

PHD REGULATIONS OF CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KARNATAKA 2023
**(Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree- The terms and definitions
can be referred in Annexure -1)**

The Central University of Karnataka (CUK) was established by an act of Parliament (2009). These regulations are framed in accordance with UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree-) regulations 2022. These shall come into force from the academic year 2023-2024.

1. Eligibility criteria for admission to the Ph.D. Programme:

The following are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. programme:

(1) Candidates who have completed:

- i. A 1-year/2-semester master's degree programme after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme or a 2-year/4-semester master's degree programme after a 3-year bachelor's degree programme or qualifications declared equivalent to the master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed

or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of the educational institution.

A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

Provided that a candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme with research should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be



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allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

- (2) Candidates who have completed the M.Phil. programme with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to the Ph.D. programme. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

2. Duration of the Programme:

- (1) Ph.D. Programme shall be for a minimum duration of three (3) years, including course work, and a maximum duration of six (6) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. The extension after fourth (4) year will be based on the recommendations of RAC.
- (2) A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re-registration as per the Ordinance of the CUK ; provided,, that the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme should not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.

Provided further that, female Ph.D. scholars and Persons with Disabilities (having more than 40% disability) may be allowed an additional relaxation of two (2) years; however, the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme in such cases should not exceed ten (10) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.

- (3) Female Ph.D. Scholars may be provided Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave for up to 240days in the entire duration of the Ph.D. programme

3. Procedure for admission

- (1) The admission shall be based on the criteria notified by the University, keeping in view the guidelines/norms in this regard issued by the UGC and other statutory/regulatory bodies concerned, and taking into account the reservation policy of the Central Government from



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time to time.

(2) Admission to the Ph.D. programme shall be made using the following methods:

- i. The CUK shall admit students who qualify for fellowship/scholarship in UGC-NET/UGC- CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests based on an interview.
- ii. In case students are not available as per clause (i) the CUK may admit students through an Entrance Test conducted at the University level. The Entrance Test syllabus shall consist of 50% of research methodology, and 50% shall be subject-specific.
- iii. Students who have secured 50 % marks in the entrance test are eligible to be called for the interview.
- iv. A relaxation of 5 % marks will be allowed in the entrance examination for the candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/differently-abled category, Economically Weaker Section (EWS), and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the UGC from time to time.
- v. The CUK may decide the number of eligible students to be called for an interview based on the number of Ph.D. seats available.
- vi. Provided that for the selection of candidates based on the entrance test conducted by the CUK, a weightage of 70 % for the entrance test and 30 % for the performance in the interview/viva- voce shall be given.

(3) The University shall,

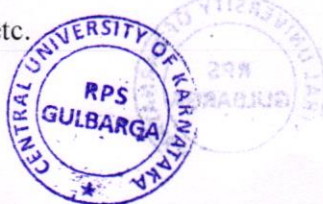
(i) notify a prospectus well in advance on the institution's website specifying the number of seats for admission, subject/discipline-wise distribution of available seats, criteria for admission, the procedure for admission, and all other relevant information for the candidates.


(ii) adhere to the National level reservation policy.

(4) The University shall maintain a list of Ph.D. supervisors (specifying the name of the supervisor, his or her designation, and the department/school/centre), along with the details of Ph.D. scholars (specifying the name of the registered Ph.D. scholar, the topic of his/her research and the date of admission) admitted under them on the website of the University and update this list every academic year.

4. Allocation of Research Supervisor:

Eligibility criteria to be a Research Supervisor, Co-Supervisor, Number of Ph.D. scholars permissible per supervisor, etc.



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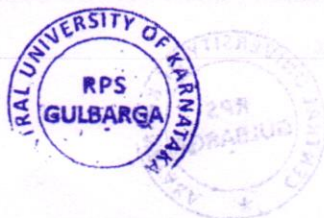
- (1) Permanent faculty members working as Professor/Associate Professor of the University with a Ph.D., and at least five research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals not related to his or her PhD work and permanent faculty members working as Assistant Professors in the University with a Ph.D., and at least three research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals not connected to his or her PhD thesis and have at least two years post PhD experience may be recognized as a Research Supervisor. Such recognized research supervisors cannot supervise research scholars in other institutions, where they can only act as co-supervisors.

