



# Frequently Asked Questions

## For entrepreneurs

### 1) What is AC & ABC scheme?

The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare (MoA&FW), Government of India (GoI), in association with NABARD has launched a unique programme to take better methods of farming to each farmer across the country. This programme aims to tap the expertise available in the large pool of Agriculture Graduates. Under AC&ABC scheme 45 days training provides to eligible candidates. Training is free of cost including food and accommodation.

In this 45 days training program all theoretical as well as practical knowledge related to establishing new venture e.g. Knowledge related to finance, accounting, marketing, production, field visits, and survey is provided to the candidates. At the last phase of the training program candidates have to prepare Detail project reports (DPR) in the field of they want to start their business. After completion of the DPR, The NTI from which candidates has trained, send that DPR to banks and bank provide loan to entrepreneurs.

### 2) What are the benefits of the scheme?

- a. 45 days training provides to eligible candidates.
- b. Technical guidance related to starting of new venture is being provided.
- c. Loan amount (project based):
  - i. For individual ₹ 20 lakhs
  - ii. For group ₹1 Crore (group of five people)
- d. No collateral security up to ₹10 lakhs.
- e. Repayment period: 3 to 10 years
- f. Subsidy rate:
  - i. For general category- 36 %
  - ii. For women, SC/ST category, north eastern & Hill states candidates– 44%

### 3) What age group are eligible for this scheme?

Candidates between the age group of 18 to 60 years are eligible for AC&ABC Scheme.

### 4) What is the qualification criteria for the scheme?

The following categories of Candidates are eligible for AC&ABC Scheme.

- a) Graduates in agriculture and allied subjects like Horticulture, Sericulture, Dairy, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Home/ Community Sciences, Biotechnology, Agricultural Engineering, Forestry, Food Technology, Food Nutrition and Dietetics etc, from SAUs/ Central Agricultural Universities/ Universities and graduates in Environmental Science, Botany, Zoology and Chemistry recognized by ICAR/ UGC. Degree in Agriculture and allied



subjects offered by other agencies are also considered subject to approval of Department of Agriculture Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Government of India on recommendation of the State Government.

b) Diploma (with at least 50% marks)/ Post Graduate Diploma holders in Agriculture and allied subjects (as in para 3.1 in ACABC guidelines) from State Agricultural Universities, State Agriculture and Allied Departments and State Department of Technical Education. Diploma in Agriculture and allied subjects (as in para 3.1 in ACABC guidelines) offered by other agencies (autonomous bodies, UGC affiliated universities etc.,) are also considered subject to approval of DAC&FW, GOI on recommendation of the State Government.

c) Post Graduation in Agriculture & allied subjects.

d) Degree courses recognized by UGC having more than 60 percent of the course content in Agriculture and allied subjects (as in para 3.1 in ACABC guidelines 2018).

e) Diploma/Post-graduate Diploma courses with more than 60 percent of course content in Agriculture and allied subjects (as in para 3.1 in ACABC guidelines 2018), after B.Sc. With Biological Sciences from recognized colleges and universities.

f) Agriculture related courses at intermediate (i.e. Plus two) level, with at least 55% marks.

Link of ACABC guidelines- <http://www.agriclinics.net/acabcguidelines2018.pdf>

### **5) How to apply for training?**

Use this link to apply online-

<Http://www.agriclinics.net/onlineapplication26052020.pdf>

Or

Visit <http://www.agriclinics.net/> website, in the home page, online application form is available. In this form candidate have to give priorities of name of NTIs in which they want to take training, whenever the training will start, the 1<sup>st</sup> preferred NTI will call the candidates for interview, shortlisted candidates can take training.

### **6) Where can we get this training?**

MANAGE is supporting several Nodal Training Institutes (NTI) across India. Candidates can choose the nearby NTI in their state.

Visit link <http://www.agriclinics.net/Nti-Contacts.aspx>

### **7) From where we can get contact information about NTI in particular state?**

Use this link to get contact details of NTI in specific state:

<Http://www.agriclinics.net/Nti-Contacts.aspx>



### **8) What is the fee for this training?**

The applicant selected for training has to submit an application fee of ₹ 500 /- through demand draft drawn in favour of “MANAGE Hyderabad”. The training is free of cost, including tuition fee, food and accommodation.

### **9) How can we get a loan under this scheme?**

In the last phase of training, Candidates have to create a Detail Project Report (DPR) in which they want to start their business, for example, if someone want to start poultry, the DPR should be based on poultry. Nodal Training Institute will give all the guidelines on how to make it. After completion of the DPR, institute itself submits DPRs report to the bank, and from there candidate get the loan.

### **10) What is DPR?**

Detail Project Report (DPR) is a document which candidate has to submit to avail a loan from bank. Candidates have to make a report on the subject in which they want to start their business. For example, if someone want to start Dairy, the DPR should be based on dairy. Nodal training institute gives complete guidelines on how to prepare this report.

### **11) In what areas can we start a business?**

In AC&ABC guidelines, there is a list of 32 activities in Annexure-I. Candidates can start their venture in that. All that activities are indicative in nature. Any other activity in agriculture, horticulture, sericulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, allied sectors or combination of two or more of the above activities selected by the candidates, which, generate income to the agripreneur and render extension services to the farmers will also be eligible under the Scheme.

Link of ACABC guidelines-

[Http://www.agriclinics.net/acabcguidelines2018.pdf](http://www.agriclinics.net/acabcguidelines2018.pdf)

### **12) Is it possible to join AC&ABC Training while pursuing degree?**

No, there should be one year gap in between completion on your graduation and getting admission for AC & ABC training.

### **13) If a candidate stays nearby training Institute, can a candidate attending Training program called as a day's scholar?**

Yes. If a candidate stays nearby training Institute, he can attend training program as a day's scholar.

