

Curriculum Framework

Bachelor of Education - Special Education B.Ed.Spl.Ed.

Norms, Regulations & Course Content

May, 2015

Effective from Academic Session 2015-16
Two Years Duration



भारतीय पुनर्वास परिषद

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PREFACE

Rehabilitation Council of India has been running B.Ed and M.Ed Programme in Special Education for more than a decade and half with degrees recognised by the UGC through Notification of July 5, 2014 as well as Notification of May 2009. It has always made efforts to keep parity with NCTE recommended framework so as to facilitate the role requirement of special teachers/special educators for all types of school setting in which children and young persons with disability are educated. As of today this covers inclusive schools, resource room, home- based education as well as special schools through which the educational needs of children with disabilities are being met.

NCTE vide its Notification of December 2014 increased the duration of B.Ed. and M.Ed. level courses to 2 years each beside recommending integrated programme leading to 4 years BA/B.Com/B.Sc degree as well as B.Ed. /M.Ed. (3 years Integrated programme) leading to B.Ed./M.Ed. (Integrated Degree). It also needs to be mentioned that duration of the education programme through open and distance learning system leading to B.Ed. programme remained unchanged so far by NCTE.

RCI was already in the process of revising its courses leading to diploma and degree in special education during last one year through the Core Committees constituted out of the Expert Committees as mandated by the Act. However, a policy decision was made at the level of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, MoSJ&E as well as RCI through its competent bodies that RCI will also increase the duration of B.Ed./M.Ed. Special Education to two years from the academic session 2015-16. RCI has decided through a consultative process to expand B.Ed. Spl. Ed. (ODL) to Five Semesters (Two Years and Six Months) effective from the academic session 2015-16.

For this purpose RCI has been continuously working since December 2014 to make it a reality and implement the programme w.e.f. the academic session 2015-16. This involves a continuous work of a team at RCI as well as the professionals support drawn through the Expert Committees and the Special Invitees. RCI's competent bodies like General Council (GC) and Executive Council (EC) have been duly informed and have been supportive.

As of today RCI has been able to circulate the framework for the two years B.Ed. Special Education and M.Ed Special Education Programme to all implementing agencies and has shared with larger public through its website. Meeting at RCI for the Core and Common Courses and parallel meetings at all the related National Institutes (AYJNIHH, NIVH, NIMH, NIEPMD) as well as SNTD Women's University, Juhu Campus were conducted during April 2015. Meeting of all the Universities offering these courses through Distance/ODL mode as per MoU signed with RCI has also been accomplished on 7-8 May 2015. Now we are ready to share this comprehensive document for further processing for initiating the session 2015-16 onwards by the respective RCI recognized institutions.

I record appreciation for all the members of the Expert Committees dealing with B.Ed. and M.Ed. courses as well as other Committee Members dealing with diploma level courses. Their inputs have been valuable to this exercise. Members of Expert Committee also shared their views and approval for these finalized courses through emails; RCI appreciates their valuable support and inputs. It is not possible to put all the names here but I am sure every one will appreciate the sentiments of our gratitude for the members as well as the invitees for this healthy and fruitful partnership (Please see annexure for the list of all such professional partners).

I also take this opportunity to put on record my appreciation for the team at RCI which has worked continuously to make it a reality in such a short time of less than five months to bring it up to this stage. It was a great pleasure to lead the lead the team and work with all the partners. RCI specifically acknowledge Mr. Suman Kumar, Dy. Director (Programme), Mr. Sandeep Tambe, Assistant Director (Recognition) for working out the framework and details for B.Ed. and M.Ed. Special Education through regular mode and Dr. Subodh Kumar, Dy. Director (Academics) and Mr. Sandeep Thakur, Programme Officer for B.Ed. Special Education through Distance/ODL mode; needless to say that these four persons have been working continuously as a team to take this work forward with support from RCI's Administrative staff beyond office hours and holidays.

I will also like to express my appreciation of the contribution and support of Shri D N Sreenivasappa, Member Secretary till 10.3.2015 and Shri Satish Kumar Srivastava, Member Secretary who have continuously supported this intense and intensive exercise of curriculum development at such a short notice with their administrative support and valuable suggestions from time to time.

Last but not the least I also take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the officials of Deptt. of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities specially Shri Awanish Kumar Awasthi, Joint Secretary who is also a member of RCI General Council and Executive Committee for continuously supporting RCI towards all its commitments and aspirations.