Co-Supervisors from within the same department or other departments of the University or other institutions may be permitted with the approval of the competent authority.

Adjunct Faculty members shall not act as Research Supervisors and can only act as co-supervisors.

For Ph.D. scholars working in Central government/ State government research institutions whose degrees are given by the University, the scientists in such research institutions who are equivalent to Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor can be recognized as supervisors if they fulfill the above requirements.

- (2) In case of interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research work, if required, a Co-Supervisor from outside the Department/School/Centre/ University may be appointed.
- (3) An eligible Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor can guide up to eight (8) / six (6) / four (4) Ph.D. scholars, respectively, at any given time.
- (4) In case of relocation of a female Ph.D. scholar due to marriage or otherwise, the research data shall be allowed to be transferred to the CUK to which the scholar intends to relocate, provided all the other conditions in these Regulations are followed, and the research work does not pertain to a project sanctioned to the parent Institution/Supervisor by any funding agency. Such scholar shall, however, give due credit to the parent institution and the supervisor for the part of research already undertaken.
- (5) Faculty members with less than three years of service before superannuation shall not be allowed to take new research scholars under their supervision. However, such faculty members can continue to supervise Ph.D. scholars who are already registered until superannuation and as a co-supervisor after superannuation, but not after attaining the age of 70 years. This clause shall be applicable prospectively.



- (6) When the teachers are appointed /joined in CUK the research scholars working under their supervision in their previous institution can be allowed to transfer along with the faculty, if the research students are admitted to PHD program as per UGC regulations. If the student has completed the coursework in the previous institution the course work credits shall also be transferred based on the recommendation of RAC.

5. Admission of International students in Ph.D. programme:

- (1) Each supervisor can guide up to two international research scholars on a supernumerary basis over and above the permitted number of Ph.D. scholars as specified in clause 4.3 above.
- (2) The University may decide separately selection procedure for Ph.D. admission of international students keeping in view the guidelines/norms in this regard issued by statutory/regulatory bodies concerned from time to time.
- (3) At any point, the total number of Ph.D. scholars under a faculty member, either as a supervisor or a co-supervisor, shall not exceed the number prescribed in clause 4.3 and clause 5.1.

6. Course Work, Credit requirements, number, duration, syllabus, minimum standards for completion etc.

- (1) The Credit requirement for the Ph.D. coursework is a minimum of 12 credits, including a "Research and Publication Ethics" course as notified by UGC vide D.O. No. F.1-1/2018(Journal/CARE) in 2019 and a research methodology course. The Research Advisory Committee can also recommend UGC recognized online courses as part of the credit requirements for the Ph.D. programme.
- (2) All Ph.D. scholars, irrespective of discipline, shall be required to train in teaching /education/pedagogy/writing related to their chosen Ph.D. subject during their doctoral period. Ph.D. scholars may also be assigned 4-6 hours per week of teaching/research assistantship for conducting tutorial or laboratory work and evaluations.
- (3) A Ph.D. scholar must obtain a minimum of 55% marks or its equivalent grade in the UGC 10-point scale in the course work to be eligible to continue in the programme and submit his or her thesis.

7. Research Advisory Committee and its Functions

- (1) There shall be a Research Advisory Committee (RAC) for each Ph.D. scholar which will be constituted by the head of the department. The composition of the committee shall be as below





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1. The head of the department- Chairman
2. Recognized research supervisor of the department – Member
3. Research supervisor of the candidate - Convener

and this committee shall have the following responsibilities:

