



Report of the Committee to Formulate Uniform Norms for Awarding GRACE MARKS

**RELATED TO
NSS/NCC/Sport Under FYUGP**



**DEPT. OF HIGHER EDUCATION, GOVERNMENT OF KERALA
&
THE KERALA STATE HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL**

2024

Report of the Committee to Formulate Uniform Norms for Awarding Grace Marks Related to NSS/NCC/Sport Under FYUGP

(Govt. Letter No. B3/245/2024-HEDN dated. 30/07/2024)



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&
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SEPTEMBER, 2024

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for Awarding Grace Marks Related to NSS/NCC/Sport Under FYUGP**



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www.kshec.kerala.gov.in
Phone: 0471- 2301293, Fax: 0471 2301290

Committee Members

Sl. No.	Name	Contact Address
1.	Dr. Rajan Varughese (Convenor) Member Secretary, KSHEC	msheckerala@gmail.com
2.	Dr Sreejit C M Controller of Examinations Mahathama Ghandhi University	ce@mgu.ac.in 9497194001
2.	Dr Anil Ramachandran Professor & Head, School of Physical Education and Sports Sciences, University of Kannur	anilr@kannuruniv.ac.in 9447027990
3.	Dr Jisha C.K Dean of Students welfare, University of Calicut	dsw@uoc.ac.in 9495901510
4.	Dr.Sakeer Hussain V.P Director, Department of Physical Education, University of Calicut	drsakeerdpe@gmail.com 9447383611, 9895937444
6.	Dr Aldrin Antony Associate Professor and Head Department of Physics Cochin University of Science and technology	aldrin@cusat.ac.in 8879007890
7.	Sri. Lukose George Director, Student Services, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady	kanjirackal@ssus.ac.in 9446128663
8.	Joint Registrar Academics University of Kerala	jracademic@keralauniversity.ac.in
8.	Dr.Sudheendran. K Research Officer, Implementation Cell, KSHEC	sudhi.kooriyattil@gmail.com 8943851820
9.	Dr.Shafeeque V. Research Officer, Implementation Cell, KSHEC	shefikkshec@gmail.com 8281942902

Foreword

The Kerala State Higher Education Curriculum Framework for Four Year Under Graduate Programmes (FYUGP) was formulated by the Kerala State Curriculum Committee headed by Dr. Suresh Das (Former Vice President KSCSTE). A model Regulation for FYUGP was prepared by the KSHEC for the universities in the state. UGC Curriculum and Credit Framework, National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) and Outcome Based Education (OBE) are all integral to the new FYUGP curriculum. The FYUGP is introduced in the affiliated colleges of the 4 major universities (Kerala, Calicut, Kannur and Mahatma Gandhi University) in the state in 2024-25 academic year. University of Kerala and MG University, Kottayam have started FYUGP in their main campuses also. The 5-year integrated programmes run by Cochin University of Science and Technology and Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam are also restructured to provide a four-year exit option. Similarly, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady and Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University, Thirur also introduced FYUGP in their campus/ centres. In this context the Government of Kerala vide letter No. B3/385/2022/HEDN dated 16.03.2023 has constituted a committee to formulate uniform norms for award of grace marks related to NSS/ NCC/ Sports/ Cultural activities. The committee included representatives from the Kerala, Calicut, Mahatma Gandhi, Kannur, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit and State NSS unit, officials of the Kerala. NCC Directorate and Research Officers of the Council. (See the list enclosed). The three meetings of the committee were held (22.04.2024, 22.05.2024, 06.08.2024) in this connection. The draft document was circulated among the universities for obtaining their opinion and the revised draft was also circulated among the universities before finalization of uniform norms.

The Executive Body meeting of the Kerala State Higher Education Council held on 04.09.2024 approved the report on Uniform Norms for granting Grace Marks. The sustained support and guidance given by Dr. R. Bindu, Hon. Higher Education Minister in the implementation of the FYUGP in the State has also positively contributed to the finalization of this report. I take this opportunity to thank Prof. Rajan Gurukkal, Vice Chairman, KSHEC and Smt. Ishita Roy IAS, Principal

Secretary, Higher Education for their guidance in the matter. Dr. K. Sudheendran, Research Officer and Co-ordinator of the committee has taken all the pain to finalise this report. I thank all the members of the committee for their corporation and hope that Universities in the State may take necessary steps to implement the recommendations.

