Centurion University
Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...

Access for Underrepresented Applicants

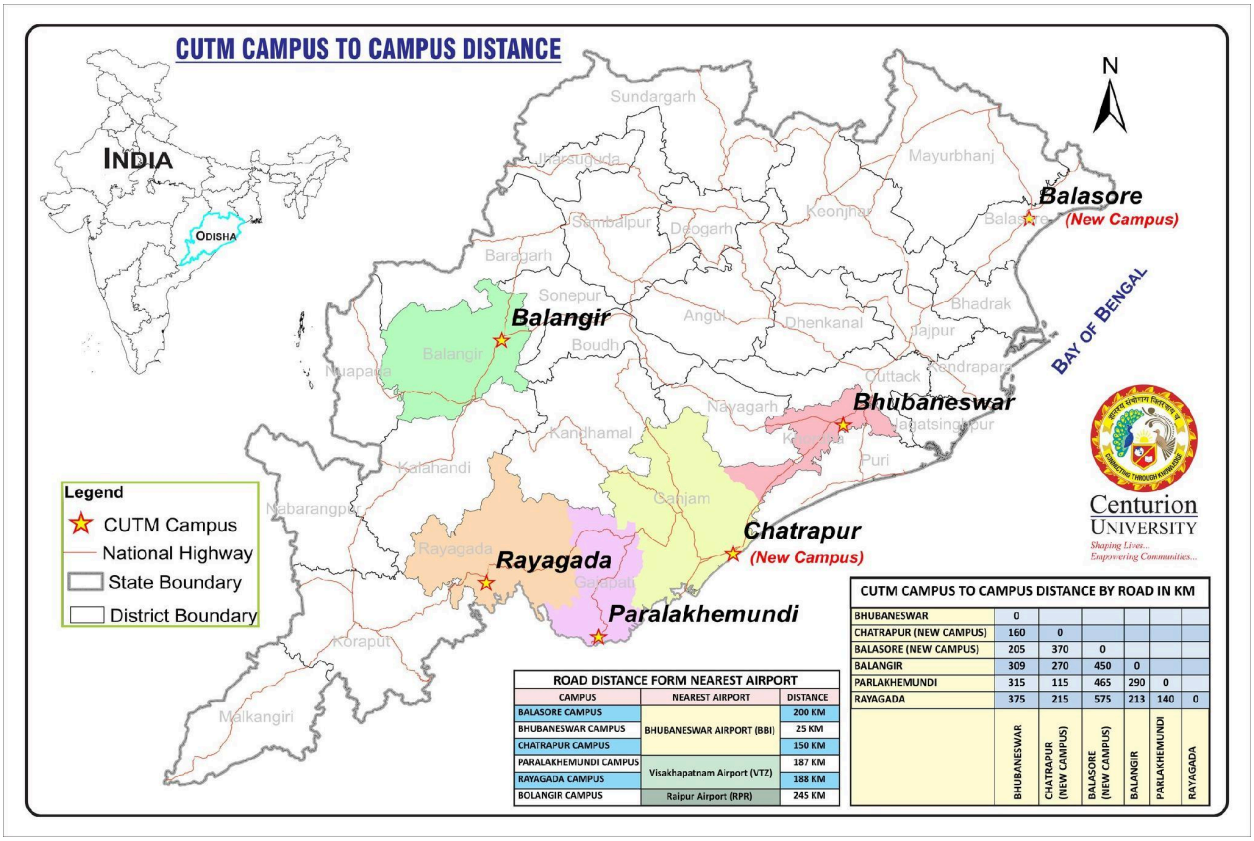


Fig. 1: Centurion University of Technology and Management campuses across Odisha

Centurion University is deeply committed to equity and inclusivity in higher education. Recognising that access and representation are essential for social justice, the University has instituted robust mechanisms to measure and track applications and admissions from underrepresented and potentially underrepresented groups, including ethnic minorities, low-income students, non-traditional learners, women, LGBT students, persons with disabilities and newly settled refugee students.

