



Government of Odisha
Department of Higher Education

HE-SCH-POLICY-0002-2025 28336

/HE., Bhubaneswar, Dated 02/06/2025

From

Smt. Mousumi Nayak, OAS (S)
Joint Secretary to Government

To

The Secretary(I/c),
State Selection Board
Ashok Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751009

Sub: Conduct of Pre-Qualifying Entrance Examination for selection of 500 Civil aspirants for Free UPSC Civil Service Non-residential and Residential Coaching programme for the session 2025-26.

Ref – This Department letter No.26855 dated 27/05/2025

Sir,

I am directed to invite a reference to the subject cited above and to say that, the Government in Higher Education Department have revised the timeline for conducting the Pre-Qualifying Entrance Examination for the selection of 500 aspirants to be provided free residential/non-residential coaching for the Civil Services (UPSC) Examination under the Odisha Government-sponsored scheme and aims to prepare them for the 2025-26 batch through a hybrid model (residential and non-residential) of UPSC coaching.

Accordingly, the revised schedule for the Pre-Qualifying Entrance Examination for the selection of candidates is as follows:

S.N.	Description	Timeline
1	Availability of Common Application Form (CAF) & Advertisement in the SAMS website	03.06.2025 (11.00 A.M.)
2	Last date & Time of applying online (in CAF)	12.06.2025 (11.45 P.M.)
3	Submission of applicant's data to SSB by OCAC to conduct Entrance Examination	15.06.2025
4	Availability of Admit card in SAMS & SSB websites	01.07.2025 onwards
5	Date of Examination	06.07.2025
6	Publication of Selection list	Date will be notified by Higher Education Department later
7	Last date of Admission of Selected Applicants	
8	Commencement of Coaching Classes	

A copy of the Scheme Guideline for "Free Civil Services (UPSC) residential/non-residential coaching to the candidates who are domiciles of Odisha: 2025-26 " is attached herewith for kind information and necessary action.

It is, therefore, requested to kindly take necessary steps for conducting the Pre-qualifying Entrance Examination for selection of 500 aspirants for the UPSC Free Civil Services Coaching program:2025-26 and submit the list of qualified students as per the approved seat allotment.

Yours faithfully,


Joint Secretary to Government

Memo No-28337 /HE/date. 02/06/2025

Copy forwarded to P.S. to the Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Higher Education Department for kind information of the Commissioner-cum-Secretary.


Joint Secretary to Government

Memo No-28338 /HE/date. 02/06/2025

Copy along with copy of the Scheme Guideline forwarded to the General Manager, OCAC, Acharya Vihar, Bhubaneswar/ the Programme Manager, CSM Technology, Acharya Vihar, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action.


Joint Secretary to Government

Memo No-28339 /HE/date. 02/06/2025

Copy along with copy of the Scheme Guideline forwarded to the IT Section of this Department for kind information and necessary action. They are requested to upload the Scheme Guidelines in the Department website for information of all concerned.


Joint Secretary to Government

SCHEME FOR FREE CIVIL SERVICES (UPSC) COACHING (RESIDENTIAL & NON-RESIDENTIAL) TO THE CANDIDATES WHO ARE DOMICILES OF ODISHA: 2025-26

A. Eligibility Criteria:

1. Domicile

To appear in the entrance examination, a candidate must be a permanent domicile of Odisha.

2. Age Limit

i) The candidate must have attained the age of 21 years and must not have attained the age of 30 years on the **1st day of February, 2025** i.e., the candidate must have been born not earlier than **2nd February, 1995** and not later than **1st February, 2004**.

ii) The upper age-limit prescribed above will be relaxable:

(a) up to a maximum of **five years** if a candidate belongs to **Scheduled Caste** or **Scheduled Tribe**.

(b) up to a maximum of **three years** in the case of candidates belonging to **Other Backward Classes/ Socially and Economically Backward Classes**.

(c) up to a maximum of **10 years** in the case of candidates belonging to **Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD)** not below **40%** as defined under **RPwD Act, 2016** (blindness and low vision, hard of hearing, locomotor disability including cerebral palsy, leprosy cured, dwarfism, acid attack victim and muscular dystrophy, autism, intellectual disability, specific learning disability and mental illness)

3. Minimum Educational Qualification

A. candidate must have attained the minimum educational qualification, i.e., graduation or any equivalent qualification as on the **1st day of February, 2025**.

B. Selection of candidates:

A total of 500 aspirants will be selected through the Pre-Qualifying Entrance Examination conducted by the State Selection Board, Higher Education Department, to avail coaching opportunities. Of these, 200 aspirants will be chosen for residential mode, and 300 aspirants will be selected for non-residential mode (both are in physical mode).

Coaching is only offered in person; online sessions are not available

33% of seats in each category shall be earmarked for women candidates.

