

B.Sc Prosthetics & Orthotics (BPO)

A Complete Mentor's Guide for Students

Institutions · Admission · Career · Salary · Masters · Scams to Avoid

Prepared especially for students and families from Western Uttar Pradesh and rural India. This guide covers everything you need to make an informed decision — from understanding the course to landing a job in India or abroad.

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1. What is Prosthetics & Orthotics?

Prosthetics & Orthotics (P&O) is a specialised allied health profession dedicated to the design, fabrication, and fitting of artificial limbs (prostheses) and supportive devices (orthoses) for people with physical disabilities due to amputation, injury, congenital conditions, stroke, cerebral palsy, spinal cord injuries, and many other causes.

A Prosthetist-Orthotist (P&O professional) is part clinician, part engineer, and part rehabilitation specialist. They assess patients, prescribe devices, work with workshops to fabricate them, fit and align them precisely, and train patients to use them. This makes it one of the most hands-on and directly rewarding careers in healthcare.

The Two Sub-Specialties

Prosthetics: Design and fitting of artificial limbs — below-knee, above-knee, upper-limb prostheses, myoelectric (bionic) hands. Growing rapidly with advances in materials and robotics.

Orthotics: Design and fitting of braces, splints, and supports — spinal orthoses, AFOs (ankle-foot orthoses), knee braces, spinal jackets, footwear modifications. Used for cerebral palsy, post-stroke, scoliosis, diabetic foot, and many orthopaedic conditions.

India has 1.3 million+ amputees and 70–80 million people with locomotor disabilities. Yet there are only ~3,000–4,000 registered Prosthetist-Orthotists in the country. This massive gap makes BPO one of the most underserved and high-demand fields in Indian healthcare.

2. Is This Course Right for You? (Honest Assessment)

You are a GOOD FIT if:

- ✓ You have a genuine interest in helping people with disabilities regain mobility and independence
- ✓ You enjoy working with your hands — fabrication, moulding, crafting devices
- ✓ You are comfortable combining clinical (hospital) and workshop/technical work
- ✓ You scored reasonably in Physics, Chemistry, Biology or Mathematics in Class 12
- ✓ You are willing to relocate for study (most good colleges are outside Western UP)
- ✓ You are patient, empathetic, and good at building trust with patients

Think carefully if:

- You are averse to working in a workshop environment — fabrication is a core part of the job
- You expect a purely desk or clinic-based career with no manual work
- You are looking for a course with a large number of seats in Western UP — very few exist locally
- You want immediate high salary — starting pay is modest, though mid-career earnings are strong

Mentor's Note: BPO is one of the most **shortage-driven, globally recognised, and personally rewarding** paramedical careers. Unlike many crowded allied health fields, a qualified P&O professional in India or abroad faces very little competition for jobs. International opportunities — especially in humanitarian organisations (ICRC, WHO) — are realistic and significant.

3. Course Structure, Duration & Syllabus

The BPO is a **4.5-year programme**: four years of academic + clinical training plus a 6-month mandatory internship (3 months prosthetics + 3 months orthotics). Some institutions structure it as 3 years + 1 year internship = 4 years total. Verify the specific structure of your chosen institution.

Year	Major Subjects & Activities
Year 1	Anatomy, Physiology, Biomechanics, Physics, Workshop Technology, Medical Terminology, Introduction to Disabilities
Year 2	Pathology, Orthopaedics, Neurology, Lower-Limb Orthotics, Footwear & Shoe Modifications, Workshop Practice I
Year 3	Upper-Limb Prosthetics, Lower-Limb Prosthetics, Spinal Orthotics, Seating & Positioning, Rehabilitation Sciences, Workshop Practice II
Year 4	Advanced Prosthetics (Myoelectric, Sports), Paediatric P&O, Research Methodology, Clinical Rotations, Case Studies
Internship (6 months)	Rotational postings: Prosthetics workshop, Orthotics clinic, Rehabilitation ward, Diabetic foot clinic, Paediatric rehab centre

