

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

Sub: Amendments to Ordinance VI (July 2026)

Amendment to Ordinance VI, Procedure for Award of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree

Ordinance VI. Procedure for Award of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree

1. The Ordinance conforms with University Grants Commission (Minimum Standard and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations 2022 with effect from the academic session 2026-27.
2. 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 Awards of Ph.D. Degree) Regulation 2009 and its amendments or the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016 or the UGC Regulations 2022 read with relevant UGC Notifications, and as adopted by the University of Delhi from time to time.
3. The University of Delhi shall not conduct the Ph.D. programmes through distance education mode. Ph.D. in Part-time mode will be allowed provided all the conditions mentioned in the extant Ph.D. regulations are met as provided in Clause N.
4. A Department of a Faculty or a Centre of the University can conduct research programmes for the award of Ph.D. degree.
5. The Board of Research Studies (BRS) of the respective Faculty/Centre shall organize the research studies leading to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy under the general guidance of the Academic Council.
6. The Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Council (RIEC) will advise the Board of Research Studies.
7. The Departmental Research Committee (DRC) shall oversee all academic matters related to the Ph.D. programme.

8. General Guidelines

A. Composition and Functions of the Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Council, Board of Research Studies and Departmental Research Committee

1. **Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Council-** The Council shall ensure uniform implementation of the Ordinance and provide advice on procedural and related matters. The composition of the Council shall include a Chairperson and Deans of Research from Life Sciences, Physical and Mathematical Sciences and Humanities and Social Sciences.

2. **Board of Research Studies** - Each Faculty that offers Ph.D. programme shall have a Board of Research Studies.

(i) The composition of **BRS in a Faculty having more than one Department** shall be as follows:

- a) Dean of the Faculty-Chairperson
- b) One Professor (a nominee of the Vice Chancellor)
- c) Heads of all Departments under the Faculty
- d) One Professor from each Department
- e) One Associate Professor from each Department
- f) One Assistant Professor from each Department
- g) One Professor and one Associate Professor from each subject amongst teachers from colleges, if applicable.

The selection under category (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g) above shall be by rotation as per seniority.

(ii) The composition of the **BRS for a single Department** based faculty shall be as follows:

- a) Dean of the Faculty/Chairperson
- b) One Professor (nominated by the Vice-Chancellor from an allied Department)
- c) Three Professors
- d) Two Associate Professors
- e) Two Assistant Professors
- f) One Professor and one Associate Professor amongst teachers from colleges, if applicable

The selection under category (c), (d), (e) and (f) above shall be by rotation as per seniority.

(iii) The composition of **BRS for the Faculty of Medical Sciences/Ayurvedic and Unani/ Homeopathy** shall be as follows:

- a) Dean of the Faculty-Chairperson
- b) One Professor (nominee of the Vice Chancellor)
- c) All University appointed Heads of the Department under Faculty of Medical Sciences.
- d) All Heads of the Institutions/Colleges affiliated to the University for Ph.D. programme.
- e) One senior-most Associate Professor nominated from each of the teaching Institutions
- f) One Assistant Professor by rotation as per seniority.

(iv) The composition of **BRS for the Faculty of Technology** shall be as follows:

- a) Dean of the Faculty-Chairperson
- b) One Professor (nominee of the Vice Chancellor)
- c) All Heads of the Department/Director of the Centre under the Faculty of Technology
- d) One Professor from each Department and Centre to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor
- e) One Associate Professor from each Department and Centre to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor
- f) One Assistant Professor from each Department and Centre to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor

(v) The registration of students by each Department of the Faculty shall require ratification by the respective BRS. The records of registration and the progress of research work done by the Ph.D. students shall be maintained by the BRS.

(vi) All members of the BRS must be qualified to be Supervisors.

3. **Departmental Research Committee** - Each Department and Centre offering Ph.D. Programme shall have a Departmental Research Committee (DRC). All members of the DRC must be qualified to be Supervisors. The Dean of the respective faculty will approve the Committee.

(i) The DRC of Department/Centre shall comprise the following:

- a) Head of the Department/Director-Chairperson
- b) One Professor (nominee of the Vice-Chancellor)
- c) Four Professors in the Department
- d) Two Associate Professors
- e) Two Assistant Professors
- f) One Professor and one Associate/Assistant Professor from the colleges, except for those Departments that do not have an undergraduate programme in the respective discipline.
- g) Immediate past Head of the Department/Director, if not superannuated.

The members in category (c), (d), (e) and (f) above shall be chosen by rotation as per seniority.

(ii) The composition of **DRC for the Faculty of Medical Sciences/Ayurvedic and Unani/ Homeopathy** shall be as follows:

- a) Head of the Department-Chairperson
- b) One Professor (a nominee of the Vice-Chancellor)
- c) Four Professors from the Department
- d) Two Associate Professors
- e) Two Assistant Professors

The selection under category c), d) and e) shall be by rotation as per seniority.

- (iii) The composition of **DRC for the Faculty of Technology** shall be as follows:
- a) Head of the Department-Chairperson
 - b) One Professor (a nominee of the Vice-Chancellor)
 - c) Four Professors
 - d) Two Associate Professors
 - e) Two Assistant Professors
- The selection under category c), d) and e) shall be by rotation as per seniority.
- (iv) Where Departments have strength of less than ten teachers, all members, who are eligible to be Supervisors, will be members of the Departmental Research Committee.
- (v) The term of membership of all members of BRS and DRC, other than ex-officio members will be for a period of two years. Unless otherwise provided, one-third of the members of the BRS and DRC, respectively shall form the quorum.
- (vi) The meetings of the DRC and the BRS may be held at least once every three months. It may be held earlier, depending on the urgency of individual cases.

