

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

Delhi 2023

NOTIFICATION
Sub: Amendments to Ordinances

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

Amendment to Ordinance VI, Procedure for Award of Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree (Page No. 125-145 of University Calendar Vol-1 2022)

The Amendments to the Ordinance VI of the University were approved by the Executive Council at its meeting held on 15.12. 2023 (E.C. Resolution 39-9/ Annexure 22), are notified for information to all concerned:

- 1 The Ordinance conforms with University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations 2022 with effect from the academic session 2023-24.
- 2 Award of degrees to candidates registered for the M.Phil./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 M.Phil./Ph.D. Degree) Regulation 2009 and its amendments or the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016 and its amendments as the case may be.
- 3 If the M.Phil./Ph.D. degree is awarded by a Foreign University, the University considering such a degree shall refer the issue to a Standing Committee constituted for the purpose of determining the equivalence of the degree awarded by the foreign University.
- 4 The University of Delhi shall not conduct the Ph.D. programmes through distance education mode.
- 5 Part-time Ph.D. will be allowed provided all the conditions mentioned in the extant Ph.D. Regulations are met.

General Guidelines

- a. A Department of a Faculty or a Centre of the University can conduct research programmes for the award of Ph.D. degree.
- b. 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.
- c. The Research Council will advise the Board of Research Studies.
- d. The Departmental Research Committee (DRC) shall supervise all academic matters related to the Ph.D. degree.

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

1. **Research Council**- The Research Council shall ensure uniform implementation of the Ordinance and provide advice on procedural and related matters. The composition of the Research 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. 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.

All members of the BRS must be qualified to be Supervisors.

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.

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.

The composition of **BRS for the Faculty of Medical Sciences** 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 the Faculty of Medical Sciences.
- d) All Heads of the Institutions/Colleges affiliated to the University for PhD programme.
- e) One senior-most Associate Professor nominated from each of the teaching Institutions (LHMC, MAMC, UCMS, VPCI and IHBAS).
- f) One Assistant Professor by rotation as per seniority.

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/ All Directors of the Schools/Director, Cluster Innovation Centre
- d) One Professor from each Department/ One Professor from each School of the IoE or its participating Departments/One Professor from Cluster Innovation Centre to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor
- e) One Associate Professor from each Department/ One Associate Professor from each School of the IoE or its participating Departments/One Associate Professor from Cluster Innovation Centre to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor
- f) One Assistant Professor from each Department/ One Assistant Professor from each School of the IoE or its participating Departments/One Assistant Professor from Cluster Innovation Centre to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor
- g) Dean, Post Graduate Studies

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.

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.

The composition of **DRC for the Faculty of Medical Sciences** 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.

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) to e) shall be by rotation as per seniority.

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.

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.

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

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

1. As per UGC Regulations 2022, the Ph.D. students will be admitted in a two-stage process through (i) an Entrance Test (to be held once a year, a common entrance test for Ph.D. programme) and (ii) an interview that may be held twice or more number of times in a year, if required.
2. 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. Furthermore, the University will

decide on an annual basis through the academic bodies, 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 may be considered while deciding the number of seats.

3. The Departments will accordingly decide on an annual basis through DRC, a predetermined and manageable number of Ph.D. scholars to be admitted, and will notify well in advance on its Departmental website and through advertisement, the number of seats for admission, subject/discipline-wise distribution of available seats, criteria for admission, procedure for admission, syllabus for written test, selection criteria during interview and all other relevant information for the benefit of the candidates will be notified on the Admission portal.
4. The Head of the Department shall consult the faculty members and college teachers, who are recognized to be Supervisors, regarding the number of vacant seats available with each member in that academic year. Each prospective 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. **As per the recommendations of the committee constituted by Executive Council vide resolution no 14-6 dated 09.06.2023 with regard to look into the provisions for admission and other related matters including the minimum standard and procedure for award of Ph.D. category.**

Following Supernumerary seats are recommended for admission in Ph.D.

(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, if there is no vacant seat available with the eligible Supervisors in that Department.

(ii) For PWD candidates: 5% of total strength declared by the department.

The supervisor can have one candidate from each of the above-mentioned supernumerary quota at a time.

6. Eligible College teachers will send their willingness to supervise Ph.D. students along with their Curriculum Vitae and list of publications to the Head. The Head will ensure that information from the Department faculty and college teachers in this regard is available before the announcement of vacant seats.
7. In case the Departments want to hold the interviews twice or more times in a year, they can notify their vacant seats at least 30 days before the schedule of interviews.
8. No research scholar registered for the PhD programme shall be permitted to undertake any other full-time Programme during the pendency of the Ph.D. programme.

9. The admission to Ph.D. programme will be according to the National Level Reservation Policy, as applicable from time to time, based on intake in a given academic year.

C. Eligibility Criteria

As per UGC Regulations 2022, the following are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. programme:

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.