- i. To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research.
 - ii. To guide the Ph.D. scholar in developing the study design and methodology of research and identify the course(s) that he/she may have to do.
 - iii. To periodically review and assist in the progress of the research work of the Ph.D. scholar.
- (2) Each semester, a Ph.D. scholar shall appear before the RAC to make a presentation and submit a brief report on the progress of his/her work for evaluation and further guidance. The Research Advisory Committee shall submit its recommendations along with a copy of Ph.D. scholar's progress report to the controller of examination(COE). A copy of such recommendations shall also be provided to the Ph.D. scholar. If the candidate does not submit the progress report for two consecutive semesters the admission of the candidate shall be cancelled automatically.
- (3) In case the progress of the Ph.D. scholar is unsatisfactory, the Research Advisory Committee shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures. If the Ph.D. scholar fails to implement these corrective measures, the Research Advisory Committee may recommend, with specific reasons, the cancellation of the registration of the Ph.D. scholar from the Ph.D. programme.
- 8. Evaluation and Assessment Methods, minimum standards/credits for award of the degree etc:**
- (1) Upon satisfactory completion of course work and obtaining the marks/grade prescribed in clause (3) of regulation 6 above, the Ph.D. scholar shall be required to undertake research work and produce a draft dissertation/thesis.
 - (2) Before submitting the thesis, the Ph.D. scholar shall make a presentation before the Research Advisory Committee of the department, which shall also be open to all faculty members and other research scholars/students.
 - (3) The University shall have a mechanism using well-developed software applications to detect Plagiarism in research work and the research integrity shall be an integral part of all the research activities leading to the award of



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a Ph.D. degree. Every student shall obtain a plagiarism certificate from the University library which shall be attached with the thesis.

- (4) A Ph.D. scholar shall submit the thesis for evaluation, along with (a) an undertaking from the Ph.D. scholar that there is no plagiarism and (b) a certificate from the Research Supervisor attesting to the originality of the thesis and that the thesis has not been submitted for the award of any other degree/diploma to any other Institution.
- (5) The Ph.D. thesis submitted by a Ph.D. scholar shall be evaluated by at least three external examiners who are experts in the field, not below the rank of associate professor and not in employment of the CUK (Two examiners shall not be from the same institution). Such examiner(s) should be academics with a good record of scholarly publications in the field. Wherever possible, one of the external examiners should be chosen from outside India. The viva-voce board shall consist of the Research Supervisor and at least one of the three external examiners and may be conducted online. The viva-voce shall be open to the members of the Research Advisory Committee/faculty members/research scholars and students.
- (6) The viva-voce of the Ph.D. scholar to defend the thesis shall be conducted if all the external examiners recommend acceptance of the thesis after incorporating corrections suggested by them. If one of the external examiners recommends rejection, the University shall send the thesis to an alternate external examiner from the approved panel of examiners, and the viva-voce examination shall be held only if the alternate examiner recommends acceptance of the thesis. If the alternate examiner does not recommend acceptance of the thesis, the thesis shall be rejected, and the Ph.D. scholar shall be declared ineligible for the award of a Ph.D.
- (7) The University shall complete the entire process of evaluating a Ph. D. thesis, including the declaration of the viva-voce result, within a period of six (6) months from the date of submission of the thesis.
- (8) Resubmission of thesis: The candidate whose thesis is referred for revision shall resubmit it for the award of the PhD degree within one year of the intimation of decision of the University. The thesis which is resubmitted shall be re-examined by the examiner(s). In case any examiner is (are) unwilling to act as evaluator another examiner (s) may be appointed by the



vice- chancellor from the approved panel of the examiners.

9. Academic, research, administrative, and infrastructure requirements to be fulfilled by research institutes for getting recognition for offering Ph.D. programmes:

- (1) The research institutions established by the central government or a State government whose degrees are awarded by the University shall offer Ph.D. programmes provided they have:
 - i. At least two Ph.D. qualified scientists in the research institution.
 - ii. Adequate infrastructure, administrative support, research facilities and library resources as specified by the University.

10. Ph.D. through Part-time Mode:

- (1) Ph.D. programmes through part-time mode will be permitted, provided all the conditions stipulated in these Regulations are fulfilled.
- (2) The University shall obtain a "No Objection Certificate" through the candidate for a part-time Ph.D. programme from the appropriate authority in the organization where the candidate is employed, clearly stating that:
 - i. The candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis.
 - ii. His/her official duties permit him/her to devote sufficient time for research.
 - iii. He/she shall be relieved from the duty to complete the course work.