B. Procedure for Admission

1. As per UGC Regulations 2022 read with relevant UGC Notifications, and as adopted by the University of Delhi from time to time, Ph.D. students will be admitted through a two-stage process involving: (i) Qualifying UGC/CSIR/NET JRF or similar National level tests and (ii) an interview.
2. Admission process may be conducted twice in an academic year (Phase I and Phase II) synchronizing with the declaration of the UGC/CSIR NET results.
3. As per UGC Regulations 2022, the University will notify a prospectus well in advance on its 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.
4. The Head of the Department shall consult the faculty members and college teachers, who are recognized Supervisors, regarding the number of vacant seats available with each member in that academic year. Eligible supervisor will send their willingness to supervise Ph.D. students along with their Curriculum Vitae and list of publications to the Head. Each Supervisor may decide on the number of seats that he/she would like to fill in a particular year, within his/her maximum permissible strength and inform the Head of the Department accordingly.
5. The Department Research Council will decide on an annual basis a predetermined and manageable number of Ph.D. students to be admitted depending on the number of available Research Supervisors, other academic and physical facilities such as student-teacher ratio, laboratory, library and other facilities.
6. As per the recommendations of Executive Council vide resolution no 14-6 dated 09.06.2023 to look into the provisions for admission and other related matters

including the minimum standard and procedure for award of Ph.D. degree, following Supernumerary seats are recommended for admission in Ph.D. Programme:

- (i) For the in-service teacher and non-teaching, there shall be special provision of supernumerary Ph.D. seats not exceeding 10% of the total seats available in the Department.
- (ii) For PwBD candidates: 5% of total strength declared by the department.

Note: A supervisor can guide one scholar from category (i) or (ii) at a time.

- (iii) Undergraduate students who have completed four-year undergraduate programmes in the University of Delhi or its Colleges with at least 7.5 CGPA for UR/OBC/EWS and 7.0 CGPA for SC/ST/PwBD candidates and have at least one research publication based on the 4th year UG research in a Scopus-indexed journal as the First/Second/ Corresponding author shall be considered for admission to Ph.D. programmes. The faculty member who has supervised the student for the UG research may continue to guide the same student, provided the faculty member has a Ph.D. degree and research laboratory, as applicable. The eligibility for admission to the PhD programmes for such a candidate shall be one year from the date of declaration of the UG results. All other criteria relevant to Ph.D. programme, such as approval of DRC, BRS, RAC, completion of course work as mentioned in Clause D-N, will be applicable in this case, whenever necessary. However, such Faculty member shall supervise other fresh scholars only if he/she fulfills the eligibility criteria stated in Clause G.

- 7. The Departments will declare the vacant seats on an annual basis. However, the admissions will be done in two Phases - Phase I and II. A department may hold the interviews twice or more times in a year. However, they should notify their vacant seats at least 30 days before the schedule of interviews.
- 8. No research scholar registered for the Ph.D. programme shall be permitted to undertake any other regular full-time programme of study during the duration of the Ph.D. programme.
- 9. The admission to Ph.D. programme will be according to the Reservation Policy of the Government of India, as applicable from time to time, based on intake in a given academic session.

C. Eligibility Criteria

- 1. As per UGC Regulations 2022 read with relevant UGC Notifications, and as adopted by the University of Delhi, from time to time, the following are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. programme:
 - 1.1 Candidates who have completed:
 - 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 University Grants 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 University Grants Commission from time to time.

OR

- b. 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.

OR

- c. Master's degree or a professional degree (M.Tech./LL.M./M.D./M.S.) in the same or allied subjects, 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 an equivalent degree 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 for the purpose of assessing, accrediting or assuring quality and standards of the educational institutions.
- 1.2 Candidates with 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

must qualify UGC-NET/UGC-CSIR NET/GATE/CEED or similar National level test.

2. The Departments/ University will decide the number of eligible students to be called for an interview based on the number of Ph.D. seats declared in a respective Phase.
3. Teachers and non-teaching staff, who are in the permanent service of the University of Delhi, may directly appear for an interview subject to fulfilling minimum eligibility criteria.
4. Candidates holding Junior Research Fellowships in research projects, satisfying the minimum eligibility conditions (subject to selection by the duly constituted committee as per the University norms for research projects) may also appear directly for the interview. Merit will be determined by giving 70% weightage to the scores obtained in the National Test and 30% to interview.
5. Scientists/ professionals working with R & D institutes of the Government of India/ State Government with whom the University has signed a Memorandum of Understanding, or is sponsored by the parent institution may directly appear for interview subject to fulfilling minimum eligibility criteria. These will be considered as supernumerary seats.
6. The allied subjects for admission to Ph.D. Programme in a particular Department shall be decided by the DRC of the respective Department in consultation with the faculty members who have advertised for vacancies, based on their specific requirements. The list of allied subjects duly approved by the DRC may be submitted to the respective BRS for approval, after which it may be displayed on the website of the Department.
7. No candidate shall be eligible to register for the Ph.D. programme if he/she is already registered for any full-time programme of study in any University/Institution.
8. Foreign nationals fulfilling the eligibility criteria may be registered for Ph.D. over and above the maximum admissible strength. Each supervisor can guide up to two international research scholars on a supernumerary basis over and above the permitted number of Ph.D. scholars. Foreign nationals must provide evidence of language competence suited to the Department they wish to join. Foreign nationals are exempted from entrance test and interview. They may be admitted based on their research proposal, subject to fulfilling the minimum eligibility criteria. The decision regarding the same rests with the DRC subject to approval from BRS for the Ph.D. Programme.
9. Candidates possessing a degree considered equivalent to M.Phil. Degree of an Indian Institution with 55% marks or 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 for the purpose of assessing, accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to Ph.D. programme.

