STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP)

Instructions for participating Law Colleges and candidates selected through the ASSAM Common Admission Test (CAT) for the 3-Year LLB Programme, Academic Session 2026-27

Applicable to all Law Colleges affiliated to Assam University, Bodoland University and Gauhati University offering the 3-Year LLB Programme, as listed in the Annexure to this document.

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is issued by the Office of the Academic Registrar, Gauhati University, in pursuane of the directions from Higher Education Department, Govt. of Assam vide letter no: 739666/26 dated: 6th June, 2026 for the information, guidance, and strict compliance of all candidates who have appeared in the Common Admission Test (CAT) for admission to the 3-Year LLB Programme, and of all Law Colleges affiliated to Assam University, Bodoland University and Gauhati University offering the said programme, for the Academic Session 2026-27.

The end-to-end admission process is to be completed exclusively in the admission portal (https://assam.samarth.ac.in/index.php) by the Colleges, without exception. This document sets out, in clear and sequential terms, the procedure to be followed from the publication of the Rank List up to the completion of admission formalities, and is to be read and complied with in conjunction with the Notification(s), and other admission-related guidelines issued from time to time.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES AND LAW COLLEGES

1. Publication of Rank List

The Rank List, indicating the rank and score of each candidate in the Common Admission Test (CAT) for the 3-Year LLB Programme, has been published by Gauhati University on its official admission portal/website.

2: Verification of Rank and Score by Candidates

Candidates are advised to check their respective ranks and scores in the Rank List published by the University and to retain a copy for all subsequent reference and admission-related correspondence.

3: Preparation of College-wise Merit List

a. All the 21 Law Colleges offering the 3-Year LLB Programme affiliated with Assam University, Bodoland University and Gauhati University shall shortlist candidates exclusively from amongst those appearing in the Rank List published by the University, and shall prepare a Merit List strictly in accordance with the number of seats allotted/sanctioned to the concerned College by the affiliating University as per Bar Council of India (BCI) norms, in the admission portal (https://assam.samarth.ac.in/index.php).
b. All Colleges will be provided with logins to the Principals, and all admission-related procedures are to be undertaken only in the admission portal by logging into the link provided above. A comprehensive manual will be provided for the Colleges to follow the steps scrupulously without any lapses whatsoever.
c. Colleges need to strictly adhere to the rank and due verification of their documents while selecting the candidates in the merit lists for admission and complete the merit list preparation procedures, as laid down, within the stipulated timeframe.
d. The social categories mentioned in the Rank list are as per the submission made by the students in their application. However, the category certificates need to be thoroughly verified for authenticity and validity. Only those students with valid category certificates are to be admitted against that particular reserved category. However, if a candidate belonging to a reserved category qualifies as Unreserved, based on the Rank, his/her category certificates shall not be under scrutiny.
e. It is imperative to comply with the merit list preparation rules wherein any candidate irrespective of their social category, is to be placed in the Unreserved category under the prescribed limit, as per

reservation rules, and the rank of the last person selected in UR should be higher than the rank of any other candidate selected in the reserved category.

f. The Merit List shall be processed and published on the admission portal. The selected candidates will also receive admission offers in their student portals. (https://assamadmission.samarth.ac.in/cat/index.php/)
However, the onus of compliance with the reservation rules and merit-based selection rests with the concerned Law College(s) and any deviation shall be construed as wilful negligence. If any such matter is identified during the admission process, the undersigned shall take *suo motto* cognisance of the violation and shall take appropriate actions in due consultation with the competent authority of Govt. of Assam.

g. A student may receive one or more admission offers from one or more colleges, but he/she can accept only one offer and choose to be admitted to the college. Only upon acceptance of the admission offer will the Colleges be able to process the admission.

h. In connection with the ongoing centralised admission process for ASSAM CAT-LLB 2026, all participating Law Colleges are hereby directed to strictly adhere to the following instructions regarding the publication of locked merit lists:

   i. **Timeline for Publication:** The locked merit lists for various programs for admissions 2026 are scheduled to be officially published, as per the notified timeline mentioned in Annexure-1, on the centralised admission portal. (https://assamadmission.samarth.ac.in/cat/index.php/)

   ii. **Prior Publication Prohibition:** All participating Law Colleges are advised to refrain from publishing their merit lists on their individual institutional website before they are formally published on the centralised admission portal.

   iii. **Sequential Admission Offers:** Immediately upon publication on the centralised admission portal, the system will begin issuing automated admission offers to applicants in a sequential manner.

   iv. **Data Integrity Post-Publication:** Following the official release, institutions are requested to download their respective merit lists from the admission portal and publish the exact same lists on their Institution's notice boards/websites. Under no circumstances should any institution alter, modify, or tamper with the sequence or content of the downloaded merit lists.

Important: Admissions must be strictly based on the merit list and the ranks secured. Under no circumstances shall any College deviate from the order of merit and ensure that the total number of seats allotted, as per Annexure-I, is not exceeded while admitting candidates. The total number of students admitted to the 3-Year LLB Programme for the Academic Session 2026-27 shall, in all cases, strictly conform to the number of seats sanctioned by the affiliating University. Any admission in excess of the sanctioned intake shall be treated as unauthorised and void, and shall render the concerned College liable to such action as the University may deem fit.

