

**DIPLOMA IN EDUCATION IN
SPECIAL EDUCATION
(AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS)**

**PROSPECTUS
2017- 2019**



National Centre for Autism India

Pocket 7 & 8, Jasola Vihar, New Delhi 110025

Tel: +91 11 4054 0991 - 92

Email: anvay.trainings@gmail.com

URL: www.autism-india.org

ACTION FOR AUTISM & THE NATIONAL CENTRE FOR AUTISM

Action For Autism (AFA; www.autism-india.org) is a not for profit organization that has pioneered the autism movement in South Asia and strives to access the rights of individuals with autism and their families. AFA is involved in activities across the lifespan including early intervention, education, assessments, work and employment, and independent living. Through a concerted effort from its various wings, AFA addresses the individual needs of people with autism, their families and the autism community as a whole.

The direct services are carried out under **OPEN DOOR CLINICAL SERVICES**, geared toward families who can attend programs on a regular basis, and for those who can access services intermittently – for example, those who live in far-flung areas of Delhi or in other parts of the country. All programs start with an initial assessment of the child. Based on the child's strengths, behaviors, learning patterns and the teaching and learning methods best suited to him/her, an Individualized Educational Plan is made keeping in mind the child's current needs as well as the parents.

Assessments:

- Diagnostic Assessments
- Functional Skills Assessments
- Occupational and Sensory Assessment

Intervention Programs:

- The Open Door Day Program, a model school for 2-18 year old children with autism
- Parent Child Training Program, a parent acceptance and empowerment training model
- Inclusive Education Facilitation and Support for children with ASD in mainstream schools
- Inclusive Co-curricular Activities for typically developing children and those with autism to build upon leisure time skills in close proximity.
- The Centre-based Program for Home Management
- Occupational and Sensory Intervention

Programs for Adults

- Aadhaar Vocational Centre for adults with autism to work independently
- On the Job Training for Work Behaviors for verbally fluent, high functioning adults
- Ananda group Living for individuals with ASD

Family Support Services

- Family Counseling

Other wings at AFA include **ANVAY CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND TRAININGS**, responsible for carrying out research activities, professional development programs including workshops, conferences and seminars as well as maintains an extensive resource library and information service. **AAHAAN PUBLICATIONS** is instrumental in publication of the Autism Network Journal as well as several training materials for parents and professionals; and **AAILAAN CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY** works towards awareness raising, lobbying, networking with other organizations and developing partnerships as well as developing self-advocates for autism.

In the 1980's autism was virtually unheard of in India, a diagnosis of autism was rare, and there was little information available. The majority of children with autism received a diagnosis of mental retardation, mental illness, minimal brain dysfunction, conduct disorder, or any number of other labels. Neither parents nor schools understood that these children were in fact autistic, and that children with autism respond best to specific intervention techniques. In 1991, AFA began as a parent support group, with a focus on raising awareness about autism in India, and moved to provide counseling services, specialized education, and training for parents and professionals. March 1994 saw the start of 'Open Door,' the first specialized school for children with autism in South Asia. With the overwhelming response to these initiatives, the decision was taken to formally register Action For Autism in 1994.

Since its genesis in 1991, AFA has achieved a significant amount in this short span of time and fought many successful battles. It has played an active and leading role in raising awareness and understanding of autism and has put autism on the map of India. AFA collaborates with organizations nationally and internationally to make the world a more inclusive place for individuals with Autism Spectrum Conditions. Over the years, AFA has emerged as the pioneering national organization for ASD in India and South Asia, with a membership of over 5,000 parents within India alone. AFA is an internationally acknowledged as a Centre of excellence and its many accomplishments have received accolades both internationally as well as in India.