10. Faculty of Management Studies may shortlist candidates for appearing directly in interview for Ph.D. admission on the basis of CAT score.

Important Note: All candidates appearing directly for interview will also have to register on the online admission portal.

D. National Level Test and Interview

1. As per UGC Notification No. F.4-1(UGC-NET Review Committee)/ 2024(NET)/ 140648 dated 27.03.2024 and University of Delhi Notification dated 19.08.2025 there will be three Categories for admission to Ph.D. The interviews may be held twice a year or more, subject to the availability of seats as determined by the DRC.

Qualified for		Eligible for		
		JRF	Assistant Professor	Ph.D. Admission
Block A	Category-1: Award of JRF and appointment as Assistant Professor	Yes	Yes	Yes
Block B	Category-2: Appointment as Assistant Professor and admission to Ph.D.	No	Yes	Yes
	Category-3: Admission to Ph.D. only	No	No	Yes

- The validity of UGC/CSIR NET scores will be as per UGC rule as decided by UGC from time to time.
- The Departments must declare the availability of seats in advance on an annual basis.
- 60% seats of the total available seats will be sanctioned for Phase I.
- 40% seats of the total available seats will be sanctioned for Phase II.
- If seats remain vacant in Phase I, these will also be filled in Phase II.

2. Merit list:

- For the purpose of drawing the Merit List, 70% weightage must be given to the scores obtained in the Nationalized Test and 30% weightage must be given to Interviews.
- The above will be applicable for all candidates i.e. candidates from Block A (Category-1) and Block B (Category-2) and (Category-3).
- In each Phase, seats will first be filled from candidates of Block A. If seats remain vacant, candidates from Block B may be considered as per merit.

3. In addition, the University offers fellowships to 16 + 1* “Non-JRF Seats” to candidates who qualified NET but do not have a fellowship/JRF vide its Notification Ref. No. R.O./ Non-NET/2021-22/300 dated 29.06.2021 as follows:

(a) Non-JRF Seats (To be filled from Block B only)

Category	Intake
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UR	06
OBC (NCL)	04
SC	03
ST	01
EWS	02
*PwBD (Supernumerary Seat)	01

- (b) Every department where the annual intake of Ph.D. seats is more than 50 (Phase I and Phase II combined), must ensure to fill the above mentioned “Non-JRF Seats” through both the Phases. That is, the department must ensure to fill the 16+1* non-JRF seats on an annual basis.
 - (c) Every department will make a separate list for Non-JRF seats to be filled from eligible candidates from Block B only.
4. At the time of the interview, if required, experts/prospective Supervisors from allied/ specialized areas may be invited.
 5. At the time of the interview, the candidates are required to discuss their research interest/area through a presentation before a duly constituted Committee. The interview shall also consider the following aspects:
 - a. the candidate possesses the competence for the proposed research;
 - b. the research work can be suitably undertaken at the University
 - c. the proposed area of research can contribute to new/existing knowledge
 6. The merit list of the recommended candidates shall be displayed on the website after approval by the DRC.
 7. The DRC reserves the right not to select candidates for all the vacancies advertised.
 8. The DRC shall ensure that all University rules including reservation rules are followed in the admission process.
 9. The registration of candidates in the Ph.D. programme may be confirmed by the BRS based on the recommendation of the DRC after the successful completion of coursework within **18 months from the date of registration**. The date of registration to the Ph.D programme will be the date of joining in the department within the period stipulated by the department, but not later than forty-five days from the date of closing of Ph.D admission of that Phase.
 10. As per UGC Regulations 2022, the Departments shall maintain a list of Ph.D. supervisors (specifying the name of the supervisor, his or her designation, **area of specialization** and the department/school/Centre/college), 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 registration) admitted under them on the website of the university and update this list every academic year.

E. Coursework

1. The Credit requirement for the Ph.D. coursework is a **minimum of 12 credits and maximum of 16 credits**, including a "Research and Publication Ethics" two credits course as notified by UGC and a research methodology course of four credits. A sufficient number of the optional courses shall be offered by the Departments. Other courses shall be advanced-level courses preparing the students for Ph.D. degree. Ph.D. scholars shall

also be permitted to take optional courses from allied departments.

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 in the 4th year & 5th year may also be assigned 4-6 hours per week of teaching/research assistantship for conducting tutorial or laboratory work.
3. All courses prescribed for Ph.D. programme coursework shall be in conformity with the credit hour instructional requirement and shall specify content, instructional and assessment methods. These courses shall be duly approved by the DRC and the BRS. A copy of the same should be submitted to the RIEC for records.
4. The Department where the research scholar pursues his/her research shall prescribe the course(s) to him/her based on the recommendations of the Research Advisory Committee of the research scholar.
5. The Departments shall ensure that all research scholars, admitted to Ph.D. programme, complete the course work along with the declaration of the result within the initial one or two semesters (first year).
6. Marks/Grades in the course work shall be finalized after a combined assessment by the Research Advisory Committee and the Department, and the final marks/grades shall be submitted to the BRS through the DRC and uploaded on the Examination portal before the end of the first year.
7. If a research scholar fails to qualify one or more courses/ papers of the coursework, he/she may be allowed to reappear **only once** in the immediate next examination from the declaration of result, in such a way that the whole process is completed within 18 months from the date of Ph.D. registration. If the result is still found unsatisfactory, the DRC shall recommend to the BRS to cancel of the scholar's registration. However, in special circumstances, a final decision may be taken by BRS in consultation with the Vice Chancellor.
8. The credits of the coursework shall be transferable between the Departments of the University and inter-university, subject to their acceptance by the DRC.
9. The research scholars shall not be allowed to take up any assignment outside the University during the coursework.
10. Research scholars already holding M.Phil. Degree or equivalent M.Phil. Degree (equivalence to be determined by DRC) and admitted to the Ph.D. programme, or those who have already completed the coursework in M.Phil. of University of Delhi and have been permitted to proceed to the Ph.D. programme, may be exempted by the DRC from the Ph.D. coursework. All other research scholars admitted to the Ph.D. programme shall be required to complete the Ph.D. course work prescribed by the Department.