Admissions Process and Accessibility

Admissions are merit-based and are conducted primarily through the Centurion University Entrance Examination (CUEE), with online options available for international applicants. The admission process is free of charge and is widely publicised through national and regional media, university brochures and the official website (www.cutm.ac.in). This ensures that students from diverse social and economic backgrounds, both domestic and international, are well informed about the opportunities available to them and are encouraged to apply.

Data Collection and Monitoring

The University maintains a comprehensive data collection and analysis system to monitor the demographic profile of its applicants and admitted students. For every student, the University records gender, state or country of

domicile, social category, first-generation status and disability status, and its scholarship records identify the group that each award supports. Annual reporting allows the University to track trends, identify gaps and take corrective measures to advance inclusion. For 2025, the principal diversity indicators were as follows:

- **Gender:** 4,781 women (35.8%) and 8,579 men (64.2%) among 13,360 enrolled students. The share of women has risen from 28.0% (3,241 of 11,571 students) in 2024.
- **Regional Representation:** Of the 9,324 students enrolled in undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, 6,465 (69.3%) are from Odisha, 2,805 (30.1%) are from other Indian states and 54 (0.6%) are from other countries.
- **Social Categories:** Of the same 9,324 students, 5,061 (54.3%) belong to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes or Other Backward Classes, and 4,263 (45.7%) to the General and other categories.
- **First-Generation Learners:** 2,137 of the 4,275 students who started a degree (50.0%) are the first in their families to enter higher education.
- **First-Generation Women:** 485 of the 1,389 women who started a degree (34.9%) are first-generation learners.
- **Low-Income Students:** 5,867 of the 13,360 enrolled students (43.9%) received a scholarship or fee concession from government, institutional or philanthropic sources.
- **Students with Disabilities:** 60 of the 13,360 enrolled students (0.45%).
- **International Students:** 377 of the 13,360 enrolled students are from other countries.

Gender

Female enrolment has grown in both absolute and relative terms. The number of women students increased from 2,981 of 10,700 (27.9%) in 2023 and 3,241 of 11,571 (28.0%) in 2024 to 4,781 of 13,360 (35.8%) in 2025, an increase of 1,540 women students in a single year. Among students starting a degree in 2025, 1,389 of 4,275 (32.5%) were women.

