



CLUSTER UNIVERSITY SRINAGAR

Gogji-Bagh, Srinagar-190008

Website: www.cusrinagar.edu.in

E-mail: info@cusrinagar.edu.in

Notification of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Regulations – 2025

Consequent upon the approval of the 6th Academic Council of the University held on 17th December, 2024 and in exercise of the powers conferred under the provisions of the Cluster University Act and in accordance with the guidelines of the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the **Vice Chancellor** is pleased to approve the **Ph.D. Regulations – 2025**. These Regulations shall come into force with immediate effect and shall govern the **admission, coursework, evaluation, supervision, and award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)** in various disciplines offered by the university.

These Guidelines shall be ratified in the forthcoming Syndicate of the University.


Assistant Registrar

No: CUS/Adm/3593-3607/2025

Dated: 08.08.2025

Copy for information and necessary action:

1. Dean Academic Affairs, CUS;
2. Registrar, CUS;
3. Controller of Examinations, CUS;
4. Principals of all Constituent Colleges;
5. Deans of all Faculties, CUS;
6. P.S to HVC for kind information of Vice Chancellor;
7. I.T section, for uploading of the regulations on University Website;
8. Office file.



STATUTES GOVERNING ADMISSION & AWARD OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (Ph.D)

12.1 Short Title and Commencement

12.1.1 These Statutes shall be called the Cluster University Srinagar Ph.D (Programme) statutes.

12.1.2 These Statutes shall come into force from the date of their notification by the University.

12.2 Definitions

In these Statutes, unless the context otherwise requires:

12.2.1 The '**Act**' means the Jammu and Kashmir Cluster Universities Act, 2016

12.2.2 '**University**' means the Cluster University of Srinagar;

12.2.3 '**College**' means an Institution maintained or admitted to its privileges by the Cluster University concerned and includes a Constituent/Autonomous/Affiliated College;

12.2.4 '**Constituent Colleges**' means the Colleges constituting the Cluster University and recognized as such by syndicate of the Cluster University concerned in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the Statutes;

12.2.5 '**Affiliated College**' means an institution imparting instruction up to Bachelor's Degree, Integrated Honor's and Post Graduate courses recognized by the Cluster University in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the statutes;

12.2.6 '**Faculties**', '**Boards of Studies**', '**Board of Inspection**' and '**Boards of Research Studies**' means the "Faculties", "Boards of Studies", "Board of Inspection" and "Boards of Research Studies" of a Cluster University;

12.2.7 '**Head of the Department**' means the Head of a Cluster University Teaching Department who has the status of a Professor or an Associate Professor in the Cluster University and where any Cluster University has no teaching faculty in a subject the person duly appointed, for the time being, by the Cluster University;

12.2.8 '**Teachers**' include, Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors and any other persons imparting instructions in the Cluster University or in any College maintained or admitted to its privileges by the Cluster University;

12.2.9 '**Teachers of the Cluster University**' means persons appointed or Recognized by the Cluster University for the purpose of imparting instruction in the Cluster University or in any Constituent College;

12.2.10 '**Officers**', '**Authorities**', '**Professors**', '**Associate Professors**', '**Assistant Professors**', '**Fellows**', '**Demonstrators**', and '**Subordinate Staff**' mean respectively, "Officers", "Authorities", "Professors", "Associate Professors", "Assistant Professors", "Fellows", "Demonstrators", and the "Ministerial and Technical staff" of the Cluster University;

12.2.11 '**Programme**' means Doctoral Programme leading to the award of M.Phil and/or Ph.D. in various authorized Departments;

12.2.12 '**DRC**' means Departmental Research Committee;



- 12.2.13 '**Supervisor**' means any faculty member who has been recognized as Research Guides
- 12.2.14 '**Scholar**' means any candidate admitted by the University either under Full-time, Part-time or in-house mode for pursuing research for the award of M.Phil/Ph.D. degree;
- 12.2.15 '**Course work**' means theory subjects studied by the scholar prescribed by the DRC as a part of Pre-Ph.D. /M.Phil;
- 12.2.16 '**Seminar**' means presentation of Research work done by the scholar through power point presentations;
- 12.2.17 '**Viva Voce examination**' means examining the scholar whether he/she may be awarded Ph.D degree;
- 12.2.18 '**BORS**' means Board of Research Studies as defined under section 30(1) of the Act
- 12.2.19 '**BOE**' means the Board of Examiners appointed to evaluate and assess scholars for the three year degree of Ph.D. programme;
- 12.2.20 '**External Examiner**' means an examiner who is not on the pay rolls of the University;
- 12.2.21 '**Registration**' means registration of candidates for Ph.D.; granted by the BORS under these Statutes and includes re-registration also;
- 12.2.22 '**M.Phil**' means Master of Philosophy;
- 12.2.23 '**Ph.D.**' means Doctor of Philosophy as conferred under these Statutes; and
- 12.2.24 '**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;
- 12.2.25 '**Grade Point**' means a numerical weight allotted to each letter grade on a 10-point scale;
- 12.2.26 '**Guide/Research Supervisor**' means an academician/researcher recognized by Cluster University of Srinagar to supervise the Ph.D. scholar for his/her research;
- 12.2.27 '**Higher Educational Institution**' means a university or institution as specified under UGC Regulations;
- 12.2.28 '**Interdisciplinary Research**' means research conducted by a Ph.D. scholar in two or more academic disciplines;
- 12.2.29 '**Open and Distance Learning Mode**' shall have the same meaning as defined under the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations 2020;
- 12.2.30 '**Online Mode**' shall have the same meaning as defined under the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations 2020;
- 12.2.31 '**Plagiarism**' means the practice of taking someone else's work or idea and passing them as one's own;
- 12.2.32 '**Prospectus**' means any document, whether in print or otherwise, issued for providing fair and transparent information relating to a Higher Educational Institution and programmes, to the general public (including to those seeking admission in such Higher Educational Institutions) by the Higher Educational Institutions;
- 12.2.33 '**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;
- 12.2.34 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;

