

Haryana

Executive Summary

Haryana has banned the use of words such as handicapped and differently-abled for referring to persons with disabilities. The state has not legislated any specific law for persons with disabilities but implements the provisions under the central laws, particularly the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act 1995 and the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act 1999.

The state has implemented a number of social protection schemes that deal with provision of financial support such as scholarships, pensions, allowances and travel concessions.

- Capital: Chandigarh
- Population: 25,353,081
- Population of persons with disabilities: 4,55,040¹
- Literacy: 88.64%
- HDI: 0.644 ranked 17th²

Government Department and Organisations

Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (erstwhile Department of Social Welfare)

Website: <http://socialjusticehry.nic.in/>

Legal Provisions

The state of Haryana has not enacted any specific legislations for persons with disabilities but implements the central laws: Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act 1995 (Persons with Disabilities Act 1995) and the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act 1999 (National Trust Act 1999). Through the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, Haryana has implemented a number of schemes for persons with disabilities. These are categorised as under:

Education

The government of Haryana has established the Government Institution for the Blind in Panipat.³ The institution is a residential school for visually impaired children who are above six years of age. Students are permitted to study in the school until the age of 18 years or until they complete middle level standard, whichever is earlier. Children who belong to Haryana or who are domiciled residents of Haryana and who

1. <http://socialjustice.nic.in/statewisedisabled.php>

2. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haryana>

3. No. GA.I SW. 71, Dated Chandigarh.

have resided in the state for the last six months are eligible to apply. Application forms can be obtained free of cost from the offices of the Deputy Commissioners, S.D.O.s (Civil), Tehsildars or directly from the office of the Director, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment; and have to be submitted to any of these offices. Applications should be accompanied by a medical certificate from a government doctor mentioning the visual impairment of the candidate. Visual impairment is defined in the order as:

- a. Absence of total sight.
- b. Visual acuity not exceeding 3/60 or 10/200 (Snellen) in the better eye with correcting lenses.

The medical certificate should mention the following details:

- a. Approximate date of visual impairment.
- b. Particulars of the disability and of disabilities other than visual impairment.
- c. The state of mental health of the child.

Those inmates of the institution who wish to continue their education further to middle standard in other local schools of the state will be granted a stipend to cover their educational, boarding and lodging expenses until they finish matric or higher secondary education or until the student reaches 24 years of age, whichever is earlier.

The government provides that students with disabilities till the age of 20 are eligible for scholarships for general education upto matric or higher secondary level.⁴ Students applying for these scholarships should be residents of Haryana and should fit the category of disabilities that are described as:

- Visually Impaired: total absence of sight or visual acuity not exceeding 3/60 to 10/200 (Sheller) in the better eye with correcting lenses
- Hearing Impaired: Sense of hearing is non functional for ordinary purposes in life
- Orthopedically Disabled: Those who have a difficulty or deformity that interferes with the normal functioning of the bones, muscles and / or joints.

The selected scholar should not be in receipt of assistance from another government or voluntary organisation in cash or in form of boarding and lodging etc. Exemption in fees provided by the school will not be taken into account for this. Any of the following is accepted as proof of age:

- a. Letter from the head of the educational institution last attended
- b. Letter from a gazetted officer
- c. Letter from a member of the legislature
- d. Letter from a First Calls Magistrate.

4. No. 1971 /DDSW-GA-II/71

Students whose parents / guardians monthly income does not exceed Rs. 10,000 are eligible for the scholarships. The rate of scholarships⁵ are given as under:

Sr. No.	Type of class	Rates of Scholarship for day scholars per month	Rate of scholarship for hostellers per month	Reader allowance for visually handicapped only per month.
1	Class I-IV	400/-	-	-
2	Class-V-VIII	500/-	-	-
3	Class- IX-XII	600/-	600/-	300/-
4	B.A/B.Sc/B.Com	600/-	800/-	400/-
5	B.E/B.Tech./MBBS/LLB/B.Ed and diploma in professional & engineering studies etc.	800/-	1000/-	500/-
6	MA/MSC/M.Com/LLM/M.Ed/M.Tech etc	1000/-	1000/-	500/-

Employment

The government of Haryana operates a training establishment called the 'Training Centre for the Adult Blind' at Panipat for persons with visual impairment to provide them with livelihood training. The establishment provides training in the trades of caning of chairs, weaving, candle making and music⁶ Admission to the establishment is open to the persons who belong to Haryana or have domiciled in the state and have resided in the state for the past six months. Application forms can be obtained free of cost from the offices of the Deputy Commissioners, S.D.O.s (Civil), Tehsildars or directly from the office of the Director, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment; and have to be submitted to any of these offices. Applications should be accompanied by a medical certificate from a government doctor mentioning the visual impairment of the candidate. Visual impairment in the order is defined as:

- a. Absence of total sight.
- b. Visual equity not exceeding 3/60 or 10/200 (Snellen) in the better eye with correcting lenses.