NB: The Candidates who have already applied for the Government of Odisha Sponsored UPSC Civil Services Residential Coaching Scheme (Session 2025-26), as per the advertisement dated 14.04.2025, may now choose their preferred mode of coaching - either residential or non-residential. They are not required to submit fresh application.



C. Seat Allotment

RESIDENTIAL										
Total Number of Candidates	General category		SC Category		ST Category		SEBC/OBC Category			
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female		
200	67	33	21	11	28	17	15		8	
	100		32		45		23			
NB: Reservation for Persons with Disabilities (PwD) in the residential coaching programme is strictly not followed due to the absence of adequate infrastructure and support facilities required to meet their specific needs.										
NON-RESIDENTIAL										
Total Number of Candidates	General category		SC Category		ST Category		SEBC/OBC Category		PwD category	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
300	97	47	31	16	44	21	21	11	08	04
	144		47		65		32		12	
Non-residential coaching: 4% of the sanctioned seats shall be reserved for PWD students with extent of disability not below 40% as defined under RPwD Act, 2016 (blindness and low vision, hard of hearing, locomotor disability including cerebral palsy, leprosy cured, dwarfism, acid attack victim and muscular dystrophy, autism, intellectual disability, specific learning disability and mental illness)										

D. Plan of Examination:

The Examination will be conducted offline. The Entrance Examination will be consisted of one paper of Objective type (multiple choice questions) and carry a maximum of 200 marks. There will be two sections, Section-A (General studies based), Section-B (Aptitude Test based). The duration of the examination will be 2 (two) hours.

(ii) The Section-B of the Entrance Examination will be a qualifying paper with minimum qualifying marks fixed at 33%.

Note 1: It is mandatory for the candidates to appear in both the Papers of Entrance Examination for the purpose of evaluation. A candidate will be disqualified in case he/she does not appear in both the papers of the Entrance Examination.

NOTE 2: The Persons with Benchmark Disabilities in the category of blindness, locomotor disability (both arms affected – BA) and cerebral palsy will be allowed Compensatory Time of twenty minutes per hour of the examination. In case of other categories of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities, this facility will be provided on production of a certificate to the effect that the person concerned has physical limitation to write from the Chief Medical Officer/ Civil Surgeon/ Medical Superintendent of a Government Health Care institution.

NOTE 3: Candidates should note that there will be a penalty (negative marking) for each wrong answer (0.5 per wrong mark) marked by a candidate in the Objective Type Question Papers.

E. Syllabus for Entrance Examination: As per the UPSC Civil Services Examination.

Section- 'A'

- Current events of national and international importance.
- History of India and Indian National Movement.
- Indian and World Geography-Physical, Social, Economic Geography of India and the World.
- Indian Polity and Governance-Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights issues etc.
- Economic and Social Development-Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.
- General issues on Environmental ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change - that do not require subject specialization.
- General Science.

Section- 'B'

- Comprehension;
- Interpersonal skills including communication skills;
- Logical reasoning and analytical ability;
- Decision making and problem solving;
- General mental ability;
- Basic numeracy (numbers and their relations, orders of magnitude, etc.) (Class X level), Data
- Interpretation (charts, graphs, tables, data sufficiency etc. — Class X level)

F. Centre of Examination:

The entrance examination will be conducted in each of the 5(five) Regional Directorates of Education zones of the State, i.e., Berhampur, Bhubaneswar, Balasore, Jeypore and Sambalpur.

G. HOW TO APPLY:

Candidates are required to apply Online by using the website www.dheodisha.gov.in or <https://www.samsodisha.gov.in/>. Detailed instructions for filling up online applications are available on the above-mentioned website.



Timelines of the Scheme

S.N.	Description	Timeline
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H. Duration of coaching:

11 Calendar months (tentatively from July, 2025 to May,2026).

I. Facilities to be provided to the selected candidates during the coaching programme:

- Free coaching, boarding and accommodation in Bhubaneswar for residential coaching program.
- Free coaching in Bhubaneswar for non-residential program.

N.B.: (1) For Residential Coaching program, Day scholars are not allowed.

(2) A minimum attendance of 90% per month is mandatory for all Civil Services aspirants. Candidates failing to meet this requirement will be deemed to have discontinued the program.

(3) The aspirants who have already availed and selected for the coaching under the scheme for 2023-24 and 2024-25 shall not be eligible to apply.

(4) No facilities other than coaching will be provided under the non-residential coaching program.

J. FACILITATION COUNTER FOR GUIDANCE OF CANDIDATES:

In case of any guidance/information/clarification regarding their applications, candidature etc. candidates can contact Department Facilitation Counter over Telephone No. **0674-2954600** on working days between **10.00 hrs and 17.30 hrs.** or through email: civilservicescheme2025@gmail.com.


Joint Secretary to Government