Prof. Sudesh Mukhopadhyay

Chairperson, RCI

15 May 2015


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Bachelor of Education - Special Education (B.Ed. Spl.Ed.) Programme¹

I. PREAMBLE

Both, Indian society (and hence) the Indian school system are full of strengths and challenges the essence of which is diversity. Coming together with diverse background is part of our growing up and functioning in the society as adults. But how are the classrooms which are known to be miniature societies and future societies handling this coming together currently? This is one of the key questions waiting to be addressed at macro as well as micro level today. As we take the credit (and pride) of managing some of the obviously visible diversities quite well, it is high time that we move on to dealing with lesser visible diversities in classrooms. Various subtle diversities are waiting to be identified by classroom teachers if not by theorists and experts – dealing with these will come only after acknowledging them systematically. Diversities related to learning styles, multiple intelligences, personality profiles or study habits are a few of the factors yet to take their due places in classroom activities. Similarly diversity of abilities and hence of the related educational needs, too are waiting to be addressed properly in Indian classrooms.

With this backdrop the current B. Ed. Special Education curriculum is revisited. After a lot of brainstorming this curriculum has been developed to empower the special teachers/educators to ensure education of students with disabilities in an inclusive, right based and barrier free environment. It is in tune with the reforms in Indian education and teacher education system in general with specific reference to NCTE Notification of December 2014. It intends to place teacher education preparation in special education in the rights- perspective of the larger picture. *The prime intention is to develop a task force of the special teachers/educators who can deliver the best in all settings: inclusive, special, open or home based and in all the roles: classroom teacher, resource teacher, itinerant teacher or cross disability teacher facilitators.*

This document proposes the program structure for the duration of two years so that a wide range of knowledge and skills can be inculcated in trainee teachers during the program. Difference in philosophies and theories between special and general education need to be bridged and special educators and teachers trained to collaborate to meet diverse needs in the classroom. The program structure readies them for embarking on a fulfilling professional journey spurred by reflection and practices. Moving away from 'show and tell' to 'learning by doing', the course will be skill oriented, and offer various opportunities of interaction with self, students, schools and communities.

The curriculum attempts at striking a balance between core knowledge (theory and pedagogy) and skills; cross disability knowledge and skills, as well as disability specific knowledge and skills. The role of special educators has changed dramatically, with a shift from direct

¹ This Degree is as per UGC Notification on Specifications of Degrees March 2014 as published in the Gazette of India, July 5, 2014.

provider of instruction to facilitator and consultant. A teacher would need the first set of skills to develop a basic understanding of curriculum transaction and content pedagogical knowledge as well as change agent, collaboration, communication and time management skills. Provision of the second set would be required, since cross disability expertise is more relevant within the framework of inclusion; and a teacher would need the third set to specialise in one of the disabilities particularly for serving the needs of children with specific disability in inclusive as well as special setting.

Inclusion is at the educational centre stage today and hence the role of special and general teachers need to be operationalized systematically. To give the program more pragmatic relevance, issues related to projected needs, employability, career and higher education options and entry level eligibility are given serious consideration so the opportunities for a special educator are at par with teachers in general education. It is expected that so far separated general and special education would initiate more bilateral collaborations with each other to fulfil the global objective of EDUCATION FOR ALL.

II. OBJECTIVES

The B.Ed.Spl.Ed. programme aims to develop Special Education teachers/Educators for children with disabilities for various settings (including Inclusive, Special, Open School and Home Based Education). The B.Ed. (Special Education) programme will prepare human resources to enable them to acquire knowledge and develop competencies and skills to impart education and training effectively to children with disability as well as all other children and this being teachers for all children. After completing the B.Ed. (Special Education) programme the student-teachers will:

- a. Acquire knowledge & skills about human development, contemporary Indian education, and pedagogy of various school subjects and assessment for learning.
- b. Acquire knowledge & skills about nature and educational needs of children with disabilities as well as of few select specific disabilities.
- c. Develop conceptual understanding of education provisions and skills for working with children with various disabilities in Special and inclusive settings.
- d. Enhance knowledge and skills for professional development.

III. NOMENCLATURE

Nomenclature of B.Ed. Special Education programmes should be as per UGC Notification of 2009 and 2014 and the new nomenclature will be B.Ed.Spl.Ed. such as for Visual Impairment the nomenclature will be B.Ed.Spl.Ed.(VI).

IV. GENERAL FRAMEWORK OF THE COURSE

The programme is planned on the **Choice Based Credit System (CBCS)**. *According to UGC guidelines one credit is equivalent to one hour of teaching (lecture or tutorial) or two hours of practical work/field work per week.* RCI also recommends practical work for each theory course besides these contact hours including self study, assignments, etc. That may involve same number of hours as are the contact hours specified for each course.