11. A Ph.D. scholar must obtain a minimum of 55% marks or its equivalent grade in the coursework to be eligible to continue in the programme.
12. Upon satisfactory completion of coursework, and obtaining the marks/grade prescribed as the case may be, the Ph.D. scholar shall be required to undertake research work. He/she shall submit a six-monthly progress report duly approved by the Research Advisory Committee to BRS through DRC. If two consecutive progress reports are not submitted to the BRS through the DRC, then a notice shall be issued to the scholar to provide the reasons for the non-submission of the progress reports duly supported with evidence(s). If the BRS is not satisfied with the reason so given, the Ph.D registration may be cancelled. The appeal against the cancellation of the registration shall lie with the Vice Chancellor.
13. After admission to Ph.D. programme, the research scholar in consultation with the Supervisor, may propose a tentative broad area/title for Ph.D. thesis within one year. However, the final title for the Ph.D. thesis must be decided at the time of the pre-Ph.D. presentation. The final title will be subject to approval of the DRC and the BRS.
14. **Ethics and its Compliance in Research:**
Wherever necessary, clearance must be taken from the Delhi University Institutional Human Ethics Committees (DUIHEC), under the Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Council (RIEC) and Institutional Ethics Committee, Institutional Animal Ethics Committee and Institutional Biosafety Committee before starting the research work. In case the research scholar is working on animals, he/she should take prior clearance from Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC) of the University. Research Scholars who are using hazardous chemicals and radioactive material should take a clearance from Radioactive Safety Officer(s) of the University; scholars using biotic/ biological/ bio-material should mandatorily take authorization/ sanction/ consent from the Delhi University Institutional Bio-safety Committee (DUIBSC) before starting the research work. The research scholar should maintain integrity towards his/her work, data, results, ideas, resources, and concerned tools. The scholar must maintain the protocols related to IPR, and not use unpublished data or results, protect confidential communication, personal records, patent records, information related to national security such as troops deployment, infrastructure, technological knowhow or any other confidential/ sensitive information which can affect the national reputation or cause disharmony in society. The scholar should also ensure the safety of human and animal subjects, prevent misconduct, fabrication, falsification, content that is plagiarized or generated through use of Artificial Intelligence etc. Any violation in this regard may attract punitive measures including cancellation of Ph.D. registration and/or legal action.

F. Attendance

Research scholars shall be required to attend lectures (coursework) and participate in seminars arranged in the Department during the programme. The minimum percentage of lectures to be attended during the coursework will be two-thirds of the lectures delivered in all courses, individually.

G. Eligibility Criteria for Supervisor and Co-supervisor

1a. Permanent faculty members of the Departments of the University of Delhi working as Professor/Associate Professor with a Ph.D., and at least five research publications in **UGC CARE (on or before 10th Feb, 2025)/ Scopus journals/ University of Delhi approved journals** and permanent faculty members working as Assistant Professors in the Departments of the University with a Ph.D., and at least three research publications in **UGC CARE (on or before 10th Feb, 2025)/Scopus journals/University of Delhi approved journals** shall be recognized as a Research Supervisor. This eligibility shall be applicable to the faculty members for fresh allotment of research scholars.

1b (i). **Permanent faculty members of the Colleges of the University of Delhi working as Professor/Associate Professor with a Ph.D., and at least five research publications in UGC CARE (on or before 10th Feb, 2025)/ Scopus journals/ University of Delhi approved journals and permanent faculty members working as Assistant Professors in the Colleges of the University with a Ph.D., and at least two research publications in UGC CARE (on or before 10th Feb, 2025)/Scopus journals/University of Delhi approved journals shall be recognized as a Research Supervisor.**

1b(ii). In addition, publications in quality peer reviewed journals will also be considered upto 31st December, 2028 which shall be approved by respective Departmental Research Committee (DRC) and Board of Research Studies (BRS). Such recognized research supervisors cannot supervise research scholars in other institutions, except as co-supervisors. This eligibility shall be applicable to the faculty members for fresh allotment of research scholars only.

2. Co-Supervisors from within the same department/college or other departments/colleges of the University of Delhi or other institutions/industries/Scientists/social scientists with Ph.D degree, equivalent to Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor level, working in research institutions of Central government/ State government, may be permitted with the approval of the competent authority provided they fulfill all the eligibility requirements. A person of high academic credentials from any other recognized Universities/ National research organization/ institutes/ foreign Universities/ Industry with high academic/ Research credentials supported by high quality publications/ work can be considered as a co-supervisor subject to the approval by the DRC and BRS of the respective department and faculties.
3. In case of interdisciplinary/ multidisciplinary research work, if required, a Co-Supervisor from outside the Department/School/Centre/College/University fulfilling the eligibility criteria stated in Clause G.2 may be appointed.
4. 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.

5. 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 G.4.
6. 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 G.4.
7. The supervisor/co-supervisor must **not** be in near relation to the Ph.D. candidate.

