraduate level can choose a research stream in the fourth year. They should do a research project or dissertation under the guidance of a faculty member of the University/College. The research project/dissertation will be in the major discipline. The students who secure 160 credits, including 12 credits from a research project/dissertation, will be awarded UG Degree (Honours with Research).

**Infrastructure Requirement:** The Departments offering a 4-year UG Degree (Honours with Research) must have the required infrastructure such as the library, access to journals, computer lab and software, laboratory facilities to carry out experimental research work, and at least two permanent faculty members who are recognized as Ph.D. supervisors. A maximum of 10 percent of total seats allotted in respective subjects in any HEI may be allocated for Hons. with Research, subject to meeting the above criteria.

**Level 6: Post-Graduate Diploma:** For those who take exit after successful completion of the first year or two semesters of the 2-year master's programme, PG-Diploma can be offered.

**Inter-University Migration:** Inter-University Migration may be allowed only up to Semester V of the Four Year Undergraduate Program (FYUGP).

#### 4. LATERAL ENTRY

- a. There will be a lateral entry of the students only in semesters III, V & VII.
- b. The student must have cleared the specified credits of all the courses of previous semesters.
- c. The master content of the syllabus studied previously must be equivalent and there should not be variation in the syllabus more than 30%.
- d. Depending upon the academic and physical facilities available, the HEIs may earmark seats for lateral entrants to the second year/third year/fourth year of a first-degree programme, if the student has either
  - i. successfully completed the first year/second year/third year of the same programme in any institution, or
  - ii. already successfully completed a first degree programme and is desirous of and academically capable of pursuing another FYUGP in an allied subject.

#### 5. RE-ENTRY AFTER EXIT

- a. Re-Entry in any programme is allowed only within a period of three years after exit opted by the student subject to the validity of his/her credit as available in the Academic Bank of Credit.
- b. Students who opt to exit either after completion of the first/ second/ third year and have secured 40/ 80/ 120 credits respectively are allowed to re-enter the degree programme within three years and complete the degree programme within the stipulated maximum period of seven years.
- c. Re-Entry may be allowed only if disciplinary/ interdisciplinary/ multidisciplinary Major & Minor courses taken by the student in previous semesters from the same institution or other institution is available in the institution where the student wishes to continue and complete the first degree programme.

- d. Re-Entry is an option not a compulsion for the student and institution both and may be allowed in circumstances of availability of seats and fulfilment of other criteria of the institution.
- e. Minor courses from vocational stream may not be the criteria for re-entry at any stage for the FYUGP.
- f. Two months' summer internship completed in first academic year leading to Undergraduate Certificate from any institution will be considered during entry/exit point of Undergraduate Diploma.

## **6. ENTRY/ RE-ENTRY IN RESEARCH COURSES**

- a. The Departments/ Higher Educational Institution offering a 4-year UG Degree (Honours with Research) must have the required infrastructure along with other criterions mentioned above in infrastructure requirement of Level 6 in Section 3 of these guidelines.
- b. Eligibility to take Research courses in Semester VII is to secure a minimum of 7.5 CGPA or aggregate 75% marks and above up to semester VI along with other criteria of the Institution.
- c. Students to be provided with opportunities for research internships with under the guidance of a faculty member of the University/College or researchers at their own or other HEIs/research institutions, so that students may actively engage with the practical side of their learning and, as a by-product, further improve their employability.
- d. Final year Research project/ Dissertation etc., may be of 12 credits distributed among a course of Research Methodology (4 credits) and Research Thesis/ Dissertation of 12 credits.
- e. The research outcomes of their research project work may be published in peer-reviewed journals or may be presented in conferences/ seminars or may be patented.
- f. After completion of a rigorous research project in their major area(s) of study in the 4<sup>th</sup> year of a bachelor's degree (honours with research), the student shall be required to produce a dissertation/thesis.
- g. Before submitting the final dissertation/thesis, the student shall make a presentation before the Research Advisory Committee of the Institution concerned, which shall also be open to all faculty members and other research scholars/students of the institute.
- h. The Higher Educational Institution concerned shall have a mechanism using well-developed software applications to detect Plagiarism in research work and the research integrity shall be an integral part of all the research activities leading to the award of Honours with Research.
- i. Student shall submit the thesis for evaluation, along with (i) an undertaking from that there is no plagiarism and (ii) a certificate from the Research Supervisor attesting to the originality of the thesis and that the thesis has not been submitted for the award of any other degree/diploma to any other Higher Educational Institution.

