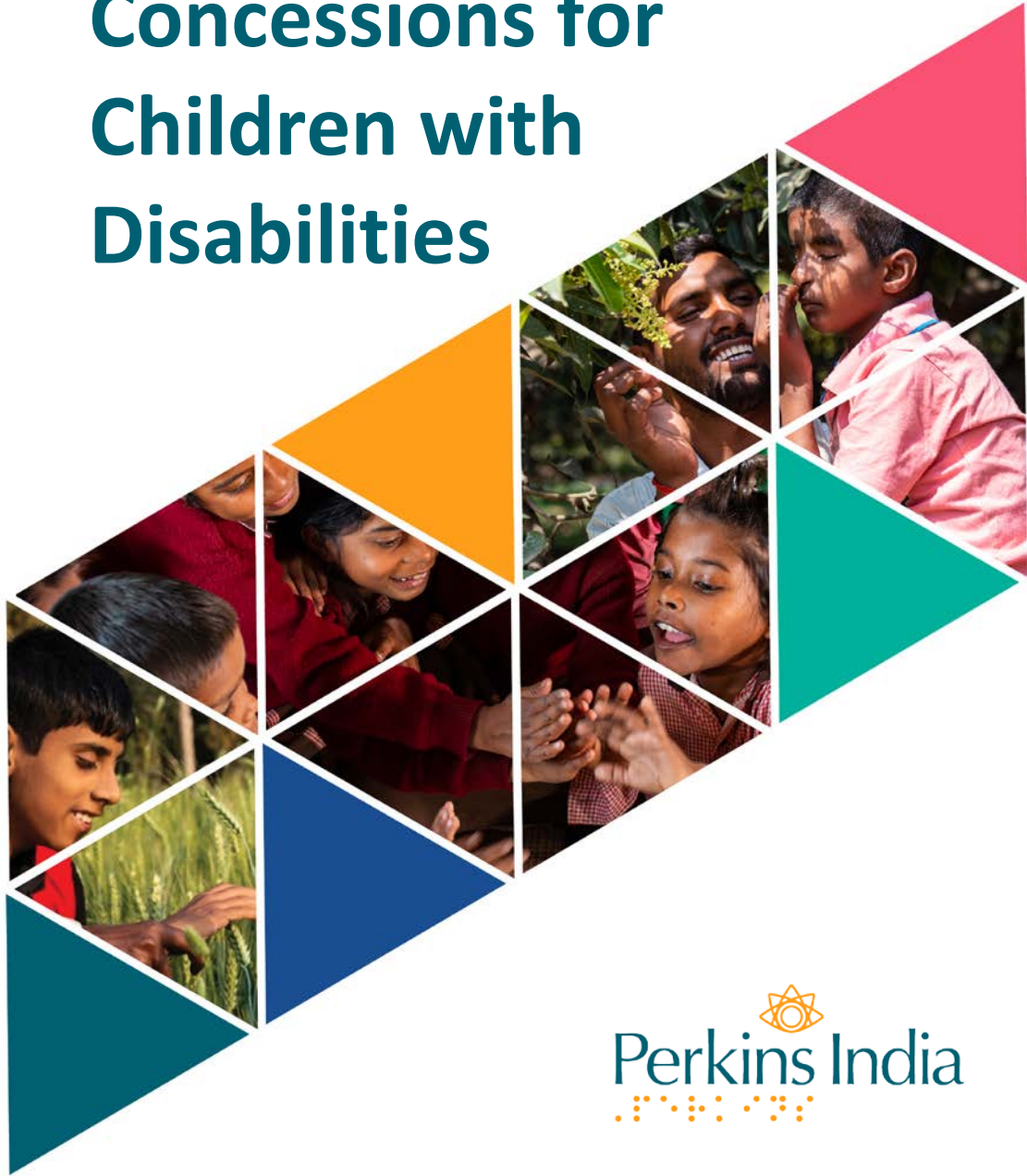


# Schemes and Concessions for Children with Disabilities



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## Rights

### 1) Does my child with disabilities have the same rights as everyone else?

**Ans:** Yes, absolutely! The constitution of India ensures equality, freedom, justice and dignity for all individuals. In recent years, there have been vast and positive changes in the perception of society towards persons with disabilities. The Government of India has enacted several legislations and has several schemes for persons with disabilities such as the following:

- **The Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2016 Act**
- **The National Trust Act, 1999**

### 2) Can my child avail schemes and concessions of the Government for Persons with disabilities?

**Ans:** Once your child gets the disability certificate, he can avail the schemes and concessions available for your child.