4. Eligibility Criteria

Criterion	Requirement
Qualifying Exam	Class 12 (10+2) from a recognised board — PCB (Physics, Chemistry, Biology) or PCM (Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics) stream
Minimum Marks	50% aggregate in qualifying subjects (General category). 45% for SC/ST/OBC at most RCI-recognised institutions
Age	Minimum 17 years on or before December 31 of the admission year. Upper age limit varies (typically 25–30 years)
English	English as a subject in Class 12. Proficiency in English is important for clinical work.
Lateral Entry	Diploma in Prosthetics & Orthotics (DPO) holders can get lateral entry into BPO Year 3 at most institutions — a good route for those who start with diploma.
RCI Registration	Must register with the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) after graduation before practising professionally in India

5. Admission Process & Entrance Exams

Unlike MBBS, BPO does not require NEET in most institutions. However, the top government institutions conduct their own competitive entrance tests.

Route	Institutions	Process
SVNIRTAR–NILD Joint CET	SVNIRTAR Cuttack, NILD Kolkata, PDUNIPPD New Delhi, NIEPMD Chennai — 4 national institutes	Single combined entrance test for all 4 premier govt. institutes. Conducted by SVNIRTAR. Online application in Feb–March; Exam in May–June. Highly competitive. Most prestigious route.
AIIPMR Entrance Test	AIIPMR Mumbai	Institution-specific entrance exam. Conducted annually. Check official website for dates.
GGSIU CET	ISIC and other GGSIU-affiliated colleges in Delhi	Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University Common Entrance Test. Delhi-based option.
PGIMS / State Counselling	PGIMS Rohtak and Haryana state colleges	Admission through state-level counselling based on Class 12 merit or state entrance exam.
Direct Merit (12th marks)	Most private / NGO colleges	Admission based on Class 12 PCB/PCM marks. No separate exam required. Apply directly.
Mobility India Entrance	Mobility India, Bangalore	Institution conducts its own selection process including written test + interview.

Typical Timeline: Applications open Jan–Mar | Entrance Exams: May–Jun | Results: Jun–Jul | Counselling & Admission: Jul–Aug | Classes begin: Aug–Sep.

6. Government Institutions — Best Value

Government institutions are the gold standard for BPO. Fees are minimal, faculty are highly experienced, clinical exposure is excellent, and RCI recognition is guaranteed. Seats are limited — competition is real but worthwhile.

Institution	Location	Course	Approx. Annual Fees	Seats	Key Notes
SVNIRTAR (Swami Vivekanand Natl. Inst. of Rehab. Training & Research)	Cuttack, Odisha	BPO (4 yr) MPO (PG)	Rs. 20,000–30,000 p.a.	46 (BPO)	Premier national institute under Dept. of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), GoI. Excellent workshop + clinical facilities. SVNIRTAR conducts the joint CET for 4 national institutes.
NILD (National Inst. for Locomotor Disabilities)	Kolkata, West Bengal	BPO (4 yr) MPO (PG)	Rs. 15,000–25,000 p.a.	30–40	Under Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, GoI. Joint CET with SVNIRTAR. Good clinical exposure at associated hospitals.
PDUNIPPD (Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya Natl. Inst. for Persons with Physical Disabilities)	New Delhi (MOST ACCESSIBLE FOR UP STUDENTS ★)	BPO (4 yr) MPO (PG)	Rs. 15,000–25,000 p.a.	20–30	Premier national institute in Delhi. Under DEPwD, GoI. Joint CET. Delhi location ideal for North Indian students including Western UP.
NIEPMD (National Inst. for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities)	Chennai, Tamil Nadu	BPO (4 yr)	Rs. 15,000–25,000 p.a.	20–30	Under DEPwD, GoI. Joint CET. Specialises in multiple disabilities. Good for South India preference.
AIIPMR (All India Inst. of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)	Mumbai, Maharashtra	BPO (4 yr) MPO (PG)	Rs. 10,000–20,000 p.a.	20–30	Under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, GoI. Own entrance exam. Excellent clinical environment in a major Mumbai hospital.
PGIMS (Pt. BD Sharma Post Graduate Inst. of Medical Sciences)	Rohtak, Haryana	BPO (4 yr)	Rs. 20,000–40,000 p.a.	20–30	State government medical university. Haryana state residents get priority. Accessible from Western UP. Admission via state counselling.
Govt. Prosthetics & Orthotics College, Civil Hospital	Ahmedabad, Gujarat	BPO (4 yr)	Nominal govt. fees	20–30	RCI-recognised. Affiliated to Gujarat University. Paraplegia Hospital campus — excellent orthopaedic clinical exposure.
KLE University Dept. of P&O;	Belagavi (Belgaum), Karnataka	BPO (4 yr)	Rs. 30,000–60,000 p.a.	20–30	Government-aided deemed university. RCI-recognised. Good South Karnataka option.
Govt. Medical College Jammu / SKIMS	J&K;	Allied Health / P&O; programmes	Nominal	Limited	Verify current programme status directly with institution.