9. Eligibility Criteria for Supervisor and Co-supervisor (Medical Faculty only)

- (a) Must be a regular faculty member (Associate Professor or above for medical/non-medical) who has completed probation.
- (b) For supervisors with DM/M.Ch./Ph.D.: Must have a minimum of three years of teaching and research experience as a regular faculty after a DM/M.Ch./Ph.D.
- (c) For supervisors with MD/MS/MDS/DNB: Five years teaching and research experience as a regular faculty after an MD/MS/MDS/DNB.
- (d) Must have at least Five Original Research Papers in NMC/NDC approved list of journals as a first, second or corresponding author.
- (e) Clauses G.4 to G.8 shall also be applicable to the Faculty Medical Sciences.

(DM: Doctorate of Medicine, M.Ch: Master of Chirurgiae, MD: Doctor of Medicine, MS: Master of Surgery, MDS: Master of Dental Surgery, DNB: Diplomate of National Board, NMC: National Medical Council, NDC: National Dental Commission,)

H. Allocation of Supervisor/Co-Supervisor

1. The allocation of Supervisor for an admitted research scholar shall be decided by the DRC depending on the number of research scholars per Supervisor, the area of specialization among the available Supervisor, and research interests of the scholar as indicated by them at the time of interview.
2. 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 University of Delhi 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.

3. In a Department where teachers are retiring, leaving or are proceeding on long leave on deputation or where unforeseen circumstances have necessitated a change of Supervisor, the DRC shall appoint Supervisor(s)/Co-Supervisor(s) as a supernumerary allotment. This may be approved by the respective BRS.
4. 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. Faculty members who get re-employed after superannuation (after 65 years of age) in the department will remain Supervisors for their existing Ph.D. scholars.
5. Faculty members on deputation/long leave for more than a year may not be included in the list of proposed Supervisors in a Department/ College and in determining the number of vacant seats.
6. The recommendation of the DRC regarding the appointment of Supervisor(s) and Co-supervisor(s) shall be approved by the respective BRS.
7. ~~Each Supervisor is entitled to take a fresh research scholar after submission of the thesis of his/her previously allotted research scholar, based on maximum permissible number for that faculty member.~~ Submission of the thesis by a scholar will lead to creation of a vacancy for the concerned supervisor for allotment of a new scholar.

I. Research Advisory Committee

1. There shall be a Research Advisory Committee for every research scholar, duly approved by the DRC. The Supervisor of the research scholar shall be the Convener of this Committee. The Committee will have at least three members, with at least one faculty member other than the Supervisor from the Department. This Committee shall have the following responsibilities:
 - a. To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research.
 - b. To guide the Ph.D. research scholar to develop the study design and methodology of research and identify the course(s) that he/she may have to do.
 - c. To periodically review and assist in the progress of the research work of the Ph.D. research scholar.
2. The Ph.D. research scholar shall appear before the Research Advisory Committee once in six months to make a presentation of the progress of his/her work for evaluation and further guidance. The six-monthly progress reports with the comments of the Research Advisory Committee shall be submitted to the DRC with a copy to the research scholar.
3. In case the progress of the Ph.D. research scholar is unsatisfactory, the Research

Advisory Committee shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures. If the Ph.D. research scholar fails to comply with these corrective measures, the Research Advisory Committee may recommend to the DRC with specific reasons for the cancellation of the registration of the Ph.D. research scholar from the Ph.D. programme. However, the cancellation of any such nature has to be approved by the BRS.

J. Financial Assistance to Research Scholars

1. Research scholars who have cleared National Level examinations with JRF or equivalent shall get financial assistance from the concerned funding agency.
2. Research scholars who are working in projects as JRF and SRF shall get financial assistance from the designated projects.
3. Research scholars, who do not have any financial assistance, may be awarded Non-JRF fellowships. The University, depending on the grant available from UGC, will determine the number of fellowships under this category annually.
4. Financial assistance shall not be provided to the research scholar who avails paid study leave.
5. Foreign research scholars must show proof of financial support for the duration of the Ph.D. programme.

K. Leave

1. Any leave of more than thirty days from research work would require prior intimation and approval of the DRC and the BRS. This period shall be counted in the total duration for submission of thesis.
2. On the recommendation of the Supervisor and the DRC, the BRS may permit the research scholar to be away from the University of Delhi to pursue research related to Ph.D. work for not more than two semesters after completion of the course work.
3. Female Ph.D. Scholars may be provided Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave for up to 240 days in the entire duration of the Ph.D. programme. This period shall not be counted in the total duration for submission of Ph.D. thesis.
4. The Supervisor must report an absence from research work by a research scholar due to illness, maternity leave or other circumstances to the DRC and BRS. Negligence of research work or any other acts of indiscipline must be recorded and reported to the DRC and the concerned BRS. On receipt of a complaint, the BRS may take appropriate action against the research scholar, including cancellation of his/her registration.
5. Only in exceptional cases, a research scholar may be allowed to de-register from the Ph.D. programme after successful completion of a minimum duration of three years on the recommendation of the DRC and the approval of the BRS. The research scholar shall re-register within a period of three years. The Ph.D. thesis should

be submitted within such a period that the period of initial registration and re-registration does not exceed the duration of the Ph.D. programme.

L. Duration of Ph.D. Programme

1. As per UGC Regulations 2022, the Ph.D. programme shall be for a minimum duration of three (03) years, including coursework and a maximum duration of six (06) years from the date of registration to the Ph.D. programme.
2. As per UGC Regulations, 2022, a maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re-registration as per the Ordinance of the University 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.

