



## **Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women**

(Deemed to be University Estd. u/s 3 of UGC Act 1956, Category A by MHRD)

Re-accredited with A++ Grade by NAAC. CGPA 3.65/4, Category I by UGC

Coimbatore - 641 043, Tamil Nadu, India

### **123<sup>rd</sup> Board of Management Agenda for Circulation**

**Date: 13.05.2022**

#### **Item No. 1 To consider and approve the starting of School of Allied Health Science from the academic year 2022-2023 and offering 3 UG and 2 PG programmes.**

Allied Health Practitioners are allied in a Health Care Team who provide a range of diagnostic, technical and therapeutic and support services in connection with health care. Allied Health Professions are a group of health professionals who apply their expertise to prevent disease transmission, diagnose, treat and rehabilitate people of all ages. They provide health improvement interventions to restore and maintain optimal, physical, sensory, psychological, cognitive and social functions. Many allied health jobs are considered career ladder jobs because of the opportunities for advancement within specific fields.

Hence, it was decided to start the School of Allied Health Sciences from 2022-2023 based on the Discussion with authorities of the Hospitals with whom MoU is to be signed for each programme.

The **School of Allied Health Science** will offer the following undergraduate and Postgraduate programmes during the academic year 2022-2023:

- 1) B.Sc. Physician Assistant**
- 2) Bachelor in Audiology and Speech Language Pathology**
- 3) Bachelor of Physiotherapy**
- 4) Bachelor in Optometry**
- 5) M.Sc. Clinical Embryology**
- 6) M.Sc. Clinical Psychology**

#### **1) Department of Physician Assistant**

Health care settings need more professionals with knowledge equal to Physicians. Physician Assistant is a skilled health care professional who is qualified with academic and clinical training to provide health care services under the supervision of a specialist. The training that they receive equips them to provide diagnostic, therapeutic and

preventive healthcare services. The Programme is designed to train the student in examining and treating patients, interpret laboratory values and x-rays.

**Vision :** To elevate the standard of Physician Assistant education to address the emerging challenges in health care.

**Mission :** Improving access to health care through the education and development of competent and compassionate Physician Assistants to provide quality and patient centered care.

## **Programmes Offered**

**B.Sc. Physician Assistant-** 4 years (6 semesters + 1 year the Internship)

### **Eligibility**

Candidates should have passed Higher Secondary Examination with the following subjects: Physics, Chemistry and Biology / Botany and Zoology.

### **Salient features**

- Well established laboratories and Mannequin to provide instantaneous clinical approach of the subjects
- Collaboration with leading speciality hospitals to provide quality practical education and hands on training
- Facilities for research activities related to various diseases outbreaks and prevalence.

## **2) Department of Audiology and Speech Language Pathology**

Bachelor of Audiology and Speech Language Pathology (BASLP) is an undergraduate Programme which prepares the student to work both as an Audiologist and Speech Language Pathologist. It trains students to efficiently work with persons having communication disorders.

BASLP deals with prevention, identification and treatment of speech, language and hearing disorders. It is one of the popular multidisciplinary programmes in allied medicine. The programme also equips professionals with the knowledge of the auditory system, language processing, and speech mechanism. Students who study BASLP develop a sound understanding of basic and applied research and clinical applications. BASLP graduates can seek job opportunities as Speech Language Pathologists, Audiologists, and Research Scholars. On graduation, students can register as professionals with Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) and work independently or pursue Post-Graduation. BASLP programme spans four years; the first three years comprise classroom study, lab work and thesis and students undergo internship in the last year.

**Vision :** To be the acclaimed programme nationally in manpower training in the field of speech language pathology and audiology.

**Mission :** To achieve the vision:

- Strong commitment in teaching for manpower development.
- Provide clinical services for diagnosis and intervention and thus offering quality services.

### **Programmes Offered**

Bachelor in Audiology and Speech Language Pathology - 4 years (6 semesters + 1 year Internship)

### **Eligibility**

Candidates should have passed the Higher Secondary Examination with the following subjects: Physics, Chemistry and any one of Biology / Mathematics / Computer Science / Statistics / Electronics / Psychology.

### **Salient features**

- Clinical facility for diagnosis, management of all types of speech and language disorders.
- Collaboration with various hospital and Audiology centers which are well equipped with sophisticated instruments for clinical services.
- Learning centre for special needs children in the campus for clinical applications.

### **3) Department of Physiotherapy**

Physiotherapy is a health care profession concerned to promote, maintain, restore health through physical examination, diagnosis, prognosis, patient education, physical intervention, rehabilitation, disease prevention, and health promotion. Physiotherapy helps restore movement and function when someone is affected by injury, illness or disability. Physiotherapists are experts in developing and maintaining peoples' ability to move and function throughout their lives.

**Vision :** Striving to provide quality education with professional attitude in the field of physiotherapy and rehabilitation.

**Mission :** Committed in teaching to produce skilled physiotherapists with clinical competencies to treat the patients.

## **Programmes Offered**

Bachelor of Physiotherapy (BPT) :- 4 ½ years (8 semesters + 6 months Internship)

### **Eligibility**

Candidates should have passed the Higher Secondary Examination with the following subjects: Physics, Chemistry and Biology/Botany and Zoology.

