

Session 4: Mapping Educational Pathways

This session helps learners understand the different education options after 10th standard. It explains streams like Science, Commerce, and Arts, as well as vocational and distance learning choices. The aim is to guide learners in mapping clear pathways toward their career goals.

- [Part 1: Understanding Your Education Options](#)
- [Part 2: Choosing Your Stream \(PUC / 11th & 12th\)](#)
- [Part 3: Step-by-Step Career Pathways](#)
- [Part 4: Open & Distance Learning Options](#)
- [Part 5: Financial Aid, Scholarships & Quotas](#)
- [Part 6: Quick Check](#)

Part 1: Understanding Your Education Options

Instructions: After 10th standard (SSLC), you have different paths you can take to reach your career goal. Circle the one you think matches your goals best right now.

	Certificate Course	ITI / Diploma	University De
Time	A few weeks to 1 year.	1 to 3 years.	3 to 4 years.
What is it?	A short-term course focused on learning one specific skill quickly.	Practical, hands-on training for technical and vocational jobs.	Academic programs (lik B.Com) taught at a coll university.
Examples	Graphic Design Certificate, Basic Computer Skills, Spoken English.	ITI in Electrical, Diploma in Mechanical, Diploma in Nursing.	Bachelor of Commerce, Arts, Bachelor of Scienc

Part 2: Choosing Your Stream (PUC / 11th & 12th)

Instructions: If you decide to go to PUC after 10th, you will choose a "Stream," which is a group of subjects to focus on. Tick the box for the stream that includes your favorite subjects.

	Science Stream	Commerce Stream	Arts / Humanities Stream
	☐ Science Stream	☐ Commerce Stream	☐ Arts / Humanities Stream
Best for:	Careers in medicine, engineering, technology, and research.	Careers in business, banking, accounting, and management.	Careers in teaching, law, writing, social work, and government.
Core Subjects	Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Computer Science	Accountancy, Business Studies, Economics, Statistics, Computer Science	History, Political Science, Sociology, Psychology, Economics

Part 3: Step-by-Step Career Pathways

Instructions: Getting to your dream career is like following a map. Look at the pathways below: some require an ITI, others require entrance exams and multiple degrees. Notice the certifications you may need along the way.

Career Goal	The Education Pathway	Time Needed	Certifications
Doctor (Medical)	SSLC → PUC (Science) → MBBS → Specialization	12-15 years	NEET Exam, Medical License, Specialization Certificate
Electrician (Vocational)	SSLC → ITI Diploma in Electrical	2 years	Electrical Safety Certification, Apprenticeship Certificate
Graphic Designer (Certificate/Diploma)	SSLC → Diploma/Certificate in Graphic Design	1-2 years	Adobe Creative Suite Certification, Web Design Certification
Teacher (Multiple Degrees)	SSLC → PUC → Bachelor's in Education (B.Ed) → Master's (optional)(BA B.Ed., B.Sc. B.Ed., MA M.Ed., M.Sc. M.Ed.)	4-6 years	B.Ed Degree, Teaching Certification
Software Developer (Professional)	SSLC → PUC (Science) → Bachelor's in Computer Science (BCA)	4 years	Certifications in Programming Languages (e.g., Python, Java)
Entrepreneur (Degree)	SSLC → PUC / any → Bachelor's (optional) (BBA)	Varies (2-3 years for Bachelor's)	Business Management Certification, Entrepreneurial Courses

Map Your Own Pathway!

Now, try to map out the pathway for your dream career or another career of interest. Ask your facilitator if you need help!

My Career Goal	My Education Pathway	Time Needed	Certifications
	SSLC → _____		

Part 4: Open & Distance Learning Options

Instructions: If regular full-time college is difficult due to work, finances, or missed admission cycles, open and distance learning is a flexible and valid path to complete your education.