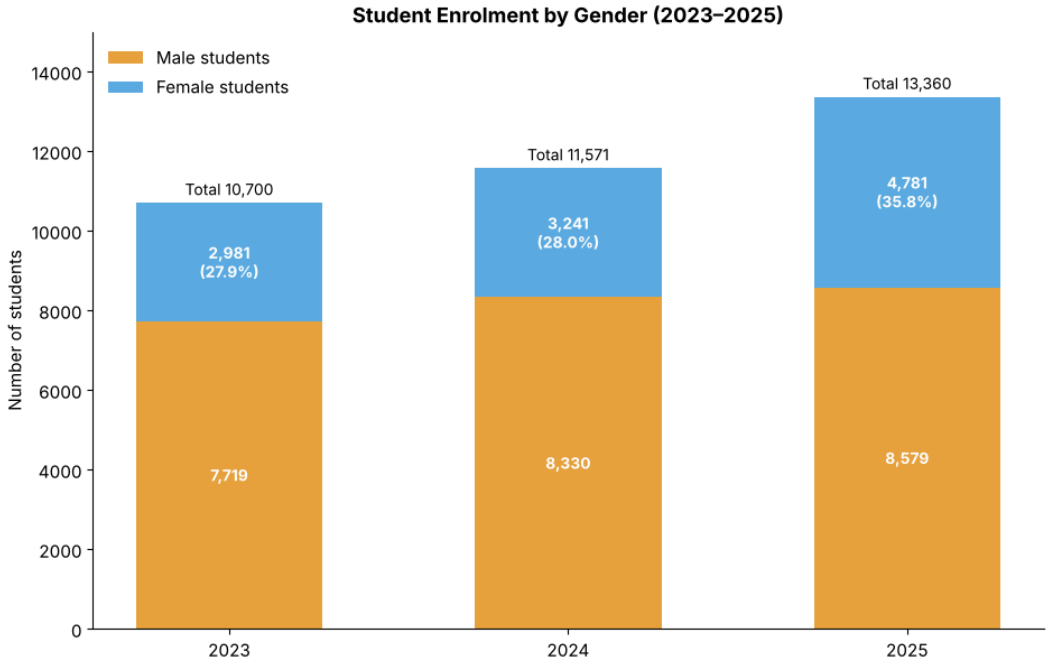


Fig. 2: Student enrolment by gender, 2023–2025. Percentages show women as a share of total enrolment (10,700 in 2023; 11,571 in 2024; 13,360 in 2025).

Regional Representation (Odisha and Other States)

The University's six campuses across Odisha, several of them in districts with large tribal and rural populations, bring higher education closer to communities that have historically had limited access to it, while the University

also attracts a substantial number of students from across India and abroad. In 2025, 6,465 of the 9,324 students enrolled in undergraduate and postgraduate programmes (69.3%) were domiciled in Odisha, 2,805 (30.1%) came from other Indian states and 54 (0.6%) came from other countries.

Programme level	Total students	Odisha	Other states	Other countries
Undergraduate (3-year)	1,547	1,196	341	10
Undergraduate (4-year)	6,577	4,277	2,256	44
Postgraduate (2-year)	1,200	992	208	0
Total	9,324	6,465 (69.3%)	2,805 (30.1%)	54 (0.6%)

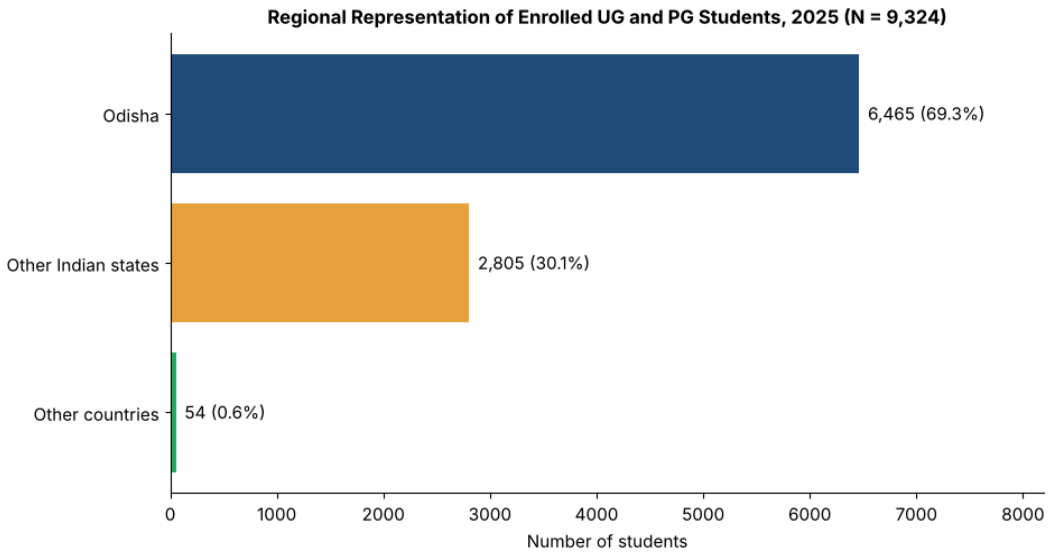


Fig. 3: Regional representation of the 9,324 students enrolled in undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, 2025.

Social Categories (General / OBC / SC / ST)

Students from historically disadvantaged social groups form the majority of the student body. Of the 9,324 students enrolled in undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in 2025, 5,061 (54.3%) belong to the Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST) or Other Backward Classes (OBC), and 4,263 (45.7%) belong to the General and other categories.

The University also tracks the social category of every student who receives a government or NGO scholarship. Of the 2,986 recipients in 2025, 2,168 (72.6%) belonged to the OBC, Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC) or Economically Backward Classes (EBC); 328 (11.0%) to the Scheduled Castes; 81 (2.7%) to the Scheduled Tribes; and 390 (13.1%) to the General category, with the category of 19 recipients (0.6%) not recorded.

