

GUIDELINES FOR LATERAL ADMISSION IN EKLAVYA MODEL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

In supersession of all the guidelines governing admissions in Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) that have been issued in the past by any of the Authority, the following guidelines are issued to have uniformity in lateral entry admissions in the Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) for the academic session 2025-26.

Part – 1 Definitions

Unless the context suggests otherwise, the definition of the following terms used in these guidelines would be as below: -

- I. **"MoTA"** refers to Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.
- II. **"NESTS"** means the National Education Society for Tribal Students, an autonomous body (registered as a Society under the Societies Registration Act, XXI of 1860) set up by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, to plan, construct, establish, endow, review/monitor and advise the State/UT EMRS Societies to administer EMRSs.
- III. **"State/ UT EMRS Societies"** are the Societies set up by the respective State/ UT to administer EMRSs.
- IV. **"EMRS"** means Eklavya Model Residential Schools.
- V. **"CoE"** means Centre of Excellence
- VI. **"EMRSST"** means Eklavya Model Residential School Selection Test.
- VII. **"EMRSLT"** means Eklavya Model Residential School Lateral Entry Test.
- VIII. **"ST"** means Scheduled Tribes
- IX. **"PVTG"** means Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group.
- X. **"DNT"** means Denotified Tribes.
- XI. **"NT"** means Nomadic Tribes
- XII. **"SNT"** means Semi-Nomadic Tribes.
- XIII. **"LWE"** refers to Left Wing Extremism.
- XIV. **Child with special needs and suffering from disability to be** determined as per the provision mentioned in RTE Act 2009 or as defined by the concerned State Govt.

Part 2 – General Guidelines for Lateral Entry in EMRS

2.1 Admission Eligibility:

The minimum and maximum age limit (as on 31st March of the year in which admission is sought) for admission in Eklavya Model Residential Schools in various classes is given below: **(Child born on 1st April shall also be considered.)**

Class	Minimum age on 31st March of the year in which admission is sought	Maximum age on 31st March of the year in which admission is sought
VII	11 years	14 years
VIII	12 years	15 years
IX	13 years	16 years

Note:

1. The maximum age limit can be relaxed by two years in case of Differently abled children by the State/UT EMRS Societies.

2.2 Admission for Class VII – IX

Lateral entry in EMRSs in the classes VII – IX will be allowed subject to availability of vacancies.

2.3 Procedure of Admission for Class VII – IX

Admission to Class VII – IX in EMRSs shall be done on the basis of an entrance test called EMRSLT (Eklavya Model Residential School Lateral Entry Test). The candidates desirous to get admission in class VII – IX in EMRSs shall have to appear and qualify the EMRSLT. Depending upon the availability of vacancies, the State/ UT EMRS Societies may allow EMRSs to conduct EMRSLT for the classes VII – IX in respect of the candidates seeking admission in their schools.

2.4 Reservations in Admission:

Lateral entry admission is allowed only against the vacant seats in classes VII, VIII, IX if any. As per the approval of the 15th GBM, the reservation in EMRSs is as under:

NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY FOR TRIBAL STUDENTS					
Revised reservation criteria in admission guidelines					
	Reservation Category for the State	In %	In terms of Seats		
			BLOCK (50%)	DISTRICT (30%)	STATE (20%)
(i)	ST Children	80	24	15	9
(ii)	Children belonging to PVTG communities.	5	2	1	0
(iii)	Children belonging to DNT/NT/SNT community.	5	2	1	0
(iv)	a) Children who have lost their parents to LWL*/insurgencies/ Covid	7	2	2	0
	b) Children of widows				
	c) Children of Divyang parent, orphan child etc.				
	d) Land donor	3	1	1	0
TOTAL		100	31	20	9
(v)	Children of Staff of EMRSs/ EMDBSSs/CES/ Doctors/ Paramedical staff of Government Hospital serving in the same block	Over and above the sanctioned strength of 30 students per section per Class with the restriction of maximum 40 students in one section.			
Note:-					
1. * It includes citizens victim of LWL and Police/ Paramilitary/ Armed Forces					
2. 5% i.e 3 seats out of 60 are reserved for Children with Benchmark Disability. These seats shall be carved out @ 2 seats from ST and 1 seat from others.					
3. If candidates are not available either under (iv) a, b & c or (iv) d, the seats may be filled from any category of (iv) on merit					

It should be ensured that after the admission of lateral entry students, overall admission of students is as per reservation criteria.

