

SREENARAYANAGURU OPEN UNIVERSITY, KOLLAM

NOTIFICATION

REC/106/2026

No.Ad.A3/1/244/2025/SOU

Dated : 12/10/2026

Applications are invited from qualified candidates for appointment to the post of Head of School in **School of Vocational Education and Training** on deputation basis at Sreenarayanaguru Open University, Kollam.

Name of Post	Head of School
School	School of Vocational Education and Training
Disciplines	All relevant areas
No. of Posts	[01]
Nature of Appointment	Deputation
Pay / Level	As per UGC Norms. The Pay and Allowance shall be regulated as per the Pay and Allowance drawn in their Parent Department, subject to the applicable rules governing deputation.

Purpose of the Position.

The School of Vocational Education and Training is envisioned as the bridge between the classroom and the workplace — where academic grounding meets hands-on, industry-aligned skilling to produce graduates who are employable, enterprising and ready for the world of work. In keeping with the National Education Policy 2020's goal of mainstreaming vocational education and the National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF), the Head of School is the academic and administrative leader entrusted with building the programmes, partnerships and skilling ecosystem that connect learners to livelihoods. The University therefore seeks an accomplished scholar-practitioner and leader of proven distinction, integrity and enterprise — equally at home in academia and in industry — to lead the School.

A. Age

As prescribed in the University Statutes / Recruitment Rules for the post. For a deputation or fixed-tenure appointment, the age shall ordinarily not exceed 52 years as on 01/01/2026 with relaxation up to 56 years in the case of those in University Service. Those who have a minimum of four years of service remaining in their parent department are also eligible to apply for the post.

B. Essential Qualifications (Academic)

1. A Master's degree with at least 55% marks (or an equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed) from an Indian University or an equivalent degree from an accredited foreign institution.
2. An eminent scholar holding a **Ph.D. degree** in a vocational, technical or allied discipline relevant to the School, with a record of high-quality published work and / or demonstrable contributions to skill development.

3. Fulfilment of the eligibility conditions prescribed for the post is deputation of teachers not below the rank of Associate Professor in **Govt. Colleges/Aided Colleges/ Universities/ Government Institutions** under the applicable UGC Regulations on Minimum Qualifications and the Sreenarayanaguru Open University Act 2021 & Statutes. Associate Professors shall be considered only in the absence of Professors.

Vocational equivalence: Given the practice-oriented nature of vocational education, substantial senior-level professional, industry or skilling-sector experience of comparable standing may be reckoned towards eligibility, to the extent permitted under the UGC guidelines for vocational education (B.Voc. / M.Voc.), the NSQF / NCVET framework and the University Statutes.

Relaxation:

A relaxation for reserved categories will be applicable as per Government rules in force.

C. Essential Experience

1. Demonstrated **academic leadership** and administrative experience — for example, heading a School, Department, Centre, skill hub or equivalent unit; coordinating academic or training programmes; or serving on statutory academic bodies.
2. A **proven record of achievement**, evidenced by research publications and / or substantial contributions to curriculum development, industry-linked projects, skill-training delivery or occupational standards.
3. Experience of **industry engagement and applied / skill-based programme delivery**, including guidance of scholars, trainees or apprentices and the management of sponsored, industry or skilling projects.
4. Twelve years of Teaching experience in aided/govt colleges/university or other recognised higher education institutions.

D. Desirable Qualifications & Experience

Consistent with the School's mandate to align education with employment and the skilling ecosystem, preference will be given to candidates who demonstrate:

- **Experience in developing or leading NSQF-aligned vocational programmes** — B.Voc. / M.Voc. / D.Voc., certificate, diploma or community-college / skill-hub offerings.
- **Working familiarity with the skilling framework** — NSQF, the National Credit Framework (NCrF), National Occupational Standards (NOS), Sector Skill Councils and NCVET norms.
- **A strong track record of industry partnerships** — employer MoUs, apprenticeships (NAPS), on-the-job training, internships and placement outcomes.
- **Command of competency-based, experiential pedagogy** and the design and management of skill laboratories, workshops and training infrastructure.
- **Engagement with Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), entrepreneurship and incubation**, supporting learner progression and vertical mobility.
- **Success in resource mobilisation** through government skilling schemes, grants, CSR or industry funding.
- **Familiarity with quality-assurance and accreditation frameworks** (NAAC / NBA / NIRF) and skill-sector quality assurance.