Despite autism often being viewed as a terrible and tragic condition, AFA's philosophy has always been one of acceptance and inclusion. AFA views autism as a different way of being, often difficult and challenging, but nonetheless, as valid as, the non-autistic. With the firm conviction that all people with autism can grow in their learning and development, when the environment makes accommodations to support their learning, the mandate of AFA is to create an inclusive environment where people with autism can reach their maximum potential given their individual strengths and needs. The mission of AFA is to facilitate a barrier free environment that enables the empowerment of persons with autism and their families; and to act as a catalyst for change that enables persons with autism to live as fully participating members of the community.

DIPLOMA IN EDUCATION IN SPECIAL EDUCATION (AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS)

Although AFA had already been running a training programme, in 2003, Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI rehabcouncil.nic.in) approved the Diploma in Special Education (Autism Spectrum Disorder) to provide human resource development in the field of ASD in India. In 2011, after running this course for eight years in 14 different centers across the country, RCI upgraded the training so that it enjoys parity and equivalence with other Diploma programmes recognized by the RCI. The new and improved Diploma in Education-Special Education (Autism Spectrum Disorders) program is a two-year, full time regular course, conducted by AFA in affiliation with National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD), Chennai. In addition to the Diploma programme, AFA also started a Bachelor in Education-Special Education (Autism Spectrum Disorder) in affiliation in Guru Gobind Indraprastha University, also recognized by Rehabilitation Council of India in 2016.

The Diploma programme is designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of ASD and the needs of individuals with autism. The programme equips participants to screen, assess, and educate children with autism in individual and group settings in inclusive as well as special needs setups. The training provides equal emphasis on both the theoretical and practical aspects. The training is delivered through various modes including lectures, talks, and workshops by experts as well as field visits, assignments, video as well as extensive practical hands-on exposure. The participants learn to be comfortable with the principles and practices of different methods for working. Along with knowledge about autism and special education, the participants gain knowledge of behavior modification, social development, language development, and family counseling. AFA has an extremely experienced pool of experts to train the students enrolled in this course.

Successful candidates qualify as special educators for special schools, and resource persons in inclusive as well as special needs setups and receive placements in leading schools and special needs organizations, and many have been absorbed within AFA.

NOMENCLATURE OF THE COURSE

D Ed in Special Education (ASD)

1. AIM AND GENERAL OBJECTIVES

1.1 Aim

The aim of this course is to prepare the trainee teacher to screen, assess, educate and train persons with autism in individual or group settings.

1.2 General Objectives

On completion of the course, the trainee teacher is expected to perform the following:

- Develop an understanding of characteristics and etiology of ASD and associated conditions
- Be familiar with the process of screening and diagnosis of ASD
- Be acquainted with the stages of child growth & development and psychology of learning
- Understand objectives of general education, and organization of special education services
- Plan and implement educational programs selecting suitable teaching methods
- Develop suitable educational programs for persons with associated conditions
- Integrate the prescribed therapeutic programs within classroom
- Understand the needs of family and promote integration within family and community

2. ADMISSION CRITERIA

2.1 Eligibility

Minimum qualification for admission is successful completion of 10+2 or equivalent examination with at least 50% aggregate in any stream. We aim to train our students to not just become Special Educators but also Rehabilitation Professionals with the ability to deliver a range of services such as counseling, integrative and inclusive education with mainstream schools, making assessments and report writing. Preference will be given to candidates with higher academic qualifications such as Bachelor or Master's degree in Social work, Child Development, Psychology, B.Ed. or graduate from a recognized university; with experience of working with persons with ASD; and parent's siblings of person with autism, persons residing in rural areas. Candidates whose results for qualifying examination are awaited may also apply but their admission will be provisional, subject to their furnishing the documentary evidence of having qualified the eligibility criteria within the allotted time.

The guidelines regarding reservation of SC/ST/OBC as per the Government of India/State Govt. will be applicable for admission. Reservation for persons with disability will be made as per the Persons with Disability (Equal Opportunity Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act 1995.

Admission will be subject to verification of facts as in the original certificates/documents. Management reserves the right to cancel admission if a discrepancy is noted, even at a later point of time after admission. Such a decision will be final and binding on the candidate.

