



SAARTHI - सारथी

करियर मार्गदर्शन पोर्टल · Career Guidance Portal

"सही मार्गदर्शन, उज्ज्वल भविष्य।"

करियर शीट · CAREER SHEET

टैटू आर्टिस्ट

A Tattoo Artist uses permanent ink to create designs, artwork, and lettering on people's skin. It is a creative, hands-on craft where the artist must understand a client's vision and execute it on skin safely, hygienically, and...



Scan for everything on this career

Salary, exams, colleges, the routes in and the steps after — all on the portal.

career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/voc-6422

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सुशील कुमार शर्मा

प्रधानाचार्य, रा.उ.मा.वि. जेठन्तरी · मास्टर ट्रेनर
Principal, GSSS Jethantri · Master Trainer



श्री चेनाराम चौधरी

प्रधानाचार्य, डाइट बाड़मेर
Principal, DIET Barmer



श्रीमती संघमित्रा

वरिष्ठ व्याख्याता, डाइट बाड़मेर (सहयोग)
Sr. Lecturer, DIET Barmer (Support)



भरत चौधरी

अभिकल्पना व विकास · व्याख्याता (इतिहास)
Designed & developed · Lecturer (History)

विशेष धन्यवाद · SPECIAL THANKS



सुरेन्द्र सिंह राठौड़

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. कानाना



सुरेश कुमार सैन

व्याख्याता (भूगोल) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



वनिता कुमारी

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



कमलेश चौधरी

व्याख्याता (राजनीति विज्ञान) · रा.उ.मा.वि. टापरा

करियर मार्गदर्शन कार्यशाला, डाइट बाड़मेर (14-17 जुलाई 2026) में विकसित व लोकार्पित
Developed & unveiled at the Career Guidance Workshop, DIET Barmer (14-17 July 2026)

यह एक स्वतंत्र परियोजना है, जो सरकार की आधिकारिक करियर-मार्गदर्शन सामग्री पर आधारित है। · An independent project based on the Government's official career-guidance content.

1 About this career

A Tattoo Artist uses permanent ink to create designs, artwork, and lettering on people's skin. It is a creative, hands-on craft where the artist must understand a client's vision and execute it on skin safely, hygienically, and precisely.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	Class 10 pass + age 18
NSQF Level	Level 5
Training Mode	Apprenticeship + course
Starting salary	About ₹16,500/month

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- You have a strong interest in creative work and enjoy drawing.
- You enjoy meeting people and translating their ideas into a visual design.
- You pay close attention to detail while working — linework, shading, and colour.

ABILITIES

- Steady hands and excellent hand-eye coordination (fine motor control).
- Strict discipline in following hygiene and infection-control procedures.
- A good understanding of sketching, colour theory, and design composition.

KEY SKILLS

- Freehand sketching and design
- Preparing stencils and transferring designs onto skin
- Safe use of tattoo machines, needles, and inks
- Sterilisation and infection-control protocols

- Client consultation and custom design creation
- Shading, colour blending, and realism techniques
- Aftercare advice and knowledge of tattoo healing

4 How to get there

- 1 Complete Class 10 and turn 18 years old.
- 2 Practice drawing/sketching regularly to build a portfolio.
- 3 Enroll in an NSQF Level 5 course via an NSDC/JSS centre or the Beauty & Wellness Sector Skill Council (B&WSSC), or join an apprenticeship at an established tattoo studio.
- 4 Complete a 6-month to 2-year apprenticeship/mentorship under an experienced tattoo artist.
- 5 Get a bloodborne-pathogen safety/hygiene certification and comply with any local health-licensing rules.
- 6 Start work as a junior tattoo artist at a studio, or begin freelancing.

MAIN EXAMS

- There is no traditional entrance exam; the Beauty & Wellness Sector Skill Council (B&WSSC) conducts an NSQF skill-assessment, and studios often select apprentices based on portfolio review.

5 Where to study

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES

- NSDC - प्रशिक्षण केंद्र खोजें — All India (<https://www.nsdcindia.org/find-nsdc-training-centre>)
- जन शिक्षण संस्थान (JSS) — All India (<https://nsdcindia.org/find-nsdc-training-centre-jss/>)
- राजस्थान कौशल एवं आजीविका विकास निगम (RSLDC) — Rajasthan (<https://livelihoods.rajasthan.gov.in/rsldc/#/home/dptHome/403>)
- ब्यूटी एंड वेलनेस सेक्टर स्किल काउंसिल (B&WSSC) — All India (<https://www.bwssc.in/>)

PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- प्रतिष्ठित टैटू स्टूडियो में अप्रेंटिसशिप (जैसे Iron Buzz Tattoos, Aliens Tattoo) — Mumbai and other metros (<https://www.ironbuzztattoos.com/>)
- जयपुर/जोधपुर के स्थानीय टैटू स्टूडियो में अप्रेंटिसशिप — Jaipur, Jodhpur, Rajasthan (<https://bestjaipur.com/tattoo-artist-in-jaipur/>)

