



CONSORTIUM OF NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITIES

Reg.No:DRB1/SOR/707/2018-2019.

NATIONAL LAW SCHOOL OF INDIA UNIVERSITY

Post Bag No.7201, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru-560072 Karnataka, India

Date: 27.10.2025

NOTIFICATION

GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING CLAT 2026 EXAMINATION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PwDs)

The Consortium of National Law Universities (NLUs) hereby issues this Notification in line with the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment Guidelines dated 01.08.2025. These guidelines are intended to ensure that candidates with disabilities are provided equal access, fair opportunity, and reasonable accommodations during the conduct of the CLAT 2026 examination.

1. Applicability of the Guideline

1.1. These Guidelines apply to all individuals defined as Persons with Disabilities under Section 2(s) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016. However, the facility of assistance (i.e. technological aid like software enabled laptop/ desktop, reader, lab assistant or scribe, as prescribed in the subsequent paragraphs) during written exam may be provided to all such candidates who, due to their disability, face functional limitations in writing an examination, irrespective of the nature or extent of their disability. This includes, but is not limited to, individuals with physical limitations in writing, visual impairments preventing reading or writing, intellectual disabilities affecting comprehension or expression, or any other disability that impedes their ability to participate effectively in the examination process, as certified by a competent authority, as specified in the following guidelines.

1.2. In case any candidate acquires a disability after filling out the application form, owing to an incident that occurs subsequently, such candidates may also be granted reasonable accommodations under these Guidelines, upon production of a valid certificate of disability and a medical certificate in the prescribed format as per Appendix I.

2. Special Accommodations

All eligible candidates with disabilities shall be entitled to reasonable accommodations such as:



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1. Compensatory time (extra time).
2. Scribe/reader/lab assistant, wherever applicable.
3. Use of technological aids and assistive devices.
4. Accessible examination centres with barrier-free infrastructure.

Provided that any specific requirements, other than the request for a scribe (which shall be collected through the application portal at the time of filing of the application), are communicated to the testing agency by email at nodalofficer-pwd@consortiumofnlus.ac.in, with a copy marked to convenorclat2026@consortiumofnlus.ac.in at least 10 days prior to the date of examination.

3. Accommodations to Facilitate Independent Writing of the Examination

Candidates with disabilities will be encouraged to take the CLAT examination independently by using technology-based solutions.

- Facilities such as screen-reading software, magnification tools, voice recognition software, and recording devices shall be made available.
- If a candidate wishes to use a scribe instead of technological support, they may either request the Consortium to provide a scribe or, they are allowed to bring their own scribe in accordance with the prescribed norms.

4. Eligibility for availing Facility of Scribe/Reader

The facility of a scribe/reader will be allowed in the following cases;

- 4.1. Eligibility:** Candidates with blindness, locomotor disability, or cerebral palsy may use a scribe/reader if they so desire, upon production of a valid disability certificate or UDID card.
- 4.2. Other disabilities:** For candidates with other specified disabilities, including temporary disabilities as referred to in point 1.2, the scribe facility shall be provided only upon certification by a competent medical authority that the candidate has a functional limitation in writing and requires the assistance of a scribe. A copy of this certificate, in the prescribed format, must be submitted to the Consortium.
- 4.3. Candidates with less than 40% disability:** They may also avail of a scribe, subject to certification by a Government medical authority in the prescribed format by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.



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5. Qualification of Scribes

In cases where a candidate opts for a scribe rather than the use of technology, the educational qualification of the scribe shall meet the following criteria:

- 5.1. For **UG CLAT** – The scribe must be a minimum of “two academic years below” and a maximum of “three academic years below” the minimum qualification for appearing in that examination. *(For example, for appearing in CLAT, the minimum eligibility is 12th pass or equivalent, the qualification of the scribe may be 10th standard ongoing, but not below 9th standard ongoing).* The scribe must not be affiliated to any test-preparatory organisation or examination coaching centre.
- 5.2. For **PG CLAT** – Since LL.M. in a One-Year programme, the scribe may be in the fourth year of graduation, but not below the third year of graduation. The scribe should not be a humanities or law student, and must not be affiliated to any test-preparatory organisation or examination coaching centre.
- 5.3. Scribes must be impartial, have no conflict of interest, and must not be candidates for the same examination.

6. Scribe Arrangements and Related Provisions

6.1. Candidate-arranged scribe

- Candidates may, where permitted under these Guidelines, arrange their own scribe.
- In such cases, candidates must provide the full details of the scribe; including name, qualification, and contact information, on the Consortium Portal in the prescribed format (Appendix II).
- These details must be submitted “**within 10 days from the date of CLAT 2026**”. Any change of scribe shall also be communicated promptly to the Consortium.
- The scribe arranged by the candidate must comply with the prescribed qualification norms and must not be a candidate for the same examination.



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6.1. Consortium-arranged scribe

- Candidates may request the Consortium to provide a scribe from its approved panel.
- Candidates availing a Consortium-provided scribe will be allowed to interact with the scribe through online mode at least two days prior to the examination, and again in person for a 20-minute session, one hour before the start of the examination at the assigned test venue.