The medical certificate should mention the following details:

- a. Approximate date of visual impairment.
- b. Particulars of the disability and of disabilities other than visual impairment.
- c. The state of mental health of the applicant.

Persons granted admissions to the institute are eligible for maintenance for a period of three years from the date of admission. Persons above the age of 52 years are granted an additional stay of six months. (See note 4)

5. Memo No. 848-SW (4)-2011 Chandigarh, dated 28-11-2011.

6. <http://socialjusticehry.nic.in/Welfare.aspx>

Social Protection

All educated unemployed persons with disabilities are eligible to receive an unemployment allowance from the state of Haryana. The applicant should not be availing financial assistance under any pension, maintenance or scholarship scheme from the state or central government or any other voluntary or other organisation or agency in order to receive the allowance.

Financial assistance will be given for a period of six years from the date of registration with the employment exchange. Applications are to be submitted to the Director, SJE in the prescribed format.

Rates of unemployment allowance to persons with disabilities⁷ are:

1. Matric/ Middle Pass Diploma Holder - Rs. 200 per month
2. Graduate/ Matric Pass Diploma Holder - Rs. 250 per month
3. Post Graduate, Graduate Diploma Holder - Rs. 300 per month

Rates of unemployment allowance to persons with 100 per cent disabilities⁸ are:

1. Matric/ Middle Pass Diploma Holder - Rs. 1000 per month
2. Graduate/ Metric Pass Diploma Holder - Rs. 1500 per month
3. Post Graduate/Graduate Diploma Holder - Rs. 2000 per month

State or central government employees as well as employees of public sector undertakings, local government and quasi-government institutions who may have been dismissed from service or in receipt of pensions from these employers and persons convicted of cognisable offences involving moral turpitude are not eligible for benefits under this scheme.

The state of Haryana confers annual awards to outstanding employers and placement officers for employment of persons with disabilities, the most efficient disabled employees and the most efficient self employed persons with disabilities.⁹ Nominations for the awards are drawn from all sections including the state government, statutory bodies, public sector undertakings and the private sector which includes self employed persons with disabilities. The details of the awards are as under:

S.No	Category of prize	Nature of the prize No. of prize	Present rates and certificate	Revised rates and certificates.
1	Employee/ Self Employed	First Prize (one) Second Prize (one)	Rs.5000/- and certificate Rs. 4000/- ad certificate	Rs. 10000/- and certificates. Rs. 8000/- and certificate

7. No. 3012-SW (1)2003. Dated, 8.12.2003

8. No. 94-SW (1)2007. Dated: 24.01.2007

9. No. 1759SW(1) /2008 Chandigarh, Dated: 4.02.2008

		Third Prize (two) Fourth Prize(three)	Rs. 3000/- and certificate Rs. 2000/- and certificate	Rs. 6000/- and certificate Rs. 4000/- and certificate.
2	Employers of the Handicapped	First Prize (one) Second Prize (one)	A big shield and certificate of merit. A small shield and certificate of merit.	Rs. 5000/- and certificate of merit. Rs. 3000/- and certificate of merit.
3	Placement Officer of the Handicapped	One Prize	Rs. 4000/- and certificate of merit.	Rs. 8000/- and certificate of merit.

Haryana has been implementing the central scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchasing / Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP Scheme) from April 2005. Persons with disabilities who are Indian nationals and who have been certified as disabled by a registered medical practitioner and whose total monthly income does not exceed Rs. 10,000 are eligible to apply under this scheme. In case of dependents, the total income of parents or close family members should not be more than Rs. 10,000 per month. Applicants should not have received assistance from the government, local bodies or non government organizations during the last three years for the same purpose. In case of children below 12 years of age, this period is limited to one year.

Only those aids and appliances below Rs. 6000 are covered under this scheme. This limit is increased to Rs. 8000 for students beyond class IX and with visual / hearing and speech / mental / multiple disabilities. The ceiling will apply separately to individual aids and appliances in cases of multiple requirements.