For the University of Delhi, the process of re-registration is as below:

For Ph.D. scholars, beyond a period of six years, a two (02) years extension can be granted through re-registration of the scholar by the Board of Research Studies on a written justification for the delay by the research scholar. The request of the research scholar has to be recommended by the Supervisor and DRC of the respective Department.

3. Female Ph.D. scholars and Persons with Disability (having more than 40% disability) may be allowed an additional relaxation of two (02) 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 registration in the Ph.D. programme.

M. Evaluation and Assessment

1. Upon satisfactory completion of course work and obtaining the marks/grade prescribed in Clause E above, the Ph.D. scholar shall be required to undertake research work and produce a draft thesis.
2. Prior to submission of the thesis, the Ph.D. research scholar shall make a pre-Ph.D. presentation in the Department before the Research Advisory Committee, which shall be open to all faculty members and other research scholars/students. The feedback and comments obtained from them will be suitably incorporated in the draft thesis in consultation with the Research Advisory Committee.
3. The research scholar shall submit the thesis after pre-Ph.D. presentation within a period of three months.
4. In case of issues related to Intellectual Property Rights, necessary patents shall be filed before disclosure in the seminar.

5. The University of Delhi is offering PhD degree through two pathways: Academic

Pathway, Product/Application-based Pathway

5.1. ACADEMIC PATHWAY

The Academic pathway is the traditional pathway wherein the PhD scholar works on an academic endeavor for the creation of knowledge, addressing highly specialized research gaps, Interdisciplinary research, new theory or innovation, discovery of a new species, development of a new variety of plant.

The Ph.D. will be submitted in the form of a thesis. For the submission of the thesis the student must have (a) Two presentations in conferences and (b) Two research papers published as per the below criteria:

5.1.1 For Research presentations in Conference:

The paper presentation should be in the subject area of the Ph.D. topic and has to be certified by the RAC (Research Advisory Committee). The conference must have been organized by a UGC- recognized University/AICTE recognized Institution or a recognized National/ International organization/ nationally recognized Academic/ Scientific organization/professional society. The Ph.D. scholar should either be first/ second/ corresponding author.

5.1.2 Research Publication:

5.1.2.1 Two research papers must be published in Scopus-indexed or University of Delhi approved journals. The research paper should be based on the Ph.D work. The Ph.D. scholar should either be first/ second/ corresponding author.

OR

5.1.2.2 Patent:

The Ph.D. scholar should have been granted at least one patent in the area of research for a product, process, or utility, where the student should be named as the first/second inventor.

OR

5.1.2.3 New Discovery/Invention:

The Ph.D. scholar has made a significant new discovery/invention/ such as a new fossil, species of plant or animal or microorganism, supported by at least one publication in Scopus indexed journal with a minimum impact factor of one (1), where the student should either be the first /second author or a corresponding author.

OR

5.1.2.4 New Theory/ Product or technology

The Ph.D. scholar has made a significant new theory/ new product or technology supported by at least one publication in Scopus indexed journal with a minimum impact factor of one (1), where the student should either be the first /second author or a corresponding author.

OR

5.1.2.5 Development of a new variety:

The Ph.D. scholar has developed a new variety of plant/animal such as high yielding/disease free/ stress resistant crop or animal variety supported by scientific evidence, with at least one Scopus publication with a minimum impact factor of one (1) where the student should either be the first /second author or a corresponding author.

Note: Evaluation process and opting for a Co-Supervisor/relevant Expert for 5.1.2.2 to 5.1.2.5 are as follows:

- The products, models, theories, or innovations must be certified by domain experts and should also have a third-party validation report/ Certificate of Conformance. A third party shall be an accredited, independent testing or auditing body with no financial stake in the commercialisation/ sale of the output.
- Whenever necessary the supervisor can always opt for a co-supervisor from the recognized industry or domain area with proven credentials.
- All research work in the relevant area should be original, innovative and creative in nature.

5.1.3 The usual process of DRC/BRS recommendations as outlined in Ordinance VI will continue. Examination will be done following the usual processes such as Pre-Ph.D presentations before the Research Advisory Committee from time to time, external examination, and open viva voce as stated in this Amendment.

5.2 PRODUCT-BASED/ APPLICATION-BASED Ph.D

Product/ Application based PhD pathways encourage scholars to contribute in Nation's development and to its Strategic needs by developing products and prototypes for large-scale societal needs, high-end technologies, sustainable growth, advanced engineering, cybersecurity thereby encouraging industry collaborations.

The PhD scholar has developed a product of National significance / National strategic project / New energy products / Venture-Science project / Prototype / Artificial Intelligence or Cyber-security systems / Nuclear science / Hardware product / Software ecosystem / novel Design solutions / Tech start-up / Advanced machine or infrastructure / Sustainable design.

5.2.1 Practical Applications/Development of product for real world uses.

5.2.1.1 The Ph.D. scholar has developed a product or a prototype or an idea that is for real-life use and is being commercialized or is solving the societal problems, and has demonstrated practical utility with substantial evidence or the scholar must demonstrate that his/her scientific or social innovation functions in real world conditions. A patent should have been granted to the scholar and the supervisor to that effect where the student should be named as the first/second inventor. In case the Patent is filed but not granted but work is of very high quality as ascertained by an expert committee constituted by the Vice Chancellor then based on the satisfactory report of the committee the candidate can be allowed to submit the thesis.