### **14) Any last date for the AC&ABC Training Registrations**

No. Candidates can enrol their name on online application form given in the website ([Http://www.agriclinics.net/](http://www.agriclinics.net/)) and submit the application form at any time. However, NTI to whom the candidate gave 1<sup>st</sup> preference will contact the candidate, whenever the training will start. They will call the candidates for interview.



**15) What will be the rate of Interest for the loans**

Rate of interest on term loan shall be as per RBI guidelines and declared policy of the respective bank in this regard. Interest would be chargeable on borrower's accounts as per RBI/ Bank's policy

**16) What are Refresher Training Programs**

About 500 selected Agripreneur will undergo refresher training every year. This training of about 3-5 days duration may be conducted in specialized Institutions. Detailed financial norms for refresher courses under ACABC Scheme are given at ACABC guidelines Annexure-IX.

ACABC guidelines- <http://www.agriclinics.net/acabcguidelines2018.pdf>

**17) Is AC&ABC Certificate is valid for lifetime for business establishment and to avail loan and subsidy?**

Yes, but along with Certificate, agripreneuers should have their DPRs with them for loan process. Many banks will ask to submit the Certificate of recently attended Refresher Training Program if the ABABC training is competed 3-5 years back.

**18) From where we can get, total guidelines of AC&ABC Scheme?**

AC&ABC guidelines 2018- <http://www.agriclinics.net/acabcguidelines2018.pdf>

**19) Is AC&ABC training can be taken in any state in PAN India?**

Yes, but for handholding support, it is suggested to take training from respective home state.

**20) Application fee Demand Draft should be paid in the name of NTI or MANAGE or AC&ABC?**

Application fee Demand Draft should be paid in the name of "MANAGE AC&ABC Hyderabad".

**21) What is the AC&ABC training content?**

Use this link to get all details of the training content:

<http://www.agriclinics.net/gcdocuments/45.pdf>

**22) After getting AC&ABC training certificate, will the candidates get licenses to sale agro chemicals?**

No, ACABC scheme not give assurance of any licence to trained candidates.

**23) I lost my AC&ABC certificate, how to apply to get certificate**

Use this link for getting duplicate certificates:

<Http://www.agriclinics.net/gcdocuments/55.pdf>



## For Nodal Training Institutes

### 24) What is the eligibility criteria for applying new NTI?

Eligibility Criteria for NTIs: Institutes from public and private sector with following credentials are eligible for considering them as Nodal Training Institutes (NTIs) under the Scheme:

- i. At least one year experience in organizing training programmes and
- ii. Implementation of Central & State Government Schemes related to agri-entrepreneurship development
- iii. Either own or leased (at least one year) lodging, boarding and transport Facilities for minimum of 35 candidates.
- iv. Availability of training infrastructure (buildings, teaching aids including PC and LCD Projector, resource persons etc.)
- v. Nodal Officer, with degree in agriculture and allied disciplines and having at least 3 years' experience in agri-entrepreneurship development
- vi. Private firms must have an annual turnover of minimum of Rs 5 lakh for the last 3 years.

AC&ABC guidelines 2018:

[Http://www.agriclinics.net/acabcguidelines2018.pdf](http://www.agriclinics.net/acabcguidelines2018.pdf)

### 25) What is the format and which documents should require for applying new NTI?

Visit <http://www.agriclinics.net/>.

Refer - Annexure –II application format for Nodal Training Institutes (NTIs) under ACABC scheme are given.

AC&ABC guidelines 2018:

[Http://www.agriclinics.net/acabcguidelines2018.pdf](http://www.agriclinics.net/acabcguidelines2018.pdf)

### 26) How to apply for a new NTI ?

Eligible Institutes can send their application as per the format given in AC&ABC guidelines 2018, in that Annexure –II is given. According to that format institute have to submit both application form along with proof of all the things and documents mentioned in the application form to MANAGE in the hard copy only.

Visit - <http://www.agriclinics.net/LatestNews%2f39.pdf>

### 27) What is the process of selection of NTI?

The selection process is as given below:

- a. Assessment of the institution based on the application.
- b. Field verification of eligible institutions by a team comprising Director, CAD, MANAGE or any other Director nominated by the Director General, representative of ATMA, Department of Agriculture at the State level, Zilla Parishad Chairman or a member of Zilla Parishad representing the Chairman, Lead Bank and NABARD. Director, MANAGE will be the chairman of the team. A quorum of three members will suffice.



c. Institutions recommended by Field Verification Committee shall make a presentation before a panel of MANAGE faculty, Representative of NABARD, Directors of Department of Agriculture of State concerned, ICAR Zonal Project Director (or his nominee) and DAC & FW representative. Selection of NTIs shall be based on the criteria given in ACABC guidelines -Annexure-III.

AC&ABC guidelines 2018:

[Http://www.agriclinics.net/acabcguidelines2018.pdf](http://www.agriclinics.net/acabcguidelines2018.pdf)

**28) What are the criteria for selection of NTI?**

The selection procedure of NTI consist of three steps i.e. scrutiny of application, physical verification and presentation. These are basic three steps. Detailed criteria for selection of NTI is given in the ACABC guidelines, Annexure III.

AC&ABC guidelines 2018:

[Http://www.agriclinics.net/acabcguidelines2018.pdf](http://www.agriclinics.net/acabcguidelines2018.pdf)

**29) Last date for applying for new NTI?**

Press advertisement inviting application from eligible institutions will be issued once in a year.

**30) Is there any helpline or tollfree number?**

Toll Free Helpline: 1800 425 1556  
9951851556 (9 A.M to 5.30 P.M)

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