



**Centurion**  
**UNIVERSITY**

*Shaping Lives...*

*Empowering Communities...*

# **POVERTY REDUCTION POLICY 2024**



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CENTURION UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT  
ODISHA



## FOREWORD



At Centurion University of Technology and Management (CUTM), we believe that education has the power to transform lives. Our mission of "Shaping Lives and Empowering Communities" is deeply aligned with our commitment to poverty reduction, a goal that requires both dedication and innovation. Through this policy, we affirm our commitment to creating meaningful opportunities for students and communities, helping them break free from the cycle of poverty and build a brighter future.

CUTM has always been at the forefront of fostering social responsibility, and this policy addressing poverty is a testament to our continued commitment. By combining academic knowledge with practical solutions, we seek to empower individuals with the skills, resources, and support they need to break the cycle of poverty and achieve sustainable livelihoods.

This policy outlines our holistic approach, which integrates education, research, community engagement, and collaborative partnerships. It reflects our belief that by working together—students, faculty and other stakeholders—we can make a tangible difference in the lives of those affected by poverty.

As you read through this document, I encourage you to see it not just as a policy, but as a call to action. Together, we can create a brighter future for all.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Supriya Pattanayak".

**Prof. (Dr.) Supriya Pattanayak**  
**Vice-Chancellor**  
**Centurion University of Technology and Management**

# CONTENTS

<b>1. Purpose</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2. Policy Statement</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3. Key Areas of Focus</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>I . Centurion University Scholarship</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>II . Education and Skills Development</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>III. Research and Policy Advocacy</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>IV. Community Engagement</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>V . Healthcare Access</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>VI . Entrepreneurship and Innovation</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>VII . CSR Initiatives and Partnerships</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4. Conclusion</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>5. Approval and Review</b>	<b>6</b>

# Poverty Reduction Policy

## 1. Purpose

The primary goal of this policy is to effectively address poverty by providing comprehensive support tailored to the unique needs of students, faculty, staff and local communities. The university aims to empower individuals through inclusive and sustainable measures contributing to responsible citizenship and nation building.

## 2. Policy Statement

The university is dedicated to reducing poverty by fostering collaboration among students, faculty, staff, and community members. This policy encourages stakeholder involvement in the design and implementation of poverty reduction strategies, ensuring a collective and impactful approach leading to overall poverty reduction.

## 3. Key Areas of Focus

The university focuses on providing access to affordable education. The university offers a variety of scholarships and financial aid programs to ensure that every student, regardless of their economic situation has access to quality education. These initiatives aim to reduce financial barriers, allowing students to pursue education and uplift their families. The university places a special emphasis on promoting girls' education through dedicated scholarships.

### I. Centurion University Scholarships

The university provides institutional scholarships to economically backward and deserving students to support their education and skill development. About 5% of students benefit from programs like the Bihar Credit Card Scheme and West Bengal Government Scholarship Scheme. Some of the institutional scholarships available to students include:

- Full Fee Waiver Scholarship- All 4 Years
- Annual Scholarship for National Players
- Annual Scholarship for State Players
- Chandrika Scholarship for female students
- Special scholarships - Bhoomiputra for children of CRPF personnel
- Performance Based Scholarships

The University also collaborates with local organizations, government agencies, corporates and NGOs dedicated to poverty reduction. Individual donors, both domestic and international, contribute to sponsoring economically weaker students.

Scholarships from Government Agencies:

- E-Prerana scholarship
- E-Medhabruti scholarship
- Central Sector Scheme of Scholarship for College and University Students
- Indira Gandhi Scholarship
- Post Matric Scholarship for Students with Disabilities
- Prime Minister's Scholarship Scheme for Central Armed Police Forces and Assam Rifles
- Biju Sishu Swasthya Yojna
- Prime Minister's Yashasvi Post Matric Scholarship
- Prime Minister's Scholarship Scheme for Ministry of Railways
- Umbrella Scheme for Education of Scheduled Tribe Children

Scholarships from corporates, NGOs and local organizations:

- Vivo for Education Scholarship
- Eaton India Foundation Scholarship
- JSW Udaan Scholarship
- S.R. Jindal Scholarship
- Leprosy Foundation Scholarship
- Reliance Foundation Scholarship
- AIA Scholarship
- Aravind Foundation Scholarship
- Astral Foundation Scholarship
- Bharathi Cement Scholarship
- HDFC Bank ECS Scholarship
- HG Infra Engineering Ltd Scholarship
- JK Lakshmi Vidya Scholarship



- Pragathi Scholarship
- Saksham Scholarship Scheme by Arvind Fashions Limited
- Timken Engineering and Research India Pvt. Ltd. Scholarship

## **II. Education and Skills Development**

The university offers a broad range of programs that equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to create a career pathway, secure jobs and improve their socio-economic status. Key initiatives include:

- Increasing access to quality education for all age groups.
- Investing in vocational training and skill development programs.
- Supporting lifelong learning initiatives to adapt to evolving job markets

The University has skill development training programs in collaboration with Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Odisha Livelihoods Mission (OLM) and the National Skill Development Council (NSDC).

