



No. AUD/SCR/2024/22

Date-04-09-2024

NOTIFICATION

The Board of Management in its 43rd meeting held on 20 th January 2023 vide Resolution No. 43.5 has resolved to consider the Regulations concerning Degrees of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) – Full Time and Degrees of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)- Part Time, and as approved by the Vice Chancellor, to be followed for all the PhD programmes at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi.

The above Regulations are enclosed herewith as **Annexure 1**.


Chairperson (SCR)

Copy to:

1. Office of the Vice Chancellor, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi
2. Registrar, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi
3. All Deans of School/ Divisions
4. All Directors of Centers/ Director IT Services
5. Deputy Librarians, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi
6. All Deputy Registrars/ Assistant Registrars
7. Office Copy

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi
Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023

1- Short title, Application, and Commencement –

- (1) These Regulations may be called Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023
- (2) They shall apply to every existing or to be offered PhD programme at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi.
- (3) These regulations shall come into force after their approval by the statutory bodies of the university and would be effective from a date to be notified by the university with the approval of the Vice Chancellor.

2- Definitions –

- (1) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires,-
 - A) **“Adjunct Faculty”** means a part-time or contingent instructor, but not full-time faculty member hired to teach by a Higher Educational Institution;
 - B) **“Bulletin of Information”** means a document, of that name issued by the University for providing fair and transparent information relating to the PhD programme to the general public (including those seeking admission to the PhD Programme of the university).
 - C) **“Course Work”** means courses of study prescribed by the University/School to be undertaken by a student registered for the Ph.D. Degree;
 - D) **“Course”** means one of the specified units which go to comprise a programme of study;
 - E) **“Credit”** means the number of hours of instruction required per week over the duration of a semester. A four-credit course in a semester means four one-hour lectures per week, with each one-hour lecture counted as one credit;
 - F) **“Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA)”** means a measure of the overall cumulative performance of a student over all semesters during the coursework. The CGPA is the ratio of total credit points secured by a student in various courses in all semesters and the sum of the total credits of all courses in all semesters. It is expressed up to two decimal places;
 - G) **“Degree”** means a degree awarded by Dr B R Ambedkar University Delhi in accordance with the UGC regulations 2022.
 - H) **“External examiner”** means an academician/researcher with published research work who is not part of the Dr B R Ambedkar University Delhi
 - I) **“Foreign Educational Institution”** means (i) an institution duly established or incorporated in its home country and offering educational programmes at the undergraduate, postgraduate and higher levels in its home country and (ii) which

offers programme(s) of study leading to the award of a degree through conventional face-to-face mode, but excluding distance, online, ODL mode;

- J) **"Grade Point"** means a numerical weight allotted to each letter grade on a 10-point scale;
- K) **"Guide/Research Supervisor"** means an academician/researcher recognized by the University to supervise the Ph.D. scholar for his/her research;
- L) **"Higher Educational Institution"** means a university or institution specified under clause 2 of Regulation 1 of UGC Regulations 2022;
- M) **"Interdisciplinary Research"** means research conducted by a Ph.D. scholar in two or more academic disciplines;
- N) **"Online Mode"** shall have the same meaning as defined under the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations 2020;
- O) **"Open and Distance Learning Mode"** shall have the same meaning as defined under the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations 2020;
- P) **"Ordinance"** means Ordinance (Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy) of the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi.
- Q) **"Plagiarism"** means the practice of taking someone else's work or idea and passing them as one's own;
- R) **"Programme Faculty"** of a Ph.D. programme means all full time regular faculty members of the University who are engaged in academic work (teaching, supervision, etc.) related to that Ph.D. programme.
- S) **"Programme"** means a higher education programme pursued for a degree specified by the University Grants Commission under sub-section (3) of section 22 of the UGC Act;
- T) **"Regulations"** means the Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023.
- U) **"RSC"** means the Research Studies Committee of the School of the University.
- V) **"Research Proposal"** means a brief write-up giving an outline of the proposed research work which the Ph.D. scholar shall submit along with the application for registration for Ph.D. programme;
- W) **"School"** means a school engaged in offering PhD Programme at Dr B R Ambedkar University Delhi.
- X) **"SCR"** means Standing Committee Research of the Academic Council of the university.
- Y) **"University"** means Dr B R Ambedkar University Delhi established by the Government of NCT Delhi under the Bharat Ratna Dr B R Ambedkar Vishwavidyalaya Act 2007.
- Z) **"URDC"** mean the University Research Degree Committee of the University.