The Programme structure has three sets of courses:

1. Core courses in every semester
2. **Elective** course which can be chosen from pool of papers in order to:
 - a. Support the discipline of study
 - b. Provide an expanded scope
 - c. Exposure to some other discipline/domain (*this will depend on the options available with the implementing university and institution*)
 - d. Nurturing student proficiency/skills
3. **Elective Foundation courses are value-based**

RCI will follow the 10-point grading system following letter grades recommended by the UGC² as given below:

Table 1: Grades and Grade Points

Letter Grade	Grade Point
O (Outstanding)	10
A+ (Excellent)	9
A (Very Good)	8
B+ (Good)	7
B (Above Average)	6
C (Average)	5
P (Pass)	4
F (Fail)	0
Ab (Absent)	0

- a. A student obtaining Grade F shall be considered fail and will be required to reappear in the examination.
- b. For non-credit courses 'Satisfactory' or 'Unsatisfactory' shall be indicated instead of the letter grade and this will not be counted for the computation of SGPA/CGPA.
- c. The Universities can decide on the grade or percentage of marks required to pass in a course and also the CGPA required to qualify for a degree taking into consideration the recommendations of the statutory professional councils such as AICTE, MCI, BCI, NCTE, etc.
- d. The statutory requirement for eligibility to enter as assistant professor in colleges and universities in the disciplines of arts, science, commerce, etc., is a minimum average mark of 50% and 55% in relevant postgraduate degree respectively for reserved and general category. Hence, it is recommended that the cut-off marks for grade B shall not be less than 50% and for grade B+, it should not be less than 55% under the absolute grading system. Similarly cut-

² http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/9555132_Guidelines.pdf

off marks shall be fixed for grade B and B+ based on the recommendation of the statutory bodies (AICTE, NCTE, etc.) of the relevant disciplines.

RCI as a Statutory body recommends that the cut-off marks for grade B shall not be less than 50% and for grade B+, it should not be less than 55% under the absolute grading system. Internal assessment for Theory Courses will not exceed 20% and 50% in the practicum wherever applicable.

Duration

The programme will be of two years with 2 semesters in each year. Each semester will be of 16-18 weeks; 2 weeks in summer and 2 weeks in inter semester break will also be utilized for covering the courses. In this way, the following operational weeks will be available for transacting the course:

Year 1- 16-18 weeks for two semesters + 2 weeks in summer

Year 2- 16-18 weeks for two semesters + 2 weeks in inter-semester breaks

This comes to 64-72 weeks + 6 weeks for field activities/skill development with 40 credits in each year.

V. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

STRUCTURE FOR 2 YEARS

Code	Area	Courses	Credits
A	THEORY: Core courses	5	20
B	THEORY: Cross Disability & Inclusive Education courses (including optional courses)	6	12
C	THEORY: Disability Specialisation Courses	5	18
D	THEORY: Enhancing Professional Capacities (EPC) / Professional Development Courses	3	06
E	Practical related to disability	2	12
F	Field Engagement /School Internship	3	12
Total		24	80

Each theory course (A, B, C, D) will have up to 5 units. Each practical course (E1 and E2) will have 4 units. Each field Engagement/internship (F1, F2 and F3) will have 2 units. All courses as specified in the structure include lecture, tutorials as contact hours besides assignment, field work including observation, seminar, workshop and practicum relating to the concerned course.

Specialisation offered (with specific reference to Area C)

The B. Ed. Spl. Ed. programme is offered in following specializations:

- I. *Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)*
- II. *Hearing Impairment (HI)*

- III. Learning Disability (LD)
 IV. Mental Retardation/ Intellectual Disability (MR/ID)
 V. Multiple Disabilities (MD)
 VI. Visual Impairment (VI)

AREA A: CORE COURSES

A1	Human Growth & Development
A2	Contemporary India and Education
A3	Learning, Teaching and Assessment
A4	Pedagogy of Teaching (Special Reference to Disability) Any one
	PART I : Science (Special Reference to Disability)
	PART II: Mathematics (Special Reference to Disability)
	PART III: Social Studies (Special Reference to Disability)
A5	Pedagogy of Teaching (Special Reference to Disability) Any one
	PART IV: Hindi / Regional Language (Special Reference to Disability)
	PART V: English (Special Reference to Disability)

AREA B: CROSS DISABILITY AND INCLUSION

Note:

