

पण्डित सुन्दरलाल शर्मा (मुक्त) विश्वविद्यालय छत्तीसगढ़ कोनी – बिरकोना मार्ग, बिलासपुर (छ,ग,) 495009 दूरमाश क्रमांक : (07752 – 240712) (छ,ग. शासन के अधिनियम क्रमांक 26 सन् 2004 द्वारा स्थापित)

www.pssou.ac.in E-mail-registrar@pssou.ac.in

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5.1.2 Q <sub>1</sub> M	Pre-admission Counseling Services:	10
	For activities undertaken by the Institution to providing pre-admission counseling services to prospective learners and induction of newly enrolled learners at Institution Headquarters, Regional Centers and Learner Support Centers, the University (P.S.S.O.U.) is quite cognizant of this whole exercise. Before conducting pre-admission counseling services, the University practices usually a due course of research work about the requirements of prospective learners and their motives to join a programme and a course, and during finalizing the courses under different programmes there is always the consideration of socio-cultural, economic and scientific-technological contexts and most importantly new innovations and updates.  Most important thing for pre-admission counseling services is to contribute to designing the careers of prospective learners. Therefore, our University has a clear understanding about the target groups of our learners. As we know that our University is the State Government University of Chhattisgarh state, so our direct activities related to pre-admission counseling services are limited to Chhattisgarh territory. Despite the limitations, the University welcomes the learners from other states of India& abroad. Geographically, the state of Chhattisgarh is quite different & challenging, given the majority of its population lives in rural and remote areas, but despite that ,the aspiration level of learners is gradually increasing. So, our University is offering a blend of advance & conventional courses under different programmes to the learners in order to meet their educational aspirations. The University is vehemently focusing on increasing the enrollment of learners for higher education. And for this purpose, it is our main concern to exercise pre-admission counseling services.	

Pre-admission Counseling Services consist of:

- 1. Understanding of Learners' previous education.
- 2. Knowing the age of prospective learner.
- 3. Assessing the interests of the learners.
- 4. Analyzing the status of employment of the learners.
- 5. Exploring career prospectus for the learners.
- 6. Doing the overall analysis of the learners.
- 7. Providing the information to the learners about open and distance learning.
- 8. Ventilation of ill inhibitions of the learners about open and distance learning.
- 9. Offering the different courses of Pt. Sundarlal Sharma (Open) University Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur to the learners with every detail of courses and career avenues.
- 10. Follow up of the prospective learners.

Pandit Sundarlal Sharma (Open) University offers pre-admission counseling services through its three-tier system set up as follows:

- 1. University Head Quarters
- 2. Regional Centers
- 3. Learner Support Centers

Pandit Sundarlal Sharma (Open) University has its own Headquarters in Bilaspur. Here, we have help desk to facilitate to the learners by offering pre-admission counseling services. Preliminary information may be collected from help desk by the aspirants/learners. If they require other details, they can contact faculties related to that concerned course. Our six Regional and one Sub-Regional Centers also offer the pre-admission counseling services. For this purpose, these centers are equipped with help-desks, prospectus and other relevant materials to respond to aspirants/learners in a better way. The University has its access to every corner of Chhattisgarh through its 138 learning support centers. These LCSs offer pre-admission counseling services to the aspirants/learners, provide availability of help-desks, prospectus, relevant materials and concerned faculty/counselors/ coordinator to facilitate and assist the aspirants/learners.

The prospectus of the University is a key role player to offer preadmission counseling services to the prospective learners since it contains each & every details of offered programmes & courses in the University, and if they have any doubt or query, then there is availability of contact-mobile number to ask to concerned faculty/officer of the University. Recently, the University has hired the services of ARPA Community Radio for the purpose of promotional activities and for pre-admission counseling as well. For admission and to attract the prospective learners, the University hires the services of different news-papers & local T.V. Channels as well. The University website is also a key role player in this modern technological era, usually each & every detail related to admission, courses and others is made available from the University website (<a href="www.pssou.ac.in">www.pssou.ac.in</a>). WhatsApp group and Facebook are used as social media platforms to provide pre-admission counseling to the aspirants/learners.

## **Induction:**

The Induction meeting for newly enrolled fresh learners is always considered a good practice to produce excellent results for any institution/ organization and for target groups as well. Pandit Sundarlal Sharma (Open) University also accepts the significance of induction of newly enrolled fresh learners for shaping their mind and their personality to facilitate them for their best performance.

According to a structured plan, an Induction meeting for the learners is conducted by the University. Basically, induction meetings are organized at our Regional Centers with the support of our Learner Support Centers. Learner Support Centers are our key resource centers for this purpose since every learner selects the learner support center for the admission in our University as per his/her suitability. Therefore, induction meetings are arranged by our coordinators of respective Learner Support Centers at the level of Regional Centers by calling any expert/faculty from that LSC or University Headquarters.

Induction Meeting covers the following aspects:

- 1. The University Profile.
- 2. The University achievements.
- 3. The University Programmes.
- 4. The University Courses and newly launched courses.
- 5. The strength of courses.
- 6. The required efforts by the new learners for his/her concerned

course.

- 7. The University: Self Learning Material.
- 8. The University: Exam pattern.
- 9. The submission of TMA.
- 10. The offered scholarship.
- 11. The information about contact/ guidance classes.
- 12. The medals for meritorious learners in the convocation of the University.
- 13. The career related information.
- 14. The grievance redressal for learners.

During the previous year, initiatives of UGC in the form of "DEEKSHARAMBH" were also implemented at every Regional Center of our University.