### 3) I have an 18 years old young girl with MDVI. Can she get any financial support from the government?

**Ans:** Yes, your daughter can get the disability pension (known as “Sustenance allowance” given to people with disability. The monthly amount of the pension is Rs 300/-. It is given to individuals with disability above 18 years of age.

## Certification

### 1) How can my child get a disability certificate?

**Ans:** As per government regulations, if your child has more than 40% disability he is eligible for disability certificate. This can be obtained by contacting the nearest Civil Hospital or Government Hospital. Since your child has multiple disabilities, in the hospital, you may be asked to visit different medical practitioners/departments, such as an Ophthalmologist, ENT (Ear, Nose & Throat) surgeon and other specialists to assess the extent of disability he/she has.

Your child will be examined and assessed for disability certification which is carried out in government hospitals on a fixed day every week.

### 2) My child has both mental retardation and cerebral palsy. Will he be issued two certificates, one for each disability?

**Ans:** Ideally your child should be given one certificate for Multiple Disabilities. However, this does not generally happen and currently, your child may be given a separate certificate for each disability.

### 3) What is a disability identity card?

**Ans:** Disability identity Card is issued to persons with disabilities to enable them to easily avail any applicable benefits/concessions/facilities provided by various ministries/departments of the Central Government. This helps PWDs avoid doing complex paperwork that

causes a lot of inconvenience and hindrances in availing various benefits.

This card is issued to all eligible persons with disability irrespective of their age. Medical certificate obtained from the authorized medical board constituted by the State Government/Defence authority, is a necessary prerequisite for obtaining the card. The minimum Percentage of disability should be:

- Intellectual impairment - 35%
- Orthopedic impairment - 40%
- Hearing Impairment - 90 db & 100 db
- Blindness - 90% or above

#### **4) What is the validity of the Disability Identity card?**

**Ans:** The card has a lifelong validity when issued to a disabled person - above the age of 18 years. For disabled children below 18 years of age, the card is required to be updated once in every five years. No fresh medical examination is necessary in the case of permanent disability.

#### **5) What are documents required for the disability certificate?**

**Ans:** Generally, hospitals ask for proof of residence of the child or person with disability and Identification papers of the parent or guardian. A ration card or voters identity card and 4 photographs are generally required. Different hospitals may have different requirements. Please call the hospital and speak with the social

worker or someone in the rehabilitation department about documents that are required.

## Transportation

### 1) If I take my child along to my relative's house by train, can my child get any concession for the train travel?

**Ans:** If you travel by train, there is a provision for 50% concession for the person with total vision loss [blindness].

For the persons with hearing impairment and persons with physical disability 50% concession is given.

For persons with Intellectual impairment, 50% concession is also given to the escort.

You can also avail concession for Air Travel. However, this concession is only if you travel by Air India. 50% concession is given on normal (full) economy class fare for persons with locomotor disability – where disability is 80% or more and for persons with total vision loss [blind]. It is valid for all domestic flights only.

### 2) I often travel with my child to the hospital and school and this costs me a lot of money. Are there any government concession schemes for travel by bus and local train?

**Ans:** Yes, there are concessions available for persons with disability in bus and local trains too.

- If you travel by train, there is a provision for 50% concession for the person with total vision loss [blindness].

For the persons with hearing impairment and persons with physical disability 50% concession is given.

For persons with Intellectual impairment, 50% concession is also given to the escort.

- Any disabled person having 40% disability with any income or of any age can travel free in the buses run by the State Transport Corporation. This free service is applicable only for traveling in ordinary buses and not applicable for air-conditioned, deluxe or video coaches. The disabled passengers will have to pay the passenger tax. Concession is also given to escort of the person with disability, if the disability percentage is 80 and above.

### ***Eligibility Criteria***

Above 40% disability

Resident of the state

### ***Procedure for application***

There is no need of obtaining bus pass. Person with disability can avail the free travelling facility on production of disability certificate issued by the Chief Medical Officer.

For availing the concessions, your child needs to have a disability certificate issued by Government hospital, which you will have to

show at the time of purchasing the ticket to avail the concessions.

## Education

### 1) I want my child with multiple disabilities to study. Are there any schools or special services for children like mine?

**Ans:** There are several types of educational services for children with multiple disabilities with vision impairment.

These include Inclusive Schooling (studying in a regular government/private school), Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR - wherein the CBR worker comes home to teach the child and uses the community resources as a part of the education for the child) and Home Based intervention (an educator coming home to teach the child) and Centre Based Services (an organization running an educational centre/special school for children with disabilities).