(2) Words and expressions used and not defined in these regulations but defined in the Act/Ordinance of the university shall have meanings respectively assigned to them in the Act/Ordinance of the university.

3. Composition and Functions of URDC, SCR and RSC -

3.1 The University shall have a University Research Degree Committee (URDC) which shall deliberate and make recommendations on the award of Ph.D. degree, on the basis of the reports of the examiners and other committee constituted in this connection.

The URDC shall comprises of the following members. -

- Vice Chancellor/Nominee of the Vice Chancellor-Chairperson
- Dean of the concerned School-Member
- Chairperson, Standing Committee Research(SCR)-Member
- One External Expert to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor
- Dean, Assessment, Evaluation and Progression (AES)/Controller of Examination(Co)
- Registrar -Secretary to the University Research Degree Committee

3.2. All academic matters relating to the Ph.D. degree shall be overseen at the University level by the Standing Committee Research (SCR) of the Academic Council. The SCR acts on behalf of the Academic Council and the latter has the authority to accept or reject any of its recommendations or actions. The SCR shall comprise of the following:

- Chairperson appointed by the Vice Chancellor
- Dean of Research and Development (Ex Officio Member)
- All Deans of Schools;
- Dean of Student Services;
- Dean of Assessment Evaluation and Student Progression;
- Dean of International Affairs Division
- All designated coordinators of Ph.D. programmes and Convenors of the Research Studies Committees.
- SCR Convener appointed by the Vice Chancellor

3.2.1. The duration of the terms of SCR members is determined by their primary administrative roles (e.g., School Deans are usually appointed for three years). Special invitees may be identified by the Chair.

3.2.2. The quorum for meeting of the SCR is one-half of the regular members, including the Chair, plus one member.

3.2.3. The SCR shall formally minute its deliberations, recommendations and actions.

3.3. All academic matters relating to the Ph.D. degree shall be overseen at the School level by the Research Studies Committee (RSC) of that School. The RSC shall include faculty representatives from every discipline/ knowledge area/ practice area of the School.

3.3.1. The RSC shall include at least five members, consisting of:



- Dean of the School (Chair);
- All Ph.D. programme coordinators of the School;
- At least two faculty members of the School or faculty with concurrent appointment to the School, who are eligible to serve as doctoral supervisors, nominated by the RSC Chair;
- One or two faculty members of other Schools, eligible to serve as doctoral supervisors, nominated by the SCR Chair and to be approved by the Vice Chancellor.

3.3.2 If an RSC of at least five members cannot be constituted through the categories mentioned in Clause 3.6, the SCR shall nominate other members with domain expertise based on recommendations of the RSC Chair/ School Dean. Members nominated from this category must be regular faculty members of the University and be eligible to serve as doctoral supervisors.

3.3.3 The Chair shall name one of the Ph.D. programme coordinators or one of the RSC members from the School as Convener of RSC. All RSC members other than the Chair shall serve terms of two years.

3.3.4 The RSC shall maintain the records of admission, registration and academic progress (including RAC reports) of Ph.D. scholars and shall provide them to SCR as required. A copy of the synopsis will be submitted by the RSC to the SCR after successful synopsis defense by the scholar.

3.3.5 The RSC will formally minute its deliberations, recommendations and actions.

4. Eligibility criteria for admission to the Ph.D. Programme-The following are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. programme:

4.1 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 Commission from time to time.

Provided that a candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on

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

- ii. 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.

5. Duration (Registration Period) of the Ph.D. Programme -

5.1 Ph.D. programme shall be for a minimum duration of three (3) years, including course work and a maximum duration of six years, from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme.

5.2 A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re-registration, which shall require approval of extension by the concerned RSC, and payment of fee as applicable at the time of admission of the research scholar into the Ph.D. programme, as well as Rs 1000/- as re-registration fee. This extension may be granted by the RSC of the concerned school on a written request by the research scholar and recommendation of the Research Advisory Committee (Constitution of the RAC shall be as per clause 8.1 of this Ordinance). The request for extension by the research scholar should specify the reasons for the extension sought and should be recommended by the supervisor for the consideration of the RSC. The RSC for reasons recorded in writing may consider and approve the extension. Provided, however, that the total period of completion of a Ph.D programme should not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.

