

# TNEA PwD Eligibility and Reservation Policy

## 5.2 Eligibility criteria for various disabilities

### A. Norms for Visual Impairment

Candidates with low vision of 40% and above are considered as disabled, and hence eligible for claiming Engineering Admission against Differently Abled Persons category (Certificate No. IV).

1. **"Blindness"** means a condition where a person has any of the following conditions, after best correction—

- (i) total absence of sight; or
- (ii) visual acuity less than 3/60 or less than 10/200 (Snellen) in the better eye with best possible correction; or
- (iii) limitation of the field of vision subtending an angle of less than 10 degree.

2. **"Low-vision"** means a condition where a person has any of the following conditions, namely:—

- (i) Visual acuity not exceeding 6/18 or less than 20/60 up to 3/60 or up to 10/200 (Snellen) in the better eye with best possible corrections; or
- (ii) Limitation of the field of vision subtending an angle of less than 40 degree up to 10 degree.

Person with impairment of vision of less than 6/18 to 6/60 with best correction in the better eye or impairment of field in any one of the following categories:

(a) Reduction of fields less than 50 degrees, (b) Heminaopia with macular involvement, and (c) Attitudinal defect involving lower fields categories of Visual Disability all with correction.

Category	Better eye	Worse eye	Impairment
Category O	6/9 – 6/18	6/24 to 6/36	20 %
Category I	6/16 – 6/36	6/20 to Nil	40 %
Category II	6/40 – 4/60 or field of vision 10° - 20°	3/60 to Nil	75 %
Category III	3/60 to 1/60 or field of vision 10°	F.C at 1 ft. to Nil	100 %
Category IV	F.C at 1 ft. to Nil or field of vision 10°	F.C at 1 ft. to Nil	100 %
One eyed persons *	6/6	F.C at 1 ft. to Nil or field of vision 10°	30 %

Note: F.C. means Finger Count

\* ONE EYED persons with normal vision are not considered as disabled.

### B. Norms for Hearing Impairment

Candidates with hearing ability of 40 db and above only in the better ear with speech discrimination score of 50 % and above are considered disabled and hence eligible for claiming Engineering Admissions against Differently Abled Persons category (Certificate No. V).

1. **"Deaf"** means persons having 70DB hearing loss in speech frequencies in both ears.

2. **"Hard of hearing"** means person having 60DB to 70DB hearing loss in speech frequencies in both ears.

### C. Norms for Locomotor Disability

Candidates with permanent physical impairment of 40 % and above are considered as disabled. The candidates with Locomotor disability including cerebral palsy, leprosy cured, dwarfism, acid attack victims and muscular dystrophy of the following types are eligible for claiming Engineering Admission against Differently Abled Persons category (Certificate No. VI).

1. **Locomotor disability** (a person's inability to executed instinctive activities associated with movement of self and objects resulting from affliction of musculoskeletal or nervous system or both).

(i) Independent in ambulence with or without calipers but without walking aids. (ii) Good standing balance without calipers but without any support. (iii) Hand Function with normal limit without any aid. (iv) Good control over bladder & bowel. (v) Disease must be non-progressive.

2. **"Leprosy cured person"** means a person who has been cured of leprosy but is suffering from—

- (i) Loss of sensation in hands or feet as well as loss of sensation and paresis in the eye and eye-lid but withno manifest deformity;
- (ii) Manifest deformity and paresis but having sufficient mobility in their hands and feet to enable them to engage in normal economic activity;
- (iii) Extreme physical deformity as well as advanced age which prevent shim/ her from under taking any gainful occupation, and the expression "leproscured" shall be construed accordingly;

3. **"Cerebral palsy"** means a Group of non-progressive neurological condition affecting body movements and muscle coordination, caused by damage to one or more specific areas of the brain, usually occurring before, during or shortly after birth;

**4. "Dwarfism"** means a medical or genetic condition resulting in an adult height of 4feet 10inches (147 centimeters) or less;

**5. "Muscular dystrophy"** means a group of hereditary genetic muscle disease that weakens the muscles that move the human body and persons with multiple dystrophy have incorrect and missing information in their genes, which prevents them from making the proteins they need for healthy muscles. It is characterised by progressive skeletal muscle weakness, defects in muscle proteins, and the death of muscle cells and tissue;

**6. "Acid attack victims"** means a person disfigured due to violent assaults by throwing of acid or similar corrosive substance.

#### **D. Norms for Autism, Intellectual Disability, Specific Learning Disability and Mental Illness**

Candidates with permanent physical impairment of 40% and above are considered as disabled. The candidates with Autism, Intellectual Disability, Specific Learning Disability and Mental Illness of the following types are eligible for claiming Engineering Admission against Differently Abled Persons category (CertificateNo.VII).

**1. "Speech and language disability"** means a permanent disability arising out of conditions such as laryngectomy or aphasia affecting one or more components of speech and language due to organic or neurological causes.

**2. Intellectual disability**, a condition characterized by significant limitation both in intellectual functioning (reasoning, learning, problem solving) and in adaptive behaviour which covers a range of every day, social and practical skills, including—

- (i) "specific learning disabilities" means a heterogeneous group of conditions wherein there is a deficit in processing language, spoken or written, that may manifest itself as a difficulty to comprehend, speak, read, write, spell, or to do mathematical calculations and includes such conditions as perceptual disabilities, dyslexia, dysgraphia, dyscalculia, dyspraxia and developmental aphasia;
- (ii) "autism spectrum disorder" means a neuro-developmental condition typically appearing in the first three years of life that significantly affects a person's ability to communicate, understand relationships and relate to others, and is frequently associated with unusual or stereotypical rituals or behaviours.

**3. Mental behaviour—** "mental illness" means a substantial disorder of thinking, mood, perception, orientation or memory that grossly impairs judgment, behaviour, capacity to recognize reality or ability to meet the ordinary demands of life, but does not include retardation which is a condition of arrested or incomplete development of mind of a person, specially characterized by sub-normality of intelligence.

#### **4. Disability caused due to—**

- (i) chronic neurological conditions, such as—
  - (a) "multiple sclerosis" means an inflammatory, nervous system disease in which the myelin sheaths around the axons of nerve cells of the brain and spinal cord are damaged, leading to demyelination and affecting the ability of nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord to communicate with each other;
  - (b) "Parkinson's disease" means a progressive disease of the nervous system marked by tremor, muscular rigidity, and slow, imprecise movement, chiefly affecting middle-aged and elderly people associated with degeneration of the basal ganglia of the brain and a deficiency of the neuro transmitter dopamine.
- (ii) Blood disorder—
  - (c) "hemophilia" means an inheritable disease, usually affecting only male but transmitted by women to their male children, characterized by loss or impairment of the normal clotting ability of blood so that a minor wound may result in fatal bleeding;
  - (d) "Thalassemia" means a group of inherited disorders characterized by reduced or absent amounts of hemoglobin.
  - (e) "Sickle cell disease" means a hemolytic disorder characterized by chronic anemia, painful events, and various complications due to associated tissue and organ damage; "hemolytic" refers to the destruction of the cell membrane of red blood cells resulting in the release of hemoglobin.

#### **E. Norms for Multiple Disabilities**

Candidates with multiple disabilities with permanent physical impairment of 40 % and above are considered as disabled and they are eligible for claiming Engineering Admission against Differently Abled Persons category (Certificate No. VIII).

Multiple Disabilities (more than one of the above specified disabilities) including deaf blindness which means a condition in which a person may have combination of hearing and visual impairments causing severe communication, developmental, and educational problems.