★ PDUNIPPD New Delhi is the most strategically placed institution for students from Western UP — good connectivity via train/bus to Delhi, and it is a premier national institute with near-zero fees.

All 4 joint-CET institutes (SVNIRTAR, NILD, PDUNIPPD, NIEPMD) fall under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, GoI. Reservation for SC/ST/OBC/PwD applies as per central government rules.

7. Private & NGO Institutions

Several reputable private and NGO-run institutions offer BPO with RCI recognition. Always verify RCI approval status before enrolling. Fees are significantly higher than government institutes.

Institution	Location	Fees (p.a.)	Recognition & Notes
Mobility India	Bangalore, Karnataka	Rs. 80,000–1.2 L	One of India's most respected NGO-run P&O institutions. Offers BPO, MPO, and DPO. International faculty involvement. Excellent clinical training. RCI-recognised. Best private BPO option in India.
ISIC (Indian Spinal Injuries Centre) — Inst. of Rehabilitation Sciences	New Delhi	Rs. 1–1.5 L	Affiliated to GGSIPU Delhi. RCI-recognised. Admission via GGSIPU CET. Excellent spinal cord injury exposure. Good for Delhi-NCR and UP students.
ISHWAR Institute of Prosthetics & Orthotics	Chennai, Tamil Nadu	Rs. 50,000–80,000	RCI-recognised. Relatively affordable private option. Tamil Nadu Dr. MGR Univ. affiliation.
Sri Ramachandra Inst. of Higher Education	Chennai, Tamil Nadu	Rs. 1–1.5 L	Deemed University. RCI-recognised. Good allied health sciences programme.
IIHER (Indian Inst. of Health Education & Research)	Patna, Bihar	Rs. 50,000–80,000	RCI-recognised. Offers BPO and MPO. Accessible for Bihar and Eastern UP students. One of the closest options geographically for students from Eastern Western UP.
Christian Medical College (CMC)	Vellore, Tamil Nadu	Rs. 60,000–1 L	Excellent institution. Check current BPO programme availability. RCI-recognised.
Manipal College of Health Professions	Manipal, Karnataka	Rs. 1.5–2.5 L	MAHE Deemed University. Check if BPO/DPO is currently offered. Strong allied health pedigree.
SRM Institute of Science & Technology	Chennai, Tamil Nadu	Rs. 1–2 L	Deemed University. Verify RCI recognition status before applying.
KLEU Institute of Physiotherapy	Belagavi, Karnataka	Rs. 60,000–1 L	KLE University. RCI-recognised. Good Karnataka option.
Rajiv Gandhi Univ. of Health Sciences affiliates	Various, Karnataka	Rs. 60,000–1.5 L	Several private colleges in Karnataka affiliated to RGUHS offer BPO. Verify individually.

