

BIHAR STUDENT CREDIT CARD (BSCC) SCHEME

1. Preamble

The Bihar Student Credit Card (BSCC) Scheme is a flagship initiative of the Government of Bihar aimed at promoting higher education and increasing the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in the state. The scheme provides financial support in the form of education loans to students who wish to pursue eligible higher education and professional programmes, including LL.B., B.A.LL.B., B.B.A. LL.B., LL.M. (1-Year), and LL.M. (2-Year), at recognized institutions such as the School of Law, Himalaya University, Paliganj, Patna.

2. Objective

- I. To remove financial barriers for students from Bihar aspiring to pursue higher education, especially in professional streams like law.
- II. To support the state's vision of enhancing employability and educational attainment among its youth.

3. Eligibility Criteria

- I. Domicile: The applicant must be a permanent resident of Bihar.
- II. Educational Qualification:
 - i. For LL.B. (Bachelor of Laws): The applicant must have completed graduation (Bachelor's degree) from a recognized university.
 - ii. For B.A.LL.B. (5-Year Integrated Law Course): The applicant must have passed intermediate (10+2) or equivalent examination from a recognized board.
 - iii. For B.B.A. LL.B. (5-Year Integrated Law Course): The applicant must have passed intermediate (10+2) or equivalent examination from a recognized board.
 - iv. For LL.M. (1-Year): The applicant must have completed LL.B. or an equivalent recognized law degree and must fulfil the admission eligibility prescribed by the University and applicable regulatory norms.
 - v. For LL.M. (2-Year): The applicant must have completed LL.B. or an equivalent recognized law degree and must fulfil the admission eligibility prescribed by the University and applicable regulatory norms.
- III. Age Limit: The applicant's age must not exceed 25 years at the time of application.
- IV. Admission: The applicant must have secured admission in a recognized institution for an eligible course, including LL.B., B.A.LL.B., B.B.A. LL.B., LL.M. (1-Year), or LL.M. (2-Year).
- V. Second or Subsequent Year Students: Students who are already enrolled and are in the second or subsequent year of an eligible programme are also eligible to apply for the scheme, provided they have not crossed the maximum age limit and fulfil all other eligibility conditions. The loan will be sanctioned for the remaining duration of the course, subject to satisfactory academic progress and submission of required documents for each year.
- VI. No Prior Degree: The scheme is not available for students pursuing a second degree at the same level, except for technical or managerial qualifications.

4. Courses Covered

- I. LL.B. (Bachelor of Laws)
- II. B.A.LL.B. (5-Year Integrated Law Course)
- III. B.B.A. LL.B. (5-Year Integrated Law Course)
- IV. LL.M. (1-Year)

V. LL.M. (2-Year)

VI. Other professional, technical, and general degree courses as notified by the Government of Bihar.

5. Loan Features

I. Loan Amount: Up to ₹4 lakhs per student.

II. Interest Rate:

i. 1% simple interest for female, transgender, and Divyang (differently-abled) students.

ii. 4% simple interest for other students.

III. Coverage: Tuition fees, examination fees, hostel and living expenses, books, study materials, and other education-related costs.

IV. Moratorium Period: Repayment begins one year after completion of the course or six months after securing employment, whichever is earlier.

V. No Collateral: The loan is unsecured and does not require any guarantor or collateral.

6. Application Process

I. Online Registration: Apply through the official BSCC portal or mobile app, providing necessary details and verifying via OTP.

II. Form Submission: Fill out the application form and upload required documents (see below).

III. Appointment at DRCC: After online submission, schedule an appointment at the District Registration cum Counseling Center (DRCC).

IV. Document Verification: Present original documents and self-attested photocopies at the DRCC for verification.

V. Loan Approval: After verification and third-party checks, the loan is sanctioned and disbursed either to the institution or the student's account for educational expenses.

