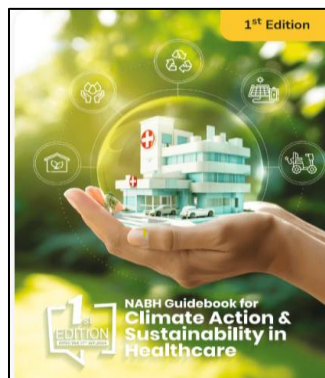


# NATIONAL ACCREDITATION BOARD FOR HOSPITALS & HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS (NABH)



## **Self Certification Scheme for Climate Change Resilience and Sustainability in Healthcare General Information Brochure**



January 2026





## **About NABH**

National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH) is a constituent board of Quality Council of India (QCI), set up to establish and operate accreditation programme for healthcare organizations. NABH has been established with the objective of enhancing health systems & promoting continuous quality improvement and patient safety. The board while being supported by all stakeholders, including industry, consumers, government, has full functional autonomy in its operation.

NABH offers accreditation services to hospitals and other clinical establishments. NABH provides accreditation in a non-discriminatory manner regardless of their ownership, legal status, size, and degree of independence.

International Society for Quality in Healthcare (ISQua) has accredited NABH as an Organization. The hospitals accredited by NABH have international recognition. This provides boost to medical tourism in the country.

NABH is an Institutional Member as well as a member of the Accreditation Council of the International Society for Quality in HealthCare (ISQua). NABH is one of the founder member of Asian Society for Quality in Healthcare (ASQua).

There has been demand from SAARC/ASIAN countries for NABH accreditation and to meet this requirement, NABH has launched NABH International and to begin with Philippines is the first overseas destination for extending NABH accreditation services. Following this expansion, hospitals and SHCOs in Afghanistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Oman have also been successfully accredited.





## About NABH

NABH provides accreditation to Healthcare organisations in a non-discriminatory manner regardless of their ownership, legal status, size and degree of independence.

The objective of NABH standards is to improve healthcare quality and patient safety.

NABH currently operates the following accreditation, certification and empanelment programmes

### Accreditation Programmes:

1. Hospitals Accreditation Programme
2. Small Healthcare Organization (SHCO) Accreditation Programme
3. Digital Health Accreditation Programme for Hospitals
4. Blood Bank/Blood Centres Accreditation Programme
5. Medical Imaging Services Accreditation Programme
6. Dental Healthcare Service Providers Accreditation Programme
7. Allopathic Clinics Accreditation Programme
8. Ayush Hospitals Accreditation Programme
9. Panchakarma Clinic Accreditation Programme
10. Clinical Trial (Ethics Committee) Accreditation Programme
11. Eye Care Organizations Accreditation Programme
12. Care Homes Accreditation Programme

### Certification Programmes:

1. Entry Level Hospitals Certification Programme
2. Entry Level Small Healthcare Organizations (SHCO) Certification Programme
3. Digital Health Certification Programme for Hospitals
4. Entry Level Ayush Centres Certification Programme
5. Entry Level Ayush Hospitals Certification Programme
6. Nursing Excellence Certification Programme
7. Medical Laboratory Certification Programme
8. Emergency Department in Hospitals Certification Programme
9. Entry Level Dental Clinics Certification Programme
10. Primary Stroke Centres Certification Programme
11. Advanced Stroke Centres Certification Programme



## NATIONAL ACCREDITATION BOARD FOR HOSPITALS & HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS



### About NABH

13. Digital Health Standards for Clinic Management Systems (CMS)

14. Self-certification scheme for Climate Change Resilience and Sustainability in Healthcare

#### **Empanelment Programmes:**

NABH is the nodal body representing Quality Council of India for conducting assessments of the healthcare organizations for empanelment under –

1. CGHS Empanelment Programme
2. ECHS Empanelment Programme
3. Medical Value Travel Facilitator (MVTF) Empanelment Programme



## Introduction to Certification

Climate change and healthcare are interconnected, with climate change now recognized as one of the global health threats of the 21st century. For India specifically, the outlook is concerning - the country faces some of the most rapid and extreme climate changes globally, which will place enormous pressure on its healthcare systems. The severity of this threat is highlighted in an article by The Times of India, which indicated that climate change impacts could force approximately 10% of India's hospitals to close by 2100.