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

4. 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 appear in an entrance test conducted by the University/NTA. The shortlisted candidates on the basis of the entrance test shall appear for an interview.
5. As per UGC Regulations 2022, the University shall admit Ph.D. students who qualify for fellowship/scholarship in UGC-NET/UGC- CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests based on an interview. Candidates without fellowship/scholarship have to appear for the entrance examination. Students with M.Phil degree can appear for interview directly. All candidates appearing directly for interview also have to register on the online admission portal.
6. The Departments will decide the number of eligible students to be called for an interview based on the number of Ph.D. seats available in the Department and its colleges.
7. Teachers and non-teaching, who are in the permanent service of the University of Delhi, may directly appear for an interview subject to fulfilling minimum eligibility criteria.
8. Candidates holding Junior Research Fellowships or equivalent research positions in 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 an interview.
9. Scientists/professionals working at R&D institutes of the Government of India/State Government with whom the University has signed a Memorandum of Understanding may directly appear for interview subject to fulfilling minimum eligibility criteria.
10. 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 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.

11. **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.**
12. **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 as specified in Clause G.3. 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.**
13. **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.**
14. **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 interviews also have to register on the online admission portal.

D. Entrance Test and the Interview

1. **As per UGC Regulations 2022, the Entrance Test for Ph.D. Programme shall be conducted once a year and the eligibility of shortlisted candidates shall remain valid till the next entrance test. The interviews may be held twice a year or more, subject to the availability of seats as determined by the DRC.**
2. **The Entrance Test syllabus shall consist of 50% of research methodology, and 50% shall be subject-specific.**
3. **The entrance test will be a qualifying examination with 50% as the qualifying marks for candidates belonging to the unreserved category. Students who have secured 50 % marks in the entrance test are eligible to be called for the interview.**
4. **A relaxation of 5% of marks (from 50% to 45%) shall be allowed in the entrance examination for the candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC (Non-Creamy layers)/ Differently-abled category, Economically Weaker Section (EWS), and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the University Grants Commission from time to time.**

5. **The Departments shall conduct interviews for Ph.D. admissions simultaneously for all the categories and ensure that the category of candidates is not revealed at the interview. Once the merit of the candidates is collated, the respective DRCs may allot the seats as per the reservation provisions of the Government of India/the University.**
6. The Entrance Tests in various subjects shall be staggered to allow the candidates to appear in written test in more than one subject, if they so desire.
7. **For the selection of candidates who qualify in the entrance examination, a weightage of 70% to the entrance test and 30% to the performance in the interview/viva voce shall be given.**
8. At the time of the interview, if required, **experts/prospective Supervisors from allied/specialized areas may be invited.**
9. **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/additional knowledge.**
10. The merit list of the recommended candidates shall be displayed on the website after approval by the DRC. There will be a waiting list in the order of merit.
11. The DRC reserves the right not to select candidates for all the vacancies advertised.
12. The DRC shall ensure that all University rules as well as reservation rules are followed in the admission process.
13. **The registration of candidates in the Ph.D. programme may be confirmed by the BRS based on the recommendation of the DRC after the completion of coursework.**
14. **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, 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 admission) 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, 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. A minimum of four credits shall be assigned to the course on Research Methodology. **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.
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 coursework 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 communicated to the BRS & University before the end of the first year.
7. The DRC shall satisfy itself that each research scholar has completed the requirement of coursework. The Head of the Department shall provide to the student a certificate of completion of coursework and names of courses opted by each student. If a research scholar fails to qualify the coursework, s/he may be allowed to reappear only once in the immediate next examination of the declaration of result. If the result is still found unsatisfactory, the DRC may recommend cancellation of his/her registration. This may be reported to the Board of Research Studies in case of Ph.D. scholars. Under special circumstances (e.g. medical reasons), a final decision may be taken by BRS on the recommendation of the DRC for Ph.D. scholars.
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. coursework prescribed

by the Department.

11. **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. **Upon satisfactory completion of course work, and obtaining the marks/grade prescribed as the case may be, the Ph.D. scholar shall be required to undertake research work and produce a draft thesis within a reasonable time, as stipulated by the University based on UGC Regulations, 2022.**
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.

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

1. **Permanent faculty members of the Departments/Colleges of the University Delhi working as Professor/Associate Professor with a Ph.D., and at least five research publications in UGC Care/Scopus journals and permanent faculty members working as Assistant Professors in the Departments/Colleges of the University with a Ph.D., and at least three research publications in UGC Care/Scopus journals shall be recognized as a Research Supervisor.** Such recognized research supervisors cannot supervise research scholars in other institutions, where they can only act as co-supervisors. Ph.D. awarded by a university under the supervision of a faculty member who is not an employee of the university would be in violation of these Regulations.

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

The guidelines for the same will be prepared before implementation.

Provided that in areas/disciplines where there is no, or only a limited number of UGC Care/Scopus journals, the departments may relax the above condition for recognition of a person as Research Supervisor with reasons recorded in writing.

Co-Supervisors from within the same department/college or other departments/colleges of the University of Delhi or other institutions/industries may be permitted with the approval of the competent authority provided they fulfill all the eligibility requirements.