Social category	Scholarship recipients	Share
OBC / SEBC / EBC	2,168	72.6%
Scheduled Castes (SC)	328	11.0%
Scheduled Tribes (ST)	81	2.7%
General	390	13.1%
Not recorded	19	0.6%
Total	2,986	100.0%

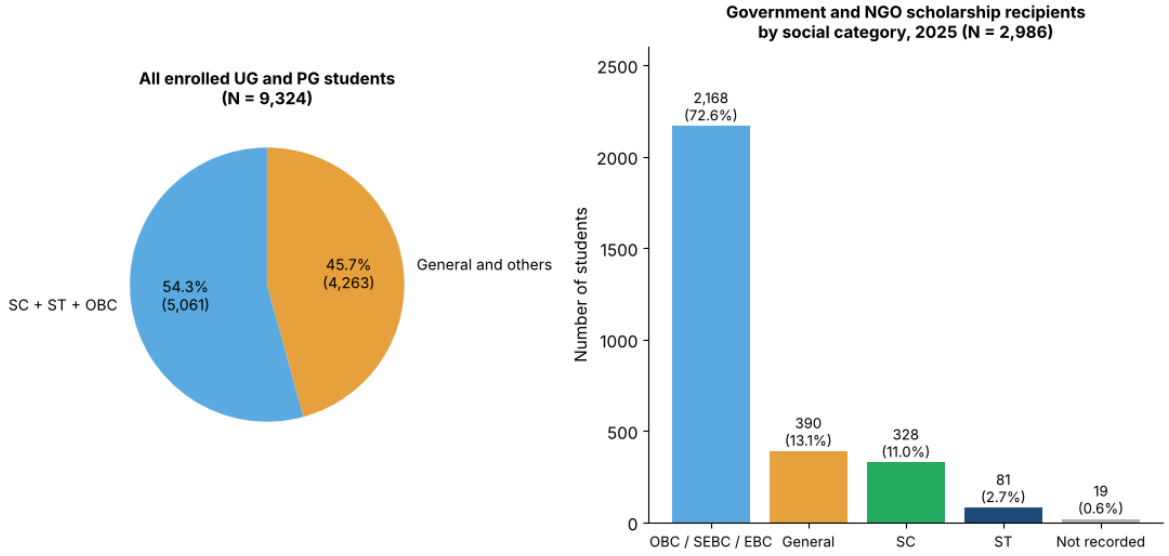


Fig. 4: Social composition of enrolled undergraduate and postgraduate students (N = 9,324) and of government and NGO scholarship recipients (N = 2,986), 2025.

First-Generation Learners

Half of all students starting a degree at the University are the first in their families to enter higher education. The number of first-generation learners starting a degree has grown every year, from 956 in 2022 to 1,414 in 2023, 1,768 in 2024 and 2,137 in 2025. As a share of all new degree starters, they rose from 45.7% of 2,093 in 2022 and 46.0% of 3,073 in 2023 to 50.9% of 3,471 in 2024, and held at 50.0% of 4,275 in 2025. The change in share between 2024 and 2025 reflects the faster growth of total intake (up 804 students) rather than any fall in first-generation admissions, which rose by 369. Among women, the number of first-generation students starting a degree more than tripled, from 139 of 541 (25.7%) in 2022 to 485 of 1,389 (34.9%) in 2025.