OR

5.2.1.2 Development of large scale infrastructure for Nation building.

The Ph.D. scholar has developed –

- a product for building large scale infrastructure for Nation building or a software/hardware/new tools,
and
- commercialized through start-up (as defined by Government of India from time to time) by generating investment through venture capitals procured from Government/Industries/Venture Capitalists /recognized financial institutions up to the tune of minimum one crore Indian rupees or as decided by the University from time to time (family, friends/relatives and individual's investment shall not be considered), and given employment to at least five persons (not related to the scholar, supervisor and co-supervisor) with relevant skills/competencies to perform the job for at least two consecutive years.
- All research work in the relevant area should be original, innovative and creative in nature, established by creation of an Intellectual property Rights (IPR).
- Note: IPR are legal rights that protect creators and inventors by giving them exclusive control over the use of their creations, inventions, or brands for a limited period.
- Quantum and quality of work will be ascertained by a committee constituted by the Vice Chancellor.

5.2.2 Evaluation Criteria:

- a. Proofs of the product's wide scalability, real-life use, cost-effectiveness, innovation, and creativity shall be required to be submitted.
- b. A Technical Report will have to be submitted containing the following:
 - i. Design blueprint
 - ii. Duly maintained testing and validation records of the product/ application/ prototype/ design/ detailing laboratory stress tests, simulated trial runs, prototype iterations, and failure-mode analyses.
 - iii. Intellectual Property/Patent of the product or technology or process or utility/Regulatory Compliance and Standardization/ Certification or proof of inspection from recognized national/international regulatory authorities such as the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) or the International Organization for Standardization (ISO)/ NABL-accredited lab report/ BIS, FSSAI, ICAR report or certification/ STQC (MeitY) certificate relevant to the product's domain/ any other equivalent government certification organizations
 - iv. The Ph.D. scholar should be First/ Second/ inventor in case of grant of Patent/ IP/ Commercial licensing.
- 5.2.2 The Research Advisory Committee of the scholar will develop six-monthly progress rubrics for Lab stress/ simulated trials/ iterations and failure mode analyses etc., based on which the progress made by the scholar will be submitted to the DRC.
- 5.2.3 The products, models, theories, innovations, prototype, technology, as applicable must be certified by domain experts and should also have a third-party validation report. Certificate of Conformance. A third party shall be an accredited, independent testing or auditing body with no financial stake in the commercialisation/ sale of the output.
- 5.2.4 Whenever necessary the supervisor can always opt for a co-supervisor from the recognized industry or domain area with proven credentials.
- 5.2.5 The usual process of DRC/BRS recommendations as outlined in Ordinance VI will continue. Examination will be done following the usual processes such as Pre-Ph.D presentations before the Research Advisory Committee from time to time, external examination, and open viva-voce as per the guidelines amended from time to time.

Note: The viva-voce shall be conducted by two examiners, one from an academic institute and the other from industry/relevant area.

6. Each thesis will go through a Plagiarism Check that will be verified by the University Library before submission. The certificate of verification given by the

library has to be submitted along with the thesis at the time of thesis submission in the Examination Branch. The thesis has to be submitted within 30 days from the date of plagiarism check.

7. The supervisor shall **submit** the abstract of the thesis including Table of Contents and panel of six examiners to the Head of the Department. **The panel of examiners shall be eminent Scholars (Professors or equivalent, Associate Professor in special circumstances only but not more than two Associate Professors or equivalent among six proposed examiners), normally not more than one from the same Department of a particular University/Institute. Specialists in the area of work from industry/research institutions may also be included, however not more than three specialists should be in the panel.** The list of examiners must not include the persons who are either employed in the University/ its Colleges or have retired from the University of Delhi/ its Colleges.
8. The Head of the Department shall convene a meeting of the DRC within one month (or within a reasonable time) of submission of the abstract, table of contents and examiners list and forward the same to the BRS for its recommendation. Upon receiving the recommendation of DRC the supervisor will upload the abstract, table of contents and list of examiners on the examination portal.
9. The concerned BRS shall review the recommendations of the DRC. and forward the panel of examiners to the Examination branch on or before the submission of the thesis. In order to avoid delay, the Chairman of the respective BRS may approve the panel of examiners duly recommended by the concerned DRC and report the same in the next meeting of BRS.
8. The thesis must be a piece of original research work characterized either by the discovery of new facts, or by a fresh interpretation of facts or theories. In either case, it should show the research scholar's capacity for critical examination and judgment. It must be satisfactory as far as its language and presentation are concerned.
9. The research scholar may incorporate in the thesis the contents of any work published by him/her on the subject during the course of his/her Ph.D. and shall indicate the same in the thesis. If any content of the published work has been incorporated in the thesis of one of the authors, then the same content cannot be included by any of the other authors for the award of any degree or diploma.
10. The Ph.D. thesis submitted by a research scholar shall be evaluated by three external examiners, approved by the Vice-Chancellor.
11. While submitting for evaluation, the dissertation/thesis shall have an undertaking from the research scholar and a certificate from the Research Supervisor attesting to the originality of the work, vouching that there is no plagiarism as defined by UGC from time to time, and that the work has not been submitted for the award of any other degree/diploma of the same Institution where the work was carried out, or to any other Institution. The Head of the Department shall countersign these certificates for submission of the Ph.D. thesis. In case of resubmission, the same

procedure may be followed. The research scholar shall also attach a Student Approval Form in the format provided by the UGC for hosting and distributing their thesis in digital format in 'Shodhganga', or any other server designated for this purpose by UGC.

This Clause is supplemented by the provisions of UGC (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2018.