Option	What Is It?	Why It May Help You	Example Courses
IGNOU (Indira Gandhi National Open University)	India's largest open university. Offers Bachelor's, Master's, Diploma, and Certificate programs through distance/online mode.	You can study at your own pace while working. No need to attend daily classes: most exams and study material are provided by IGNOU regional/study centers.	BA, B.Com, BSc, BCA, Diploma in Early Childhood Care, Certificate in Computing
NIOS *(National Institute of Open Schooling)	A national board that allows students to complete Class 10 (SSLC) and Class 12 (PUC) through open schooling.	Best option if you missed regular school, need to retake an exam, or are studying while working. Flexible exam attempts across multiple years.	Secondary (Class 10), Senior Secondary (Class 12), Vocational Courses
State Open Universities (e.g., Karnataka State Open University)	State-run open universities offering degree and diploma programs similar to IGNOU, often at lower cost for state residents.	Useful if you want to study locally and prefer state-language support.	BA, B.Com, Diploma programs

Part 5: Financial Aid, Scholarships & Quotas

Instructions: Money and admission requirements should never stop you from pursuing your education. As a CCI youth, you may be eligible for special financial support and reserved seats. Read through the options below with your Facilitator and note down which ones apply to you.

A. Schemes Specifically for Care Leavers & Orphaned Children

Scheme	Who Is It For?	What It Offers
PM CARES for Children Scheme	Children who lost both parents/legal guardian/adoptive parents to COVID-19 or other causes covered under the scheme.	₹10 lakh corpus payable at age 23, ₹20,000/year education scholarship (Class 1-12), monthly stipend from age 18-23, free health insurance (₹5 lakh cover), free education support in select schools.
Mission Vatsalya - Aftercare Support	Youth (18-21 years, extendable) transitioning out of Child Care Institutions (CCIs).	Support for higher education, vocational training, scholarships, hostel/housing assistance, and help finding employment after leaving the CCI.
State Aftercare Schemes(e.g., Karnataka ICPS Aftercare)	Care leavers from CCIs in the respective state.	Accommodation, higher education and vocational training support, scholarships, and monthly financial assistance until independent settlement.

B. Caste-Based & Category Reservation (Quotas)

Instructions: Reservation quotas set aside a percentage of seats in colleges, universities, and government jobs for candidates from specific categories. Know your category. It can significantly improve your admission and job chances.

Category	Typical Reservation in Education & Government Jobs	Documents Usually Needed
Scheduled Caste (SC)	15%	Caste certificate issued by Tahsildar/Revenue Department
Scheduled Tribe (ST)	7.5%	Tribe certificate issued by Tahsildar/Revenue Department
Other Backward Classes (OBC – Non-Creamy Layer)	27%	OBC (Non-Creamy Layer) certificate, renewed periodically
Economically Weaker Sections (EWS)	10%	EWS certificate (for General category candidates with family income below ₹8 lakh/year, not covered under SC/ST/OBC)
Persons with Disabilities (PwD)	4-5%	Disability certificate from a government medical board

Note: Reservation percentages can vary slightly by state, institution, and whether it is a central or state-run college. Together, these quotas make up about 49.5-60% of seats in many government institutions. Ask your Facilitator or CCI Staff to help you find out your exact category and the reservation rules in your state.

Special Quotas for Orphans/Care Leavers: Some states and universities now offer additional reservation specifically for orphans, for example, a 1% quota in Maharashtra for education and government jobs, and a special orphan quota introduced by Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIPIU). Many private universities (like LPU) also run their own Orphan Financial Aid Schemes offering full or partial fee waivers. Ask your Facilitator to check if similar quotas exist at

colleges you are interested in.