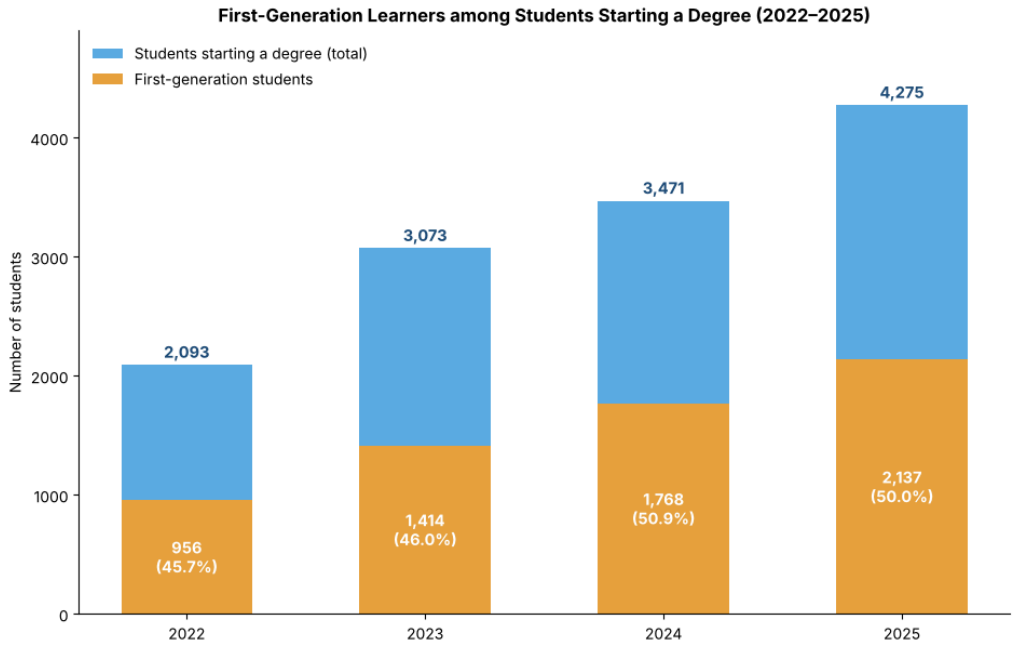


Fig. 5: First-generation learners among students starting a degree, 2022–2025 (2,093; 3,073; 3,471 and 4,275 new degree starters respectively).

International Students

In 2025, 377 international students were enrolled across all programmes of the University. International applicants can appear the CUEE online, which removes the need to travel to India to apply.

Students with Disabilities

The University records the disability status of every student at admission. Sixty students with disabilities were enrolled in both 2024 (0.52% of 11,571 students) and 2025 (0.45% of 13,360 students). In 2025, one student with a disability also received ₹90,000 under the national Post-Matric Scholarship for Students with Disabilities.

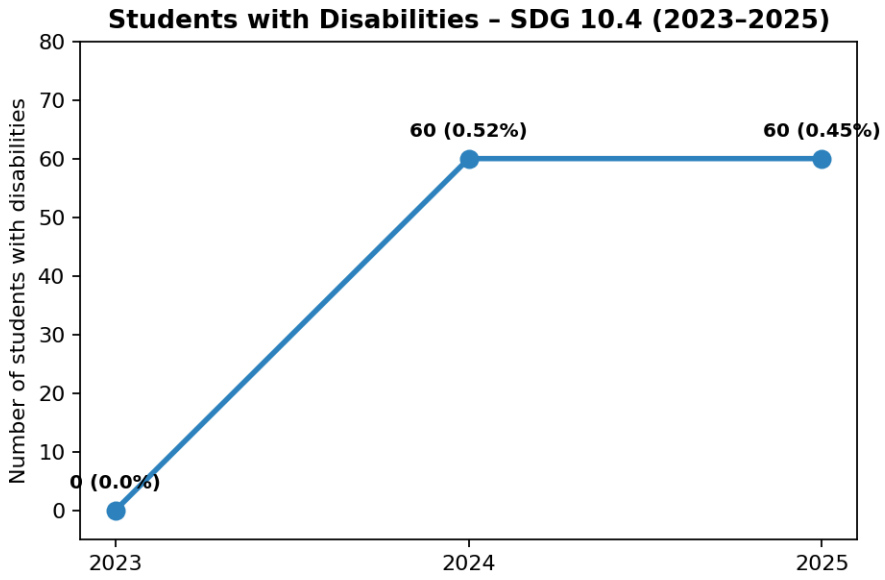


Fig. 6: Students with disabilities, 2023–2025. Percentages are calculated against total enrolment (10,700 in 2023; 11,571 in 2024; 13,360 in 2025).

