Admission Notification No. 07-CUS of 2025, Dated: 29-08-2025
Admission to Ph.D. Programme 2025–26

Online applications are invited from eligible candidates for admission to the Ph.D. programme at Cluster University Srinagar for the academic session 2025–26, subject to the fulfilment of eligibility criteria in the disciplines/subjects listed below, as per the available vacancies. Online Applications can be submitted through the university website: www.cusrinagar.edu.in.

Important Dates:
Start of online application process: 01-09-2025
Last date for filling/ submission of application form: 13-09-2025

Vacancy Details:

The details of Ph.D. vacancies in the different departments of Constituent Colleges are listed below:

S.No.	Name of the College	Discipline/ Subject	No. of vacancies
1	S.P College	Information Technology	3
		Chemistry	5
		Zoology	7
		Environmental Science	5
		Botany	4
		Biochemistry	2
		Physics	8
2	Govt. College for Women, M.A Road	Computer Applications	4
		Journalism & Mass Communication	1
3	Amar Singh College	English	3
		Economics	1
		Geography	3
4	AAAMDC Bemina	Commerce	4
		History	1
5	Govt. College of Education (IASE) M.A Road	Education	3

Note: The number of vacancies mentioned above is subject to change based on the recommendations of the Departmental Research Committee (DRC) of the respective departments.

Eligibility Criteria for Admission to Ph.D. Programme:

- **Academic Qualification:**

i) A candidate must have secured at least 55% marks in aggregate, or an equivalent grade of 'O' on the UGC 7-point scale (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever the grading system is followed), excluding grace/statutory marks, if any, in a Master's Degree in the concerned/allied subject from a recognized university, or in any recognized Professional Degree declared equivalent to a Master's Degree by the Equivalence Committee of the University, or an equivalent degree from a foreign educational institution accredited by an Assessment and Accreditation Agency which is approved, recognized, or authorized by a competent authority having such mandate, or by the Equivalence Committee of the University.

<div align="center">Or</div>

Candidates who have completed a one-year (2-semester) Master's Degree programme after a four-year (8-semester) Bachelor's Degree programme, or a four-year (8-semester) Bachelor's Degree with a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale (wherever the grading system is followed) with the concerned subject as Major, or a two-year (4-semester) Master's Degree programme after a three-year Bachelor's Degree, or hold 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 on a point scale (wherever the grading system is followed).

<div align="center">Or</div>

An 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 in India for this purpose.

<div align="center">Or</div>

Candidates who have completed the M.Phil. programme with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed, or hold an 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 by any other statutory authority in that country responsible for assessing, accrediting, or assuring the quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to the Ph.D. programme.

ii) A relaxation of 5% marks, i.e., from 55% to 50%, or an equivalent relaxation in grade shall be allowed for candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/RBA/EWS/Differently-abled categories, and other categories as per the provisions of the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for the Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2022.

iii) Candidates who have qualified UGC-CSIR NET/JRF, ICMR-JRF, ICAR-NET/JRF, SET/SLET, GATE, CEED, GPAT, or any other equivalent test declared so by the UGC, or those who have been awarded an M.Phil degree, shall also be eligible.

Note: The Departmental Research Committee (DRC) shall decide which subjects are considered allied to the main subject. The Ph.D. degree shall be awarded in the subject/discipline in which the candidate has qualified their Master's degree. However, the decision of the DRC shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Research Studies (BORS) at the time of registration.

Admission Procedure:

The admission to Ph.D. programme shall be based on entrance test followed by the interview/interaction

i. **Exemption from Entrance Test:**

Candidates who have qualified UGC/CSIR/ICAR-NET/JRF, SET, are exempted from the entrance test. However, where the number of vacancies less than the number of exempted candidates, the selection shall be made through an interaction with DRC based on the following criteria:

S. No.	Criteria	Weightage
1.	Subject knowledge	70
2.	Research aptitude	30
Total		**100**

ii. **Entrance Test Details:**

The Entrance Test shall consist of a single paper comprising two parts:

- **Part I:** General Research Aptitude – 50 Questions
- **Part II:** Subject-Specific – 50 Question
  Total: 100 MCQs (1 mark each), no negative marking.
- The syllabus for part-(I) & part (II) shall be available on the university website.
- Qualifying Marks: Minimum 50% marks in the Entrance Test.
- In case of a tie, the percentage in the Master's degree shall determine the rank.
- Challenges to the answer key will be resolved as per existing university norms.
- If the number of qualified candidates exceeds available vacancies, entrance test-followed by Interaction / viva will be conducted with the following weightage:

Entrance Test: 70%	Interaction: 30%

Note: Appearance in the qualified list does not guarantee final selection. Final selection is subject to eligibility and availability of seats.

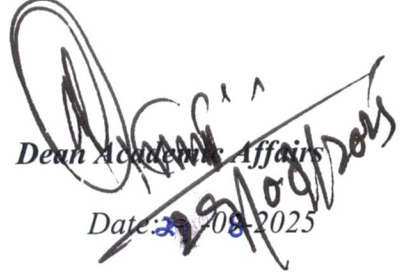## Eligibility for Admission to the Part-Time Ph.D. Programme:

The basic eligibility and admission procedure for in-service candidates joining as part-time Ph. D scholars shall remain the same as that for full-time candidates. The in-service candidates joining as part-time Ph. D scholars shall be applicable to only:

- NOC from the parent department;
- University teachers with at least two years of substantive service;
- Permanent scientists (Scientist A/B/C/D) from nationally recognized institutions with at least four years of substantive service.
- Government college teachers with at least two years of substantive service;
- Non-teaching employees of universities or nationally recognized educational and research institutions with at least four years of substantive service, and;
- State/Central Government employees with at least four years of substantive service;

The mere mention of candidates name in the list of provisionally selected candidates/waiting list shall not entitle a candidate to the final selection, if he/she is either found otherwise in-eligible or there is no vacancy available in the Department/Centre/Institute or non-availability of supervisor to guide a candidate.

Application Process

Applicants must visit the official University website and apply online through the "Admissions" tab from 01-09-2025 to 13-09-2025. A non-refundable application fee of Rs. 1000/- is to be paid through online mode. In-service candidates must mention the date of their appointment and the length of service in the application form, duly supported by documentary proof, including NOC from the parent department, which should be uploaded along with the relevant qualification certificates. After successful fee payment, a separate notification will be issued for admit cards and date of Entrance Test.

Dean Academic Affairs

No.: CUS/DAA/ PhD/ 718 - 55 /2025   Date: 29-08-2025

Copy for information to the:-
1. Registrar, Cluster University of Srinagar
2. Controller Examinations, Cluster University of Srinagar
3. Principals of all Constituent and Affiliated Colleges, Cluster University of Srinagar
4. Dean of all Faculties, Cluster University of Srinagar
5. Assistant Registrar, Cluster University Srinagar
6. PRO to Vice Chancellor for information of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
7. In-charge IT for uploading of notification on university website.
8. Office file.