

ODISHA STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY, SAMBALPUR

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the status of the Odisha State Open University, Sambalpur?

Odisha State Open University is established by an Act of Government of Odisha. It is a State University funded by the State Government. The University is governed by the Odisha State Open University Act 2015. Governor of Odisha is the Chancellor of the University.

2. What will be the method of teaching?

Method of teaching will be through distance education mode. Reading materials will be provided to students both in the print form and through soft copy. Counselling sessions will be held at Study Centres. Contact classes will be held on holidays. Teachers will be engaged to conduct counseling classes and for evaluation of assignments. Practical sessions will be held in institutions having facilities and infrastructures.

3. Whether the Degrees/Diplomas/Certificates recognized?

Degrees/Diplomas/Certificates issued by Odisha State Open University will be treated at par with Degrees/Diplomas/Certificates issued by other Universities.

4. How can I take admission in courses offered by the University?

Admission process will start from 10th May 2016. Online admission portal is available on the University website: www.osou.ac.in. Students are required to pay Programme fee through the online payment gateway (credit card/debit card), through PNB Bank Challan or through Demand Draft purchased in favour of OSOU and payable at Sambalpur. Admission process

will end on 15th July 2016.

5. What are the courses currently offered by the State Open University?

The Open University is currently offering eleven Diploma and three Certificate level programmes: Details are given below:

1. Diploma in Management (DIM)
2. Diploma in Computer Application (DCA)
3. Diploma in Cyber Security (DCS)
4. Diploma in Rural Development (DRD)
5. Diploma in Journalism and Mass Communication (DJMC)
6. Diploma in Entrepreneurship Development (DED)
7. Diploma in Disaster Management (DDM)
8. Diploma in Accounting (DIA)
9. Diploma in Functional Hindi & Translation (DFHT)
10. Diploma in Nursing Care (DNC)
11. Diploma in Odia Language & Communication (DOLC)
12. Certificate in Communication Skills (CCS)
13. Certificate in Translation (English-Odia) (CIT)
14. Certificate in Geriatric Care (CGC)

6. What is the last date for admission in the current session?

Last date for admission is 15th July 2016. Online admission portal will close at midnight of 15th July.

7. Can any student already enrolled in +3 or PG simultaneously join a course?

Yes. Students already enrolled in +3 or PG courses can take admission in any Certificate/Diploma Programme of the Open University as add-on programmes. CLC or Migration Certificate will not be required for admission. You are advised to earn more credits by joining add-on programmes of the Open University. This will help you for higher education in India and abroad. Further, this will open employment opportunities for you.

8. Is there any age restriction in joining courses offered by Open University?

No. There is no age restriction for admission provided the minimum qualification required for admission is fulfilled. The other name of distance education is life-long learning. So, there is no age bar or age restriction for admission. There are instances where learners across generations join Open University.

9. Is there any other fee to be paid other than the Programme Fee?

No. Programme Fee is all inclusive. Students are not required to pay any additional fee other than Programme Fee.

10. Do I have to visit Sambalpur to attend classes or to appear examination?

No. There is no need to visit the University campus at Sambalpur. There are Study Centres in all parts of Odisha. Most of your grievances will be addressed at Study Centres. Online support will be provided through University website, e-mail and SMS service. Counselling classes and

examination will be arranged at Study Centres closer to your place of residence.

11. Is it compulsory to attend contact classes?

You are advised to attend counseling sessions. The learning outcome will be assessed through your regular attendance in counseling . Theory counseling is not compulsory though strongly recommended. Please note that practical sessions, hands-on training, workshops, seminars and field visits, wherever prescribed, are compulsory.

12. Is there any planning to offer B.Ed & M.Ed. through distance mode?

Odisha State Open University is planning to offer B.Ed. through distance mode very soon after obtaining NCTE approval. Eligibility criteria for admission, curriculum design and delivery will be strictly as per the NCTE Regulation 2014. Further, the New NCTE Regulation stipulates that M.Ed. programme can not be offered through distance mode.