Awareness and Outreach Initiatives

To improve participation among underrepresented groups, Centurion University conducts awareness campaigns and outreach programmes, often in collaboration with government agencies, community organisations and philanthropic foundations. In 2025, a total of 5,867 students (43.9% of the 13,360 enrolled students) received scholarship support amounting to ₹12.08 crore through three channels:

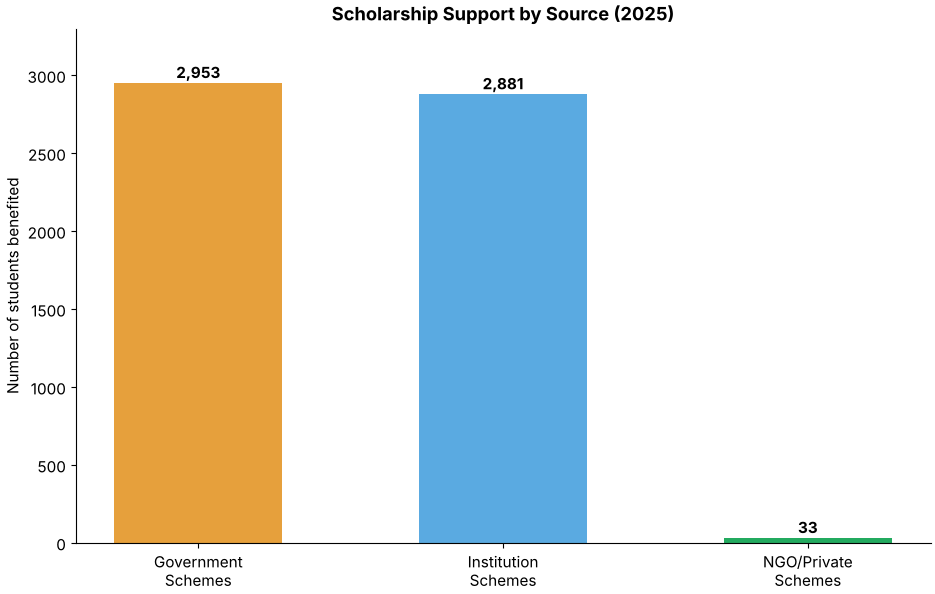


Fig. 7: Scholarship support by source, 2025 (number of students benefited; total 5,867).

- **Government Schemes:** 2,953 students (₹7.08 crore), including 1,034 under the Post-Matric Scholarship, 867 under E-Medhabruti (Technical and Professional), 786 under the PRERANA Post-Matric Scholarship for SC, ST, OBC and SEBC students, and 67 under the E-Kalyan scholarship for SC, ST, OBC and EBC students.
- **Institution Schemes:** 2,881 students (₹4.77 crore) through university-funded scholarships, including the Chandrika Scholarship for women.
- **NGO and Private Schemes:** 33 students (₹22.96 lakh) through foundations and individual donors. The JSP Yashasvi Scholarship of the Jindal Foundation was the largest of these, supporting 9 students with ₹14.30 lakh (62% of the NGO and private total). Other contributors included HDFC Bank, the Mirae Asset Foundation, the Arvind Foundation, LTIMindtree and Buddy4Study partners.

Women accounted for 872 (29.2%) of the 2,986 students who received government or NGO scholarships in 2025.

Chandrika Scholarship for Women

The Chandrika Scholarship is the University's scholarship for women students from underrepresented backgrounds. In 2025, it supported 93 women from the 2024 intake, with a total value of ₹17,86,350. Awards covered 15% of the course fee for 35 students, 20% for 49 students and 25% for 9 students. Recipients were enrolled in the Schools of Biotechnology (26), Applied Sciences (25), Paramedics and Allied Health Sciences (21), Engineering and Technology (16), Management (4) and Media and Communication (1). All 93 recipients (100%) continued into the following semester of their programmes.