12.3 Recognition of the Department/Research Centre/School/Constituent College

12.3.1 The Academic Council may recommend to the Syndicate regarding recognition for any Department/Research Centre/School/Constituent college for conducting courses leading to the award of Ph.D. degrees in the subjects/allied subjects assigned to it. Provided that the Department/Research centre/School/Constituent College as the case may be, satisfies the BORS regarding the fulfilment of the following requirements:

12.3.1.1 Adequate Infrastructural facilities are available in Department/Research Centre/School/Constituent college required for carrying out research work in the concerned subject/s;

12.3.1.2 A research centre should have been established exclusively for carrying out research in the discipline in which recognition as research centre is sought;

12.3.1.3 There should be at least two research supervisors in a Research Centre in the subject/s to provide research guidance; and

12.3.1.4 Notwithstanding anything contained in Clause 12.3.1 of Statute 12.3 the Syndicate may, on the recommendation of the BORS and Academic Council, recognize any other Research Centre/Laboratory that may or may not be affiliated to the University for conducting research programme leading to the award of Ph.D. degrees.

12.3.1.5 The Departments offering a 4-year UG Degree (Honors with Research) must have the required infrastructure such as the library, access to journals, computer lab and software, laboratory facilities to carry out experimental research work, and at least two permanent faculty members who are recognized as Ph.D. supervisors. The Departments already recognized for conducting the Ph.D. programme may conduct a 4-year UG Degree (Honors with Research) without obtaining any approval from the affiliating University.

12.4 Constitution of DRC

12.4.1 There shall be a Departmental Research Committee (DRC), comprising of the following (atleast five members), to monitor research in each Department/Research Centre/School/Constituent college recognized for conducting courses leading to the award of Ph.D. degrees.

12.4.1.1 Head of the Department/Director of the Research Centre (Chairman)

12.4.1.2 All approved Supervisors of the Department/Centre (Members)

12.4.1.3 Any other teacher/expert whose participation might be considered essential by the Departmental Research Committee.

12.4.2 Provided that in case of the Departments/Centres where the required number of



Faculty is not available or having the faculty without Ph.D, the HOD/Director shall co-opt more members from other allied Departments on the recommendations of the DRC after seeking approval of the Vice-Chancellor. The quorum for the meeting of the DRC shall be the majority of the members constituting the committee, including the Chairman.

12.4.3 Provided that in case the head of the department is non-Ph.D, the concerned Dean of the faculty shall act as Chairman of the DRC of the concerned department.

12.5 Powers and Functions of the DRC

12.5.1 The DRC shall monitor & facilitate conduct of quality research in the Department/Institute/ Centre and shall have following powers and functions:

12.5.1.1 Consolidate the number of vacancies indicated by individual supervisors and recommend to the concerned Deans for admission an appropriate number of scholars;

12.5.1.2 Review & recommend the research synopses of candidates selected for Ph.D. programme to the Dean of the Faculty for placement before BORS.

Provided that no such recommendation shall be made by the DRC unless the candidate justifies/defends his/her synopsis before DRC.

Provided further that DRC may seek expert opinion from an expert outside the Department/University, if deemed necessary, before approving a synopsis.

12.5.1.3 DRC shall ensure strict adherence to research ethics;

12.5.1.4 DRC shall prescribe the syllabus for Pre-Ph.D. theory papers;

12.5.1.5 DRC shall address all complaints/grievances of the scholars and supervisors pertaining to misconduct, misbehaviour, harassment etc. and shall make appropriate recommendations to Dean of the Faculty; and

12.5.1.6 The DRC shall be competent to admit the candidate/s to research programme on provisional basis subject to the confirmation by BORS. The registration of the candidates shall be effective from the date of DRC.

12.6 Ph.D programme

12.6.1 There shall be a three year Ph.D. programme.

12.6.2 **‘Eligibility criteria for admission to the Ph.D. Programme’** The following are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. programme:

Candidates who have completed:

12.6.2.1 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.

12.6.2.2 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 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 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.

- 12.6.2.2.1 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 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.

12.6.3 Entrance Examination

- 12.6.3.1 The eligible candidates shall have to qualify the Entrance Test based on the syllabus consisting of 50% of research methodology, and 50% shall be subject- specific. The test shall be conducted by the concerned Dean of the Faculty. The following shall be exempted from appearing in the Entrance Test:

- 12.6.3.2 Candidates having qualified the UGC/CSIR (JRF) / NET / SET / GATE.
- 12.6.3.3 College teachers with NET/ SET having two years' service on permanent basis shall also be exempted from appearing in the entrance test.
- 12.6.3.4 In case the number of applicants as provided for under statute 12.6.3.2 is equal to or less than the seats available in a particular Department no entrance examination shall be conducted in that Department and selection shall be made by DRC amongst the eligible candidates.