ONLINE

- स्किल इंडिया डिजिटल — Online (<https://www.skillindiadigital.gov.in/>)

FEES

Government NSDC/RSLDC/B&WSSC courses are usually free or very low-cost. Private studio apprenticeships range from free (learn-while-you-assist) to ₹15,000 - ₹1,00,000+, plus the extra cost of buying your own machine/kit.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- राष्ट्रीय छात्रवृत्ति पोर्टल (NSP) – ITI/वोकेशनल छात्रवृत्ति (<https://scholarships.gov.in/fresh/onlineInstituteSearchIndex>)
- Buddy4Study – ITI/व्यावसायिक प्रशिक्षण छात्रवृत्तियाँ (<https://www.buddy4study.com/article/iti-scholarships>)
- प्रधानमंत्री कौशल विकास योजना (PMKVY)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

Tattoo studios, beauty parlours/salons, body-art kiosks in malls, and self-employment (own studio).

WORK CULTURE

Typically 8-9 hours a day, 5-6 days a week, with weekends busier. Successful artists often move to flexible, appointment-based schedules. Long hours bent over a client can be physically tiring.

WHO HIRES

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Established tattoo studios (Iron Buzz Tattoos, Aliens Tattoo, Devilz Tattooz, Kraayonz, etc.) | • Self-employment/own tattoo studio |
| • Beauty and wellness chains and salons | • Guest artist spots at tattoo and body-art conventions |
| • Body-art/temporary tattoo services for film and TV sets | • International guest-spot and touring artist opportunities |

DEMAND (2026)

Tattoo popularity is rising fast in India, especially among urban youth, with social media and tattoo conventions giving the profession more visibility. As the beauty & wellness sector becomes more formal, demand for organised studios and trained artists is growing even in cities like Jaipur and Jodhpur.

7 Career growth

- 1 Junior Tattoo Artist
- 2 Tattoo Artist
- 3 Senior Tattoo Artist
- 4 Tattoo Expert/Studio Owner

EARNINGS

Starting	₹12,000 - ₹16,500/माह (अक्सर अप्रेंटिसशिप के दौरान स्टाइपेंड)
Mid level	₹25,000 - ₹40,000/माह (प्रति-पीस/फ्रीलांस आय सहित)
Senior level	₹50,000+/माह (स्थापित आर्टिस्ट/स्टूडियो ओनर)

Government NCS data puts income between ₹16,500 - ₹40,000/month; PayScale/Indeed listings broadly agree, though popular artists who price per piece by size/design can earn considerably more.

8 The good parts · The challenges**The good parts**

- High creative satisfaction and the chance to build a distinct artistic identity.
- Strong self-employment options — freelancing or opening your own studio.
- A growing industry that also opens doors to international guest-spot opportunities.

The challenges

- Income is irregular early on, especially during the apprenticeship period.
- Long hours bent over clients can strain the back, neck, and eyes.
- Social stigma around tattoos still exists in some communities.

9 Real-life journeys

निखिल चेखलिया (Nikhil Chekhliya)

Tattoo Artist, Palghar, Maharashtra

Nikhil Chekhliya is a Palghar-based tattoo artist widely regarded as one of India's best, having won two national awards. He specialises in colour realism and blackwork. He says, 'The tattoo industry is always evolving, so I'm constantly learning new techniques and ideologies. But my work has a distinct visual identity that people associate with me.'

Machu Tattoos · <https://machutattoos.com/top-10-award-winning-tattoo-artists-in-india/>

देबांजलि दास (Debanjali Das)

Tattoo Artist and Owner, Guiding Monk Tattoos, Bengaluru

Debanjali Das owns 'Guiding Monk Tattoos' studio in Bengaluru. She began her apprenticeship roughly five years earlier under tattoo artist Tshering Sherpa. Though initially questioned about her ability to handle larger pieces, she worked her way to specialising in full-sleeve tattoos and now runs her own studio.

Homegrown India · <https://homegrown.co.in/homegrown-creators/indian-female-tattoo-artists-are-making-their-mark>

10 If this route does not work out

One exam or one attempt does not close the door. The same subjects also open these routes — entry is usually easier, and you can return to this field later.

- Fitter (Processing)
- Fish & Seafood Processor
- Aquaculture Worker

11 Sources & further reading

1. Rajasthan Career Guidance Portal — Tattoo Artist — <https://cg.rajasthan.gov.in/careerguidance/hi/career/%e0%a4%9f%e0%a5%88%e0%a4%9f%e0%a5%82-%e0%a4%86%e0%a4%b0%e0%a5%8d%e0%a4%9f%e0%a4%bf%e0%a4%b8%e0%a5%8d%e0%a4%9f/>
2. Beauty & Wellness Sector Skill Council (B&WSSC) — <https://www.bwssc.in/>
3. Indian women tattoo artists — Homegrown India — <https://homegrown.co.in/homegrown-creators/indian-female-tattoo-artists-are-making-their-mark>



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Interest and aptitude tests, government jobs, skill courses and a CV builder — free, no login, and it works offline.

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