



BOARD OF OPEN SCHOOLING & SKILL EDUCATION



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VISION & MISSION

VISION

To contribute to the universalisation of school education, by providing inclusive flexible, quality school education for life and livelihood, imparting vocational skills along with academic education for sustainable development of nation and society.

MISSION

- To promote open schooling system at the national and international levels and achieve excellence therein, by providing inclusive, flexible, quality education for all.
- To empower the underprivileged sections of society, particularly school drop outs by providing them with a second chance to complete their education.
- Reaching the Unreached and bringing good education to their doorsteps.
- To provide Industry based learning through a wide variety of skill development programmes





SALIENT FEATURES

- **Recognised/Equivalent/Quality School Education** – BOSSE aims at providing quality school education along with skill and vocational education for strengthening the social fabric of democracy and contribute towards universalisation of school education. The Government of Sikkim has vested the Board of Open Schooling & Skill Education, Sikkim with the authority to conduct examinations as well as issue its own certificates. The certificates provided by BOSSE are equivalent to certificates that are provided by any other Board of School Education and also set pathways for further studies. Successful alumni of BOSSE can apply to any of the recognized national and international higher education institutes for further studies.
- **Inclusive Education** – Reaching the Unreached is one of the foremost features of BOSSE, which ensures inclusivity. The aim is to take education to the doorsteps of all, irrespective of socio-economic background.
- **Transfer of Credits** – The BOSSE acknowledges previous knowledge and allows transfer of credits of up to four subjects completed successfully from any of the recognized International, National, State Boards of School Education as well as open schools.
- **Freedom to Learn and Flexibility** – BOSSE works on the principle of freedom to learn and flexibility without restrictions of time, place and pace of learning, as well as choice of subjects.

FREEDOM TO LEARN WITH FLEXIBILITY

- **Admission:** Admission is open round the year for Secondary and Sr. Secondary classes, as well as for stand alone Vocational Courses. The learner's admission is valid for a period of five years.
- **Part Admission:** Under this scheme, the learner may take admission in one or more subjects but not more than four subjects. On passing, the learner will be issued only the Marksheet, and no certificate.



- **Age Limit:** There is no upper age limit for admission. However, the minimum age for enrolment is 14 years for Secondary level programmes and 16 years for Senior Secondary school programmes.
- **Complete freedom to choose subjects:** There is no restriction on choice of subjects at Secondary and Senior Secondary level, except that they are required to opt for at least one language and at least one vocational subject. However, the learner should choose his/her subjects carefully keeping in view his/her plans for higher studies and requirements of the concerned Board, College, University, etc. as well as for the requirements of future employers for specific jobs.
- **Combination of Academic and Vocational Education Courses:** In order to make the BOSSE courses more meaningful, a number of Vocational Education Courses are also offered in combination with academic subjects at the Secondary and the Senior Secondary levels. In order to make learners capable of earning their livelihood, they are required to compulsorily take one vocational subject along with academic subjects.
- **Continuous Assessment:** During the course of study, internal assessment of learners' progress is done through Assignments and Personal Contact Programmes (PCPs). The learners are required to submit the Assignments at their Study Centres to the concerned Subject Tutors, who will assess the Assignments and send the Marks to BOSSE.
- **Choice in medium of instruction:** Initially the programmes will be available in Hindi and English only. Regional languages will be added later depending on availability of students opting for a given medium.
- **Learning Support:** Learning Support is provided through quality self learning study materials in multimedia, including print. Tutorial Assistance is provided by tutors at study centres that are situated in recognized schools.
- **Flexibility in Examinations:** Examinations will be held twice a year in April-May and September-October. A learner can avail 9 chances in 5 years to pass all the subjects and qualify for the certificate. Learners have to appear for all the subjects opted for in the first chance. Thereafter, they can appear for one subject or more in subsequent chances. However, learners are advised to try and pass all the subjects at one go or avail minimum number of chances.
- **Credit Accumulation:** The learner has the option to appear in one or more subjects in an examination and earn credit/s which will be accumulated till all five subjects required for certification are successfully completed within a period of 5 years of registration.

Facility of TOC (Transfer of Credit)

Ex-Secondary/Sr. Secondary students of all recognized Boards of School Education who have passed in at least one subject, but have not completed the programme, may seek admission in the respective Course at BOSSE and avail facility of TOC.