C. Scholarships & Fee Waivers

Scholarship/Aid	Where to Apply	What It Covers
National Scholarship Portal (NSP)	scholarships.gov.in	A single government portal listing central and state scholarships across categories (merit-based, minority, disability, income-based). Apply once and check which schemes you qualify for.
IGNOU Fee Exemption Scheme	IGNOU Regional Centre / Website	Full or partial tuition fee waiver for SC/ST students and low-income families on select undergraduate programs.
State Post-Matric Scholarships	State Social Welfare Department	Financial assistance for SC/ST/OBC/Minority students studying after Class 10, covering tuition, hostel, and maintenance costs.
University/College-Specific Aid (e.g., Orphan Financial Aid Schemes)	Individual college admission/financial aid office	Many colleges and universities offer dedicated fee waivers or scholarships for orphaned or single-parent students ; always ask the admissions office directly.

Many colleges and universities offer dedicated fee waivers or scholarships for orphaned or single-parent students ; always ask the admissions office directly.

D. My Financial Aid Checklist

Instructions: Work with your Facilitator or CCI Staff to identify which of these apply to you, and note down the documents you will need to collect in advance.

☐ I know my caste/category (SC/ST/OBC/EWS/General):

☐ I have (or am applying for) my caste/category certificate.

☐ I have registered on the National Scholarship Portal (scholarships.gov.in).

- ☐ I have collected my 10th/12th certificate and marksheet (if applicable).
- ☐ I have noted down my registration numbers for NIOS/IGNOU.
- ☐ I have recorded the phone number and email ID used for my applications.
- ☐ I have checked if I am eligible for PM CARES for Children Scheme.
- ☐ I have discussed Aftercare Scheme support with my CCI Staff.
- ☐ I have asked my target college/university about orphan-specific fee waivers or quotas.

My Category (SC/ST/OBC/EWS/General): _____

Scholarships/Aid I plan to apply for: _____

Reminder: Your Facilitator or CCI Staff can help you gather documents, fill forms, and apply for these schemes. Don't hesitate to ask for support; accessing financial aid is your right, not a favor.

Insti tutio n	Unit / Purpose	Phone Number(s)	Email ID	Website
NIOS	Learner Support Centre – all India (toll-free, admission/enrolment & general queries)	1800 180 9393	lsc@nios.ac.in	www.nios.ac.in
NIOS	HQ reception (central contact, can route calls)	0120 4089800	-	www.nios.ac.in
IGNOU	Centralised Student Registration Cell – online admission/registration help	011 29571528;011 29571301	csrc@ignou.ac.in	www.ignou.ac.in
IGNOU	Student Service Centre – general student enquiries (including enrolment issues)	011 29572513;011 29572514	ssc@ignou.ac.in	ignouadmission.samarth.edu.in

Institution	Unit / Purpose	Phone Number(s)	Email ID	Website
IGNOU	Generic university contact (central)	011 29571000 (telephone exchange)	ignou@ignou.ac.in	ignouiop.sarthak.edu.in/

Part 6: Quick Check

Instructions: Test your understanding of educational pathways with the questions below.

1. How long does a certificate course usually take?

- ☐ a) 1-3 years ☐ b) 3-4 years
- ☐ c) Few weeks to 6 months-1 year ☐ d) 2 years

2. Which of the following is a short-term course?

- ☐ a) MBA ☐ b) Certificate in Graphic Design
- ☐ c) PhD ☐ d) Bachelor of Science

3. Which path is most suitable if you want to become an Electrician?

- ☐ a) SSLC → PUC → MBBS
- ☐ b) SSLC → ITI Diploma in Electrical
- ☐ c) SSLC → BA → B.Ed
- ☐ d) SSLC → PhD

4. If you want to study while working, which option might be helpful?

- ☐ a) Only regular full-time college
- ☐ b) Open and Distance Learning through IGNOU or NIOS
- ☐ c) Stopping your education completely
- ☐ d) Waiting until you have enough money

5. What should you do if you are not sure which educational pathway is right for you?

☐ a) Choose randomly

☐ b) Give up on your career goal

☐ c) Talk to your Facilitator, CCI Staff, or a trusted person and explore your options

☐ d) Follow what someone else chooses without thinking about your own interests