

Prince Academy of Higher Education

October 30, 2025

Facilities/Instruments	Amount (₹ crore)	Rating ¹	Rating Action
Long-term bank facilities	200.00	CARE BBB; Stable	Assigned

Details of instruments/facilities in Annexure-1.

Rationale and key rating drivers

The rating assigned to bank facilities of Prince Academy of Higher Education (PAHE) derives strength from experienced and resourceful promoter group and wide range of academic programmes offered, supported by state-of-the-art infrastructure. The rating also favourably factors its healthy profitability, comfortable financial risk profile supported healthy corpus and low debt levels, strong debt coverage indicators and adequate liquidity.

However, the rating remains constrained considering PAHE's moderate scale of operations with limited geographical reach, its presence in the highly regulated and competitive education sector. The rating also factors in implementation and stabilisation risk associated with ongoing partially debt-funded capex.

Rating sensitivities: Factors likely to lead to rating actions

Positive factors

- Successful completion of capex in the envisaged time and cost overrun leading improvement in total operating income (TOI) on a sustained basis.
- Total debt to surplus before interest, lease rentals, depreciation and tax (TD/SBILDT) below 3x on a sustained basis.

Negative factors

- Material reduction in students' enrolment on a sustained basis resulting in a decline in TOI and/or surplus before interest, lease rentals, depreciation and tax (SBILDT) margin falling below 30% on a sustained basis.
- TD/SBILDT above 4x on a sustained basis.
- Delay in project implementation leading to significant time and/or cost overrun.

Analytical approach: Standalone

Outlook: Stable

CARE Ratings Limited (CareEdge Ratings) believes the society will continue to benefit from extensive experience of promoters in the education industry.

Detailed description of key rating drivers:

Key strengths

Experienced and resourceful promoter group

PAHE is promoted by Dr Piyush Sunda, Dr Meena Sunda, and Urmila Singh. It operates under the umbrella of Prince Edu Hub (Prince Group), based in Sikar, Rajasthan.

Dr Piyush Sunda, an MBBS graduate from S.M.S. Medical College, Jaipur, and a postgraduate in Paediatrics from S.P. Medical College, Bikaner, began his career as a Medical Officer at Government S.K. Hospital, Sikar. He later transitioned into the education sector, founding his first institute in 1997. Over the years, the group significantly expanded its academic offerings, now encompassing pre-school, primary, and secondary education, with a strong presence in Sikar, Rajasthan. With over three decades of experience in the education industry, the group enjoys a competitive edge and strong brand recognition.

Dr Meena Sunda, also an MBBS, serves as Managing Director of Floreto World School and Chairperson of Prince Education Hub, and operates a proprietorship business named "Sikar Canteen." Urmila Singh is the Secretary of PAHE and Chairperson of Prince Education Hub and runs a proprietorship firm under the name 'MacliennShoppee'.

¹Complete definition of ratings assigned are available at www.careratings.com and other CARE Ratings Limited's publications.

Wide range of courses offered supported by under state-of-the-art infrastructure

The society operates a comprehensive educational ecosystem in Sikar (Rajasthan), comprising four schools and four colleges under its umbrella, imparting education to over 11,000 students. The schools are affiliated with Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE) and Rajasthan Board of Secondary Education (RBSE). Notably, one of its schools recently got affiliated with Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE).

The academy campus has well-equipped hostels, sports facilities, libraries, gymnasium, auditoriums, cafeterias and dedicated transportation services.

Healthy profitability and comfortable financial risk profile

PAHE has healthy profitability marked by SBILDT margins in the range of 40-60% for five years ended FY25. In FY25, SBILDT and surplus margin stood at 57.34% and 58.33% respectively.

PAHE has healthy corpus of ₹293.11 crore as on March 31, 2025, while having marginal debt, leading to low and comfortable capital structure marked by overall gearing of 0.02x as on March 31, 2025. Debt coverage indicators also remained comfortable, evinced by SBILDT Interest coverage and total debt to gross cash accruals (TD/GCA) of 295.85x and 0.09x respectively in FY25. Going forward, with the planned drawdown of the term loan for the hospital capex, profitability, capital structure and debt coverage indicators are envisaged to moderate. However, these would continue to remain adequate with no major debt on existing operations and healthy profitability.

Key weaknesses**Moderate revenue base with presence in the competitive industry with geographical concentration**

PAHE's scale of operations grew at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 23% in the last five years and stood moderate at ₹136.06 crore in FY25. Growth in TOI was led by steady improvement in student enrolments and fees hike and increase in hostel occupancy. The society's overall enrolment ratio remained at 76% in academic year (AY) 2025 (AY24: 72%). Overall student strength increased from 8,689 students in AY23 and 10,235 students in AY24 to 11,362 students in AY25.

PAHE's operations are geographically concentrated in Sikar, Rajasthan, which limits its reach and exposes its revenue stream to competitive pressures within the region. Sustained growth in student enrolment will depend on the institution's ability to consistently deliver high-quality education while offering a distinctive learning experience.

Implementation and stabilisation risk associate with on-going capex

PAHE is entering the medical stream by undertaking capex for setting-up 838 beds multi-specialty hospital in Sikar (Rajasthan) with a total project cost of ~₹366 crore. This is being funded through term loan of ₹200 crore (already sanctioned and partly disbursed) and balance from internal accruals.

As on September 30, 2025, PAHE has incurred ~₹154 crore for this capex, funded from term loan of ₹58.18 crore and balance from internal accruals. The hospital is envisaged to commence operation from April 2025.

