

FAQs On Digital Signature Certificate (DSC):

Ques: What is a Digital Signature Certificate?

Ans: Digital Signature Certificates (DSC) are the digital equivalent (that is electronic format) of physical or paper certificates. Certificates serve as proof of identity of an individual for a certain purpose; for example, a driver's license identifies someone who can legally drive in a particular country. Likewise, a digital certificate can be presented electronically to prove one's identity, to access information or services on the Internet or to sign certain documents digitally.

Ques: Why is Digital Signature Certificate required?

Ans: Physical documents are signed manually, similarly, electronic documents, for example e-forms are required to be signed digitally using a Digital Signature Certificate.

Ques: What is the process of obtaining DSC from Certifying Authority?

Ans: Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) Applicants can directly approach Certifying Authorities (CAs) as approved by Controller of Certifying Authorities with original supporting documents, and self-attested copies will be sufficient in this case. The list of Licensed CAs is available **at http://www.cca.gov.in/cca/?q=licensed_ca.html**. The different categories of certificates offered by different CAs are listed **at <http://www.cca.gov.in/cca/?q=CAServicesOverview.html>**. The contact address of each CA and their help desk numbers are available in the disclosure record of each CA published **at http://www.cca.gov.in/cca/?q=licensed_ca.html**.

Ques: Who issues Digital Signature Certificate?

Ans: A licensed Certifying Authority (CA) issues the digital signature. Certifying Authorities (CA) has been granted a license to issue a digital signature certificate under Section 24 of the Indian IT-Act 2000. One can procure Class 2 or 3 certificates from any of the following certifying authorities.

[SafeScript CA Services, Sify Communications Ltd.](#)



[\(n\) Code Solutions CA](#)



[E-MUDHRA](#)



[Disclosure Records of Verasys CA](#)



[Capricorn](#)



Ques: What are the different types of Digital Signature Certificate valid for SaralSanchar Portal?

Ans: The different types of Digital Signature Certificates are:

Class 2: Here, the identity of a person is verified against a trusted, pre-verified database.

Class 3: This is the highest level where the person needs to present himself or herself in front of a Registration Authority (RA) and prove his/ her identity.

Ques: What is the legal status of a Digital Signature?

Ans: Digital Signatures are legally admissible in a Court of Law, as provided under the provisions of IT Act, 2000.

Ques: Which are the CAs issuing Class 2 and Class 3 DSCs to public at present? Please provide their contact details?

Ans:

CA name	website
Safescrypt CA	www.safescrypt.com
(n)Code Solutions CA	www.ncodesolutions.com
e Mudhra CA	www.e-Mudhra.com
Capricorn CA	https://www.certificate.digital
Verasys CA	www.vsign.inhuzeffa.thanawala@verasys.in

(Source: As per Controller of Certifying Authorities website : www.cca.gov.in)

Ques: How does one know about the different classes of certificates offered by the Licensed CAs?

Ans: The services offered by CAs are available on the website of each CA. The summary of service offered by CAs are available at <http://www.cca.gov.in/cca/?q=CAServicesOverview.html>.

Ques: Whether digital signature will be valid after the expiry of certificate?

Ans: Signatures are to be verified with respect to signature affixing time. If the certificate is valid at the time of signature, the signature is deemed to be valid.

Ques: How to use Digital signature and how to digitally sign any document?

Ans: Procedure for Digitally signing of any document vary from one CA (Certifying authorities) to another CA used software. Kindly contact your respective CAs through which DSC is being issued in this regard.