E. Competencies & Leadership Attributes (Desirable)

Beyond formal eligibility, the successful candidate is expected to embody the qualities that define an outstanding leader of vocational education:

- **Industry orientation and employability focus** — keeping curricula, skills and outcomes tightly aligned to real and emerging workforce needs.
- **Partnership-building** — the ability to forge and sustain productive relationships with employers, Sector Skill Councils and government.
- **Practical, outcome-driven leadership** — translating skilling goals into measurable learner, placement and progression outcomes.
- **Innovation in pedagogy** — openness to competency-based, hands-on and technology-enabled models of teaching and training.
- **Integrity and inclusivity** — a commitment to ethics, equity and widening access to quality skilling for diverse learners.

F. Roles & Responsibilities (Indicative)

The Head of School shall provide overall academic and administrative leadership to the School, including:

- Providing strategic direction for the School's vocational and skill programmes, aligned to NSQF, the NCrF and industry demand.
- Designing, delivering and continually updating B.Voc. / M.Voc. / D.Voc. and certificate / diploma programmes, embedding National Occupational Standards and appropriate credit and skill components.
- Forging and managing partnerships with industry, employers and Sector Skill Councils — including MoUs, apprenticeships, internships and on-the-job training.
- Establishing and overseeing skill laboratories, workshops and training infrastructure to a professional standard.
- Driving placements, entrepreneurship, incubation and learners' vertical mobility and progression.
- Mentoring faculty, industry-practitioner trainers and scholars and fostering an inclusive, work-ready learning community.
- Overseeing admissions, competency-based assessment and certification and student welfare within the School.
- Mobilising, allocating and accounting for resources, schemes, grants and industry funding with transparency.
- Representing the School in the University's statutory bodies and in external skilling, industry and policy forums, in accordance with the University's Act and Statutes.
- Discharging other duties and responsibilities as prescribed by the Statutes of the University.

G. General Conditions

1. Applicant should be a citizen of India.
2. All qualifications and experience must be from institutions recognised by the UGC and the relevant statutory bodies, as applicable. Those who obtain degree from the institutions other than the State /Central Universities/National Institutes shall produce the equivalency

certificates from any of the State Universities in Kerala

3. Prescribed percentages of marks shall be calculated as the aggregate of all years / semesters; grade to-percentage conversion shall be as certified by the awarding institution.
4. The University reserves the right to fill, not to fill or to vary the number of posts; to shortlist candidates by applying criteria higher than the prescribed minimum; and to constitute the Selection Committee as per the applicable UGC Regulations and University Act & Statutes.
5. Mere fulfilment of the minimum qualifications does not entitle a candidate to be called for interview or to be selected.
6. Canvassing in any form or bringing external influence, will render a candidate liable to disqualification.
7. Deadline for online submission of application is at 5 PM on 11/11/2026.
8. Those who have applied in response to our earlier notification need to submit the application in response to this notification.
9. Those who are in service need to obtain No Objection Certificate from the employer, a copy of which must be enclosed with the Hard copy of the application.

H. Registration Fee:

Candidates shall remit an amount of Rs. 1500/- (One Thousand Five hundred only) as registration fee for General Category. SC/ST DA candidates need to remit Rs. 750/- (Seven hundred and fifty only) . (Account No. 361401010035599, IFSC- UBIN0536148, Branch – Union Bank, Kollam -1) Fee should be remitted only through online as instructed in the submission portal. Copy of the fee receipt shall be submitted along with the hard copy of the online application to the University.

I. How to apply.

Eligible candidates shall submit online application in the official website of Sreenarayanaguru Open University, <https://sgou.ac.in/>

Hard copy of duly submitted online application along with true copies of all certificates / documents (self-attested) in proof of age, qualification, experience, research, community, reservation, and other claims shall reach the office of the Registrar, Sreenarayanaguru Open University, Kureepuzha, Kollam. 691601, on or before 5 pm on 18/11/2026. Defective/late applications will be summarily rejected.


Registrar
✓