### **Salient features**

- Well-equipped laboratories to provide skill based learning of each subject.
- Collaboration and consultation with leading speciality hospitals to provide quality practical education and hands on training.

## **4) Department of Optometry**

The program of Optometry is an independent, primary health profession that encompasses the prevention and remedy for disorders of an eye and the Visual System. An Optometrist is a person, who is skilled in optometry involved in recognition of ocular and visual signs of an eye, understanding the wide range of problems affecting the eye and then referring the patient to the concerned specialist doctor. Thus, an optometrist diagnoses, treats and prevents the diseases related to the eye.

**Vision :** Advancing the frontiers of optometric knowledge through evidence-based research and then applying this knowledge to improve patients' lives.

**Mission :** Integrating innovative education with early and diverse clinical experiences to prepare competent Optometrist.

## **Programmes Offered**

**Bachelor in Optometry** 4 years (6 semesters + 1 year internship)

### **Eligibility**

Candidates should have passed the Higher Secondary Examination with the following subjects: Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics / Computer Science / Biology.

### **Salient Features**

- Equipped Laboratories for clinical approach

- Collaboration with leading speciality hospitals to provide quality practical education and hands on training.

## **5) Department of Clinical Embryology**

Infertility or failure to conceive naturally affects nearly 15% of married couples. Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) which involves handling of gametes and in-vitro fertilization is a well-established modality of treatment for many of these infertility cases. The success of any ART center depends not only on clinicians with expertise in the area of reproductive medicine, but also on a meticulously maintained laboratory with ‘State of the Art’ equipments and well trained embryologists. Despite an exponential growth in the number of ART clinics operating in our country in the last couple of decades, there is a wide gap in the proportionate availability of well-trained embryologists. Government of India in its recently released ART Bill has also emphasised the need for all ART units to employ adequately trained and qualified embryologists.

To bridge this gap, the present programme of M.Sc Clinical embryology is designed in collaboration with Women’s Center & Hospitals Pvt. Ltd, Coimbatore, to provide a comprehensive training comprising of both didactic lectures and practical Hands – on training in all aspects of embryology from the very basics to the most advanced laboratory techniques. On successful completion of this programme, there is a wide spectrum of career opportunities for the candidates to mention a few: (i) pursue as embryologists in an ART clinic, (ii) set up an Andrology lab, (iii) initiate and maintain semen and oocyte banks, (iv) enrol for further studies like PhD & take up research or (v) join as a teaching faculty in a reputed University.

**Vision :** The goal of this initiative is to perfect the curriculum to match international standards and recognition of the degree not only in the entire country but also across the globe and bring the Institute as part of International Multicentre Research studies in the field of Clinical Embryology.

**Mission :** To initiate a master’s degree in Clinical Embryology wherein the students are exposed to State of the Art equipments and procedures which are the backbone of success of an IVF treatment in an optimally stimulated cycle. The embryologists qualified through this Programme will gain the confidence of doing In-vitro fertilisation, Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI), Embryo biopsy and in laboratory maintenance.

### **Programmes Offered**

**M.Sc. Clinical Embryology** 2 years, (4 semesters).

## **Eligibility**

- Candidates must hold Bachelor of Science Degree (BSc) from any UGC recognized University with Life Science subjects
- MBBS / BDS / BVSC / B.Pharm / BSc. Nursing / BSc. Physician Assistant / B.Sc. Biochemistry & Biotechnology
- B.Sc. Biotechnology / B.Sc. Biochemistry / B.Sc. Zoology / B.Sc. Microbiology and Life Science related programmes.

## **Salient features**

- Meticulously maintained laboratory and Collaboration and consultation with leading speciality hospitals with Well equipped Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) clinics
- Various diagnostic modalities for infertility ISO standard IVF laboratory
- Latest equipments for embryo monitoring & growth Hi-tech air filtering unit in the IVF laboratory and 14 beds, state-of-the-art level 3 unit which is well equipped to admit and manage all high risk newborns
- Qualified and Certified in-house Embryologists.

## **6) Department of Clinical Psychology**

M.Sc. Clinical Psychology is a postgraduate Psychology programme. Clinical psychology is an integration of science, theory and clinical knowledge for the purpose of understanding, preventing, and relieving psychologically-based distress or dysfunction and to promote subjective well-being and personal development. Clinical psychology represents the largest subfield of psychologists. Specialty areas within clinical psychology include child mental health, adult mental health, learning disabilities, emotional disturbances, substance abuse, and geriatrics and health psychology.

**Vision :** Training clinical psychologists in applying evidence-based interventions in an ethical way in clinical practice. Disseminating research output across various relevant target groups, including the scientific community, clinicians and society.

**Mission :** Promote mental, behavioural, and physical health by imparting clinical practices based on the best available evidence and to develop clinical psychologist with knowledge and skills to identify interventions that are effective and can be implemented in the community.

## **Programmes Offered**

**M.Sc. Clinical Psychology** - 2 years (4 semesters)

## **Eligibility**

Candidates must hold a Bachelor's Degree in any Psychology course from a recognized University with an aggregate of at least 50% marks.

## **Salient features**

- Well equipped laboratories
- Standardized psychological test materials
- Collaboration and consultation with leading speciality hospitals

The BoM members are requested to consider and approve the same.