Along with the hospital, PAHE is also undertaking capex to establish medical college, having total project cost of ~₹150 crore. This is currently under nascent stage and is expected to commence operations by March 2027. The capex would be funded from internal accruals and unsecured loan from promoter group, if required. Completion of the project in the envisaged time and cost parameter shall remain a key rating monitorable.

Highly regulated nature of industry

The higher education in India is placed in the concurrent list of the constitution, and thus, comes under the purview of Central and State Governments. The sector is regulated by Ministry of Human Resources at the national level by the education ministries in each state, and central bodies. Operating and financial flexibility of the higher education sector is limited, as regulations govern almost all aspects of operations, including fee structure, number of seats, changes in curriculum and infrastructure requirements. PAHE's schools are affiliated with CBSE, ICSE, RBSE, and CAIE, requiring compliance with respective regulatory frameworks. Non-compliance with the prescribed criteria of these academic boards can potentially impact society's operations and revenue. However, the decision regarding fee fixation is taken by the board of directors on recommendation of the school's head, resulting in flexibility.

Liquidity: Adequate

PAHE has adequate liquidity marked by healthy GCA against low debt repayment obligations. It is expected to generate GCA of ₹80-90 crore against debt repayment obligation of ₹5.40 crore and ₹12 crore respectively in FY27 and FY28.

Cash flow from operation stood at ₹77.44 crore in FY25 (FY24: ₹60.07 crore). Its liquidity is further underpinned by the availability of cash and liquid investments of ₹30.82 crore as on March 31, 2025. PAHE receives semester-wise tuition fees in two instalments during the year, which is used throughout the year to meet its expenses. Liquidity is envisaged to moderate with on-going debt funded capex. However, the management has articulated funding shortfall through infusion of unsecured loans from promoters and/or group entities, as required.

Applicable criteria

[Definition of Default](#)

[Liquidity Analysis of Non-financial sector entities](#)

[Rating Outlook and Rating Watch](#)

[Education](#)

[Financial Ratios – Non financial Sector](#)

[Service Sector Companies](#)

About the company and industry

Industry classification

Macroeconomic indicator	Sector	Industry	Basic industry
Consumer discretionary	Consumer services	Other consumer services	Education

Incorporated in January 2005, PAHE is Sikar (Rajasthan) based society, governed under Rajasthan Institutions Registration Act, 1958. It is promoted by Dr Piyush Sunda, Dr Meena Sunda and Urmila Singh. Currently, the society is operating eight educational institutes (four schools and four colleges) with combined strength of over 11,000 students. It is also entering the medical stream by undertaking greenfield capex for establishing multi-specialty hospital and medical college in Sikar (Rajasthan).

Brief Financials (₹ crore)	March 31, 2024 (A)	March 31, 2025 (Prov.)	H1FY26 (Prov.)
Total operating income	111.43	136.06	105.37
PBILDT	60.53	78.02	NA
PAT	60.58	79.37	NA
Overall gearing (times)	0.07	0.02	NA
Interest coverage (times)	127.66	295.85	NA

A: Audited; Prov.: Provisional; NA: Not available; Note: 'these are latest available financial results'

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Not applicable

Any other information: Not applicable

Rating history for last three years: Annexure-2

Detailed explanation of covenants of rated instrument / facility: Annexure-3

Complexity level of instruments rated: Annexure-4

Lender details: Annexure-5

Annexure-1: Details of instruments/facilities

Name of the Instrument	ISIN	Date of Issuance	Coupon Rate (%)	Maturity Date	Size of the Issue (₹ crore)	Rating Assigned and Rating Outlook
Fund-based - LT-Term Loan	-	-	-	March 2034	200.00	CARE BBB; Stable

Annexure-2: Rating history for last three years

Sr. No.	Name of the Instrument/Bank Facilities	Current Ratings			Rating History			
		Type	Amount Outstanding (₹ crore)	Rating	Date(s) and Rating(s) assigned in 2025-2026	Date(s) and Rating(s) assigned in 2024-2025	Date(s) and Rating(s) assigned in 2023-2024	Date(s) and Rating(s) assigned in 2022-2023
1	Fund-based - LT-Term Loan	LT	200.00	CARE BBB; Stable	-	-	-	-

LT: Long term

Annexure-3: Detailed explanation of covenants of rated instruments/facilities: Not applicable

Annexure-4: Complexity level of instruments rated

Sr. No.	Name of the Instrument	Complexity Level
1	Fund-based - LT-Term Loan	Simple

Annexure-5: Lender details

To view lender-wise details of bank facilities please [click here](#)

Note on complexity levels of rated instruments: CareEdge Ratings has classified instruments rated by it based on complexity. Investors/market intermediaries/regulators or others are welcome to write to care@careedge.in for clarifications.

Contact us

<p>Media Contact</p> <p>Mradul Mishra Director CARE Ratings Limited Phone: +91-22-6754 3596 E-mail: mradul.mishra@careedge.in</p> <p>Relationship Contact</p> <p>Pradeep Kumar V Senior Director CARE Ratings Limited Phone: 044-28501001 E-mail: pradeep.kumar@careedge.in</p>	<p>Analytical Contacts</p> <p>Kalpesh Ramanbhai Patel Director CARE Ratings Limited Phone: 079-40265611 E-mail: kalpesh.patel@careedge.in</p> <p>Jignesh Trivedi Assistant Director CARE Ratings Limited Phone: 079-40265631 E-mail: jignesh.trivedi@careedge.in</p> <p>Bhaumik Shah Analyst CARE Ratings Limited E-mail: Bhaumik.shah@careedge.in</p>
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