30/09/2024

Dr. Rajan Varughese
Member Secretary/Convenor

Recommendations

of the Committee for Grace Marks Under FYUGP

1. Flexibility in choice:

In the Four Year Under Graduate Programmes (FYUGP), students can be granted flexibility to opt for either marks or credits for their performance and achievements and credits for participation in sports activities including coaching camps at college, university state or national level.

2. Awarding Credits for performance, achievements and participation

The following are the eligible activities recommended by the committee for availing credits during the FYUGP.

2.1 Credits for exceptional athletic achievements (SPEAA)

Students qualifying and representing nation in Olympics, Asian Games, Common Wealth Games may be entitled to receive 52 credits directly (approximately 39% of the total credits required for getting a 3 year UG degree) Out of this 52 credits, 32 credits can be used for their Major/Minor credits as per their choice and the remaining 20 credits can be used for the Foundation Courses including internship (except AEC); By doing this, if a student could not receive 50% of credits from their discipline required to qualify for a major, they can be awarded General BA ,BSC, BCom degree.

2.2 Credits for Participation in University, State, and National Sports Camps: (SPNCA)

Students participating in coaching camps conducted by Universities, State Associations or National Federations can earn academic credits for their involvement in the above categories of Coaching Camps, provided that prior sanction should be obtained from the Director of Physical Education of the concerned university in the case of the final National Camp and the final State team

camp through the Head of Physical Education & Principal of the College. These credits are awarded based on verified participation and can be applied to any Value-Added Course (VAC). Upon earning 3 credits, students are deemed to have passed the VAC.

Students may be given a provision to earn additional credits for their structured training programmes based on their performance evaluation by the competent authority. These can be considered in line with Short Term Vocational Training Courses and a maximum of 12 credits can be exempted from the FYUGP based on the credits.

For awarding the credits, the student shall forward a statement of the total hours of engagement/ training duly signed by the Director of Sports of the University in the case of University Camps and the Secretary/ Head Coach of State Association / National Federations in case of State camps/ National Camps to the Head of the institution. Credits shall be calculated as follows: Total Hours Involved 60 Hrs. This system promotes active participation in sports, recognizing and integrating students' athletic efforts into their academic achievements, thereby supporting a holistic educational experience.

2.3. Award of Credits for Sports Activities at College Level (SPAC)

To promote physical fitness and encourage participation in sports activities among students, it is proposed to institute a credit-based system for involvement in sports, Yoga, and Physical programmes. The following guidelines outline the process for acquiring and awarding credits through participation in these activities: -

All students are eligible to participate in sports activities, fitness drives, Yoga, and Physical Programmes conducted by the college. Participation must be officially recorded and verified by the respective Faculty of the Department of Physical Education or programme supervisor. Students who shall complete the prescribed sports activities with at least 180 hours of regular participation during their FYUG Programme will be awarded 3 credits and can be exempted from one Value Added Course.

2.4. Award of Credits for participation in NSS activities in College Level

Students who completed minimum regular activities of 240 hours or one Special camp (7 days) will be awarded 3 credits and can be exempted from one Value Added Course. This must be officially recorded by the Programme Officer of NSS Unit in the College.

2.5. Award of Credits for participation in NCC activities in the College Level

Students who are participating in the prescribed NCC activities with 75% attendance or above in 3 years will be awarded 3 credits and can be exempted from one Value Added Course.

2.6. Award of credits for other eligible participations in the college level

Respective universities may decide other eligible participations at the college level such as participation in 'Earn While You Learn' scheme, services during natural disaster, entrepreneurship, startups or any other activity deemed to be fit for awarding credits.

Students can claim only one activity during a Programme for claiming the credits for availing exemption from the Value-Added Course.