4: Exercise of Choice by Candidates

If a student has inadvertently accepted an offer to which he/she is not interested in being admitted, he/she may immediately withdraw the offer by following certain steps in the portal, prior to the College's processing of admission. However, it may be noted that such withdrawal of the admission offer is irrevocable and once withdrawn, it cannot be restored in that merit list round. In such cases, if the College so admits the genuineness of the case, it may be reconsidered in the next merit list round. But it will be at the sole discretion of the concerned college whether to consider the case, and the candidate cannot claim it as a matter of right.

5: Physical Reporting for Admission

Candidates selected for admission shall be required to visit the concerned College in person on the dates specified in the Notification enclosed with this SOP.

Important: Candidates who fail to report to the concerned College within the dates earmarked for admission shall forfeit their chance of admission, and no claim for admission shall be entertained thereafter on any ground whatsoever.

6: Mandatory Processing through the Admission Portal

All admissions to the 3-Year LLB Programme shall be processed mandatorily and exclusively through the Admission Portal, in strict compliance with the directive issued by the Government of Assam in this regard.

Important: Any admission effected outside the prescribed Admission Portal shall be construed as an act of negligence on the part of the concerned College. Such admission shall not be recognised for the purposes of the academic and examination lifecycle of the student concerned at the affiliating University, and the College shall bear sole responsibility for any consequence arising therefrom.

7: Compliance with University Rules; Reference on Ambiguity

All admission-related rules and guidelines shall be followed strictly, in letter and spirit, by all Law Colleges and candidates. In the event of any ambiguity, doubt, or difficulty in the interpretation or application of the said rules and guidelines, Colleges are required to refer the matter to the Office of the undersigned for clarification, and shall not arbitrarily interpret such rules in a manner that may place any candidate at a disadvantage.

8: MERIT-BASED ADMISSION MANDATE

It is reiterated that **all admissions to the 3-Year Integrated LL.B. Programme must be made strictly on the basis of merit, as per the published Rank List**, and in full compliance with statutory reservation norms.

No Affiliated Law College shall, under any circumstances, deviate from the merit order in granting admission, whether on grounds of institutional preference, geographic preference, personal acquaintance, or any other consideration extraneous to merit and reservation. Any admission found to be in contravention of this direction shall be liable to be cancelled forthwith, and the college concerned shall be liable to such disciplinary action as the Competent Authority may deem fit.

GENERAL NOTE

This SOP is issued for general information and for strict compliance by all concerned. It is subject to such further clarification, addition, or amendment as may be issued by the Office of the Academic Registrar, Gauhati University, from time to time, and shall be read together with the Notification(s) governing the CAT 3-Year LLB admission process for the Academic Session 2026-27.

Detailed user manual for Colleges and Students to initiate and complete the admission processes shall be circulated in due course.

ANNEXURES

1. Admission timeline
2. List of participating Law Colleges Offering the 3-Year LLB Programme with the sanctioned capacities for Academic Session 2026-27

28/8/26

Academic Registrar
Gauhati University

ANNEXURE 1

Admission timeline for CAT-2026	
Declaration of result of ASSAM CAT-2026	27-Aug-26
Preparation and locking of first Merit list by Institutions	31st August, 2026
Publication of the first Merit list in the portal	1st September, 2026
Admissions to candidates in first merit list	2nd-3rd September, 2026
Preparation and locking of second Merit list by Institutions	5th September, 2026 (4 P.M.)
Publication of the second Merit list in the portal	5th September, 2026 after 5 P.M.
Admissions to candidates in second merit list	7th and 8th September, 2026
Preparation and locking of third Merit list by Institutions	9th September, 2026 (4 P.M.)
Publication of the locked Merit list in the portal	9th September, 2026 after 5 P.M.
Admissions to candidates in third merit list	10th and 11th September, 2026
Spot admissions in the remaining seats	12th September, 2026
Commencement of Classes	14th September, 2026

ANNEXURE-2

Affiliating Universities	Name of Law Colleges	Sanctioned Strength*
Assam University	A. K. Chanda Law College, Silchar	60
Assam University	Diphu Law College, Diphu	60
Assam University	Karimganj Law College	60
Bodoland University	Darrang College of Law	60
Bodoland University	Kokrajhar Law College	120
Gauhati University	Ajmal Law College. Hojai	60
Gauhati University	B.R.M. Govt. Law College, Guwahati	120
Gauhati University	Barpeta Law College	180
Gauhati University	Bongaigaon Law College	60
Gauhati University	Dhubri Law College	120
Gauhati University	Dispur Law College	120
Gauhati University	Goalpara Law College	120
Gauhati University	J.B. Law College, Guwahati	120
Gauhati University	Mangaldai Law College	120
Gauhati University	Morigaon Law College, Morigaon	60
Gauhati University	N.E.F. Law College, Guwahati	240
Gauhati University	Nalbari Law College	120
Gauhati University	Nowgong Law College	60
Gauhati University	Surendra Barman Memorial Law College, Bongaigaon	60
Gauhati University	Tezpur Law College	120
Gauhati University	University Law College, Gauhati University	120

***Excluding 10% supernumerary seats over and above the sanctioned intake for EWS (Economically Weaker Section) candidates.**