12.7 Procedure for admission. -

- 12.7.1 The admission shall be based on the criteria notified by the institution and taking into account the reservation policy of State Government from time to time.

12.7.2 Admission to the Ph.D. programme shall be made using the following methods:

- 12.7.2.1 Students who qualify for fellowship/scholarship in UGC-NET/UGC-CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests with a score more than or equal to the qualifying marks of General Category, valid at the time of admission are exempted from appearing in the written test. However, they must appear in the presentation-cum-interview in person to become eligible for selection. based on an interview shall be admitted.

And/or

- 12.7.2.2 University shall admit students through an Entrance Test. The Entrance Test syllabus shall consist of 50% of research methodology, and 50% shall be subject-specific

- 12.7.2.3 that for the selection of candidates based on the entrance test conducted by the



university a weightage of 70% for the entrance test and 30% for the performance in the interview/viva- voce shall be given.

12.7.3 The notification for the Entrance Test for all the faculties shall be issued by the Dean Research once in a year, ordinarily, in the month of May/June.

12.7.4 Deans of the Faculties shall conduct entrance test for eligible candidates subject to the following conditions:

The question paper of two hours duration in each subject shall comprise of 100 Multiple Choice Questions. All the questions shall have to be attempted.

12.7.5 Candidates whose result of the final semester of the Masters programme remains awaited shall also be allowed to appear provisionally in the entrance test on the production of an affidavit duly attested by 1st class Magistrate to the effect that he/she shall not claim any benefit in case he/she fails to secure the required percentage of marks at PG level by the date of declaration of entrance test result.

12.7.6 Candidates securing 50% marks in the entrance test shall be declared qualified and eligible for selection along with the candidates having been declared eligible in view (from appearing in the entrance test) of the exemption. 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 University/UGC from time to time.

12.7.7 Eligible candidates as provided in Clause 12.7.6 of Statute 12.7 shall be required to appear before the DRC which shall make final selection from within the list by a criteria to be determined taking into account their merit in the entrance test, supervisor student interest/inclination/compatibility/ aptitude and available vacancy.

12.7.8 Final list of selected candidates shall be forwarded by the concerned HOD's/Director of Research Centre/School/Constituent College to the Dean of the Faculty concerned, who shall have it approved by the Dean Research before its notification.

Mere appearance in the list of qualified candidates shall not entitle a candidate to the final selection.

12.8 Eligibility for Part-time Registration

12.8.1. The following categories of candidates shall be eligible for admission to the Ph.D. programme on part-time basis

12.8.1.1 Permanent teachers of Colleges with two years' service on permanent basis and permanent scientists of nationally recognized institutions with four years' experience on substantive basis; and

12.8.1.2 Other employees of the Universities/ nationally recognized educational and research Institutions with atleast four years' service on substantive basis. State/Central employees with at least 4 years' service on permanent basis.

Provided further that all the candidates shall have to qualify the requisite entrance test. Provided further that candidates should have obtained not less than 55% marks at the PG level in the subject/allied subject in which he or she is otherwise eligible to pursue research.

12.8.2 Eligibility for in-house Registration

Any Constituent College teacher who has cleared probation can start his Ph.D programme in any of the constituent colleges of the Cluster University, provided that the candidate has qualified the Entrance Test and DRC recommends his



candidature.

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

12.9.1 Permanent faculty members working as Professor/Associate Professor of the Cluster University or its constituent college with a Ph.D, and at least five research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals and permanent faculty members working as Assistant Professors in Higher Educational Institutions with a Ph.D., and at least three research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals may be recognized as a Research Supervisor in the university where the faculty member is employed or in its affiliated Post-graduate Colleges/institutes. Such recognized research supervisors cannot supervise research scholars in other institutions, where they can only act as co-supervisors. Ph.D. awarded by a university under the supervision of a faculty member who is not an employee of the university or its affiliated Post- graduate Colleges/institutes would be in violation of these Regulations.

12.9.2 Provided that in areas/disciplines where there is no, or only a limited number of peer-reviewed or refereed journals, the University will relax the above condition for recognition of a person as Research Supervisor with reasons recorded in writing.

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

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

12.8.6 In case of interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research work, if required, a Co-Supervisor from outside the Department/School/Centre/College/University can be appointed.

12.8.7 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.

12.8.8. In case of relocation of a female Ph.D. Such scholar shall, however, give due credit to the parent institution and the supervisor for the part of research already undertaken.

12.8.8 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.

12.10 Admission of International students in Ph.D. programme.-

12.10.1 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 12.8.7 above.

12.10.1.1 The university shall admit the international students to Ph.D programme keeping in view the guidelines/norms in this regard issued by statutory/regulatory bodies concerned



from time to time.