6.2. General provisions in relation to Scribe arrangement

- No scribe, whether arranged by the candidate or by the Consortium, shall act as a scribe for more than one candidate in the same examination.
- The language of communication between the candidate and the scribe must be the same as the medium of the examination chosen by the candidate.
- The Consortium reserves the right to verify the details and eligibility of any scribe, whether arranged by the candidate or provided by the Consortium. If a scribe is found not to meet the prescribed qualification norms, or is otherwise unsuitable, the Consortium may disallow that scribe and require the candidate to use a replacement approved by the Consortium.

7. Compensatory Time

- 7.1. Candidates with disabilities who experience functional limitations in writing shall be entitled to compensatory time of 20 minutes per hour of examination.
- 7.2. For CLAT, which has a duration of 2 hours, such candidates will receive an additional 40 minutes, making their total examination time 2 hours and 40 minutes.
- 7.3. This facility will be available irrespective of whether or not the candidate avails the services of a scribe.

8. Certification Requirements

Certification for availing facilities shall follow the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment format:

- 8.1. For blindness, locomotor disability (both arms only), and cerebral palsy, a valid **disability certificate/UDID card** is sufficient and shall be submitted to the



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consortium. These candidates need not submit any other medical certificates as per the appendices.

- 8.2. For all other disabilities,** candidates must submit a certificate issued by a multi-member medical board of a government healthcare institution. The certificate must follow the prescribed format in Appendix-I of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (refer to Page 7 of this guideline) and confirm the candidate's limitation in writing along with the need for a scribe and/or compensatory time. This certificate shall be submitted to the consortium.
- 8.3. Medical Board:** The certification referred to in point (8.2) above shall be issued by a multi-member medical authority consisting of: (1) the Chief Medical Officer/Civil Surgeon/Chief District Medical Officer as Chairperson; (2) an Orthopaedic or PMR specialist as Member; and (3) any other expert relevant to the candidate's condition, as may be nominated by the Chairperson, as Member.
- 8.4.** Such certificates will normally be valid for a maximum of **one year**, unless otherwise specified by the medical authority.

9. Accessible Examination Centres

The Consortium will ensure, wherever possible, that all CLAT examination centres are barrier-free and accessible.

- Ramps, lifts, wide corridors, signage, wheel chairs and audio announcements shall be provided wherever necessary.
- Seating arrangements will be made on the ground floor, or in accessible sections.
- A separate examination room may be provided for candidates taking assistance of scribe, candidates with neuro-diverse conditions, specific learning disabilities, or chronic health conditions based on the availability of rooms at the test centres.
- Medical staff will be available at centres for emergency assistance.

10. Redressal Mechanism

- Grievances relating to the CLAT examination shall be dealt with by the Grievance Redressal Committee to be constituted by the Consortium after the conduct of CLAT.
- This Committee will also consider and resolve issues specifically related to candidates with disabilities, including matters concerning accessibility, use of scribes, compensatory time, or any other facility under these guidelines.



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11. Safeguards and Accountability

- Candidates' disability-related and medical data will be kept confidential and handled only by authorised officials, in line with the **Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023** and the RPwD Act, 2016.
- A grievance redressal mechanism will be in place for candidates with disabilities. For queries and concerns prior to CLAT, candidates may write to nodalofficer-pwd@consortiumofnlus.ac.in. Issues arising after the conduct of CLAT will be addressed by the Grievance Redressal Committee to be constituted by the Consortium, details of which will be notified on the Consortium website.

12. Miscellaneous

Candidates may use their own aids and assistive devices, such as prosthetics and orthotics, hearing aids, or non-technological magnifying glasses, provided that the requirement for the use of such devices is certified in accordance with these Guidelines. Candidates intending to use such devices must inform the Consortium in advance by writing to the Nodal Officer of CLAT 2026 by emailing the requirements to nodalofficer-pwd@consortiumofnlus.ac.in.

13. Appendices and Annexures

- **Appendix I:** Medical Certification format (Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment 2025).
- **Appendix II:** Undertaking for candidates using their own scribe.
- **Appendix III:** Declaration Form by the scribe.
- **Appendix IV:** Sample UDID

14. Conclusion

The Consortium is committed to conducting CLAT 2026 in full compliance with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and the revised Guidelines of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment dated 01.08.2025. These measures are designed to ensure that every candidate, regardless of disability, is able to take the examination with dignity, fairness, and equal opportunity.

Sd/-

President, Consortium of NLUs



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APPENDIX I

Certificate for recommendation of scribe/reader/lab assistant and/or Compensatory Time for persons with disabilities as defined under Section 2(s) of the RPwD Act 2016 and have limitation in writing as specified in the Guidelines

This is to certify that, we have examined Mr./ Ms./ Mrs.(name of the candidate), S/o /D/o, a resident of(Vill/PO/PS/District/State), aged Years, a person with (nature of disability/condition), and to state that he/she has limitation which hampers his/her writing capability owing to his/her above disability/condition. He/ she requires support of scribe/ reader/lab assistant/and or Compensatory Time as specified in the Guidelines, for writing the examination.