2.7. NCC as an elective subject in FYUG Programme

Based on the letter D.O.No1-18/2019 (CPP-II) dated April 2021 from UGC, NCC can be included as an elective subject and can be awarded a maximum of 24 credits. Based on this, NCC directorate has submitted a request for inclusion of NCC as an elective credit course in FYUG Programmes in all semesters. Universities may consider this and can include NCC as a Vocational Minor Course in FYUG Programmes and can provide a maximum of 24 credits as per the activities. If the students opt for NCC as their Vocational Minor, they are not eligible for the grace marks or any other credit exemption.

3. Awarding Grace Marks for achievements and performance

Grace marks shall be awarded for performance/ achievements in sports and games, youth festivals, NCC and NSS activities in the Four-Year Undergraduate (FYUG)

programme to recognise and reward students who excel in these areas. These marks encourage holistic balancing of academic and co-curricular commitments. Grace marks is an additional incentive for certain achievements and performances.

3.1 Grace marks for sports performance

Sports Grace Marks shall be limited to events included in the Annual Sports Calendar of the respective Universities. The grace Marks for each performance of an athlete at different levels in different competitions will be added cumulatively annually. Grace marks can be accumulated up to a maximum of 25% per annum while credits can be accumulated to a maximum of 25 % of the total required credit per semester (if the students opt to choose credits instead of grace marks).

FYUGP: Grace marks/Credits for Sports& Games performance				
Event	Position	Code	Grace marks (%)	Credit (@ same % as marks)
Representing India in Senior/ Junior competitions, Approved International Competition (Olympics, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, World Championships/Cups, World University Games/ Championships)	First	SP01	25	
	Second	SP02	24	
	Third	SP03	23	
	Participation	SP04	22	
All India Inter University Championships/ Khelo India University Games	First	SP05	17	
	Second	SP06	14	
	Third	SP07	12	
	Fourth	SP08	10	
	Participation	SP09	7	
South Zone/ Southwest Zone Inter-University Championship	First	SP10	14	
	Second	SP11	12	
	Third	SP12	10	
	Fourth	SP13	8	
	Participation	SP14	7	
Senior National Championship of Recognized National Federations	First	SP15	14	
	second	SP16	12	
	third	SP17	10	
	Participation	SP18	6	
Junior National Championship of	First	SP19	10	
	Second	SP20	9	

Recognised National Federations	Third	SP21	8	
	Participation	SP22	6	
All India Inter University / South Zone Inter University Non-Participation (Member, University Team)		SP23	5	
Inter District(state) Level Championships	First	SP24	4	
	Second	SP25	3	
	Third	SP26	2	
Inter Collegiate Competitions	First	SP27	5	
	Second	SP28	4	
	Third	SP29	3	
	Fourth	SP30	1	

3.2. Grace Mark Category for Cultural Activities

Grace Marks for cultural activity shall be limited to events included in the annual youth festival activities listed by the respective Universities. The grace Marks for each performance of a candidate at different levels in different competitions will be added cumulatively annually. Grace marks can be accumulated up to a maximum of 20% per annum while credits can be accumulated to a maximum of 20% of the total required credit per semester (if the students opt to choose credits instead of grace marks).

Sl. No.	Activities	code	% of grace marks
1	Inter collegiate/inter zone 1 st place, best actor ,Best actress, Individual	YF1	5%
2	Inter collegiate/inter zone 1 st place, best actor Best actress Group	YF2	5%
		Limited to 5% (1&2)	
3	South zone Interuniversity youth festival Individual 1 place	YF3	6%
4	South zone Interuniversity youth festival Individual II place	YF4	5%
5	South zone Interuniversity youth festival Individual III place	YF5	4%
6	South zone Interuniversity youth festival group I place	YF6	5%
7	South zone Interuniversity youth festival group II place	YF7	4%
8	South zone Interuniversity youth festival participation	YF8	1%

Sl. No.	Activities	code	% of grace marks
		Limited to 6%(3-8)	
9	National Level youth festival individual 1 st Place	YF9	10%
10	National Level youth festival individual 2 nd Place	YF10	7%
11	National Level youth festival individual 3 rd Place	YF11	5%
12	National Level youth festival group 1 st Place	YF12	8%
13	National Level youth festival group 2 nd Place	YF13	6%
14	National Level youth festival group 3 rd Place	YF13	4%
15	National Level youth festival participation	YF14	2%
		(Limited to 10%)	

3.3. NCC activities for grace mark

Grace Marks for NCC activities shall be limited to events listed below and approved by the respective Universities. The grace Marks for each event will be added cumulatively annually. Grace marks can be accumulated up to a maximum of 20% per annum.