In response to this pressing challenge, the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers (NABH) has taken proactive steps by developing a comprehensive resource: the NABH Guidebook for Climate Action and Sustainability in Healthcare. This document provides healthcare organizations with detailed guidance on achieving climate change adaptation, resilience and sustainability. To motivate healthcare organizations, industry best practices were also showcased in the document and further NABH will continue to publish best practices as submitted by partner HCOs. The guidebook was officially launched during the National Patient Safety Conference on September 17, 2024, and is available for free download on NABH official website.

Subsequent to the launch of guidebook, self-certification scheme for healthcare organization is rolled out, the scheme has been developed with the intent to guide and sensitize healthcare organizations towards becoming climate change resilient and environmentally sustainable. This scheme also aims to handhold and uplift the capacity of the healthcare organizations to cope with the upcoming events/disasters related to climate change through continuous self-assessment.



## Benefits of Certification

### Benefits for Patients

- Patients are the biggest beneficiary among all the stakeholders.
- Certification results in high quality of care and patient safety.
- The patients are serviced by trained medical staff.
- Rights of patients are respected and protected. Patient's satisfaction is regularly evaluated.

### Benefits for Organization

- Certification to a health care organization stimulates continuous improvement.
- It enables the organization in demonstrating commitment to quality care and patient safety with emphasis on climate change preparedness.
- Ensures self-assessment of the risks, plan and implement strategies for becoming climate resilient & environmentally sustainable organizations.
- It raises community confidence in the services provided by the health care organization as services provided by credentialed medical staff.
- It also provides opportunity to healthcare unit to benchmark with the best.
- Certification status also provides marketing advantage in a competitive healthcare.

### Benefits for Staff

- The staff in an certified Hospital is satisfied lot as it provides for continuous learning, good working environment and leadership.
- Efficiencies and competencies of staff also gets improved in an certified Hospital.
- It improves overall professional development, knowledge and competencies in systematic ways with defined ownership and accountability of all the staff including Medical and Para Medical Staff.



## NABH Guidebook for Climate Action & Sustainability in Healthcare

National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH) is envisioned to sustainable healthcare practices, climate resilient healthcare infrastructure thereby aiming quality healthcare services for the society at large. Mitigation and preparedness with respect to changing climatic conditions is essential to ensure availability of quality healthcare services across country. This document has been developed by NABH with the intent to guide healthcare organizations towards becoming climate resilient and environmentally sustainable. This document also aims to enhance the capacity of the healthcare organizations to cope with the upcoming events/disasters related to climate change. Through this document following objectives are expected to be met:

1. Creating awareness regarding climate change, environment sustainability and its impact on the healthcare organizations.
2. Guiding professionals working in healthcare settings to understand and prepare towards risks posed by climate change.
3. Guiding healthcare organizations to self-assess the risks, plan and implement strategies for becoming climate resilient & environmentally sustainable organizations.

### **Contents of the guidebook:**

1. Concept of Sustainability in Healthcare
2. Guidance for Implementation
3. Strategic Framework for Sustainability
4. Examples of Best Practices
5. Self-Assessment Checklist
6. References and Resource Materials



## Methodology for Certification

Health Care Organizations (HCO) willing to be certified by NABH must be committed to ensure implementation of NABH self-assessment checklist for climate change resilience and sustainability in healthcare in their organization.

The Hospitals during the time of submission of application should be able to demonstrate that all the requirements of the checklist, as applicable, are implemented & followed.

### **Eligibility to apply for the certification:**

Presently the scheme is open only for NABH accredited healthcare organizations and in due course this scheme will be available for NABH certified HCOs also, the announcement of which will be made on the official website of NABH ([www.nabh.co](http://www.nabh.co))

### **Application Process:**

An application form along with self-assessment checklist will be available on the new portal for HCO & SHCO. The institution/organization desirous of applying for certification under this scheme shall carefully go through the requirements of the scheme, processes and self-assess for adequacy. The prospective applicant healthcare organization must take care of shortfalls, if any, before applying.