11. Issuing a Provisional certificate.

Prior to the actual award of the Ph.D. degree, the University shall issue a provisional certificate to the effect that the Ph.D. is being awarded in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.

12. Award of Ph.D. degrees prior to Notification of these Regulations:

Award of degrees to candidates registered for the Ph.D. programme on or after July 11, 2009, till the date of Notification of these Regulations shall be governed by the provisions of the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2009 or Central University of Karnataka Ordinance. Further, the award of degrees to candidates already registered and pursuing Ph.D. shall be governed by the CUK Ordinance



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No.54. Nothing in these Regulations shall impact the M.Phil. degree programmes commencing prior to the enactment of these Regulations.

13. Depository with INFLIBNET:

Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and before the announcement of the award of the Ph.D. degree(s), the University shall submit an electronic copy of the Ph.D. thesis to INFLIBNET, for hosting the same so as to make it accessible to all the Universities and research institutions.

- 14.** In case of any ambiguity/non availability of rules in the present document the decision of the vice chancellor shall be final. Notwithstanding anything concerned in these rules and regulations the vice chancellor may take such measures as may be necessary for the removal of doubt/ difficulties to resolve any other extraordinary issues.

Annexure -1

Definitions:

(1) In these guidelines, unless the context otherwise requires,

- a) "Act" means the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 (3 of 1956);
- b) "University" means the Central University of Karnataka (CUK) established by an act of Parliament (2009);
- c) "Adjunct Faculty" means a contingent instructor such as visiting professor, re-employed faculty member hired to teach by CUK;
- d) "Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA)" means a measure of the overall cumulative performance of a student over all semesters. The CGPA is the ratio of total credit points secured by a student in various courses in all semesters and the sum of the total credits of all courses in all semesters. It is expressed up to two decimal places;
- e) "Credit" means the number of hours of instruction required per week over the duration of a semester. A three-credit course in a semester means three one-hour lectures per week, with each one-hour lecture counted as one credit;
- f) "Commission" means the University Grants Commission established under Section 4 of the UGC Act 1956;
- g) "Course" means one of the specified units which go to comprise a programme of study;
- h) "Course Work" means courses of study prescribed by the School/Department/ Centre to

be undertaken by a student registered for the Ph.D. Degree;

- i) "Degree" means a degree awarded by the University in accordance with the provisions of section 22 (3) of the Act;
- j) "External examiner" means an academician/researcher who is not below the rank of Associate Professor with published research work and who is not part of the University where the Ph.D. scholar has registered for the Ph.D. programme;
- k) "Foreign Educational Institution" means--(i) an institution duly established or incorporated in its home. country and offering educational programmes at the undergraduate, postgraduate and higher levels in its home country and (ii) which offers programme(s) of study leading to the award of a degree through conventional face-to-face mode, but excluding distance, online, ODL mode;
- l) "Grade Point" means a numerical weight allotted to each letter grade on a 10-point scale;
- m) "Guide/Research Supervisor" means an academician/researcher recognized by the University to supervise the Ph.D. scholar for his/her research;
- n) "Interdisciplinary Research" means research conducted by a Ph.D. scholar in two or more academic disciplines;
- o) "Online Mode" shall have the same meaning as defined under the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations 2020;
- p) "Plagiarism" means the practice of taking someone else's work or idea and passing them as one's own;
- q) "Programme" means a higher education programme pursued for a degree specified by the Commission under sub-section (3) of section 22 of the Act;
- r) "Prospectus" means any document, whether in print or otherwise, issued for providing fair and transparent information relating to the University and programmes by the University;
- s) "Research Proposal" means a brief write-up giving an outline of the proposed research work which the Ph.D. scholar shall submit along with the application for registration for Ph.D. programme;

(2) Words and expressions used and not defined in these Regulations but defined in Act and not consistent with these Regulations shall have the meanings assigned to them in that Act.

REGISTRAR

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कुलसचिव / REGISTRAR
कर्नाटक केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय
Central University of Karnataka
कलबुरगि / KALABURAGI