2.2 Number of Seats

A maximum of 25 candidates will be admitted to the course.

2.3 Selection Process

Mere submission of the application form will not entail the candidate to be called for interview. The application form duly filled by the applicant will be considered as follows:

S NO	DESCRIPTION	MAX MARKS
I	Essential qualifications of 10+2 or equivalent with 50% marks	60
II	Sports Activities	10
III	Parents and siblings of children with disabilities	05
IV	Applicant with Disability	10
V	Interview	15
TOTAL		100

Guidelines as prescribed by RCI will be followed and final merit list will be based on consolidated results. TA & DA is not be provided by the training centre and no correspondence in this regard will be entertained.

3. FEE STRUCTURE

The fee structure for the two-year duration is as follows:

S NO	DESCRIPTION	INR	USD
1	Admission/ Registration Fees	10,000	150
2	Tuition Fees @ INR 25,000 per annum	50,000	750
3	Internal Examination Fees @ INR 5,000 per annum	10,000	150
4	Resource Centre Fees @ INR 5,000 per annum	10,000	150
5	Education Tours & Student Activities	5,000	75
6	Alumni Charges	5,000	75
7	Security Deposit	10,000	150
TOTAL		1,00,000	1,500

Final Examination Fee as determined by NIEPMD will be additional.

Upon confirmation of acceptance to the programme, the candidates are required to deposit the fee on the stipulated date. The fee may be deposited in one installment to avail 5% discount or in three installments as follows :-

INSTALLMENT	Before	INR
First	30 July 2017	40,000
Second	15 October 2017	30,000
Third	30 December 2017	30,000

The security deposit charged at the time of admission may be claimed within three months of completion of the course. A written application along with the photocopy of the receipt may be submitted to the training coordinator. No correspondence will be entertained thereafter.

In the event that a candidate leaves before the completion of the course, the total fee will be forfeited and no correspondence on this issue will be entertained.

4. DETAILS OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

4.1 Duration

The selected candidates cannot pursue any other programme during this **full-time two-year** diploma course. The students are expected to arrive at 8:45am and stay till 5:00pm on all working days. The entire academic year will comprise Six days a week. (Monday to Saturday) Some flexibility will be expected.

4.2 Organization of the Training Programme

The mornings [8:45am - 1:00pm] will be *practical training* in the different clinical programmes at the National Centre for Autism. The trainees will receive hands-on experience under the supervision of trained special educators. The trainees will get an opportunity to observe and assist special educators in one-on-one and group teaching, independent work, carrying out functional assessments, and planning individualized educational programmes. Additionally the trainees will participate in other group activities including physical training, play, music, art and craft, preparation of teaching aids as well as extra-curricular activities amongst others. The afternoon hours from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm will be devoted to understanding *theoretical constructs* of ASD through lectures by core team of AFA and guest faculty from other organizations within India and abroad. Additionally, there will be opportunities to learn via talks, workshops, seminars, and conferences. Some variability in schedule may be expected. The students will make *organizational visits* within Delhi and NCR region working in related fields and other disability areas during their course of the academic session. The students will also complete their *internship* in an institute as decided by AFA. The trainees are required to submit a report of each visit/internship placement to the coordinator. The trainee is not eligible unless he/she has successfully completed the internship to the satisfaction of the institute.

4.3 Delivery of Training

- Hands-on, supervised practical training
- Lectures
- Demonstrations
- Audio-visual teaching aids
- Case presentation
- Field Visits
- Workshops
- Suggested Reading

4.4 Medium of Instructions

The medium of instructions will be a combination of Hindi & English languages. The technical terms describing the concepts in the lesson will be in English.

The trainees can answer the questions in the theory and practical examinations in Hindi or English.