2. The above candidate uses aids and assistive device such as prosthetics & orthotics, hearing aid (name to be specified)/ other (to be specified), which is/are essential for the candidate to appear at the examination with the assistance of scribe.
3. This certificate is issued only for the purpose of appearing in written examinations conducted by Examining Bodies and is valid up to _____ (it is valid for maximum period of one year or less as may be certified by the medical authority).

Signature of medical authority

Name of Government Hospital/ Health Care Centre with Seal

Place: _____

Date: _____



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APPENDIX II

Letter of Undertaking by the persons with disabilities as defined under section 2(s) of RPwD Act 2016 using the services of scribe/reader/lab assistant during written examinations conducted by various authorities as specified in the Guidelines

I, _____, a candidate with _____ (nature of disability/condition) appearing for the _____ (name of the examination) at _____ (name of the centre) in the District _____, (name of the State).

My educational qualification is _____.

2. I do hereby state that _____ (name of the scribe) will provide the service of scribe/reader/lab assistant for the undersigned for taking the aforementioned examination. I further declare that there is no conflict of interest of any kind that may affect the impartiality of the examination.

3. I do hereby undertake that his qualification is _____. In case, subsequently, it is found that his qualification is not as declared by the undersigned and is beyond the specified qualification for the examination as mentioned in the extant Guidelines, I shall forfeit my right to the post/position/academic seat I am competing for and all claims relating thereto.

(Signature of the candidate)

Admit Card No. _____

(Counter-signature by the parent/guardian, if the candidate is a minor)

Place: _____

Date: _____



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APPENDIX III

Scribe Declaration Form (To be submitted by the Scribe in case the Scribe has been arranged by the Candidate)

I, Mr./Ms./Mx. _____ son/daughter
of _____
resident _____ have
consented to be the scribe for _____ son/daughter
of _____ resident of

Admit Card Number _____

I hereby declare that I comply with the preconditions and I will not, directly or indirectly, help the candidate in answering any question in the CLAT 2026 examination, apart from reading out the questions and marking/clicking the answers as per the direction of the candidate.

Place: _____ Date: _____

(Signature of the Scribe)



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APPENDIX IV-SAMPLE OF UDID

Form-VII

UDID Card

[See rule 18(1)]

A. **White Card:** When the disability percentage of a Person with Disability is below forty percent

+

Fold here to see nal card preview

B. **Yellow Card:** When the disability percentage of a Person with Disability is forty percent and above but below eighty percent

+

Fold here to see nal card preview

C. **Blue Card:** When the disability percentage of a Person with Disability is eighty percent and above

+

Fold here to see final card preview



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ANNEXURE-I

Below given are the relevant provisions in relation to Section 2(r) Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

- **Section 2(r)** “person with benchmark disability” means a person with not less than forty per cent. of a specified disability where specified disability has not been defined in measurable terms and includes a person with disability where specified disability has been defined in measurable terms, as certified by the certifying authority;
- **Section 2(s)** “person with disability” means a person with long term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairment which, in interaction with barriers, hinders his full and effective participation in society equally with others;
- **Section 2 (zc)** “specified disability” means the disabilities as specified in the Schedule;

THE SCHEDULE

[See clause (zc) of section 2]

SPECIFIED DISABILITY

1. Physical disability.—

A. Locomotor disability (a person’s inability to execute distinctive activities associated with movement of self and objects resulting from affliction of musculoskeletal or nervous system or both), including—

- (a) “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 with no 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;



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- (iii) extreme physical deformity as well as advanced age which prevents him/her from undertaking any gainful occupation, and the expression "leprosy cured" shall construed accordingly;
- (b) "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;
- (c) "Dwarfism" means a medical or genetic condition resulting in an adult height of 4 feet 10 inches (147 centimetres) or less;
- (d) "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;
- (e) "Acid attack victims" means a person disfigured due to violent assaults by throwing of acid or similar corrosive substance.

B. Visual impairment—

- (a) "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.
- (b) "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 degrees.

C. Hearing impairment—

- (a) "deaf" means persons having 70 DB hearing loss in speech frequencies in both ears;
- (b) "hard of hearing" means person having 60 DB to 70 DB hearing loss in speech frequencies in both ears;



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D. “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 characterised 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—

(a) “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;

(b) “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 recognise 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 characterised by sub-normality of intelligence.

4. Disability caused due to—

(a) Chronic neurological conditions, such as—

(i) “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;

(ii) “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 neurotransmitter dopamine.

(b) Blood disorder—

(i) “haemophilia” means an inheritable disease, usually affecting only male but transmitted by women to their male children, characterised by loss or impairment of the normal clotting ability of blood so that a minor wound may result in fatal bleeding;



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- (ii) “Thalassemia” means a group of inherited disorders characterised by reduced or absent amounts of haemoglobin.
 - (iii) “Sickle cell disease” means a haemolytic disorder characterised by chronic anaemia, painful events, and various complications due to associated tissue and organ damage; “haemolytic” refers to the destruction of the cell membrane of red blood cells resulting in the release of haemoglobin.
5. 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.
6. Any other category as may be notified by the Central Government.