### 2) What kind of support can we get from Sarva Siksha Abhiyaan (SSA)?

**Ans:** Sarva Siksha Abhiyaan (SSA) provides support for education such as free textbooks, school bags, uniforms, escort allowance, need based aids and appliances (glasses, hearing aids, CP chairs) and mid-day meal.

If your child is enrolled in a government / council / state government-aided primary school or registered under the SSA database, he/she can avail all these benefits.



## Health Care

### 1) My child has Vision Impairment and Cerebral Palsy and has to undergo surgery. Is there any provision for this?

**Ans:** Niramaya is a health Insurance Scheme of National Trust (Government of India). This Scheme is to provide affordable health insurance which may help you in doing surgery of your child.

If your child's disability certificate mentions any of these disabilities – Intellectual disability, Autism, Cerebral Palsy or Multiple disabilities; you can apply for the Niramaya card.

### 2) What is Niramaya Scheme?

**Ans:** Niramaya Health Insurance Scheme is of National Trust act which is for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities. The scheme provides an insurance cover of up to Rs. 1 lakh.

### 3) How Can I register in Niramaya Scheme?

**Ans:** Fill up the Niramaya application form online and upload the scanned documents (Disability certificate (self attested) issued from the District Hospital or appropriate Government authority, BPL card and Address Proof) as required after verification of originals. Submit the duly filled in form on the National Trust portal.

If you are unable to do this online, then follow these steps:

**Step 1:** Parents/guardian of the person with disability have to visit the nearest Organization/NGO registered with National Trust, for Niramaya enrolment with the required documents.

**Step 2:** Registered Organization sends the online application form/proposal.

**Step 3:** The applicant has to fill the Niramaya application form online and upload the scanned documents as required after the verification of originals. (Registered Organization can help with this).

**Step 4:** Once entering all the required details, the applicant has to submit the duly filled form on the National Trust portal. (Registered Organization can help with this).

**Step 5:** After submitting the form, the applicant has to remit the required fee online.

**Step 6:** The National Trust receives the application form and documents and checks for completion. If there are any missing or falsely stated information, the application has to be resubmitted within 15 days.

**Step 7:** On successful enrolment and approval, Health ID no./card would be issued to the beneficiary.

**Step 8:** The Health ID card is uploaded online, and the beneficiary can download it online or get it through Registered Organization.

**4) My child requires regular physiotherapy; can I get the money for that from Niramaya?**

**Ans:** Yes, your child will be reimbursed through Niramaya for Physiotherapy. For ongoing Therapies to reduce impact of disability and disability related complications Niramaya reimburses Rs. 10,000/- per year.

**5) My child has Epilepsy and requires medicines; will Niramaya pay for my child's medicines?**

**Ans:** Yes, Niramaya will pay for your child's medicines for Epilepsy. Through Niramaya card you can be reimbursed for the money spent on epilepsy tablets for Rs. 4500/- per year.

**6) I have to spend money for travel to Physiotherapy. Will I get travel reimbursement from Niramaya?**

**Ans:** Yes, you can get travel reimbursement for regular visit to physiotherapist.

**7) My child was admitted to hospital for 1 day, Will Niramaya pay for the cost incurred on hospitalization?**

**Ans:** Yes, Niramaya will pay for the cost incurred on hospitalization.

**8) Is there a provision for the OPD charges through Niramaya?**

**Ans:** Yes, there are provisions for the OPD treatment, pathology, diagnostic tests, etc. at Rs. 8,000/-.

**9) Do I need to renew my child's Nirmaya card?**

**Ans:** Yes, every year you need to renew the Niramaya Card.

**10) What are the recent Government Schemes for getting health facilities?**

**Ans:** The Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) or National Health Protection Scheme provides a benefit cover of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year. The benefit cover will also include pre and post-hospitalisation expenses.

**11) My 2-year-old child with MDVI has cataract in both eyes for which the surgery needs to be done. Where I can get my child's surgery done?**

**Ans:** Your child's surgery could be done free of cost through RASHTRIYA BAL SWASTHYA KARYAKRAM (RBSK) scheme.

***Steps for RBSK scheme:***

- You have to visit local Primary health centre (PHC) in your area. The doctors in PHC will refer you to hospitals where through RBSK scheme the surgery could be done.
- You will need to have the Aadhar card, Reshan card.



**Perkins School for the Blind India Foundation**

**India@Perkins.org · PerkinsIndia.org**

124-127 Cotton Depot, Cotton Green, Mumbai 400033 · +91 9326452887

175 North Beacon Street · Watertown, MA 02472 · +1 617-972-7222