12.10.2 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 12.9.7

12.11 Course Work: - Credit requirements, number, duration, syllabus, minimum standards for completion, etc.

12.11.1 All scholars, except having M.Phil Degree, shall have to do ‘Course Work’ which will be treated as a prerequisite for the Ph.D. programme for which they shall have to meet the minimum requirement of 75% attendance during the Course Work offered by the Department/Centre/Faculty concerned and will be required to complete the course work within one semester or two-semesters, depending on the need of the discipline and the domain. If found necessary, the coursework, on recommendation of DRC, may be carried out in other Departments or Centres within Cluster University, subject to the approval of BORS, Provided that if a scholar fails to pass the examination of any subject(s), he/she shall be given only one opportunity to sit for compartmental examination. Failure in the compartmental examination shall result in automatic cancellation of registration. The Credit requirement for the Ph.D. coursework shall be of 16 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 DRC can also recommend UGC-recognised online courses as part of the credit requirements for the Ph.D. programme.

12.11.1.1 **Paper 1st: Core Paper:** This paper shall carry the weightage of 2 credits and shall be common to all the scholars from a Department, a group of Departments or a Faculty, wherever possible based on “Research and Publication Ethics” for awareness about the publication ethics and publication misconduct. The syllabus for the same shall be drafted by DRCs based on recent advances in the subject/s.

12.11.1.2 **Paper 2nd: Research Methodology:** This paper shall carry the weightage of 4 credits and based on the understanding of the principle and application of techniques to the research in the concerned subject/faculty/discipline/area of study including computer applications and quantitative analysis.

12.11.1.3 **Paper 3rd & 4th: Specialized papers:** These papers shall carry the weightage of 4 credits each **relevant to broad area of research**, and shall include seminar and/or project writing to help the scholar to gain a thorough theoretical grounding of the domain on the recommendation of



the supervisor. The said Courses shall be of Post Graduate level. The syllabus for these papers shall accordingly be drafted by the individual supervisor and approved by DRC. This paper shall be set and evaluated by the concerned supervisor.

12.11.1.4 **Paper 5th** : This paper shall be of 2 credits on **ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY** or **TERM PAPER** to review the research papers in his/her area of research.

12.11.2 All Ph.D. scholars, irrespective of discipline, shall be required to be trained 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.

12.11.3 Each paper shall carry 100 marks and the candidate/s shall be required to obtain at least 55% marks to secure a pass in each paper.

12.11.4 Examination of all four papers shall be held at the end of 6 months by the respective Deans in accordance with the calendar issued by the Dean Research.

12.11.5 In case a candidate fails to qualify the examination, he/she shall not be registered for Ph.D. programme. However, he/she shall be provided one more chance, within the next six months but not before three months from the date of last examination. In case he/she fails again, he/she shall forfeit his/her claim to the Ph.D. programme.

12.11.6 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.

12.12 Evaluation and Assessment Methods, minimum standards/credits for award of the degree, etc.-

12.12.1 Upon satisfactory completion of course work and obtaining the marks/grade prescribed in clause 12.11.6 of Regulation 12.11 above, the Ph.D. scholar shall be required to undertake research work and produce a draft dissertation/thesis.

12.12.2 Before submitting the dissertation/thesis, the Ph.D. scholar shall make a presentation before the Research Advisory Committee of the Higher Educational Institution concerned, which shall also be open to all faculty members and other research scholars/students.

12.12.3 The Cluster 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 a Ph.D degree.

12.12.4 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 Higher Educational Institution.

12.12.5 The Ph.D. thesis submitted by a Ph.D. scholar shall be evaluated by his/her Research Supervisor and at least two external examiners who are experts in the field and not in employment of the Higher Educational Institution concerned. 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 two 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.

12.12.6 The viva-voce of the Ph.D. scholar to defend the thesis shall be conducted if both the external examiners recommend acceptance of the thesis after incorporating any 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.

12.12.7 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.

12.13 Academic, research, administrative, and infrastructure requirements to be fulfilled by Colleges for getting recognition for offering Ph.D. programmes.-

12.13.1 Post-graduate Colleges offering 4-year Undergraduate Programmes and/or Post-graduate Programmes, may offer Ph.D. programmes, provided they satisfy the availability of eligible Research Supervisors, required infrastructure, and supporting administrative and research facilities as per these Regulations.

12.13.2 Colleges and research institutions established by the central government or a State government whose degrees are awarded by Higher Educational Institutions shall offer Ph.D. programmes provided they have:

12.13.2.1 At least two faculty members in a college or two Ph.D qualified scientists in the research institution.

12.13.2.2 Adequate infrastructure, administrative support, research facilities and library resources as specified by the HEI.

12.14 Joining the Programme

12.14.1 The selected candidates shall join the course within 30 days from the issuance of selection list failing which their admission shall automatically stand cancelled. Provided that the Dean of the Faculty may extend the joining period under special circumstances by one month to be recorded in writing.

12.14.2 Provided further that in case of in-service candidates the joining period shall not exceed one year.

12.14.3 After the candidates join the programme the DRC shall place them under the supervision of an approved guide keeping in view the area of specialization/interest of supervisor and candidate.

12.15 Preparation and Submission of Synopsis



As soon as the scholar qualifies the Pre-Ph.D. programme and the result of the course work is declared, the scholar shall submit a draft synopsis of the proposed work on a prescribed format, and get it recommended by the DRC before its onward submission to the BORS for app

12.16 Meeting of the BORS

The BORS shall meet twice a year depending upon the business available.

12.17 Change in the Title

Any major/minor change in the title shall be authorized by the BORS only on the recommendation of the DRC.