- All student-teachers will be learning about all disabilities (theory, practical as well as field engagement) and specialization in any one disability *other than selected for Area C.*
- Institutions/organizations offering B.Ed.Spl.Ed. are expected to decide *other than specialization area* out of VI / HI / MR / LD / MR (ID) / ASD / MD.
- In case of student-teachers with disability, the choice of two optional courses from B-10 or B-11 can be on case to case basis (e.g. Student-teachers with VI and HI may opt for courses that are appropriate for them across/only from B10 & B11).*

B6	Inclusive Education
B7	Introduction to Sensory Disabilities (VI, HI, Deaf-Blind)
B8	Introduction to Neuro Developmental Disabilities (LD, MR(ID), ASD)
B9	Introduction to Locomotor & Multiple Disabilities (CP, MD)
B10	Skill Based Optional Course (Cross Disability and Inclusion)
B11	Skill Based Optional Course (Disability Specialization)

B10: Skill-based Optional Course (Cross Disability and Inclusion) ANY ONE

A	Guidance and Counselling
B	Early Childhood Care & Education
C	Applied Behavioural Analysis
D	Community Based Rehabilitation
E	Application of ICT in Classroom
F	Gender and Disability
G	Braille and Assistive Devices

B11: Skill-based Optional Course (Disability Specialization) ANY ONE

A	Orientation & Mobility
B	Communication Options: Oralism
C	Communication Options: Manual (Indian Sign Language)
D	Augmentative and Alternative Communication
E	Management of Learning Disability
F	Vocational Rehabilitation & Transition to Job Placement

AREA C: DISABILITY SPECIALIZATION COURSES

Institutions/ Organizations offering B.Ed.Spl.Ed. are expected to decide on Specific Disability Area for Specialization out of ASD / HI / LD / MR(ID) / MD / VI

C12	Assessment and Identification of Needs
C13	Curriculum Designing, Adaptation and Evaluation
C14	Intervention and Teaching Strategies
C15	Technology and Disability
C16	Psycho Social and Family Issues

AREA D: ENHANCEMENT OF PROFESSIONAL CAPACITIES (EPC)

(Wherever applicable specific reference to disability will be focused)

D17	Reading and Reflecting on Texts
D18	Drama and Art in Education
D 19	Basic Research & Basic Statistic

AREA E: PRACTICAL RELATED TO DISABILITY

E1. Cross disability and inclusion (Part of Area B)

E2. Disability specialization (Part of Area C)

AREA F: FIELD ENGAGEMENT/ SCHOOL ATTACHMENT/ INTERNSHIP

F1. Main disability special school (Related to Area C)

F2. Other disability special school (Related to Area B)

F3. Inclusive school (Related to Area B & C)


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SEMESTER-WISE STRUCTURE

SEMESTER – I

Course	Course title	Credits	Weightage / Marks
A1	Human Growth & Development	4	100
A2	Contemporary India and Education	4	100
B7	Introduction to Sensory Disabilities (VI, HI, Deaf-blind)	2	50
B8	Introduction to Neuro Developmental Disabilities (LD, ID / MR, ASD)	2	50
B9	Introduction to Locomotor & Multiple Disabilities (Deaf-Blind, CP, MD)	2	50
C12	Assessment and Identification of Needs	4	100
E1	Practical: Cross Disability and Inclusion	2	50
TOTAL		20	500

Engagement with field as part of courses indicated below:

Sl. No.	Task for the Student-teachers	Course	Place
1	Assignment / Project	A1	Institute
2	Assignment / Project	A2	Institute
3	Assessment & Identification of Needs	C12 (All disabilities)	Camp / Clinic / School, etc. for minimum of fifteen hours

Area E1: Practical- Cross Disability and Inclusion

Tasks for the Student-teachers	Disability Focus	Educational Setting	Hrs (60)	Description
Classroom observation	Major Disability	Special school	25	Minimum 30 school Periods
	Other than Major disability	Minimum 3 Special schools for other disabilities	25	Minimum 30 school Periods
	Any Disability	Inclusive Schools	10	Minimum 10 school Periods

- *Schedule for practical for E-1 shall be included in the time table (ten working days may be allocated).*
- *Observations as mentioned are essential. However, if schools for other disability are not available in the nearby area, the same may be interpreted as observation at Inclusive school/ education/services being provided in the resource room/ home based education or vice versa with other disability.*


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SEMESTER – II

Course	Course title	Credits	Weightage / Marks
A3	Learning, Teaching and Assessment	4	100
A4	Pedagogy of School Subjects (ANY ONE from Part I to Part V)	4	100
A5	Pedagogy of School Subjects (ANY ONE from Part I to Part V)	4	100
B6	Inclusive Education	2	50
C13	Curriculum Designing, Adaptation and Evaluation	4	100
E2	Practical: Disability specialization	2	50
TOTAL		20	500

