



SOCIO-ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED GROUP (SEDG) POLICY

St. Joseph's College is committed to ensuring inclusive, equitable, and quality education for all students, with a special focus on those from Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs). The college adheres to the principles laid out in NEP 2020 and the UGC guidelines by implementing academic, financial, and socio-emotional support mechanisms to empower disadvantaged learners.

Objectives:

- To bridge academic gaps through bridge courses and foundational support.
- To promote inclusivity through orientation, induction, and sensitization.
- To ensure access to digital and e-learning resources.
- To enhance employability and self-sufficiency through certificate courses and earn-while-learn programs.
- To facilitate financial assistance and scholarships to eligible students.

PRACTICES:

a) Academic Bridging and Support

- **Bridge Courses:** Offered before commencement of the semester to help SEDGs students, especially first-generation learners, transition smoothly into higher education.
- **Student Induction Program:** Orientation for first-year students to acclimatize to academic and campus life.
- **E-Learning Resources and ICT Facilities:** Free access to digital platforms, SWAYAM, LMS, smart classrooms, and digital libraries.



b) Earn-While-Learn & Certificate Courses

- **Certificate Courses:** Tailored skill-based programs to empower students to “Earn while they Learn.”
- **Part-time Campus Work:** Opportunities like lab assistants, library assistants, data entry, and support roles.

c) Extension and Outreach Programs

Community outreach initiatives, science awareness for school children, literacy and technology programs, especially aimed at uplifting marginalized communities.

d) Scholarship and Financial Support

Scholarships offered to:

- Management Scholarships
- SC/ST, BC, Minority students
- Puthumai PENN Scheme (for girls who studied in government schools from Std. VI)
- With YoU Trust (for students from very poor backgrounds)
- IVDP Scholarships (for single-parent or economically backward students)
- Sports Quota Scholarships

Regular updates and awareness programs are given regarding scholarship deadlines and processes. Document verification and submission is supported by the college's Scholarship and Fellowship Committee.

e) Support Cells and Grievance Redressal

Confidential grievance redressal mechanism with 24 hours resolution window.



St. Joseph's College of Arts and Science for Women

(Affiliated to Periyar University, Salem)

An ISO 9001:2015 Certified Institution

Recognised U/s 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act

Mookandapalli, SIPCOT, Hosur - 635 126

OUTCOMES

- **Academic Empowerment:** Increased academic success and retention of first-generation learners and SEDG students through bridge courses and mentoring.
- **Financial Inclusion:** Significant number of students benefitting from various scholarships, reducing dropout rates due to financial burden.
- **Skill Development:** Certificate courses and part-time opportunities have enhanced employability and entrepreneurial thinking among students.
- **Community Impact:** Extension activities and outreach programs have raised awareness and contributed to social upliftment beyond the college.
- **Gender Equity:** Focused efforts on female students (especially through Puthumai PENN and With YoU Trust) have led to empowerment and progression to higher education.