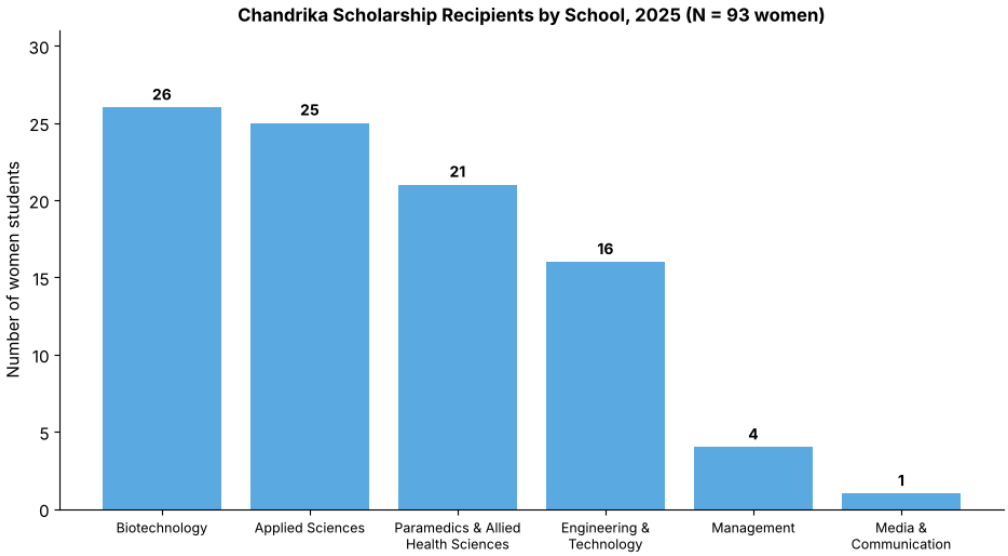


Fig. 8: Chandrika Scholarship recipients by school, 2025 (N = 93 women students).



Fig. 9: A woman student receives recognition at a Centurion University scholarship and recognition ceremony.

Sasakawa Scholarship and Community Engagement

The Sasakawa Scholarship supports the children of leprosy-affected parents, a group that faces severe social exclusion and is among the least represented in higher education. In partnership with the Sasakawa Foundation, the University President has led a state-level awareness programme encouraging children from leprosy-affected and other marginalised families to pursue higher education and informing them of the financial support available to them.

Case Study: A Woman Engineering Student's Pathway from Admission to Continued Enrolment

Woman student, B.Tech in Electronics and Communication Engineering (2024 intake). The student's name has been withheld to protect her privacy; her admission and scholarship records are held by the University.

- **Application and admission (2024):** The student applied to the University after completing Class XII and was admitted to the four-year B.Tech programme in Electronics and Communication Engineering in the School of Engineering and Technology, a discipline in which women remain underrepresented.
- **Support received (2025):** She was supported by the Chandrika Scholarship, covering 15% of her course fee (₹21,300), and received a further ₹45,000 under the E-Kalyan post-matric scholarship for SC, ST, OBC and EBC students.

- **Outcome (2025):** With both awards in place, she completed her first semester and continued into the second semester of the programme in 2025. Her progression mirrors that of the full Chandrika cohort, all 93 of whom continued into the following semester.

Support and Retention Programs

Recognising that equitable admissions must be matched with equitable support, Centurion University has created the following student success pathways:

- **Academic Bridge Programme** for a smooth transition into higher education.
- **Capability Enhancement Schemes** to strengthen employability and confidence.
- **Earn While You Learn** initiatives to support financially disadvantaged students.
- **Specialised Mentorship and Counselling Services** for women, first-generation learners and international students.
- **Accessibility Services** for students with disabilities, ensuring inclusive learning environments.

Continuous Commitment

By systematically tracking applications and admissions, providing financial and social support, and cultivating a welcoming and inclusive culture, Centurion University ensures that access to quality education is not limited by social, economic or cultural barriers. The growth of women's enrolment from 28.0% to 35.8% of the student body between 2024 and 2025, a first-generation intake that has held at half of all new degree starters, and scholarship support reaching 43.9% of all students demonstrate the outcomes of these sustained efforts.