5.3 Female research scholars and Persons with Disability (more than 40% disability) shall be allowed an additional relaxation of two (2) years. This extension may be granted by the RSC of the concerned school on a written request by the research scholar and recommendation of the Research Advisory Committee. However, the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme in such cases should not exceed ten (10) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.

5.4 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, and this period shall be counted for the calculation of the registration period.

5.5 If the research scholar is not able to submit his / her thesis within the stipulated period, his / her registration/ admission shall stand cancelled.

5.6 Leave / Absence for Full-time Research Scholars

5.6.1 Every registered Full Time research scholar shall report on a day-to-day basis to his/her supervisor, who shall decide whether the research scholar is required to work within or outside the School/University or undertake outstation field work as needed. Such period of absence, including participation in seminars/workshops/conferences/symposia etc., shall be regarded as 'on duty and not on leave. However, research 'on duty' outside the University for periods exceeding one month at one time in an academic year shall require the prior written recommendation of the supervisor, approval of the RAC, and due intimation to the Dean of the School, subject to the ratification in the next RSC meeting.

5.6.2 During the entire tenure of a Ph.D., research work 'on duty' outside the University shall ordinarily be limited to a period of 24 months for field work and 12 months for working at the institution of the co-supervisor or any other place assigned by the RAC. Any further extension may be considered for approval by the RSC on the recommendation of the RAC (with justification for extension).

5.6.3 The supervisor may grant leave of not more than Five (5) working days at one time out of the total leave due to the research scholar as defined by the fellowship-funding agency or the University (30 days in one calendar year) as applicable. Any leave beyond Five (5) working days would require prior written application by the research scholar, duly forwarded/ recommended by the supervisor, to the Dean of the School for approval. All such cases will be subsequently reported to the RAC and RSC. The leave period shall be counted in the total period required for submission of the thesis as stipulated in this Ordinance.

5.6.4 The supervisor must report absence from research work by research scholars due to illness, maternity leave or other circumstances to the RSC through RAC and the Dean of the School. Cases of neglect of research work and indiscipline that include unethical practices such as unauthorized absence, plagiarism and misrepresentation of data and irregularity must be recorded and reported by the supervisor to the RAC. RAC shall consider& make appropriate recommendations to the RSC for its consideration. The RSC shall consider the recommendations of the RAC and any other relevant factor, may take appropriate action, including cancellation of his/ her admission, however, no decision shall be made without giving reasonable opportunity to the scholar to present his/ her case.

5.6.5 All the leave records of the research scholars are to be maintained by the concerned supervisor.

5.7 Cancellation/ Termination of Registration

5.7.1 The registration of a research scholar may be cancelled/ terminated under the following circumstances: (i) If he/she remains absent for a continuous period of two weeks without prior intimation/ sanction of leave with the recommendation of the supervisor, applicable to full-time scholars. (ii) If he/she applies for de-enrollment from the Ph.D. programme and the de-enrollment application is duly recommended by the supervisor and accepted by the RSC. (iii) If he/she fails to renew his/her registration by not paying the requisite fee in the specified period. (iv) If he/she is found to be involved in an act of misconduct and/or indiscipline and termination is recommended by the RAC and approved by the RSC, or any other statutory official/body authorized by the University. (v) If he/she fails in the course work as per the provisions of this Ordinance

within the stipulated period. (vi) If he/she fails to make research progress to the satisfaction of the RAC despite a second warning as defined in clause 8 below. (vii) If he/she fails to complete the requirement for the award of the degree in the stipulated period. (ix) If he/she fails to submit two consecutive six monthly reports to the Research Advisory Committee. (x) As per clauses specified elsewhere in this Ordinance.

5.7.2 Termination order of a research scholar for any reason as outlined in Clause 5.7.1 above shall be recommended by the Research Advisory Committee and approved by the concerned RSC. The order shall be issued by the Dean of the concerned School and forwarded to the RDC for record purposes.