Mentor's Ranking for Private/NGO: Mobility India Bangalore (1st — best quality, international connections), ISIC New Delhi (2nd — good for North India students), IIHER Patna (3rd — most accessible for Bihar/Eastern UP students).

8. Fee Comparison at a Glance

Category	Annual Fee (Approx.)	Total 4.5-Year Cost	Remarks
Premier Govt. (SVNIRTAR, NILD, PDUNIPPD, AIIPMR)	Rs. 10,000–30,000	Rs. 45,000–1.35 L	Hostel ~Rs. 2,000–5,000/month extra. Scholarships available.
State Govt. (PGIMS Rohtak, Govt. College Ahmedabad)	Rs. 20,000–40,000	Rs. 90,000–1.8 L	Subsidised. Hostel separately.
NGO-run (Mobility India)	Rs. 80,000–1.2 L	Rs. 3.6–5.4 L	Excellent quality. Some scholarships available from Mobility India trust.
Mid-range Private (ISIC, ISHWAR, IIHER)	Rs. 50,000–1.5 L	Rs. 2.25–6.75 L	Evaluate placement and clinical exposure carefully.
Higher-end Private (SRM, SRMC)	Rs. 1.5–2.5 L	Rs. 6.75–11.25 L	Verify RCI recognition. Check placement record before paying.

Financial Aid: Central govt. scholarship schemes (NSP scholarships.gov.in) apply to SVNIRTAR, NILD, PDUNIPPD, NIEPMD, AIIPMR students. UP Scholarship applicable for eligible UP students. DEPwD also has separate scholarship schemes for students in disability rehabilitation programmes — check depwd.gov.in.

9. Masters (MPO) Programs in Prosthetics & Orthotics

The Master in Prosthetics & Orthotics (MPO) is a 2-year postgraduate programme that significantly increases salary, opens research and academic roles, and is essential for senior clinical, teaching, and international positions. It is highly recommended.

Eligibility: BPO degree (or DPO with bridge qualification at some institutes) with minimum 55% marks. Duration: 2 years.

Institution	Location	Fees (Total)	Admission	Notes
SVNIRTAR	Cuttack, Odisha	Rs. 60,000–1.5 L total	Entrance exam / merit-based	Premier national institute. Excellent research facilities. RCI-recognised MPO.
NILD	Kolkata, WB	Rs. 60,000–1 L total	Entrance / merit	National institute. West Bengal Univ. of Health Sciences. RCI-recognised.
PDUNIPPD ★	New Delhi	Nominal / Rs. 30,000–60,000	Entrance / merit	Best choice for UP students. Delhi location. RCI-recognised. University of Delhi affiliation.
AIIPMR	Mumbai, MH	Rs. 30,000–60,000 total	AIIPMR entrance exam	Govt. institute under Ministry of Health. Excellent clinical exposure.
Mobility India	Bangalore, KA	Rs. 1.5–2.5 L total	Institution selection process	Best private MPO option. International collaborations. ISPO-category II qualified faculty.
IIHER	Patna, Bihar	Rs. 1–1.5 L total	Merit / entrance	RCI-recognised. Accessible for students from Eastern/Western UP and Bihar.
ISIC	New Delhi	Rs. 1.5–2 L total	GGSIPIU process	Delhi-based. Good spinal cord injury and sports rehab exposure.
KLE University	Belagavi, KA	Rs. 1–2 L total	University entrance	RCI-recognised. Good South India option.

★ PDUNIPPD New Delhi is the top recommendation for UP students.

Further Advanced Qualifications

PhD in Prosthetics & Orthotics / Rehabilitation Sciences: Available at SVNIRTAR, NILD, some deemed universities. Opens faculty and research careers.

ISPO (International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics) Category I/II Certification: Global gold standard. Category I = degree level; Category II = technician level. Indian BPO from RCI-recognised institutes is generally equivalent to ISPO Category I. Critical for international employment.