7. Required Documents

I. Aadhaar Card (student and co-applicant)

II. PAN Card (student and co-applicant)

III. 10th and 12th mark sheets and certificates

IV. Admission letter from the institution

V. Fee structure from the institution

VI. Recent passport-size photographs (student and co-applicant)

VII. Income certificate

VIII. Bank account details (passbook copy)

IX. Proof of residence

8. Additional Benefits

I. The scheme is inclusive, with special provisions for women, transgender, and differently-abled students.

II. Covers a wide range of educational expenses, including living costs for students residing outside hostels.

III. Transparent and streamlined process with grievance redressal at the district and state levels.

9. Interest Rate and Rules

I. Interest Rate Structure:

- i. Male Students: 4% simple interest per annum.
- ii. Female, Transgender, and Divyang (Disabled) Students: 1% simple interest per annum.

II. Interest Accrual: Interest is calculated on a simple interest basis and starts accruing only after the completion of the course or after the moratorium period ends.

III. Moratorium Period: No repayment (including interest) is required during the course period and for one year after course completion or five years from the date of loan disbursement, whichever is earlier.

IV. No Collateral: The loan is unsecured; no collateral or third-party guarantee is required.

10. Loan Repayment Process

I. Repayment Start: Repayment begins after the moratorium period, i.e., one year after course completion or five years from the date of loan disbursement, whichever is earlier. If a student secures employment before the end of the moratorium, repayment starts immediately.

II. Repayment Tenure:

- i. For loans up to ₹2 lakhs: Repayable in 60 monthly installments (5 years).
- ii. For loans above ₹2 lakhs: Repayable in 84 monthly installments (7 years).
- iii. Maximum repayment tenure can extend up to 15 years in special cases.

III. Repayment Methods: EMI payments can be made via cheque, demand draft, Electronic Clearing Service (ECS), National Automated Clearing House (NACH), UPI, net banking, debit card, or other approved methods.

IV. Unemployment Clause: If the student remains unemployed after the moratorium, repayment is deferred. The student must submit an affidavit of unemployment to the District Registration cum Counselling Center (DRCC) every June and December. Repayment resumes upon securing employment.

V. Prepayment: Students may repay the loan early without any prepayment penalty.

VI. Default and Recovery: Failure to repay the loan may result in recovery proceedings under the Public Demand Recovery Act or as per scheme norms.

11. How Students of School of Law, Himalaya University, Paliganj, Patna Benefit

Students of LL.B., B.A.LL.B., B.B.A. LL.B., LL.M. (1-Year), and LL.M. (2-Year) at the School of Law, Himalaya University, Paliganj, Patna can leverage the Bihar Student Credit Card (BSCC) Scheme, subject to the applicable eligibility criteria and course recognition under the Scheme, to finance eligible education-related expenses, including tuition fees, books, and living expenses, without the immediate burden of repayment. The School of Law, Himalaya University, Paliganj, Patna facilitates students at every stage of the BSCC process by providing assistance with application submission, documentation, eligibility verification, and ongoing guidance.

Summary Table: Key Features

Feature	Details
Maximum Loan Amount	₹4 lakhs
Eligible Courses	LL.B.; B.A.LL.B.; B.B.A. LL.B.; LL.M. (1-Year); LL.M. (2-Year)
Basic Entry Qualification	LL.B.: graduation; B.A.LL.B./B.B.A. LL.B.: 10+2; LL.M.: LL.B. or equivalent recognized law degree
Age Limit	Up to 25 years
Interest Rate	4% (male); 1% (female, transgender, disabled)
Moratorium Period	Course duration + 1 year, or 5 years from disbursement (whichever is earlier)
Repayment Tenure	5 years (up to ₹2 lakhs); 7 years (above ₹2 lakhs); up to 15 years in special cases
Repayment Start	After moratorium or on employment, whichever is earlier
Repayment Methods	Cheque, DD, ECS, NACH, UPI, net banking, debit card, etc.
Prepayment	Allowed without penalty
Unemployment Clause	Repayment deferred with affidavit; resumes upon employment
Eligibility for Later Years	Permitted, subject to academic progress and age limit
Institution	School of Law, Himalaya University, Paliganj, Patna