12.17.1 Any major change in the title shall be admissible within the two years from the date of registration.

12.17.2 Ant minor change is admissible before pre-submission of the thesis.

12.18 Change of Guide

Ordinarily the candidate shall continue his/her Ph.D. programme under the supervisor allotted to him/her by the DRC. However, in exceptional cases, the change of guide can be considered by the BORS after furnishing convincing justification duly recommended by the Dean of the Faculty concerned.

12.19 Duration

12.19.1 Ph.D. Programme shall be for a minimum duration of three years, including course work, and a maximum duration of six (6) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme.

12.19.2 A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re-registration as per the Statute/Ordinance of the Higher Educational Institution concerned; provided, however, 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.

12.19.3 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.

12.20 Re-registration

The scholar who fails to submit the thesis within the stipulated period of five years in case of whole time research and seven years in case of part-time research shall be eligible for re-registration to be granted by the Dean Research on the recommendation of the DRC and the Dean of the concerned Faculty for a maximum period of two years on the payment of a prescribed fee.

12.21 Residency period

12.21.1 The Residency period for the whole-time scholars for Ph.D. programme shall be 3 years (including six months pre-Ph.D.).

12.21.2 The Residency period for part-time scholars for Ph.D. programme shall be 450 days to be



completed in 3-5 spells of atleast 3 months each, to account for 15 months.

12.21.3 Provided that Constituent College/University teachers having at least two years of service on permanent basis shall be deemed to have put in the residency period simultaneously without producing any kind of a leave.

12.22 Intake Capacity

80% of the intake capacity in a Department/Research Centre for Ph.D. programme shall be offered to candidates who will join on whole time basis with preference to students with CSIR/UGC (JRF) and FIP and the remaining 20% for candidates to join on part-time basis and under in-house category. Provided that in case the seats fall vacant in either of the categories due to non-availability of candidates, the seats shall be offered to the candidates eligible in the other category.

12.23 Conduct of Research in other Institutions

The Vice-Chancellor on the recommendations of the Supervisor and HOD, may permit a research scholar registered for pursuing his/her research to go to any other institutions of repute within or outside the country if it is essential for the research project. However, the absence from the main place of research shall not ordinarily exceed more than six months.

12.24 Research Supervisor

A teacher working in the University Department/ Research Centre/Constituent Colleges on permanent basis shall be eligible to be the supervisor for guiding Ph.D. scholars provided he/she has to his/her credit:

- 12.24.1 A Ph.D. Degree;
- 12.24.2 Two years teaching experience on permanent basis;
- 12.24.3 Minimum of 3 research papers in refereed journals; and
- 12.24.4 In exceptional cases, Vice-Chancellor may relax the experience and other requirements.

12.25 Research Co-Supervisor

The teachers/scientists/eminant scholars/retired teachers from Universities/ Institutions having Ph.D. /M.D/D.M/D.C.L and having standard published work, shall on the recommendation of the BORS be entitled to act as co-supervisors. Provided that his/her employer has no objection in having appointed his employee as Co-supervisor. Provided further that no such person shall be below the rank of Assistant Professor or Scientist B or equivalent and is not beyond the age of 70 years.

12.26 Supervisor-Scholar Ratio

12.26.1 The maximum number of scholars (whole time and part-time taken together) that a supervisor shall at a time be entitled to guide shall be as under:

- 12.26.1.1 Professor or Scientist of an equivalent rank : Eight
- 12.26.1.2 Associate Professor or Scientist of an equivalent rank : Six
- 12.26.1.3 Assistant Professor or Scientist of an equivalent rank : Four

Provided:

The Departments/ Research Centres shall admit scholars as per the infrastructure



available.

12.27 Submission of Progress reports and Seminars

12.27.1 Every registered Ph.D. scholar shall be required to submit during the period of registration a periodic quarterly report duly endorsed by the supervisor/s regarding the progress in his/her research programme to the DRC concerned.

12.27.2 The scholar shall be required to give, atleast, one seminar every year.

12.28 Assessment of Work Progress

Each scholar shall be required to maintain a data note book, wherever applicable, to meticulously record/ append the raw data (observations/ photographs/auto ads/graphs/ consent-forms/survey-responses/other routine collections etc) with dates and tampering free page numbers. The raw data endorsed by respective supervisors shall have to be made available for assessment on demand. During the period of residency, every scholar shall be assessed by the Departmental Research Committee atleast four times to monitor his/her progress. This assessment shall be done twice a year beginning from 2nd year of residency. These six monthly assessments shall be the responsibility of respective DRC's, the Vice-Chancellor's nominee in 2nd and 4th assessment process. The DRC shall evaluate the progress made by the scholar, assess the attendance records, and make suggestions for improvement, if required, modify or revise the synopsis (title, objectives, methodology) on a prescribed format. Raw data collected by the scholar shall be religiously recorded/ appended in a data note book on regular basis with dates and endorsement by respective supervisors, such that the data is readily available on demand.

12.29 Academic Clearance

Academic clearance shall be a prerequisite for thesis submission. Every scholar shall produce:

- 12.29.1 An NOC from concerned Departmental/University Library/DSW/ Chief Proctor/Provost/Directorate of Physical Education/Sports/ Laboratory etc to be submitted to the Head of Department;
- 12.29.2 A certificate about delivery of seminars and overall eligibility certificate to the effect of having at least one paper published/ accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed/referred journal. The publication should necessarily be a part of his/her Ph.D. thesis and should not be a review or commentary;
- 12.29.3 the review committee recommendation that the scholar has carried out the research work in accordance with the approved objectives; and
- 12.29.4 Required documents along with an electronic copy of the scholar's thesis shall be submitted by the concerned Head of the Department/Director of the Institute/Centre to the office of the Dean Research for grant of academic clearance. The academic clearance shall be issued within a period of not more than 15 days from the date of submission of all the requisite documents in the section.