Application form completed in all respects along with applicable fee shall be submitted by the healthcare organization for getting certification. Healthcare Organization shall upload the geo-tagged, time-stamped photographs and documents as required in the self-assessment checklist.

Incomplete applications submitted by the healthcare organizations will not be processed by NABH and will stand closed without any notice to the organization.

**Self-Assessment Process**

Healthcare organizations after self-assessment, shall be rating themselves between 0-10 for all the criteria mentioned in self-assessment checklist i.e.:

- Non-compliant '0' – Non-compliance to the requirement
- Partial complaint '5'- Partial compliance to the requirement (if any of the sample is found to be non-complying out of total samples selected)
- Fully compliant '10' – Compliance to the requirement
- NA - Not Applicable

Also, supporting geo-tagged, time-stamped photographs and documents shall be submitted for each criterion by the healthcare organization on the new portal for HCO & SHCO.

HCO shall note that they will not be allowed to submit any further documents or make changes in the self-assessment checklist once submitted on the portal.

Note: NABH may conduct onsite assessment of selected certified HCOs on random basis (with prior information). The cost of onsite assessment will be borne by NABH.

**Criteria for granting certification**

On the basis of application form, self-assessment checklist along with geo-tagged, time-stamped photographs and documents submitted by the healthcare organizations on the portal, certification committee shall take decision for the award of certification or otherwise.

Certification will be granted only after fulfilment of all of the following:

- Submission of all requisite documents with application along with applicable fees
- Achieving at least 65% overall compliance with not less than 50% compliance for each of the 7 sections of the self-assessment checklist.
- None of the core elements shall score 0 (Non-compliant).

<b>Certification Criteria</b>	
Overall Compliance (cumulative score)	at least 65%
Individual section (cumulative score)	not less than 50%
Core Elements (individual element score)	>0





Certification will be valid for 2 years and is subject to continued compliance to the NABH self-assessment checklist for Climate Change Resilience and Sustainability in Healthcare by the organization.

**Summary of Elements NABH self-assessment checklist for Climate Change Resilience and Sustainability in Healthcare**

	<b>Section</b>	<b>Core</b>	<b>Commitment</b>	<b>Achievement</b>	<b>Excellence</b>	<b>Total elements</b>
<b>Section A</b>	Governance	1	3	5	0	9
<b>Section B</b>	Infrastructure and utilities	10	30	16	5	61
<b>Section C</b>	Waste Management	8	8	2	2	20
<b>Section D</b>	Food Management	0	6	4	0	10
<b>Section E</b>	Transportation	0	3	2	3	8
<b>Section F</b>	Anaesthesia Gases	0	3	3	4	10
<b>Section G</b>	Human resource, training and awareness	6	7	2	1	16
<b>Total elements</b>		25	60	34	15	134



## Methodology for Certification

It is important for the hospital to make a definite plan of action for obtaining certification and nominate a person to co-ordinate all activities related to seeking certification. An official nominated by the hospital should be familiar with the latest updates in Climate Change resilience and sustainability in healthcare.

The NABH Guidebook on Climate Action and sustainability in healthcare are freely available for download from the NABH website <https://nabh.co/explore-nabh-standards/>