Sl. No.	Activities	Code	% of grace marks	Remarks
1	Attending Republic Day Camps / Parade / National Youth Exchange Programme/ Foreign Cruise	NC1	12%	
2	All india Vayu Sainik camp/All India Nau Sainik camp/All india Thal Sainik Camp/IDSSC/Yatching Regatta(any one)	NC2	8%	
3	All Centrally Organized Adventure activities Mountaineering Expedition/mountaineering course/para Jump course/para sailing/cycling Expedition/Trekking/sailing Expeditions (Inshore/off shore)/Gliding (Max three launches)/power flying(solo) scuba diving course/skiing course/Rock climbing training/camp/south zone shooting competition/camel safari (any one)	NC3	6%	

4	Centrally organised camps- EBSB/SPINIC/NIC/ALC/BLC/attachment with army, navy, airforce/IGC/independence day Sports and games camp/NCC national Games(any one)	NC4	6%	
5	Passed C Certificate	NC5	5%	
6	Passed B Certificate	NC6	4%	
7	Inter group Competition/Pre-RDC-II/Pre - RDC-III	NC7	3%	
8	Preparatory camps-Pre-NCC National Games Camp/Pre-RDC/Pre-TSC/Pre- NSC/Pre-VSC any one	NC8	3%	
9	75% attendance or above 3years	NC9		
10	ATC/CATC (any one)	NC10	3%	
11	Maximum grace mark		20%	

Note: Based on the letter D.O.No1-18/2019 (CPP-II) dated April 2021 from UGC NCC can be included as elective subjects and can be awarded a maximum of 24 credits. Based on this, NCC directorate has submitted a request for inclusion of NCC as an elective credit course in FYUG Programmes in all semesters. Universities may consider this and can include NCC as a vocational minor subject in FYUG Programmes and can provide a maximum of 24 credits as per the activities. If the students opt for NCC as their vocational minor, they are not eligible for the grace marks.

3.4. NSS activities for grace mark

Sl. No	Activity	Code	Percentage of Marks
1	Blood Donation- Minimum 6 times	KSNSS1	2%
2	University level leadership camps (100 hours camp)	KSNSS2	2%
3	Winners in state level NSS festival or State NSS meet or NSS competitions organized by State Government or State NSS cell first.	KSNSS3	3%
	FIRST 3, SECOND -2	KSNSS4	2%
4	Special volunteer service in pandemics and other natural disasters including flood, drought etc.	KSNSS5	3%

Sl. No	Activity	Code	Percentage of Marks
5	Special service certificate or appreciation from State Government or State NSS cell for NSS activities	KSNSS6	3%
6	Recipient of State awards/National level awards	KSNSS7	4%
7	Attending Approved National Camps/ NIC/NYF/ Pre RD	KSNSS8	4%
8	Attending state level camps / additional special camp approved or organized by State NSS/Govt. of Kerala	KSNSS9	4%
9	Ten days minimum volunteer service (50 hours) in official programme of the State or in special projects initiated by state government/ State NSS cell	KSNSS10	4%
10	Participation in RD Camp	KSNSS11	5%
11	Participation in international events approved by State Cell/ Directorate of NSS	KSNSS12	7%
12	Maximum grace mark		20%

3.5. Grace Marks for differently abled persons

Sl. No.	Disability	code	% of Grace Marks
1	Candidates having 40% to 49% disability (certified by a Medical Board)	PWD-1	10%
2	Candidates having 50% to 59% disability (certified by a Medical Board)	PWD-2	15%
3	Candidates having 60% to 69% disability (certified by a Medical Board)	PWD-3	20%
4	Candidates having 70% & above disability (certified by a Medical Board)	PWD-4	25%

4. General conditions

4.1. Application Process

Students are required to apply for grace marks/credits during the respective academic year. Once approved, these marks/credits shall be deposited in a designated grace credit/mark bank. The application of these marks/credits will be processed at the end of the 6th semester and can be applied to any subject across the six semesters to the benefit of the students. For students opting to continue for the Honours program, the eligible grace marks for the 7th and 8th Semester shall be affected at the end of the 8th Semester.