Post-Graduate Diploma in P&O; Specialty Areas: Short courses in Paediatric P&O;, Sports P&O;, Diabetic Foot, Myoelectric Prosthetics — offered by Mobility India and some international institutions (REHAB-international programmes).

Diploma in Prosthetics & Orthotics (DPO): 2-year diploma for those who cannot initially access BPO. Can later do lateral entry into BPO Year 3. Practical entry route for economically constrained students.

10. Career Paths & Job Roles

Clinical Prosthetist-Orthotist: Core role. Assessment, prescription, fabrication, fitting, and rehabilitation of patients. Government hospitals, private hospitals, rehabilitation centres.

Senior/Consultant Prosthetist-Orthotist: After 8–12 years. Leads clinical team, trains junior staff, handles complex cases (myoelectric prosthetics, complex spinal cases).

P&O; Technician / Workshop Supervisor: Fabrication, lamination, thermoforming, finishing of devices. MPO not required. Often better-paid than in other paramedical trades due to shortage.

Paediatric P&O; Specialist: Specialisation in cerebral palsy, club foot, juvenile arthritis orthoses. Growing demand.

Sports Prosthetics Specialist: High-performance prosthetics for athletes. Emerging field in India post-Paralympics growth.

Diabetic Foot Specialist: Therapeutic footwear, pressure-relieving orthoses for diabetic patients. Enormous demand — India has 100 million+ diabetics.

Rehabilitation Engineer: With additional qualification in engineering. Seating, mobility devices, assistive technology.

Faculty / Lecturer / HOD: Teaching BPO/DPO students in RCI-recognised institutes. MPO + RCI registration required. Government faculty positions are well-paid with strong job security.

NGO / Humanitarian Worker: Working with ICRC (Red Cross), MSF, CBM, WHO, Handicap International. These organisations actively recruit Indian P&O; professionals for international postings.

Researcher / Policy Advisor: Disability policy, assistive technology research, working with government bodies (DEPwD, NIEPMD, UN agencies).

Entrepreneurship: Setting up a private P&O; clinic or workshop. Highly viable given huge unmet demand. MPO + 3–5 years experience recommended before going independent.

Key Employers in India: SVNIRTAR, NILD, PDUNIPPD, AIIPMR, NIEPMD (government); Apollo, Fortis, Medanta, Manipal Hospital chains; Artificial Limb Manufacturing Corp. of India (ALIMCO — a Govt. of India enterprise, a major employer); Jaipur Foot / BMVSS (world-renowned NGO); Mobility India, Enable India; State Empowerment Societies (disability departments of state govts.); International: ICRC, Handicap International (HI), CBM International.

Western UP students: ALIMCO is headquartered in Kanpur, UP — making it one of the most geographically convenient major employers for UP-based P&O; graduates. Delhi-NCR also has a growing number of private P&O; clinics and hospitals. PDUNIPPD Delhi frequently has job openings for qualified staff.

11. Salary at Every Career Stage

Below is an honest, realistic salary guide for India.

Career Stage	Experience	Govt. Sector (per month)	Private Sector (per month)	Notes
Internship / Trainee (BPO fresh)	0–1 yr	Rs. 12,000–20,000 (stipend)	Rs. 15,000–25,000	Govt. national institutes often provide hostel + stipend. ALIMCO junior posts start at approx. Rs. 25,000–35,000.
Junior P&O; Professional	1–3 yrs	Rs. 30,000–45,000 (Govt. pay matrix Level 6–7)	Rs. 25,000–40,000	Government posts via UPSC/SSC/state PSC. Private varies widely by city.
MPO Graduate (Fresh)	0–1 yr PG	Rs. 35,000–50,000	Rs. 35,000–55,000	MPO significantly improves salary and promotion prospects.
Senior P&O; Professional	5–8 yrs	Rs. 50,000–80,000	Rs. 50,000–90,000	Senior govt. posts; or private hospital with complex case load.
HOD / Chief P&O;	10–15 yrs	Rs. 80,000–1,20,000	Rs. 80,000–1,50,000	Large teaching hospital or national institute. Metro cities higher.
Faculty (Asst. Prof.) with MPO	3–5 yrs post-MPO	Rs. 57,000–1,00,000 (UGC/Govt. Academic Pay)	Rs. 40,000–70,000	Teaching at BPO/MPO colleges. Excellent job security. PhD further boosts pay.
ALIMCO (Govt. Enterprise, Kanpur UP)	Various	Rs. 35,000–80,000 (IDA Pay Scale)	N/A	Major UP-based employer. Central Govt. enterprise under DEPwD. Excellent benefits.
NGO / Humanitarian (ICRC, HI) — India postings	2–5 yrs	N/A	Rs. 60,000–1,20,000	International NGO India salaries are better than most private hospitals.