A learner has the option to get the transfer of credit for up to a maximum of four subjects. However, in order to complete certification, a candidate has to complete 5 subjects as per the Scheme of Studies of BOSSE – he/she has to pass at least one language subject, one vocational subject and three other subjects.

For transfer of credits for subjects passed from other Boards, a learner will have to pay a sum of Rs. 1000/- per subject as credit transfer fee to BOSSE at the time of admission.

The facility of TOC will be permissible under the following conditions:

- ✓ If a learner has appeared in the Secondary/Senior Secondary examination of any recognized State/National/International Board of School Education/Open School, but has failed to qualify for the certificate, though passing in at least one subject, he/she may avail BOSSE's TOC facility for up to four subjects. In this case, the learner is required to get his/her Marks Sheet/TOC data verified from the concerned Board and submit the verified Marks Sheet/TOC data along with the Admission Application Form:
- ✓ TOC is admissible for up to 4 subjects. The remaining subject/s has/have to be chosen from among the subjects available in BOSSE Scheme of Studies and BOSSE Scheme of Examinations. However, a learner will qualify for the certificate only if he/she passes 5 subjects, including minimum one Language Subject and minimum one Vocational Subject, as per the Scheme of Studies of BOSSE:
- ✓ The learner will have to pay requisite fee for Transfer of Credit for the number of subjects in which TOC is required:
- ✓ The learner will have the option to get the credits transferred for up to a maximum of four subjects from the Parent Board, provided these subjects are passed with at least 33% marks in the last five years (i.e., passed during 2016 or later):
- ✓ While applying for Transfer of Credit (TOC), the learner is required to submit the original Fail Marks Sheet within 10 days of online admission to the BOSSE Office, along with a copy of the Acknowledgement Receipt/Copy of the Online Admission Form. In case of delay in submission i.e. submission after 10 days, a late fee of Rs. 500/- per subject of TOC will be charged.

Public Examinations

- ✓ BOSSE will conduct examinations twice a year in the months of April-May and October-November at specified Examination Centres, notified at the time of issuance of date sheet.
- ✓ The examinations will normally be held at the Accredited Institutions fixed by BOSSE.
- ✓ A candidate will get nine chances to clear the examination after taking admission and completing all academic requirements.
- ✓ Credit accumulation facility will be practiced for subjects successfully completed by the learners.
- ✓ For appearing in examinations, a candidate has to register after filling up an examination form and paying the prescribed examination fee.

Very Important: Although the question papers will be provided in only English or Hindi, language in any of scheduled language of India can be used for answering (with due prior information to BOSSE at the time of filling of examination form).

On Demand Examination

BOSSE will offer On Demand Examination facility shortly to learners at different Examination/Facilitation Centres. Under this facility, the learners can appear for the examination of any subject, as and when they are ready to take the examination. However, this facility will be available only after a candidate has appeared once in a scheduled public Examination in April-May or October-November.

Result Declaration and Award of Certificate

The result for secondary and Sr. Secondary programmes will be declared within 6 to 8 weeks of the last examination held.

All candidates taking examination will be issued a marks sheet (which will show the marks obtained in all subjects in which he/she has appeared as well as earlier achievement, if any), as well as a qualifying certificate, after he/she has passed in 5 subjects, including at least one language subject and one vocational subject.

Pass/Certification Criteria

Course	Pass Criteria in Individual Subjects	Certification Criteria
Secondary (Class X)	A Minimum of 33% Marks separately in theory and practicals, wherever applicable. Theory includes marks in Internal Assessment with 20% weightage.	Pass in 5 subjects including at least one language and at least one vocational subject.
Senior Secondary (Class X)	A Minimum of 33% Marks separately in theory and practicals, wherever applicable. Theory includes marks in Internal Assessment with 20% weightage.	Pass in 5 subjects including at least one language and at least one vocational subject.

Note:

For the purpose of certification at Senior Secondary level, a gap of two years from the year of passing the Secondary Examination is mandatory.

Result Declaration and Award of Certificate

The result for Secondary and Sr. Secondary programmes will be declared within 6 to 8 weeks of the last examination held.

All candidates taking examination will be issued a marks sheet (which will show the marks obtained in all subjects in which he/she has appeared as well as earlier achievement, if any), as well as a qualifying certificate, after he/she has passed in 5 subjects, including at least one language subject and one vocational subject.