



INDIALAW

Education

Leading Education Law Firm in India for Regulatory, EdTech, and M&A Matters

PRACTICE PROFILE • MAY 2026

Overview

We provide strategic legal counsel to educational institutions, universities, edtech companies and investors across India. Our services cover regulatory, transactional, and operational aspects of the education sector, addressing both traditional and digital education ecosystems.

Our Services

- **Regulatory Approvals and Compliance:** Assistance with obtaining and maintaining approvals and affiliations from regulatory bodies such as UGC, AICTE, CBSE, ICSE, NCERT, NCTE, and State Education Boards. Advisory on compliance with the Right to Education Act, National Education Policy (NEP), and other applicable state and central legislation.
- **EdTech Platforms and Digital Learning:** Structuring of online learning platforms, virtual classrooms, and edtech startups. Drafting terms of use, licensing agreements, privacy policies, and compliance with IT laws and the Digital Personal Data Protection Act.
- **Content Development and Licensing:** Advising on creation, acquisition, and licensing of educational content. Ensuring IP protection for proprietary materials and compliance with copyright laws.
- **Institutional Collaborations:** Structuring of domestic and international tie-ups, exchange programs, and dual-degree partnerships. Compliance with FCRA, FDI norms, and other foreign collaboration regulations.
- **M&A and Investment in Education:** Legal support in private equity, acquisitions, joint ventures, and investments in schools, colleges, and edtech ventures.
- **Trusts and Societies:** Formation and governance of educational trusts, societies, and Section 8 companies, including amendments to trust deeds and compliance with charitable laws.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1 What does an education law practice cover in India?

It covers regulatory approvals from bodies like UGC, AICTE, and CBSE, structuring of edtech platforms, institutional collaborations, content licensing, IP protection, and M&A advisory for schools, colleges, and digital learning ventures.

Q2 When should an educational institution or edtech company seek legal counsel?

Early engagement is advisable, ideally before applying for regulatory approvals, launching a platform, onboarding investors, or entering collaborations. Retroactive compliance is costlier and riskier, particularly under NEP guidelines and the DPDP Act.

Q3 Which regulators and statutes govern the education sector in India?

Key regulators include UGC, AICTE, NCTE, CBSE, ICSE, and State Education Boards. Applicable laws include the Right to Education Act, NEP, IT Act, DPDP Act, FCRA for foreign tie-ups, and the Companies Act 2013 for Section 8 entities.

Q4 What is the typical timeline for obtaining regulatory approvals in education?

Timelines vary significantly. AICTE approvals for new institutions can take six to twelve months. UGC affiliation may take longer depending on inspection schedules. Key cost drivers include documentation, compliance audits, and state-level clearances.

Q5 What documents are needed to set up an educational institution or edtech venture?

For institutions, you typically need the trust deed or society registration, land title documents, building plans, and faculty credentials. Edtech ventures require incorporation documents, platform architecture details, privacy policies, and content licensing records.

Q6 What common mistakes do education sector clients make with regulatory compliance?

A frequent pitfall is operating without proper affiliations or running programs beyond approved intake capacity. Another is neglecting data privacy obligations under the DPDP Act for edtech platforms, which can trigger penalties and reputational harm.