The government of Haryana runs a scheme to provide financial assistance to non school going children with disabilities¹⁰ that is aimed at children with profound or severe disabilities.¹¹ An assistance of Rs. 300 is provided to every child including multiple children in a single family. Children in the age group of 0 to 18 years who are unable to attend school due to their disabilities are eligible for this financial assistance. Additionally, they should have domiciled in Haryana and should have resided in the state for the last six months. Children applying for financial assistance should be at least 70 per cent disabled or IQ should be less than 50 in case of children with mental retardation. Income of parents / guardians / close relatives through all known sources per year should be less than the prescribed amount in the Minimum Wages Act 2008 (Rs. 3510 per month). Children already receiving allowances such as scholarships, unemployment allowances or handicapped

10. No. 2351-SW(4)-2008 Dated: 30.01.2009

11. No. 1953-SW(4)-2009 Dated: 30.10.2009

pensions from the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment are not eligible for this financial allowance. Assistance shall be dispersed on the first of every month through the Panchayati Raj under the supervision of block development and panchayat officer or through any means as decided by the government from time to time. After attaining the age of 18 years, the beneficiary would automatically become eligible for handicapped pension.

Haryana offers a scheme to deploy caregivers to care for persons with autism, cerebral palsy, mental retardation and multiple disabilities. This scheme will be implemented in the form of a group care centre within a locality to enable the persons with disabilities to avail the services nearest to their home. The cost of training and setting up of a cell will be met by the National Trust and the financial assistance would be given to the NGO in charge of the programme. In the first phase, the scheme will be implemented in the districts of Rohtak, Sonapat, Bhiwani, Sirsa, Kaernal and Faridabad. Applicants should be domiciles of Haryana and should have resided in Haryana for the last three years at the time of application. The applicant should be below 18 years of age and should be severely disabled.

The state implements a health insurance scheme for persons with autism, cerebral palsy, mental retardation and multiple disabilities under the National Trust called Niramaya. In addition to providing health insurance at affordable costs to persons with disabilities in the above four categories, the scheme also aims to encourage the health service seeking attitude within them and improve their health condition and quality of life.

The government of Haryana provides pension to persons with disabilities. The applicants should have a minimum disability of 70 per cent or IQ should be less than 50 in case of mental retardation to avail the pension provided that their income does not exceed the income of unskilled labourers as specified by the Labour Department. Under this scheme, pension of Rs. 500 and Rs. 750 in case of profound or severe disability is provided.¹²

The government provides financial assistance to children of persons with disabilities who are less than 21 years of age and with an annual family income of parents and guardians not exceeding Rs. 30,000. Under this scheme an assistance of Rs. 500 is provided. Beneficiaries should be domiciled in Haryana and should be residing in Haryana. (See note 12)

The government provides financial assistance to dwarfs at Rs. 500 per month per beneficiary. (See note 12)

12. <http://socialjusticehry.gov.in/pension11.aspx>

Persons with visual impairment and 100 per cent orthopedic impairment are eligible for free travel on state transport buses. The rates of conveyance allowance to persons with disabilities have been increased from five per cent to 10 percent of basic pay.¹³

Employees of the government with visual impairment are given priority in allotment of government accommodation. (See note 13)

Persons with disabilities are given 10 years relaxation in the upper age limit for joining government service. Retirement age of government employees with not less than 70 per cent of disability has been enhanced from 58 years to 60 years. (See note 13)

Sr. No.	s.	Details
1	Establishment of school in Panipat for the blind	No. GA.I SW. 71, Dated Chandigarh.
2	Scholarships for students	No. 1971 /DDSW-GA-II/71
3	Enhanced rates of scholarships	Memo No. 848-SW (4)-2011 Chandigarh, dated 28-11-2011.
4	Unemployment allowance	No. 3012-SW(1)2003. Dated, 8.12.2003
5	Unemployment allowance for persons with 100 % disability	No. 94-SW (1)2007. Dated: 24.01.2007
6	State awards for employers, placement officers, employees	No. 1759SW(1) /2008 Chandigarh, Dated: 4.02.2008
7	Financial assistance to non school going children with disabilities	No. 2351-SW(4)-2008 Dated: 30.01.2009
8	Disability criteria for financial assistance to non school going children	No. 1953-SW(4)-2009 Dated: 30.10.2009

13. <http://socialjusticehry.gov.in/Handicapped.aspx>