

# Reservation Policy

The **BAMS (Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery)** course, which is an undergraduate degree in the field of Ayurveda, follows a reservation policy similar to that of other medical courses in India. The reservation system aims to provide equitable opportunities for students from various socially and economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

Here's an overview of the **reservation policy for BAMS student admissions**:

## 1. Reservation Categories

BAMS admissions generally follow the **reservation policies set by the Government of India and State Governments** (depending on the institution and the type of seat).

The main reservation categories in BAMS admissions include:

- **Scheduled Castes (SC)**: Reserved for students from scheduled caste communities.
- **Scheduled Tribes (ST)**: Reserved for students from scheduled tribes.
- **Other Backward Classes (OBC)**: Reserved for students from socially and educationally backward communities.
- **Economically Weaker Section (EWS)**: Reserved for students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds in the general category (introduced in 2019).
- **Physically Handicapped (PH)**: Reserved for students with physical disabilities.
- **Defense/Ex-servicemen (EWS)**: Some institutions may reserve a certain number of seats for children or dependents of defense personnel or ex-servicemen.

## 2. Reservation in Central and State Institutions

- **Central Government Institutions**: For example, institutions like **All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA)**, Delhi, follow the **All India Quota (AIQ)** reservation policy.
- **State Government Institutions**: States like **Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka**, etc., have their own reservation policies that apply to BAMS admissions in state-run colleges.
- **Private Institutions**: Private Ayurvedic colleges may also follow similar policies, but they might have a separate percentage for **management quota** or **NRI quota**.

## 3. EWS Reservation for BAMS

- The **EWS reservation** applies to students who fall under the **General Category** but are economically disadvantaged. This category provides a **10% reservation** in admission to educational institutions and government jobs.
- Eligibility for the **EWS category** requires students to meet income and asset criteria, typically with an annual family income of **less than ₹8 lakhs** and no significant landholding or luxury items. Students must provide an **EWS certificate** issued by a competent authority (like a District Magistrate).

## 4. BAMS Admission Process

- **Entrance Exam-Based Admission:** In many states and central institutions, BAMS admissions are conducted through entrance exams such as **NEET (National Eligibility cum Entrance Test)** or state-specific exams.
  - **NEET** is mandatory for admission to government medical institutions, and most private colleges also consider NEET scores for BAMS admissions.
  - After the exam, students are ranked according to their **NEET score** or **state exam score**, and admissions are carried out based on merit, category, and the reservation policy.
- **Counseling Process:** After the entrance exam results, counseling is held where students are allocated seats based on their **NEET score**, **category**, and **institution preferences**. Reserved category students (SC, ST, OBC, EWS, PH, etc.) are given seats according to the reservation percentage.

## 5. Specific Seat Allocation and Percentage of Reservation

The percentage of seats reserved for different categories in BAMS may vary depending on the institution and its location:

- **SC:** Typically, **15%** of seats.
- **ST:** Typically, **7.5%** of seats.
- **OBC:** Typically, **27%** of seats.
- **EWS:** Typically, **10%** of seats for General Category economically weaker students.
- **PH:** The percentage varies by institution but is generally a small percentage (often 3-5%).
- **Defense Quota:** Some colleges offer seats for students from defense backgrounds, typically around **5-10%**.

Some states may have specific seat quotas for **local residents** or **differently-abled students** as well.

## 6. Eligibility Criteria for BAMS Admission

- **Educational Qualification:**
  - The candidate must have completed **10+2** with subjects including **Physics, Chemistry, and Biology**.
  - Some institutions may also require candidates to have studied **Hindi**.
- **Age Limit:** Generally, candidates must be at least **17 years old** at the time of admission and not exceed a certain age limit (e.g., 25 years), though age restrictions can vary slightly depending on the institution.
- **Nationality:** Candidates must be **Indian citizens**, though some institutions may accept **NRI** students under a separate quota.
- **Reservation Documentation:** Candidates applying under any reserved category (SC, ST, OBC, EWS, PH) must submit valid certificates issued by the relevant authorities to prove their eligibility for reservation.

## 7. Other Important Notes

- **State-Level Reservations:** In many cases, state governments may reserve seats for students who are **domiciled in that state**. This means students from other states may not be eligible for state quota seats.
- **Management Quota:** Some private colleges may offer **management quota** seats, which are usually filled directly by the institution and may not follow the reservation policy. These seats are often filled with higher tuition fees.
- **NRI Quota:** Some colleges may have a separate quota for **Non-Resident Indian (NRI)** candidates. The admission process for NRI students often involves different criteria than for Indian residents.

## 8. Documents Required for BAMS Admission (Reserved Categories)

- **Mark Sheet and Certificate of Class 10 and 12**
- **NEET Admit Card and Scorecard** (if applicable)
- **Category Certificate** (SC/ST/OBC/EWS/PH/Defense Quota, as applicable)
- **EWS Certificate** (if applicable) – Issued by the competent authority
- **Domicile Certificate** (if applying for state quota)
- **Income Certificate** (for EWS or OBC students)
- **Passport-sized Photographs**
- **Character Certificate**

## 9. Challenges and Criticism

- **Limited Number of Seats:** Despite the reservation policy, the number of available seats under reserved categories is limited, leading to high competition among candidates.
- **Reservation and Merit:** There is ongoing debate about the impact of reservations on academic merit and the perceived fairness of the system.

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## Conclusion:

The **reservation policy for BAMS admissions** follows a similar structure as other medical and professional courses in India. It aims to provide opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds, ensuring social and educational inclusion. The specific reservation percentages and eligibility criteria may vary slightly by state and institution, so students should check the respective guidelines and notifications issued by the universities or state authorities for the most up-to-date information.