12.30 Research Misconduct

The Electronic version of the thesis shall be subject to evaluation for non-unique content, copyright violations and any other research misconduct with the help of plagiarism



detection software. Significant violations (to be assessed by a committee) shall debar a candidate from obtaining clearance for thesis submission after giving reasonable opportunity of being heard to the candidate.

12.31 Submission

After obtaining the academic clearance, the scholar shall submit three spirally bound copies of the thesis with the prescribed certificate on the first page duly signed by the candidate, and supervisor and co-supervisor, if any. The spiral bound copies, along with the requisite supervisor's certificate, shall be forwarded by the Head/Director/of the Department/Centre to the Dean of the Concerned faculty for the purpose of evaluation.

12.32 Format of Thesis

12.32.1 The thesis inter-alia shall be in conformity with the established norms/standards;

12.32.1.1 It shall be in form suitable for publication.

It shall be type-written or printed or photo-copied on paper of 28x22cm with a margin of atleast 3.0 cm on one side and 1.0 cm on the other.

12.32.1.2 The thesis shall be hard bound with maroon coloured cloth /Rexene cover (having transparent dust cover). The title of the thesis, name of scholar, name of Dept./Centre/Laboratory, Name of faculty and month and year of submission shall be printed in bold letters on the face of the cover in golden colour. Field of work/Subject/Name of the candidate and year of submission shall also be printed in golden colour on the spine of the thesis.

12.33 Evaluation of Thesis

The HoD/Director in consultation with the concerned supervisor shall forward panel of 10 experts to the Dean of the faculty. The Dean concerned shall recommend 6 experts, out of the above panel to the Dean Research, who shall authorize the evaluation of thesis by three experts out of the panel submitted by the Dean concerned.

Explanation:

- i. An examiner placed in the panel shall be of the rank of not less than an associate Professor, possessing specialization in the field of research of the scholar.
- ii. The Dean of faculty before finally sending the thesis shall arrange to send abstract-summary of the thesis to the approved three examiners for getting their consent regarding the evaluation of thesis
- iii. The dean of faculty shall arrange to send the thesis to the three examiners (after receiving their consent) along with the instructions in the prescribed form regarding evaluation and submission of the report, under a confidential cover.
- iv. The supervisor and co-supervisor shall submit evaluation report/s of the thesis which shall form the internal evaluation report/s.
- v. The Dean of the faculty shall arrange the conduct of the viva- voce test in coordination with HoD/Director concerned as soon as reports of at-least two examiners have been received.

12.34 Final Submission of Thesis

As soon as the evaluation reports of, at-least two experts recommending award of degree have been received, the scholar shall submit 4 hard bound copies of final thesis incorporating all changes, if any, recommended by the experts. The copies of thesis shall be in conformity with Clause 12.29.3 of Statute 12.30

12.35 Viva-Voce Test

The viva-voce test, shall be conducted by the Board of Examiners (Viva Voce Committee)



comprising the following:

- i. Dean of the Faculty (Chairman);
- ii. Head of the concerned Department/Centre/School;
- iii. Supervisor and co-supervisor if any; and
- iv. One of the two external examiners (nominated by the Vice Chancellor).

Subject to the provisions of the Statutes and Regulations in force, the degree shall be awarded to the scholar after receiving clear recommendations of both the external examiners and the supervisor/s for the award of the degree and after his/her successful completion of the open viva-voce test. Provided further that where the HOD happens to be the supervisor, the next senior teacher in the Viva-voce Test Department shall be associated with viva-voce. Provided further that where the supervisor (internal examiner) is not available and is not likely to be available in the next two months after the receipt of the last report from the external examiner, the Vice-Chancellor in consultation with the Chairman DRC and the Dean of the Faculty concerned may appoint a substitute for conducting the viva-voce examination.

12.36 Re-appearing in Viva-Voce Test

Subject to the provisions of the Statute where a candidate is not recommended for the degree by the examiners at the time of the viva-voce examination, he/she may be permitted to reappear in the viva-voce examination to be held not earlier than three months from the date of his/her first viva-voce. The viva-voce examination of the candidate for the second time shall be conducted by the original examiners unless they or any one of them is/are not available or is/are unwilling to act as such. In such cases the substitute examiners shall be appointed preferably from within the panel submitted earlier.

12.37 Declaration of Award and Degree

12.37.1 The evaluation report of the theory papers in case of direct Ph.D thesis and viva-voce examination shall be communicated by the HOD/Director of Centre through Dean of the Faculty to the Controller of Examinations for declaration of the results.

12.37.2 The Controller of Examinations shall on the basis of report submitted under Clause (i) above declare the result of the candidate for the award of Ph.D. Degree after seeking approval from the competent authority.

12.38 Copy of the Evaluation Report

Subject to the provisions contained in these Statutes where a candidate applies for a copy of the report of the examiners, these reports in full or excerpts thereof may be supplied to the applicant on payment of the fee prescribed from time to time for the said purpose.