13. What is minimum and maximum duration of a programme?

Minimum duration of a programme implies the time required to complete a programme of study. A Certificate programme is of six months duration, Diploma is one year, general undergraduate degree is three years and master's degree is two years. The period for completion of a programme can not be less than that. Since flexibility is in-built in to the system of Open and Distance Learning learners are given a maximum period to complete a programme without paying any additional fee. Following shall be the maximum duration for completion of a programme:

Level of Programme	Minimum Duration	Maximum Duration
Certificate	Six Months	Two years
Diploma	One Year	Four Years
Graduation(+3)	Three Years	Six Years

PG

Two Years

Five Years

14. What is continuous evaluation and term-end examination?

Continuous Evaluation is an essential component of Open And Distance Learning System. After each Unit self-check exercise will be provided so that you can evaluate your own understanding of the topic given in that unit. However, it will not carry any weightage to assess your overall performance in any programme. Home-Based assignments will be provided to you. After reading the course material, watching the multimedia lectures and attending counseling classes you will prepare those assignments by using your own language and analytical skills and submit it to the University for evaluation by experts in the subject. This will carry 25% weightage in measuring your overall performance in any subject.

Term-End Examination means final examination after completion of the minimum duration of the programme of study. Examination will be conducted at Study Centres closer to your residence. Term-End Examination will carry 75% weightage. If you miss any examination due to other engagements you can appear subsequent examinations conducted by the University without paying additional fee.

15. Can I pay programme fee through cash?

No. Programme fee can not be paid through cash. Payment can be made by using online payment gateway through Credit Card and Debit Card. You can also visit any branch of Punjab National Bank (PNB) and pay through Bank Challan. You can also pay through Demand Draft issued by any Scheduled bank drawn in favour of OSOU and payable at Sambalpur. In case of payment through Bank Demand Draft please write your name and programme code on the backside of the Draft for proper verification by the University staff.

16. Is there any fee concession to SC/ST/PH/OBC students?

Fee reimbursement facility will be provided to SC/ST/PH/OBC (Non-Creamy Layer) students as per Government of Odisha Rules.

17. Whether Open University will follow reservation policy?

Odisha State Open University shall follow the Reservation Policy of Government of Odisha for admission to Programmes where seats are limited in number. In all other programme any person fulfilling the minimum eligibility prescribed for admission in that programme can join.

18. Do I have to submit SLC/CLC/ Migration Certificate for admission?

School or College Leaving Certificate and Migration Certificate are not required for admission in Odisha State Open University. Only self-attested copy of the eligibility certificate is required for admission. SC/ST/PH/OBC candidates are required to submit certificate issued by appropriate authorities to claim fee reimbursement.

19. How many credits are required to get Certificate and Diploma?

For award of a Certificate you are required to clear 16 credit worth of courses within a minimum period of six months. Similarly, for award of a Diploma in any programme you have to complete 32 credits within a minimum period of one year.

20. What is going to be the medium of instruction?

Medium of instruction will be both English and Odia. Reading material will be provided in English. Counselling will be conducted in both languages. You can write your assignments and term-end examination in either Odia or English language.

21. What is going to be the mode for conduct of examination?

It will be normal pen and paper examination at allotted examination centres. In future, the University may conduct online examination.

22. Whether I can take admission in more than one programme in OSOU?

We advise you to join one programme in an academic session because date and time for theory and practical classes may clash.

23. Is there any helpline available to contact the University?

Following helpline are open during the period of admission:

1. Sibananda Panda: 9853359951 (For Technical Support)
2. J. P. Mohapatra: 9437080048 (For DJMC)
3. Dr. Dillip Kumar Nayak: 943790171(For DOLC)
4. Dr. S. K. Moharana: 943979711 (For DIM & DED)
5. Dr. J. K. Sharma: 9861168455 (For DFHT)
6. S.T. Rehman: 9853333448 (For DRD & DDM)
7. V. S. Sandilya: 9437007136 (For DCS & SCA)
8. Dr. S. Mohapatra: 9040014059 (For all other programmes)