12. The research scholar shall submit one double-sided typed and printed softbound copy of the Ph.D. thesis to the Examination Branch of the University. The soft copy of the Ph.D. thesis must be uploaded online on the Ph.D. Thesis Evaluation System Portal of the Examination Branch in the specified format.
13. The Examination Branch may send all communication to the examiners viz. request for consent, sending of Ph.D. thesis for evaluation, and receive report/s electronically through e-mail/online portal.
14. The examiners may (i) recommend that the degree be awarded; (ii) recommend that the degree be awarded subject to corrections/revision being made in consultation with the Supervisor before viva voce; (iii) ask for resubmission of the thesis or (iv) reject the thesis.
15. **For Ph.D. thesis evaluation, the corresponding actions suggested in the following table may be followed based on the comments/observations received from external examiners:**

Recomm- -endation	Examiner I	Examiner 2	Examiner3	Action Suggested
Event I	Accept	Accept	Accept	Viva Voce
Event2	Accept	Accept	Minor Correction	Revise thesis in consultation with Supervisor followed by Viva Voce
Event3	Accept/Re submission	Resubmissi on	Resubmissi on	Resubmission within one year after incorporating suggestions. Thesis to be sent to all examiners again.
Event4	Accept	Accept	Resubmissi on	Thesis to be sent to fourth examiner whose recommendation shall be final. If 4th examiner recommends for revision, thesis will be sent to same examiner after revision. Resubmission within one year after incorporating suggestion.

Event5	Accept	Accept	Reject	Thesis to be sent to fourth examiner. If 4 th examiner rejects the thesis, registration of the Student shall be closed/ cancelled.
Event6	Accept/Re submission	Reject/ Resubmission	Reject	Reject and cancel registration

For any case that need a special consideration, the matter may be referred through BRS to a Special Committee consisting of Chairperson RIE council, Dean (Academic), Dean/ Controller of Examination for its examination. The recommendations of the Special Committee shall be placed before the Vice Chancellor for final decision in the matter.

16. The Supervisor will provide a general report and a technical report based on the comments of all the examiners duly signed by the Supervisor and the HOD to the Examination Branch. Reports of the examiners should be shared with the research scholar only for the purpose of revision.
17. The public viva voce of the research scholar to defend the Ph.D. thesis shall be conducted only if the evaluation report(s) of the external examiner(s) on the thesis is/are satisfactory and include a specific recommendation for the conduct of the viva voce examination.
18. The viva voce examination, on the evaluation report, shall be conducted by the Head of the Department and at least one of the three external examiners as approved by the Vice Chancellor. The viva voce shall be chaired by Head of the Department and shall be open to Members of the Research Advisory Committee, all faculty members of the Department, research scholars and other interested experts/researchers.
19. If the thesis has undergone revision after external evaluation, the soft copies of the final version of the Ph.D. thesis, after revision, must be re-submitted to the Examination Branch. To ensure that the soft copy is a complete and exact replica of the print version accepted for the award of Ph.D., the Department Supervisor/Head must authenticate the soft copy submitted by the scholar.
20. Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and the announcement of the award of the Ph.D., the University shall ensure that an electronic copy of the Ph.D. thesis is submitted to INFLIBNET/ Shodganga for hosting the same to make it accessible to all Institutions/Colleges.
21. It may be ensured that all appropriate methods for completion of the entire process of evaluation of Ph. D. thesis, including the declaration of the viva-voce result is done within a period of six (6) months from the date of submission of the thesis.
22. Prior to the award of the degree in convocation, the Examination Branch may issue a

Provisional Certificate to the effect that the Degree has been awarded in accordance with the provisions of the UGC Regulations, 2022 or as applicable.

23. Provided that the Ph.D. programmes in the Faculty of Medical Sciences, shall be governed by the relevant Regulations of the Medical Council of India, as amended from time to time. However, the matters or processes on which the Medical Council of India regulations are silent, the relevant provisions of the Ordinance VI shall apply.

N. 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 Departments 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:
 - a. The candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis.
 - b. His/her official duties permit him/her to devote sufficient time for research.
 - c. He/she will be relieved from the duty to complete the course work in the prescribed duration.
3. For Ph.D. in Part time mode, any case that requires special consideration may be referred through BRS to a Special Committee consisting of Chairperson RIE council, Dean (Academic), Dean/ Controller of Examination for its examination. The recommendations of the Special Committee shall be placed before the Vice Chancellor for final decision in the matter.
4. Notwithstanding anything contained in these Regulations or any other law, for the time being in force, the University shall not conduct Ph.D. programmes through distance and/or online mode.
5. **Conversion of a full time PhD. Program to a part time PhD. Program is permitted subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions:**
 - i. A request from a candidate who receives an appointment letter or joins an educational institution, R&D organization, government department, or public sector undertaking as an employee, and provides valid proof/ documentation, may be considered for conversion from full-time to part-time status.
 - ii. The candidate must have completed a minimum of two years from the date of registration in the full-time mode and must have successfully completed the prescribed coursework.
 - iii. The candidate must obtain a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the appropriate authority in the organization where he/ she is employed. The NOC must clearly state that:

- a) The candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis.
- b) His/ her official duties permit him/ her to devote sufficient time for research.
- iv. The request for conversion shall be recommended by the Departmental Research Committee (DRC) and endorsed by the Board of Research Studies (BRS).
- v. Once a candidate has been converted to part-time mode, reversion to full-time mode shall **not** be permitted.
- vi. The scholarship / fellowship shall cease from the date of joining as a permanent employee. The candidate must obtain clearance from the respective department.
- vii. The duration of the Ph.D. programme shall not exceed the maximum permissible period as defined by the University regulations.

9. POWER TO REMOVE DIFFICULTIES:

If any difficulty arises in the process of implementation or interpretation of this Ordinance, The Vice Chancellor shall have the power to take any action or decision, deemed necessary, and it shall be final and binding.