12.39 Publication of Thesis

12.39.1 The permission to publish the thesis shall be accorded to the candidate This shall be certified by the HOD concerned;

12.39.2 The candidate shall on publication of the thesis state on the title page that it is a thesis approved for Ph.D. degree by the Cluster University of Srinagar;

12.41.3 Where full reports are required by any recognized organization /agency, these shall be supplied to such an organization / agency under rules prescribed by the University. One copy of the thesis accepted by the University for the award of degree shall be deposited by the HOD concerned in the university Library and one/two copies shall be deposited in



Departmental Library.

12.42 Fee Structure

12.42.1 Fee payable by a candidate admitted to the Ph.D. programme shall be as prescribed by the University from time to time and head-wise details shall be notified separately.

12.42.2 Full fee, as applicable, shall be payable by the Ph. D. scholars for all the periods for which extension is granted.

12.42.3 The University employees and the teachers of the constituent Colleges of the University, who have been admitted as research scholars shall pay the fee.

12.42.4 If any candidate is already enrolled in the University, irrespective of whether he/she is a part- time or full-time research scholar, he/she shall be exempted from the enrolment fee.

12.42.5 Fee once paid to the University shall not be refunded except the caution money, which shall be refunded to the Ph. D. scholar within one year from the date of award of the Ph. D. degree or cancellation of admission on any ground, subject to the adjustment of any dues payable by him/her. However, if the candidate leaves the Ph. D. programme or is terminated from the programme within one year of his/her admission, the caution money shall not be refunded.

12.43 Cancellation of Admission

The admission of a Ph. D. candidate shall be cancelled by the DRC/BORS if:

12.43.1 The candidate is absent for a continuous period of six weeks without prior information/sanction of leave.

12.43.2 Two consecutive progress reports of the candidate are unsatisfactory or not submitted.

12.43.3 The candidate's research plan proposal/research plan proposal seminar is/are not approved even after the submission of revised proposal/revised seminar.

12.43.4 The candidate fails to submit the thesis within the maximum stipulated time as provided in these ordinances.

12.43.5 The candidate resigns from the Ph.D. programme and the resignation is duly recommended by the Supervisor.

12.43.6 The candidate is found involved in an act of misconduct and/or indiscipline and his/her termination has been recommended by the competent authority.

12.43.7 Provided further that action of cancellation of Ph.D. registration of a candidate [in the eventualities listed 12.43.1.to 12.43.4 above may not be taken by the DRC without serving a show cause notice on the erring scholar and without giving him/her a hearing in person.

12.44 Temporary withdrawal from the programme

A candidate admitted to the Ph.D. programme may be permitted for temporary withdrawal only after completion of his/her residency period, i.e., three years. He/She may be permitted by the Dean of the Faculty, on the recommendation of the DRC to temporarily withdraw from the programme on some specific reasons, and later allowed to join back to complete the research and can submit the thesis after three weeks of joining from withdrawal



provided he/she has successfully completed the course work prior to seeking temporary withdrawal. The maximum period of withdrawal during the Ph.D. programme shall not exceed two years which can be taken in a maximum of two spells. The temporary withdrawal may be permitted subject to following eventualities:

12.44.1 The candidate is suffering due to prolonged illness, supported by medical certificates.

12.44.2 On the event of illness/death of candidate's parents/guardians/spouse.

12.44.3 The candidate gets a professional employment

12.44.4 The fulltime sponsored candidate after fulfilling the minimum period requirement for the submission of the thesis joins back his/her parent organization.

12.44.5 Any other event in which the Vice-Chancellor is convinced that the situation faced by the research scholar warrants his/her temporary withdrawal from the programme without exceeding the maximum time-limit provided in these ordinances for submission of thesis.

12.45 Leave rules for research scholars

12.45.1 Ordinary Leave

12.45.1.1 A full-time Ph.D. student is eligible for 30 days ordinary leave for every completed year. Saturdays, Sundays or holidays during the leave period are counted towards leave, except for prefixed or suffixed holidays. Head of the Department/Centre is competent to sanction ordinary leave on recommendation of the Supervisor.

12.45.2 Maternity/Child Care Leave/ Paternity Leave

12.45.2.1 A Scholar is eligible for 240 days maternity leave/child care leave or 15 days of paternity leave in the entire duration of the Ph.D. programme. The Head of the Department/Centre is competent to sanction the maternity/paternity leave on recommendation of the Supervisor and submission of a certificate from Senior Medical Officer /Medical Officer of the institute.

12.45.3 Academic Leave

Academic leave is permitted on the following grounds: -

12.45.3.1 A maximum of 15 days of leave is permissible in a calendar year to attend conferences/seminars/workshops/trainings/short-term courses.

12.45.3.2 A maximum of 30 days of leave is permissible in a calendar year for field trips such as data collection, survey work, etc.

12.45.3.3 Academic leave exceeding 30 days but up to a maximum of 60 days for research activities in a calendar year is approved by the Dean Research Studies on recommendation of the Supervisor and the Head of the Department/Centre.

12.45.3.4 Academic leave of more than 60 days but up to a maximum of 6 months



is also permissible to carry out part of the research in another institute/R&D Lab/industry in India or abroad. sanction of such a leave, a letter of consent from the host institute is required. This leave is permissible only after the student has passed the course work and has submitted the synopsis.