Honest Note: Starting salaries are modest. However, the mid-career trajectory (5–8 years) for a BPO + MPO graduate with good clinical skills is strong. By 10 years, a senior Prosthetist-Orthotist in a metro city or at a national institute earns Rs. 80,000–1,20,000/month — comparable to many clinical specialists. The shortage of trained professionals means salary negotiating power improves faster than most allied health fields.

12. International Opportunities

BPO is one of the few paramedical fields where international opportunities are genuinely excellent — both in developed countries and through humanitarian work. The global shortage of P&O; professionals is more acute than in most other health professions.

Country / Region	Salary (Monthly)	Opportunity	Requirements for Indian Graduates
UK / NHS	GBP 2,500–5,400 (~Rs. 2.7–5.8 L) Tax-paid	High — active NHS recruitment. Band 5–8 pay scale.	HCPC registration (Health & Care Professions Council). Indian BPO from RCI-recognised institute is assessable for equivalence. IELTS 7.0+. NHS international recruitment drives are active.
Australia / NZ	AUD 5,000–9,000 (~Rs. 2.8–5 L)	Moderate to High — shortage listed occupation.	AOPA (Australian Orthotic Prosthetic Association) accreditation assessment. Skills assessment required for visa. 482 visa sponsorship available.
USA	USD 5,000–9,000 (~Rs. 4.2–7.5 L)	Good — ABC or BOC certification required.	ABC (American Board for Certification) or BOC exam after credential evaluation. Residency programme may be required. ISPO category I equivalence helps.
Middle East (UAE, Saudi, Qatar, Kuwait)	USD 2,000–5,000 + free housing (~Rs. 1.7–4.2 L) Tax-free	Active demand. Large hospital networks expanding.	DHA (Dubai), MOH or HAAD (Abu Dhabi) or Saudi Commission licence. Indian BPO + RCI generally accepted. Tax-free + housing = very attractive package.
Humanitarian Organisations (ICRC, Handicap International, CBM, MSF)	USD 2,500–6,000 (~Rs. 2–5 L) + perks	Excellent — India's P&O; grads are highly valued in conflict/disaster zones.	BPO + 2–3 years experience. ICRC actively recruits in India. Postings: South Asia, Africa, Middle East, Latin America. Unique career path — personally very rewarding.
Canada	CAD 5,000–8,000 (~Rs. 3–4.8 L)	Growing — shortage occupation.	CAPO (Canadian Association of Prosthetics & Orthotics) accreditation. CRS points for PR. IELTS required. Province-specific licensing.
Germany / Scandinavia	EUR 3,000–5,500 (~Rs. 2.7–5 L)	Emerging. Language barrier for Germany.	German language required for Germany. Scandinavia more accessible — English-language hospitals exist in Sweden, Norway.

ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross) Tip: ICRC runs prosthetics & orthotics programmes in conflict zones worldwide and regularly recruits Indian P&O; professionals. This is one of the most prestigious and globally impactful career paths available. Visit icrc.org/jobs and specifically search for P&O; vacancies. Mobility India has strong links with ICRC and ISPO.