### How to apply?

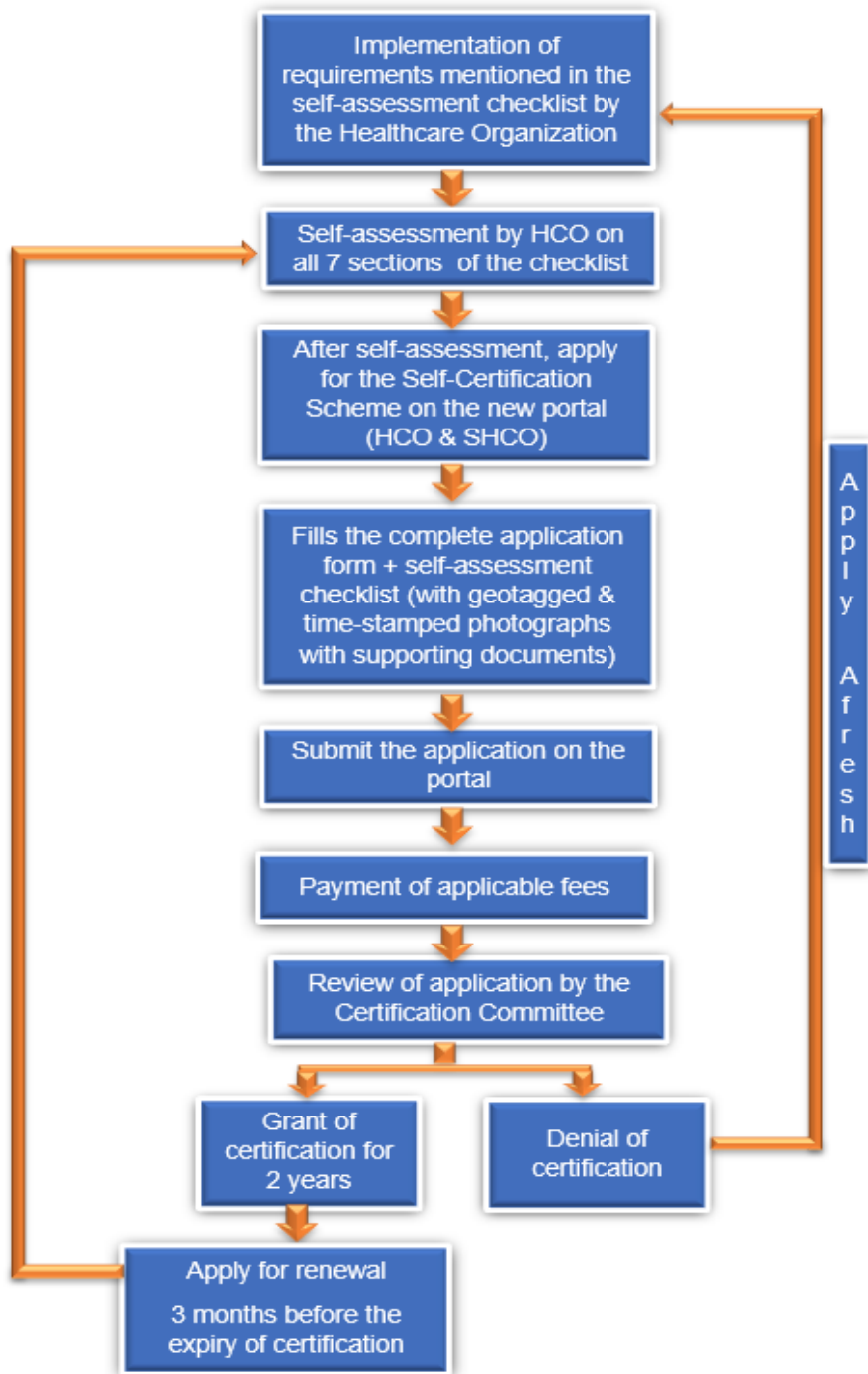
Once the checklist is implemented in the Health Care Organization, the HCO can apply for certification online from the website:

<https://portal.nabh.co/frmUserLoginCreation.aspx>

- (a) Use a new email id for registration
- (b) Choose 'Self Certification Scheme for climate change resilience and sustainability in healthcare' as Application Type
- (c) NABH shall activate the email id and provide you the login and password

Using the above login and password – one can fill the application form along with self assessment checklist.

### Certification Process



## NABH Certification Procedure

### **Preparation of Policies and Manuals:**

The Healthcare Organization shall prepare the Policies and Procedures as per the NABH Self Certification Checklist for Climate Change Resilience and Sustainability in Healthcare.