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

2. In case of interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research work, if required, a Co-Supervisor from outside the Department/School/Centre/College/University may be appointed.
3. An eligible Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor can guide up to eight (8) / six (6) / four (4) Ph.D. scholars, respectively, at any given time.
4. **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.3 above.**
5. **At any point, the total number of PhD scholars under a faculty member, either as a supervisor or a co-supervisor, shall not exceed the number prescribed in Clause G.3 and G.4 above.**

H. Allocation of Supervisor

1. **The allocation of Supervisor for a selected research scholar shall be decided by the DRC depending on the number of research scholars per Supervisor, the available specialization among the Supervisors and the research interests of the research scholar, as indicated by them at the time of interview.**
2. In case of topics which are inter-disciplinary and where the Department concerned feels that the expertise in the Department has to be supplemented from outside, the Department may appoint a Supervisor from the Department/College itself, who shall be known as the Supervisor, and a Co-Supervisor from outside the Department.
3. 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.
4. **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.**

5. Faculty members with less than three years of service before superannuation shall not be allowed to take new research scholars under their supervision as supervisor. However, such faculty members can continue to supervise Ph.D. scholars who are already registered until superannuation and as co-supervisors after superannuation **but not after attaining the age of 70 years. Faculty members who get reemployed after superannuation (after 65 yr of age) in the department will remain Supervisors for their existing PhD scholars.**
6. **Faculty members on deputation/long leave for more than a year may not be included in the list of proposed Supervisors in a Department and in determining the number of vacant seats.**
7. The DRC, on the recommendation of the Supervisor, may appoint scholars of eminence who may be residing in India or abroad, as Co-Supervisor(s).
8. The recommendation of the DRC regarding the appointment of Supervisor(s) shall be approved by the respective BRS.
9. 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.

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 cancellation of the registration of the Ph.D. research scholar from the Ph.D. programme and 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-NET UGC 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 where the research scholar is availing paid study leave.**
- 5. Foreign research scholars must show proof of financial support for the duration of the Ph.D. enrolment.**

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 coursework.
- 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 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.**

For 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 a re-registration 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.11 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 may 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 six months.
- 4. In case of issues related to Intellectual Property Rights, necessary patents shall be filed before disclosure in the seminar.**
- 5. A Ph.D. scholar should publish at least two research papers in Scopus or UGC Care listed Journals before submission of thesis and produce evidence in form of letter or a reprint. This has to be certified by the Supervisor and the Head of the Department. Provided that in areas/disciplines where there is no, or only a limited number of UGC Care/Scopus journals, the departments may relax the above condition for recognition of a person as Research Supervisor with reasons recorded in writing.**

6. The University shall evolve a mechanism using well-developed software and gadgets to detect plagiarism and other forms of academic unethical practices. 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 forward the abstract of the thesis including Table of Contents and panel of six examiners to the Head of the Department for consideration by the **DRC & upload on examination portal. 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) and specialists in the area of the thesis, normally not more than one from the same Department of a particular University/Institute.**

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 (online/offline).

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 who are experts in the field and not employed by the University. Such examiner(s) should be academics with a good record of scholarly publications in the field. Those who have retired from the University of Delhi, will not be appointed as external examiners.
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 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 specified format (pdf).**
- 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. 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 only.
16. 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.
- 17. 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 1	Examiner 2	Examiner 3	Action Suggested
Event 1	Accept	Accept	Accept	Viva Voce
Event 2	Accept	Accept	Minor Correction	Revise thesis in consultation with Supervisor followed by Viva Voce
Event 3	Accept/Resubmission	Resubmission	Resubmission	Resubmission within one year after incorporating

				suggestions. Thesis to be sent to all examiners again.
Event 4	Accept	Accept	Resubmission	Thesis to be sent to fourth examiner whose recommendation shall be final. If 4 th examiner recommends for revision, thesis will be sent to same examiner after revision. Resubmission within one year after incorporating suggestion.
Event 5	Accept	Accept	Reject	Thesis to be sent to fourth examiner. If 4 th examiner reject the thesis, registration of the student shall be closed/cancelled.
Event 6	Accept/Resubmission	Reject/Resubmission	Reject	Reject and cancel registration

For any cases that need special consideration, a Special Committee consisting of the Vice-Chancellor, Dean of Examination, Dean (Academic), Controller of Examination (if any) may be referred to for a decision in the matter.

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, other research scholars and other interested experts/researchers.
19. The open viva voce by the research scholar may be conducted online.
20. 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.
21. 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 submitted to INFLIBNET for hosting the same to make it accessible to all Institutions/Colleges.
22. The University shall develop appropriate methods so as to complete the entire process of evaluation of 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.

23. **Prior to the actual award of the degree in convocation, the University may issue a Provisional Certificate to the effect that the Degree has been awarded in accordance with the provisions of the UGC Regulations, 2022.**
24. 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. Provided, 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.**
- (3) **Notwithstanding anything contained in these Regulations or any other law, for the time being in force, no Higher Educational Institution or research institution of the Central government or a State Government shall conduct Ph.D. programmes through distance and/or online mode.**