12.45.3.5 The Head of the Department/Centre is competent to sanction academic leave as mentioned at a & b above, on recommendation of the Supervisor. Dean Research Studies is competent to sanction academic leave mentioned at 12.45.3.3 & 12.45.3.4, on recommendations of the Supervisor and DRC.

12.46 Depository with INFLIBNET

Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and before the announcement of the award of Ph.D. degree(s), the Controller of Examinations 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 Higher Educational Institutions.

12.47 Removal of Difficulties

If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of these regulations, the Vice Chancellor may, by order, make such provisions not inconsistent with the Act, Statutes, Ordinances, or other regulations, as appears to be necessary or expedient to remove the difficulty. Every order made under this rule shall be subject to ratification by the appropriate competent bodies of the university



PROFORMA FOR TITLE PAGE



THESIS TITLE

THESIS

SUBMITTED FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF

Doctor of Philosophy

IN

Subject Name

BY

SCHOLAR NAME

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF

SUPERVISOR NAME

DEPARTMENT OF _____

FACULTY OF _____

**CLUSTER UNIVERSITY OF SRINAGAR
GOGJI-BAGH, SRINAGAR-190008.**

Month, YEAR(e.g JULY, 2025)



UNDERTAKING FROM THE CANDIDATE

*I, _____ hereby declare that I have completed the research work for all the full time period prescribed under the **Statutes of the Ph.D. of Cluster University of Srinagar** and that research work embodied in thesis entitled " _____ " submitted by me for the degree of **Doctor of Philosophy** is my own work. I avail myself to responsibility such as an act will be taken on behalf of me, mistakes, errors of facts and misinterpretations are of course entirely my own.*

Date:

Place:

(Scholar Name & Signature)



CANDIDATE'S DECLARATION

I _____ certtrify that
work embodies in this Ph.D. thesis is my own bonafide work carried out by me
under the supervision of

Dr. _____

for a period of _____ to _____

at Cluster University of Srinagr. The matter embodies in the Ph.D. thesis has not
been submitted for the award of any other degree/ diploma. I declare that I have
faithfully acknowledged, given credit to and referred to the research workers
wherever their works have been cited in the text and the body of the thesis. I further
certify that I have not wilfully lifted up some other's work, paragraph, text, data,
results, etc. reported in the journals, books, magazines, reports, dissertations, thesis,
etc., or available at web-sites and included them in this Ph.D. thesis and cited as my
own work.

Date:

Place:

(Scholar Name & Signature)

CERTIFICATE FROM THE SUPERVISOR

**This is to certify that the above statement made by the candidate is correct to the best of my
knowledge.**

Supervisor

(Signature of the Head of the Department)



**COURSE WORK COMPLETION CERTIFICATE
(Pre-Ph.D Course Work Compliance of UGC Regulations, 2009)**

This is to certify that _____ a
bonafide research scholar of this department, has satisfactorily completed the course work
requirement which is a part of her Ph.D. programme.

Date:

Place:

(Signature of the Head of the Department)



**PRE-SUBMISSION SEMINAR COMPLETION
CERTIFICATE**

This is to certify that _____, a bonafide research scholar of this department, has satisfactorily delivered the pre-submission seminar on the topic _____

“

_____” dated _____ required

as a part of his/her Ph.D. programme.

Date:

Place:

(Signature of the Head of the Department)



COPYRIGHT TRANSFER CERTIFICATE

Title of the Thesis: “ _____.”

Candidate’s Name: _____

Copyright Transfer

The undersigned hereby assigns to the Cluster University of Srinagar all rights under copyright that may exist in and for the above thesis submitted for the award of the Ph.D. degree.

(Signature of the Candidate)

Notes: *However, the author may reproduce or authorize others to reproduce material extracted verbatim from the thesis or derivative of the thesis for author’s personal use provided that the source and the University’s copyright notice are indicated.*



PROFORMA FOR PROGRESS REPORT

I. (To be filled up by the Research Scholar)

- Department :
Faculty/Institute :
Registration No. & Date :
Six-monthly progress report of the Research Scholar for the period from
to
i. Name of the Research Scholar :
ii. Name of the Supervisor :
iii. Topic of Research :
iv. Resume of the work done (on separate sheet(s)) :

(Signature of the Research Scholar)

.....

II. (To be filled up by the Supervisor)

- v. Progress report being forwarded by the supervisor: First/ Second/ Third/ Fourth/ Fifth/ Sixth/ Seventh/ Eight.
vi. In my opinion the candidate has/ has not made progress in the following respects on the basis of which I am/ am not satisfied with the work done during last sixmonths since the I/ II/ III/ IV/ V/ VI/ VII/ VIII progress report was submitted on
vii. Whether the resume of work duly signed by you is attached by the candidate
viii. Attendance secured (in %age) during the said semester
ix. Whether progress Report(s) submitted in time and no Progress Report is due?
x. Other remarks, if any
No. of Ph.D. Scholars currently working under me is:

Signature of the Supervisor

Name:
Designation:
Date:



III. Specific comments of the Departmental Research Committee (DRC) on Performance Evaluation of the Research Scholar.

DRC Nominee

Internal Subject Expert

External Subject Expert (s)

Supervisor

.....

Head of the Department

.....

Date: