

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

**ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR
NOTIFICATION**

Dated Shillong, the 27th May, 2026.

No.Health.287/2025/9:- The Governor of Meghalaya is pleased to notify the Meghalaya Regulatory Framework for Private Nursing Institutions in the State of Meghalaya under the administrative control of the Directorate of Medical Education & Research, Health & Family Welfare Department.

Over the past decade, the State has witnessed a significant increase in the number of private nursing schools and colleges. While such expansion has enhanced access to nursing education, concerns have emerged regarding infrastructure adequacy, availability of qualified faculty, clinical training facilities, and transparency in admission and fee structures. Ensuring compliance with national standards prescribed by the Indian Nursing Council (INC) and the Meghalaya Nursing Council (MNC) is therefore essential to maintain the quality of nursing education and safeguard patient safety.

Accordingly, the Government hereby introduces a Unified Regulatory Framework for approval, recognition, monitoring and regulation of all private nursing institutions in Meghalaya with the following provisions:

1. Objectives

The primary objectives of introducing a unified regulatory framework are:

- i. To establish a single-window system for approval, recognition, and monitoring of all private nursing institutions in Meghalaya and shall be channelized and regularized under the Directorate of Medical Education & Research, Government of Meghalaya.
- ii. To ensure quality education through strict compliance of Indian Nursing Council (INC) and Meghalaya Nursing Council (MNC) norms, adequate infrastructure, skill-based training and clinical exposure.
- iii. To protect students from financial exploitation by regulating admission fees, maintenance fees, annual fees etc.
- iv. To guarantee that all graduates are workforce-ready, with transparent mechanisms for placements, career counselling, and linkages with healthcare employers in both public and private sectors.
- v. To promote transparency and accountability through public disclosure of approvals, inspection reports, hospital tie-ups/affiliations, and placement records.
- vi. To align nursing education in Meghalaya with national standards and the health workforce needs of the State and also to promote nursing Care-economy.
- vii. To oversee the implementation of nursing reforms developed under State Health Systems Resource Centre (SHSRC), ensuring these reforms are integrated into the broader medical education and regulation strategy.

2. Legal Framework

2.1. The framework will be regularized and channelized under the Directorate of Medical Education & Research, Health & Family Welfare Department, in coordination with:

- a. The Meghalaya Nursing Council (MNC) for inspection, recognition and examination oversight.
- b. The affiliating Universities for academic affiliation and examination oversight for graduate and post graduate courses.
- c. The Indian Nursing Council (INC) for statutory suitability inspection.

2.2. The Meghalaya Nursing Education Regulation Authority (MeNERA) shall be constituted as a statutory body vested with powers to grant approvals, conduct inspections, regulate fees structures, enforce educational standards and ensure placements.

2.3. Existing legislations, such as the Meghalaya Nursing Council Act, shall be amended for incorporation of such unified regulation in the Act.

3. Key Features of the Regulation

3.1 Approval Workflow

- i. Step 1: Essentiality Certificate/No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Department of Health & Family Welfare through the Directorate of Medical Education & Research (DME), based on need assessment. The DME shall initially conduct a formal inspection based on the inspection check list at (Annexure-I & II). The inspection report shall be forwarded to the Department of Health & Family Welfare for issuing of Essentiality Certificate/ NOC.
- ii. Step 2: Recognition by Meghalaya Nursing Council, program-wise and time-bound.
- iii. Step 3: Statutory suitability inspection by INC.
- iv. Step 4: Academic affiliation by the concerned University.
- v. Step 5: Inclusion of approved seats in the State counselling and admission matrix.

3.2 Quality Education Standards

- i. Mandatory compliance with INC norms for infrastructure, faculty-student ratios, clinical facilities, and skill laboratories.
- ii. Establishment of modern nursing skill labs, simulation centres, and e-learning facilities.
- iii. Faculty development programs and continuous training for teaching staff.
- iv. Strict monitoring of clinical exposure/practical hours for students and maintenance of Student-patient ratio.
- v. Annual publication of pass percentages, student learning outcomes, and placement records for each institution.

3.3 Placement and Employability Support

- i. Every institution must create a Placement and Career Guidance Cell with a dedicated officer.
- ii. Mandatory linkages with hospitals (government & private), NGOs, and other healthcare providers for structured placements.
- iii. Annual state-level nursing job fairs coordinated by State Government/MeNERA to connect graduates with employers.

- iv. Creation of a Graduate Tracking System to monitor employability outcomes and absorption rates.

3.4 Fee and Admission Regulation

- i. Fees to be regulated by the State Fee Fixation Committee notified by the Government of Meghalaya, Health & Family Welfare Department, with a notified annual ceiling.
- ii. Ban on capitation fees, multi-year upfront collection, and unauthorized charges.
- iii. Centralized or monitored merit-based admissions to ensure fairness and transparency.
- iv. Entrance exam based on CEE conducted by the Directorate of Medical Education & Research.

3.5 Enforcement and Accountability

- i. Inspection to be conducted periodically by the Meghalaya Nursing Council and the Affiliated University.
- ii. Public disclosure of approvals, inspection reports, fee structures, and placement data.
- iii. Penalties for non-compliance: corrective action plan, intake reduction, suspension/withdrawal of recognition.

4. Implementation

The regulatory framework shall be implemented in a phased manner with immediate enforcement of baseline standards, disclosure norms and inspection mechanisms.

Sd/-

(Sampath Kumar, IAS)

Additional Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Health & Family Welfare Department.

Annexure – I

Inspection Checklist for Private Nursing Schools and Colleges

A. Institutional Infrastructure

1. Land documents and building plan approval from competent authority.
2. Classrooms – adequate number, ventilation, lighting.
3. Laboratories – Nursing foundation lab, Community Health lab, OBG lab, Paediatric lab, Nutrition lab, Preclinical sciences (Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, etc.). Computer lab etc.
4. Skill and Simulation labs (Advanced Lab Cum Medical Surgical Lab) – equipped with mannequins, simulators, models, and e-learning tools.
5. Library – adequate number of textbooks, journals (print and e-journals), computer and internet facilities.
6. Hostel facilities – separate for male/female students with adequate space, sanitation, mess, and safety measures.

B. Faculty and Staffing

1. Faculty appointments as per INC norms – qualification, designation and maintenance of Teacher student ratio.
2. Continuous faculty development programs and records.
3. Supporting staff – librarian, Wardens, lab attendants, clerical staff/security and housekeeping staff.

C. Clinical Facilities.

1. Formal MoUs with parent/affiliated hospitals and Community health centres.
2. Bed strength requirements as per INC norms.
3. Specialty units (Medical, Surgical, OBG, Paediatrics, Psychiatry, ICU, Community Health postings).
4. Records of student clinical postings, case studies, and logbooks.

D. Academic Processes

1. Curriculum delivery plan aligned with INC/MNC and University.
2. Student attendance records (theory and clinical).
3. Internal assessment systems, examinations, and feedback mechanisms.
4. Research and extension activities for faculty and students.

E. Student Support & Welfare

1. Transparent admission procedures and fee structure.
2. Student grievance redressal system.
3. Counselling and mentorship systems.
4. Safety, anti-ragging, and harassment prevention measures.

F. Placement & Employability

1. Existence of a functional Placement and Career Guidance Cell.
2. Records of employer tie-ups and placement drives.
3. Graduate employment tracking system.
4. Annual disclosure of placement statistics.

Annexure – II

Guidelines for Establishment of Placement and Career Guidance Cell

1. Structure

- Headed by a Placement Officer (faculty nominated by the Principal).
- At least two faculty members and two student representatives.
- Administrative support staff for coordination.

2. Functions

- Maintain a database of all graduating students with academic performance and skills.
- Establish linkages with hospitals, NGOs, and healthcare institutions (state, national, and international).
- Organize placement drives/job fairs annually in collaboration with the Directorate of Medical Education.
- Provide career counselling, resume writing workshops, interview preparation, and soft skills training.
- Track alumni employment and maintain data for at least three years post-graduation.
- Submit annual placement reports to the Directorate of Medical Education and Nursing Council.

3. Mandatory Requirements

- Every institution shall have a dedicated office space for the Placement Cell.
- Placement activities to be included in annual inspections.
- Non-functional Placement Cells shall attract penalties, including reduced intake in subsequent academic years.