4.5 Teaching Faculty

We strongly believe in multi-disciplinary needs of persons with ASD. Hence the faculty is composed of an inter-disciplinary team of professionals. The core faculty comprises of members in the field of Special Education, Psychology and Social Work, supported by lecturers by medical practitioners from the fields of Psychiatry, Pediatrics, and Neurology; behavioral therapists; as well as specialists in other areas such as Speech & Language Therapy, Sensory Integration Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Music Therapy. Drama and Movement Therapy etc. Inputs are also received from professionals with a background in social work, legal and advocacy issues. Additionally, the trainees will have the opportunity to learn from a variety of Indian and international professionals through series of lectures, seminars, conferences, workshops organized by AFA.

4.6 Attendance

Selected candidates are expected to join the course by the stipulated date. Trainees are expected to achieve the minimum required attendance in each of the below-mentioned areas in each term, failing which the trainees will not be able to appear for final examination.

- Minimum 95% attendance in theory in each term
- Minimum 95% attendance in practical in each term
- Minimum 95% attendance in cultural and extra-curricular activities
- 100% attendance in organizational visits
- 100% attendance in internship
- 100% attendance in examinations

5. COURSE STRUCTURE & SCHEME OF EXAMINATION

FIRST YEAR	HOURS	MARKS
A. COMMON PAPERS		
Introduction to Disabilities	90	100
Educational Psychology	90	100
B. DISABILITY SPECIFIC PAPERS		
Autism Spectrum Disorders: Nature, Needs & Etiology	90	100
Assessment & Teaching Methods for Children with ASD	90	100
ASD & Associated Condition	90	100
METHODOLOGY FOR PRACTICUM		
Development of Independent Living Skills & Teaching Learning Material	90	100
TOTAL	540	600

SECOND YEAR	HOURS	MARKS
A. COMMON PAPERS		
Education in the emerging Indian society and school administration	90	100
Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities	90	100
B. DISABILITY SPECIFIC PAPERS		
Therapeutics & Interventions in ASD- I	90	100
Therapeutics & Interventions in ASD- II	90	100
Curriculum & Educational Program	90	100
Adulthood, Family & Community Needs	90	100
PRACTICUM		
Assessment & Individualized Education Program	350	300
Group Teaching & Peer Observation: Curricular Activities	380	350
Group Teaching & Peer Observation: Co-Curricular Activities	200	200
Therapeutics & Management of Behavior	200	200
Career Education & Transition Plan	180	200
Preparation of Teaching Aids & Adaptive Devices	250	250
TOTAL	2100	2100

Examinations will be conducted as per the Scheme of Examination prescribed by the Rehabilitation Council of India. The ratio of theory and practicum marks is 40:60 approximately. The division of marks for internal and external examinations in theory and practicum is 40:60 and 60:40 respectively.

Internal assessment records will be maintained for each year and will be carried out through term examinations, class tests, classroom and home assignments, presentations, participation in extra-curricular activities and field reports. Successful completion of the attendance criteria and each of the theory and practical papers in each term will qualify appearance in the final examination.

The final result shall be declared on the basis of total marks. Any student who does not succeed in one or more theory paper shall have to reappear for the respective paper and those who do not succeed in any practical paper shall have to reappear for the entire course.

6. PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Successful candidates have been absorbed within AFA or are working as special educators in other setups including mainstream and special schools such as Step by Step, Vasant Valley, The Heritage, The Circle, The Sriram, St. Mary's, Foursteps, Pallavanjali, as well as private clinics and organizations e.g. Samvedna, Udaan. Many others are a part of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan as well as at special intervention set-ups across the country. There is a continued demand for more trained professionals as educators with expertise in ASD are few and far between.

7. HOW TO APPLY

Application Form may be obtained from AFA office; downloaded from our website or received via email. Completed forms along with all relevant documents may be submitted **in person** at AFA office by **Saturday, 20 May 2017**. Complete Application form will only be accepted on submission of processing fees of **Rs 300**. Incomplete forms shall be liable to be rejected.