13. Work-Life Balance

Working Hours: Typically 8–9 hours/day in hospital/clinic settings. Workshop fabrication work is daytime. No night shifts or on-call emergencies — a significant advantage over nursing or medicine.

Physical Demand: Moderate to moderately high — fabrication work involves standing, working with materials (thermoplastics, resins, carbon fibre). Clinical fitting also requires physical dexterity. Not as exhausting as nursing or surgery, but not a desk job.

Emotional Aspect: Highly rewarding. Seeing a patient walk again with their new prosthesis is profoundly satisfying. Working with children with disabilities can be emotionally touching but deeply meaningful. Less death and acute emergency stress compared to nursing or ICU medicine.

Location Flexibility: Initially limited — good posts are in metro cities and government national institutes. However, once established, a P&O; professional can set up a private practice even in smaller cities where there is unmet demand. Mid-career returnees to UP/rural areas can do well.

Career Longevity: Excellent. The cognitive and clinical skills remain sharp. Not as physically demanding long-term as orthopaedic surgery or physiotherapy. Many senior P&O; professionals work well into their 60s.

Gender Suitability: Equally suitable for men and women. Female P&O; professionals are often preferred for fitting female patients, creating additional professional advantages.

14. Scams & Frauds — How to Stay Safe

The BPO field, while smaller than MBBS or nursing, is not immune to fraudulent institutions. The key regulatory body is the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI). Any BPO degree from a non-RCI-recognised institution is legally invalid for practice.

■ **Non-RCI-Recognised Colleges:** The most dangerous scam. Some institutes offer 'BPO' or 'B.Sc Prosthetics & Orthotics' without RCI recognition. Graduates CANNOT register with RCI, CANNOT work in government hospitals, and CANNOT practice legally. Always verify RCI recognition at rehabcouncil.nic.in before paying any fees.

■ **Fake Distance / Online BPO Degrees:** BPO is a hands-on, clinical and workshop-based programme. It CANNOT be offered through distance or online mode. Any institution claiming to offer online BPO is fraudulent.

■ **Unaffiliated Institutions:** Some institutes claim affiliation to unknown or fake universities. Verify the affiliating university is on the UGC approved list at ugc.ac.in.

■ **Management Quota Seat Brokers for Govt. Institutes:** SVNIRTAR, NILD, PDUNIPPD, AIIPMR have no management quota. Any agent claiming to secure a seat at these institutes for money is a fraud. Report to police.

■ **'Guaranteed Job' Promises:** No legitimate institution guarantees employment. Placement support is different. Be extremely wary of this promise.

■ **Capitation Fee Demands:** Exorbitant 'capitation' or 'donation' fees are illegal under rules of most universities. Report to the state education department.

■ **Fake ALIMCO / Government Job Letters:** Fraudsters sometimes issue fake appointment letters purporting to be from ALIMCO or government departments. All ALIMCO recruitment is through official channels — verify at alimco.in and official government gazette notifications.

Verification Checklist — 10 Steps Before You Enroll

1. Go to rehabcouncil.nic.in → Regular Mode → Download the current list of approved institutions
2. Confirm the institution and the specific programme (BPO) are listed in the RCI approved list
3. Check the affiliating university at ugc.ac.in for UGC approval
4. Visit the institution physically — inspect the workshop, prosthetics lab, and associated hospital
5. Talk to current students and recent graduates independently, not through the admission office
6. Check that the institution has RCI-mandated minimum infrastructure (workshop, clinical lab, hospital tie-up)
7. Verify that the institution follows the RCI curriculum framework (download from rehabcouncil.nic.in)
8. Apply directly through official institutional websites — not through third-party agents
9. Never pay any fee before receiving an official offer letter from the institution
10. For government institutes, apply only through official joint CET / institutional portals

RCI Rule of Thumb: If the institution is not in the current RCI approved list, your degree will have no legal standing in India. Do not enroll, regardless of how attractive the brochure, website, or agent's promises may seem.