4.2. Equal Distribution:

Eligible grace marks/credits shall be evenly distributed across all papers/courses of an examination, ensuring fairness and equity in their application.

4.3. Redistribution Clause: Redistribution of grace marks is permissible only for papers in which the candidate has already passed. regardless of the semester/year. The grace mark is distributed in the best interest of the student while redistributing Grace Marks. Grace marks/credits shall be awarded for regular examinations. If the student does not succeed in regular chance grace mark/ credit can also be granted for the next two immediate chances of supplementary examinations.

4.4. Online Mechanisms for Grace Mark in Universities

In order to lessen the problem related to the award of Grace Mark to students, Universities shall develop suitable online mechanisms for uploading details of grace mark from colleges to the universities (similar to the online facility existing for uploading of internal marks). This will help the timely award of Grace Mark and declaration of results of students.

5. Eligible activities in NSS for awarding credits.

Students who completed minimum regular activities of 240 hours including one Special camp (7 days) will be awarded 3 credits and can be exempted from one Value Added Course (VAC). The report of the Commission for Reforms in Examination has also

recommended a common framework for awarding Grace mark / Grade for all the universities in the state.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE VICE-CHAIRMAN
THE KERALA STATE HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL
Present: Prof.(Dr.) Rajan Gurukkal**

The Kerala State Higher Education Council — Committee to formulate uniform norms for awarding grace marks related to NSS/NCC/Sports —Sanctioned- Orders issued.

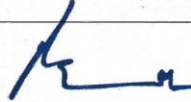
KSHEC-A3/306-17/Committee- grace marks -NCC/NSS/Sports/171/2024 Dated, Tvpm.19. 04.2024

Read: 1. Govt.Lr No. B3/385/2022/HED dated 16.03.2024 .
2. Note dated 19.04.2024 received from the Member Secretary, KSHEC

ORDER

As per the minutes of the meeting convened on 06.03.2024 towards the implementation of Four Year Under Graduate Programme in the State, it is resolved to constitute a committee to formulate uniform norms for awarding grace marks related to NSS/NCC/Sports. Therefore a Committee to formulate uniform norms for awarding grace marks related to NSS/NCC/Sports is constituted as detailed below:

Sl. No	Name	Capacity in the Committee
1	Dr. Rajan Varughese Member Secretary, KSHEC	Convenor
2	Dr Sreejith C M Controller of Examinations, Mahathama Ghandhi University	Member
3	Dr Anil Ramachandran Professor & Head, School of Physical Education and Sports Sciences, University of Kannur	Member
4	Dr Jisha C.K Dean of Students welfare, University of Calicut	Member
5	Dr.Sakeer Hussain V.P Director, Department of Physical Education, University of Calicut	Member
6	Dr Aldrin Antony Associate Professor and Head Department of Physics , Cochin University of Science and technology	Member
7	Sri. Lukose George Director, Student Services, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady	Member
8	Dr. Sudheendran. K Research Officer, Implementation Cell, KSHEC	Member
9	Dr. Shefeeque V. Research Officer, Implementation Cell, KSHEC	Member


Vice Chairman

Copy to:

1. The Principal Secretary to Govt., Higher Education Department with C/L
2. Director of Collegiate Education with C/L
3. Chairman and Members of the Committee
4. Registrars of all Universities with C/L
5. Registrar and FO, KSHEC/ Coordinator
6. Assistants, O/o the VC/MS, KSHEC
7. File/Stock



Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Kerala &
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