To apply, submit attested copies of the following documents:

- Application Form
- Statement of marks and degrees of Higher Secondary (10+2) or other equivalent qualifying examination
- Proof of Age (Class 10 certificate)
- Recent character certificate issued by Gazetted Officer (in original)

Wherever applicable also include:

- Certificate of higher qualifications
- Certificate of excellence in: (District/State/National sports meet, NCC certificate, Diploma in Fine Arts, Music or Yoga, Scouts and Guides)
- Certificate by a Govt Medical Officer/Authority (or equivalent) that the candidate is a sibling/parent of a child with ASD
- Proof of Work Experience (in ASD or related experience)
- Proof of Caste Certificate
- Disability Certificate

CONTACT US

Subject: Application D Ed Spl Ed (ASD) 2017-2019

Trainings Coordinator
Action For Autism
The National Centre for Autism
Pocket 7 & 8, Jasola Vihar, New Delhi 110 025
Ph: +91 99531 13208; +91 11 4054 0991-92
E-mail: anvay.trainings@gmail.com
URL: www.autism-india.org

Candidate should fill in the application form in his/her own handwriting in English or Hindi
*Last Date for Submission: **20 May 2017***

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

Email Id:

Date of Birth

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y

Age (In complete years as on 1st July 2017)

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y

Nationality

☐ Indian

☐ Foreign

Domicile _____

Sex

☐ Male

☐ Female

☐ Others

Category

☐ SC ☐ ST ☐ PH ☐ GEN ☐ OBC

Marital Status

Parent / Sibling of a child with ASD

☐ Yes

☐ No

**Achievement in District / State / National
Sports or holder of NCC, Scouts &
Guides Governor Certificate**

☐ Yes

☐ No

**Total Family Annual Income
(All Sources)**

INR _____

Languages Known

1. _____

☐ Speak

☐ Read

☐ Write

2. _____

☐ Speak

☐ Read

☐ Write

3. _____

☐ Speak

☐ Read

☐ Write

4. _____

☐ Speak

☐ Read

☐ Write

5. _____

☐ Speak

☐ Read

☐ Write

Training & Professional Qualifications

(Attach attested copies of certificates)

Exam Passed	Name of School/ College	Year of Passing	University / Board	Major Subjects Taken	Class / Div	Aggregate % of Marks	Medium of Instruction
Class X OR Equivalent							
Class XII OR Equivalent							
Additional Qualification (If Any)							
a)							
b)							
c)							

**Please attach additional sheets if required*

Work Experience

(Attach attested copies of certificates failing which no weightage for experience will be given)

Name and Address of the Employer	Nature of Employment and Post Held	Duration (Indicate the Dates)

**Please attach additional sheets if required*

Please describe your previous experience in working with persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder?

Please state in 100 words in your own handwriting why you want to join this course.

Extra Curricular Activities / Other Interests

On the list below please tick (✓) the documents, which have been attached with the application. All certificates must be duly attested by a gazetted officer.

- ☐ Statement of Marks & Degrees of Higher Secondary (10+2) or equivalent qualifying exam
- ☐ Certificate of Higher Qualification/s
- ☐ Proof of Date of Birth (Class 10 certificate)
- ☐ Recent Character Certificate issued by Gazetted Officer (in original)
- ☐ Certificate of Excellence in District/State/National Sports; NCC certificate; Scouts and Guides; Fine Arts, Music, Yoga
- ☐ Certificate by a Govt. Medical Officer/Authority or equivalent competent authority that the Candidate is a sibling / parent of a child / children with Autism Spectrum Disorder
- ☐ Proof of Experience in the field of Autism Spectrum Disorder as a teacher in Special School or related experience
- ☐ Proof of Work Experience
- ☐ Proof of Caste Certificate
- ☐ Disability Certificate

DECLARATION BY THE CANDIDATE

I hereby declare that the information given above is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. If found incorrect or false my candidature may be treated as cancelled at any stage. I further declare that I shall abide by the rules and regulations.

Signature of Applicant

Parents / Guardians Signature

Note: Self attested copy of caste, domicile and income certificates, mark sheets etc. should be enclosed with the application.