2.5 Key notes for Lateral Entry Admission:

- Lateral entry admission is allowed only against the vacant seats in classes VII, VIII and IX, if any. Vacancies may be assessed by considering the reservation criteria and the categories of existing

students. It should be ensured that after the admission of lateral entry students, overall admission of students is as per reservation criteria. For example, if five seats of boys and two seats of girls are vacant, selection for lateral entry admission is to be done by selecting 5 boys & 2 girls accordingly so that the ratio of boys & girls will be maintained as 1:1 as per policy of NESTS.

- (ii) Transgender category students shall not be denied admission subject to fulfillment of eligibility conditions. Transgender category to be considered under boys'/ girls' category depending upon the orientation towards either gender. Hostel accommodation, upon selection, shall also depend upon the same.
- (iii) If a child belongs to more than one reservation category then he/she shall be allowed to avail the benefit of only one reservation category with the highest reservation percentage.
- (iv) The merit list for each category shall be prepared separately on the basis of the Selection Test. The cut off marks shall be different for different reservation categories and for boys' & girls.
- (v) Children of Staff of EMRSs/ Doctors/ Paramedical staff of Government Hospital serving in the same block shall be granted admission directly in any class in addition to Class VI.
- (vi) States/UT EMRS societies may include income as one of the eligibility criteria for admission to EMRSs, based on local requirements and conditions. The purpose of incorporating an income threshold is to deter ineligible cases. Additionally, it is mandatory for States/UTs EMRS societies to specify this income criterion when issuing the admission notification.

2.6 Composition of EMRSLT for Class VII – IX

The entrance test (EMRSLT), conducted in offline mode only, may be a pen-paper test of three hours duration with both objective & descriptive type questions from 5 sections. The questions for EMRSLT shall be asked from NCERT/ SCERT textbooks of preceding viz. Class VI-VIII in case of CBSE / State Board affiliated EMRSs respectively. There shall be total of 100 questions for 200 marks. The medium of instruction for the Examination is English/ Hindi/ Regional Language/ Bilingual.

Subject	Number of Questions	Marks
English	10	20
Hindi/ Regional Language	10	20
Mathematics	30	60
Science	30	60
Social Science	20	40
Total Marks	100	200

Additional time of 30 minutes will be allowed for "Divyang students" (differently-abled students).

Other modalities of EMRSLT shall be same as that of EMRSST.

2.7 De-Reservation

In case of insufficient registration/ non-registration/ insufficient selection in (EMRSST) or EMRSLT/ insufficient turn out for admissions, the seats reserved for a particular reservation category shall be de-reserved into other reservation categories as mentioned below:

Sl. No	Reservation Category	De-reserved into
1	ST Children	PVTGs
	If vacancy still exists	DNT/NT/SNT
	If vacancy still exists	Reservation category at Point No. iv.
2	PVTGs	ST Children
	If vacancy still exists	DNT/NT/SNT
	If vacancy still exists	Reservation category at Point No. iv.
3	DNT/NT/SNT	ST Children
	If vacancy still exists	PVTGs
	If vacancy still exists	Reservation category at Point No. iv.
4	Reservation category at Point No. iv.	ST Children
	If vacancy still exists	PVTGs
	If vacancy still exists	DNT/NT/SNT
5	Boys' seats shall be de-reserved for Girls' and vice versa as per the criteria given above.	