Engagement with field as part of as indicated below:

S.No.	Task for the Student-teachers	Course	Place
1	Assignment / Project / Presentation	A3	Institute
2	Assignment / Project / Presentation	B6	Institute
3	Assignment / Project / Presentation	C13	Institute/ Special/ Inclusive School
4	Assignment / Project / Presentation	A4/A5	

Area E2: Practical- Disability Specialization (Area C)

Note: Schedule for practical for E-1 shall be included in the time table (minimum ten working days may be allocated). Skill for Micro teaching shall be selected with reference to Major Disability

Sl.No.	Tasks for the Student-teachers	Disability Focus	Educational Setting	Hrs (60)	Description
1.1	Classroom observation	Major Disability	Special school	30	Observation of all subjects at different level, minimum 50 school periods.
1.2	a. Lesson planning for subjects selected	Major Disability	For Special school & Inclusive Set up	10	10 lessons
	b. Lesson planning focussing on adaptation, evaluation	Major Disability	For Special school & Inclusive Set up	10	10 lessons
1.3	a. Micro teaching & simulated teaching on selected skills	General	Institute	5	10 lessons
	b. Micro teaching & simulated teaching on 5 each from lessons planned in 1.2	Major Disability	Institute	5	10 lessons

SEMESTER – III

Course	Course title	Credits	Weightage/Marks
C14	Educational Intervention and Teaching Strategies	4	100
C15	Technology and Disability	4	100
C16	Psycho Social and Family Issues	2	50
E2	Practical: Disability Specialization	4	100
F1	Main disability special school (Related to Area C)	4	100
D17	Reading and Reflecting on Texts (EPC)	2	50
D18	Drama and Art in Education (EPC)	2	50
TOTAL		22	550

Engagement with field as part of course as indicated below:

Sl. No.	Task for the Student-teachers	Course	Place
1	a. Assignment / Project / Presentation	C14	Institute
2	b. Assignment / Project / Presentation	C15	Institute
3	c. Assignment / Project / Presentation	C16	Institute
4	d. Assignment / Project / Presentation	D17	Institute/ school
5	e. Assignment / Project / Presentation	D18	Institute/ school

Area E2- Practical Disability Specialization (Part C)

Sl. No.	Tasks for the Student-teachers	Disability Focus	Educational Setting	No. of Lessons
1.1	a. Classroom observation	Major Disability	Special School	Minimum 30 school Periods
	b. Visit to other special schools	Major Disability	Special School	Minimum 2 schools
1.2	a. Lesson planning and execution on different levels for all subjects	Major Disability	Special School/ Resource Room	30 lessons
	b. Lesson planning and execution on different levels for selected subjects	Major Disability	Special School/ Resource Room	20 lessons
1.3	Individualised Teaching lessons on selected subjects	Major Disability	Special School/ Resource Room	20 IEPs
1.4	Observation of support services	Major Disability	Institute/ Clinic	Depending on the specialization

Area F1: Disability Specialisation

Sl. No.	Tasks for the Student-teachers	Disability Focus	Set up	No. of Lessons
1	Classroom Teaching	Major disability	Special schools for disability specialisation	Minimum 90 school Periods

Minimum of four weeks should be allocated for School attachment/Internship and reflected in the time table and should cover Tasks specified under E-2 and F-1 with sufficient time for teaching to acquire Pedagogical competence to deal with school subjects chosen and related activities for whole class as well as children with disabilities in different education settings. A suggestive framework is given below:

Areas	Disability Specialization (E-2 & F-1)
A-4 Pedagogy Subject 1	Semester -III (three days-15 Hrs)
A-5 Pedagogy Subject 2	Semester-III (three days-15 Hrs)
F-1 School Attachment/ Internship	Semester- III(24 days-120 Hrs)

SEMESTER – IV

Course	Course title	Credits	Weightage/Marks
B10	Skill based Optional Course (Cross disability and inclusion) ANY ONE	2	50
B11	Skill based Optional Course (specialization disability) ANY ONE	2	50
D19	Basic Research & Basic Statistic (EPC)	2	50
E1	Practical: Cross Disability and Inclusion	4	100
F2	Other disability special school	4	100
F3	Inclusive school	4	100
	TOTAL	18	450

Engagement with field as part of course as indicated below:

Sl.No.	Task for the Student-teachers	Course	Place
1	Assignment / Project / Presentation	B10	Institute
2	Assignment / Project / Presentation	B11	Institute / school
3	Assignment / Project / Presentation	D19	Institute / school