- j. The thesis submitted by a student shall be evaluated by his/her Research Supervisor and at least one external examiner who is expert in the field. The examiner should be academics with a good record of scholarly publications in the field. The viva-voce board shall consist of the Research Supervisor and the external examiner. The viva-voce shall be open to the members of the Research Advisory Committee/ faculty members/ research scholars and students of the institute. Higher Educational Institutions may formulate appropriate rules/ordinances to effect these provisions.
- k. The viva-voce of the student to defend the thesis shall be conducted if both the external examiners recommend acceptance of the thesis after incorporating any corrections suggested by them. If the external examiner recommends rejection, the Higher Educational Institution concerned shall send the thesis to an alternate external examiner from the approved panel of examiners, and the viva-voce examination shall be held only if the alternate examiner recommends acceptance of the thesis. If the alternate examiner does not recommend acceptance of the thesis, the thesis shall be rejected, and the student shall be declared ineligible for the award of degree.
- l. In case of rejection of the thesis, the student has to clear Advance Major courses of 12 credits offered in the eighth semester to obtain the minimum credit requirement of the FYUGP.
- m. The Higher Educational Institution concerned shall complete the entire process of evaluating the thesis, including the declaration of the viva-voce result, within the stipulated semester time.
- n. The Higher Educational Institution concerned may identify potential/competent students and allow to carry the research work under the guidance of one of the faculty members even before enrolment in Semester VII. However, the minimum overall 75% marks (7.5 CGPA) up to Semester VI is a mandate to continue the Research in FYUGP.

## **7. ABC GUIDELINES**

The Academic Bank of Credits (ABC), a national-level facility will promote the flexibility of the curriculum framework and interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary academic mobility of students across the HEIs in the country with appropriate “credit transfer” mechanism. It shall be a mechanism to facilitate the students to choose their own learning path to attain a Degree/ Diploma/Certificate, working on the principle of multiple entry and exit as well as anytime, anywhere, and any level of learning. ABC shall enable the integration of multiple disciplines of higher learning leading to the desired learning outcomes including increased creativity, innovation, higher order thinking skills and critical analysis. ABC shall provide significant autonomy to the students by providing an extensive choice of courses for a programme of study, flexibility in curriculum, novel, and engaging course options across a number of higher education disciplines/ institutions. The multiple entry and exit options for students is facilitated at the undergraduate and master’s levels. It would



facilitate credit accumulation through the facility created by the ABC scheme in the “Academic Bank Account” opened for students across the country to transfer and consolidate the credits earned by them by undergoing courses in any of the eligible HEIs. The ABC allows for credit redemption through the process of commuting the accrued credits in the Academic Bank Account maintained in the ABC for the purpose of fulfilling the credits requirements for the award of certificate/diploma/degree by the authorized HEIs. Upon collecting a certificate, diploma or degree, all the credits earned till then, in respect of that certificate, diploma or degree, shall stand debited and deleted from the account concerned. HEIs offering programmes with the multiple entry and exit system need to register in the ABC to enable acceptance of multidisciplinary courses, credit transfer, and credit acceptance.

#### **8. Massive Online Open Courses (MOOC's)**

Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM: [www.swayam.gov.in](http://www.swayam.gov.in)) is India's national Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) platform, designed to achieve the three cardinal principles of India's Education Policy: access, equity, and quality. The University Grants Commission (Credit Framework for Online Learning Courses through Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds) Regulations, 2021 have been notified in the Gazette of India, which now facilitates an institution to allow up to 40 per cent of the total courses being offered in a particular programme in a semester through the online learning courses offered through the SWAYAM platform. Universities with approval of the competent authority (Board of Courses and Studies (BOCS), Academic Council (AC), Syndicate) may adopt SWAYAM Courses for the benefit of the students. A student will have the option to earn credit by completing quality-assured MOOC programmes offered on the SWAYAM portal or any other online educational platform approved by the UGC/regulatory body from time to time.

#### **9. Online Verification of Certificates at the Time of Admission**

- a. All Higher Educational Institutions are to accept the digital copy of Degrees, Mark-Sheets and other educational documents generated from Digi Locker / National Academic Depository (NAD) account of the student as valid documents. Students may not be asked to submit printed copy of educational certificates.
- b. Any document other than marksheet if required by the HEI and not available with the student on his/her ABC-NAD account as may be submitted in original hard copy within a maximum period of 6 months from the date of admission in the Higher Education Institution. The HEI may issue respective penal provisions, in case of non-compliance by the student.
- c. All HEI's shall mandatorily display their standard operating procedures for admission of students at least 21 days prior to the beginning of admissions for the course.

- d. The Academic Council of all HEI's shall prepare a clear roadmap for granting of certificate/degree/diploma.
- e. All the HEIs are to take appropriate steps for joining ABC platform at the earliest.
- f. All HEIs are to make the students of their institution aware about ABC facility and encourage them for opening Academic Bank Account. "Academic Bank Account" means an individual account with the Academic Bank of Credits opened and operated by a student.
- g. All HEI's shall display detailed information about the University Nodal Officer and Co-Nodal Officers (if available), and all information like User Manual for Student Registration and Credit Transfer issued by Ministry of Education, GoI.
- h. All HEIs must register with Academic Bank of Credits and encourage all their students to register on the Academic Bank Credits as well.

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