15. Practical Advice for Students from Western UP

As your mentor, here is practical, tailored guidance for students and families from Western Uttar Pradesh.

Step-by-Step Roadmap

Stage	What to Do
Class 11–12	Study PCB or PCM seriously. Aim for 55%+ aggregate. Strong Physics is important. Build English communication skills — essential for clinical work.
Class 12 (Dec–Feb)	Register for SVNIRTAR Joint CET (check svnirtar.nic.in for notification dates). Prepare a list of 8–10 target colleges. Check official websites for current session notifications.
Feb–June (Entrance & Exams)	Appear for SVNIRTAR Joint CET — this gives you access to 4 national government institutes including PDUNIPPD Delhi (most convenient for UP students). Also apply directly to GGSIPU CET (for ISIC Delhi) and AIIPMR Mumbai.
July–August (Admission)	Attend counselling. Do NOT pay capitation fees. If you secure a govt. seat, immediately apply for UP Scholarship (scholarship.up.gov.in) and NSP (scholarships.gov.in). Also check DEPwD scholarship schemes at depwd.gov.in .
During Course (Year 1–4)	Focus on both clinical AND workshop skills — both are assessed in RCI exams. Attend any ISPO workshops if offered. Build English for future international options. Try to network with ALIMCO (Kanpur) for future placement.
Year 4.5 (Internship)	Try to intern at ALIMCO Kanpur, PDUNIPPD Delhi, or a large city rehabilitation hospital. The internship institution often becomes the first employer.
After Graduation	Register with RCI (mandatory for practice). First priority: appear for PDUNIPPD/SVNIRTAR/NILD MPO entrance. Second: apply to ALIMCO or Delhi-NCR private hospital. Build 2 years experience then reappear for MPO if not admitted first time.
5–8 Years Post-Graduation	With MPO + RCI registration + Delhi/city experience, you will earn Rs. 60,000–1,20,000/month. ICRC/humanitarian international postings become accessible. Consider setting up own clinic in Meerut, Agra, or Lucknow — large unmet local demand.

Scholarships Relevant to UP Students

UP Scholarship (scholarship.up.gov.in): Pre- and post-matric for OBC/SC/ST/General EWS from UP. Covers tuition + maintenance. Apply every year.

National Scholarship Portal — NSP (scholarships.gov.in): Central Sector Scholarship for top 20% Class 12 scorers. Rs. 12,000 p.a. + Rs. 20,000 p.a. for PG.

DEPwD Scholarship (depwd.gov.in): Dept. of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities offers specific scholarships for students enrolled in rehabilitation courses at national institutes. Highly relevant for BPO students.

PM Yashasvi Scheme: For OBC/EBC/DNT students in professional courses. Check NTA website.

ALIMCO Staff Scholarship / Sponsorship: ALIMCO sometimes has sponsored training arrangements. Check alimco.in for current schemes.

Final Mentor's Word: B.Sc Prosthetics & Orthotics is an exceptional career choice for a compassionate, hands-on student from Western UP who wants to make a real difference to people's lives. The field is uniquely underserved in India — which means that a qualified, RCI-registered Prosthetist-Orthotist faces far less competition for good jobs than graduates in most other paramedical fields. ALIMCO in Kanpur is literally in your

backyard as a UP student and is a quality employer. PDUNIPPD Delhi is close, nearly free, and prestigious. And internationally, ICRC and NHS UK are waiting for good Indian P&O; professionals. Invest in a proper RCI-recognised institution, get your MPO, register with RCI — and you will have a career that is both financially rewarding and deeply human. All the best!

This guide was prepared in June 2026 based on information from RCI, DEPwD, SVNIRTAR, NILD, PDUNIPPD, AIIPMR official websites, ISPO, and career portals. Always verify current fees, seats, and admission dates directly with institutions. Key portals: rehabcouncil.nic.in | depwd.gov.in | alimco.in | svnirtar.nic.in | scholarship.up.gov.in | scholarships.gov.in