### **Application for certification:**

The HCO shall apply to NABH as per the instructions given in the online application. HCO should fill the application and provide the information details very carefully as this is relevant to determine the decision of certification.

### **Scrutiny of application:**

Reference ID for the application is generated once the HCO pays the application fees from '**Payment tab**' under "**Application Progress**" option of the online application form. NABH officer shall scrutinize the application form for its completeness. HCO may correspond to NABH via writing in '**Remarks**' of online portal of the HCO.

### **Communication Channel**

All applicant and accredited healthcare organizations (HCO) are strongly advised to use the '**Remarks**' at the online portal for all communication. Hospitals are strongly discouraged to communicate through telephone or emails to secretariat members as this communication cannot be saved as part of particular HCO record and may not be available for future references.

### **Issue of Certification Certificate:**

NABH shall issue a certification certificate to the hospital with a validity of two years after decision of certification committee. The certificate has a unique number and date of validity.



## NABH Certification Procedure

### **Re assessment:**

Certification to the hospital shall be valid for a period of two years.

NABH may conduct onsite assessment of selected certified HCOs on random basis (with prior information). The cost of onsite assessment will be borne by NABH.

The HCO needs to apply online for renewal of certification at least three months before the expiry of validity of certification for which reassessment shall be conducted.

### **Surprise Assessment:**

NABH may conduct surprise assessments at certified hospitals periodically to evaluate the compliance to the standards, as hospitals are expected to adhere to the NABH self certification checklist for climate change resilience and sustainability in healthcare at any given point of time once HCO is certified.

NABH may call for un-announced visit, based on any concern or any serious incident reported upon by an individual or an organization/media. Hospitals are requested to view policy and procedure for Surprise assessment to an accredited/ certified HCO by visiting the following link:

[https://nabh-portal-live.s3.ap-south-1.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/11122018/NABH-Policy-Procedure-for-Surprise-Assessment-Issue-7\\_Protected.pdf](https://nabh-portal-live.s3.ap-south-1.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/11122018/NABH-Policy-Procedure-for-Surprise-Assessment-Issue-7_Protected.pdf)



## NABH Certification Procedure

### **Guidelines for using the certification mark:**

Certified HCOs should ensure the guidelines related to display NABH Logo / mark are adhered. Any misuse of the logo / mark can lead to adverse action being taken against the hospital by NABH besides legal action. Hospitals are requested to view guidelines related to use NABH logo / accreditation/certification mark by visiting the following link. [https://nabh-portal-live.s3.ap-south-1.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/1114813/NABH-Policy-Guidelines-for-Use-of-NABH-Accreditation-Certification-Mark-Issue-10\\_Protected.pdf](https://nabh-portal-live.s3.ap-south-1.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/1114813/NABH-Policy-Guidelines-for-Use-of-NABH-Accreditation-Certification-Mark-Issue-10_Protected.pdf)

## NABH Certification Procedure

### TERMS & CONDITIONS TO MAINTAIN CERTIFICATION

Compliance to the following Conditions is required to maintain certification:

- I. Certification shall expire at the end of its validity unless renewal is sought in time i.e. renewal application shall be submitted by the healthcare organization at least 3 months before current certification cycle expiry.
- II. All payments shall be made in advance. Fees once paid are non-refundable.
- III. The healthcare organization should not be involved in any fraudulent activities or provide false information or conceals information.
- IV. The healthcare organization should not be involved in any activities that can mislead or brings disrepute to NABH in any manner.

**Adverse and other decisions:** As per NABH policy and procedure for adverse and other decisions.

**Complaints and appeals:** As per NABH policy and procedure for complaints handling and appeals.

Hospitals are also advised to check the NABH portal time to time for any important announcements, change in standards etc. which needs to be adhered by certified HCOs.



## Fee Structure

General information brochure (downloadable)	: Free of cost
NABH Guidebook for Climate Action & Sustainability in Healthcare - (Soft copy,downloadable)	: Free of cost

### **Application fee and NABH Certification charges:**

Certification Fee for two years: INR 11000/- plus GST (one time).

Fees once paid will be non-refundable.