The University has tied up with National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) through which it helps school dropouts in the local communities to attain a minimum qualification of matriculation. The tie up has also enabled many of our staff among the drivers, helpers, gardeners and others to complete their school education.

The University partners with the NGO Swasthya Swaraj to empower tribal girls in delivering healthcare services to their communities.

## **III. Research and Policy Advocacy**

The university's research centres and faculty members are actively engaged in poverty-related research, contributing to policy advocacy and strategy development aimed at poverty reduction in Odisha and India. The university promotes environmental sustainability through:

- Investment in green technologies and renewable energy sources.
- Promotion of sustainable agricultural practices to ensure food security
- Waste to Wealth approach

## **IV. Community Engagement**

The university actively participates in community engagement initiatives through partnerships with local organizations, government agencies and NGOs. For this purpose, the university has a social outreach enterprise - Gram Tarang which is an umbrella system to provide services like financial inclusion, healthcare services, technology support for agricultural activities, training and employment opportunities for school dropouts and the differently abled and many such socio economic activities. These initiatives focus on poverty alleviation through outreach programs, training, and support for marginalized communities.

- Gram Tarang Inclusive Development Services promotes financial inclusion for underprivileged and marginalized communities through a mobile app integration program that connects them to the banking system
- Gram Tarang Employability Training provides comprehensive employability training designed to enhance skills, boost job readiness and improve employment opportunities.
- The Urban Micro Business Centre supports the growth of small enterprises by providing resources, training and access to financial services.
- Gram Tarang Technologies focuses on innovative solutions and services to enhance the livelihoods of rural and underserved communities through technology and skill development.
- Gram Tarang Foods is dedicated to promoting sustainable agriculture and food processing, providing rural and tribal communities with training, employment, and market access for locally sourced, high-quality food products.

## **V. Healthcare Access**

The university ensures healthcare access for all staff and extends its health support services to the wider community. Regular health check-ups, Yoga courses, wellness programs and awareness initiatives on topics like electrical safety and environmental conservation contribute to the well-being of students and communities.

## **VI. Entrepreneurship and Innovation**

The university encourages entrepreneurship and innovation among its faculty and students, empowering them to create businesses and initiatives that generate income and employment opportunities. The Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) supports students in developing innovative solutions that contribute to poverty reduction.

The university promotes entrepreneurial skills development through its "Wealth Creators" initiative and Startups from the university's incubation program.

## **VII. CSR Initiatives and Partnerships**

Centurion University is actively involved in several CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) initiatives focused on community development, education, and sustainability.

- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives at the university include support for differently abled children and rehabilitation programs for communities affected by mining activities in collaboration with NMDC in Chhattisgarh.
- The University, in partnership with the CSR wing of Essilor India, runs a program offering free eye check-ups and prescription glasses to underprivileged communities.
- The University, in partnership with LTI Mindtree, runs a program aimed at providing skill development and training to 1,000 children from underprivileged communities across six different trades.
- The University has received CSR grants from the Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) to develop the sewerage system in and around the campus, with a primary focus on environmental conservation and improving living conditions for underserved communities.
- The University has partnered with an NGO to offer short-term courses for students from Australia's indigenous communities.

Individual donors, including those from international locations, contribute to sponsoring economically weaker students.

#### **4. Conclusion**

The university's approach to poverty reduction is holistic, integrating education, research, entrepreneurship and community engagement to address the multi-faceted challenges of poverty. The university's effort aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 1 (No Poverty), reaffirming the University's mission of "Shaping Lives and Empowering Communities." By committing to Sustainable Development Goals, the University actively contributes to the development of a more equitable society.

#### **5. Approval and Review**

This policy has been approved by the university administration and will be reviewed periodically to ensure its effectiveness and compliance with current laws and best practices. Any amendments to the policy will be communicated to the university community.



**Dr. Anita Patra**  
**Registrar**  
**Centurion University of Technology and Management**



REGISTRAR  
Centurion University of  
Technology & Management  
ODISHA









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## **CENTURION UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT, ODISHA**

### **CAMPUSES:**

**Paralakhemundi Campus**

Village Alluri Nagar  
P.O. – R Sitapur, Via- Uppalada  
Paralakhemundi, Dist.- Gajapati  
Odisha, India. PIN– 761211

**Bhubaneswar Campus**

Ramchandrapur  
P.O. – Jatni, Bhubaneswar  
Dist.- Khurda, Odisha,  
India, PIN– 752050

**Balangir Campus**

Behind BSNL Office  
IDCO land, Rajib Nagar  
Dist.- Balangir, Odisha  
India, PIN-767001

**Rayagada Campus**

IDCO Industrial Area  
Pitamahal, Rayagada  
Dist.-Rayagada, Odisha  
India, PIN-765001

**Balasore Campus**

Gopalpur,  
P.O.-Balasore  
Dist.-Balasore, Odisha  
India, PIN-756044

**Chatrapur Campus**

Ramchandrapur,  
Kaliabali Chhak,  
P.O-Chatrapur, Dist.-Ganjam  
Odisha, India, PIN-761020