6. Procedure for admission –

- 6.1** The admission shall be based on the criteria notified by the University, keeping in view the guidelines/norms in this regard issued by the UGC and other statutory/regulatory bodies concerned, and adhering to the reservation policy of the Central/State Government from time to time.
- 6.2** At the beginning of every academic year, each School shall intimate the number of seats being offered in each PhD programme to SCR, after which seats will be reserved on the basis of total offering.
- 6.3** The 200-point roster shall be followed while allocating seats for reserved and unreserved categories for the Ph.D. programmes in the University.
- 6.4** The Reservation roster as per the applicable norms for every year will be prepared and maintained by Student Services Division under the oversight of Equal Opportunity Office as mandated in pursuance to Notification No. AUD/VCO/2019/EOO/1596 dated 18.09.2019.
- 6.5** The Persons with Disability shall be given preference in admission as per 100-point roster.
- 6.6** For inviting application for Ph.D. programmes, the university shall notify a Bulletin of Information, to be prepared by the Students Services Division and approved by the Vice Chancellor, on the university website, and/or print the same, specifying the number of seats for admission, subject/ discipline/ programme wise distribution of available seats, the thematic areas and specializations that are offered by the School, criteria for admission, the procedure for admission and all other relevant information for the candidates.
- 6.7** Admission to the Ph.D. programme shall be through a two stage process consisting of an ENTRANCE TEST AND INTERVIEW.
 - 6.7.1** Provided that for the selection of candidates based on the entrance test conducted by the university a weightage of 70% for the entrance test and 30% for the performance in the interview shall be given.
 - 6.7.2** The University may admit students who qualify for fellowship/Scholarship in UGC-NET/UGC- CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests based on an interview only, as may be notified by the University from time to time. The marks obtained by such candidates i.e., 30% weightage for the performance in the interview, will be scaled to 100% for determining the merit list.
- 6.8** The Entrance Test and Interview will be conducted under the supervision of Student Services Division in consultation with RSC of the School.

- 6.9 The Entrance Test shall be conducted by the University at the Centre(s) notified in advance by the University (changes of Centres, if any, also to be notified well in advance).
- 6.10 The syllabus of the Entrance Test shall consist of 50% of Research methodology and 50% shall be subject specific.
- 6.11 Students who have secured 50 % marks in the entrance test are eligible to be called for the interview.
- 6.12 A relaxation of 5 % marks will be allowed in the entrance examination for the candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/differently-abled category, Economically Weaker Section (EWS), and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the university from time to time.
- 6.13 The Ph.D. Programme Coordinator shall submit the result of the Entrance Test to the Chair RSC, concerned Dean of the School and the Dean will forward the list to Student Services along with a recommendation regarding the number of students to be called for interview keeping in mind the available number of seats.
- 6.14 The Dean (Student Services) shall notify the result of the Entrance Test after approval of Vice Chancellor for each PhD programme. The list of students qualified for the interview for the PhD programme will also be issued by Dean (Student Services).
- 6.15 The interview shall be conducted by an interview panel comprising of fulltime regular faculty of the concerned Programme who are eligible to supervise the PhD students as per this regulation.
- 6.16 During the interview, the candidates are required to discuss their research interest/area through a presentation before the interview panel. The interview shall also consider the following aspects, viz. whether
- The applicant possesses the competence for the proposed research;
 - The research work can be suitably undertaken in the School,
 - The proposed research work can contribute to new knowledge
- 6.17 The Ph.D. Programme Coordinator shall submit the result of interview to the Chair RSC, concerned Dean of the School and the Dean will forward the list to Student Services. The Dean (Student Services) shall notify a single merit list and wait list of successful applicants for each Ph.D. programme following the reservation provisions given in the Ordinance and Regulations after approval of the Vice Chancellor.
- 6.18 The Student Services Division shall admit the Ph.D. students upon payment of fees and satisfactory verification of mark sheets, transcripts, certificates and other documents.
- 6.19 The admission and registration of Ph.D. scholars shall require reporting in the Academic Council.
- 6.20 The University shall maintain a list of PhD supervisors (specifying the name of the supervisor, his/her designation and the School), along with the details of the PhD scholars (specifying the name of the registered PhD 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.

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

- 7.1. Permanent faculty members working as Professor/Associate Professor of the University with a Ph.D., and at least five research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals, and permanent faculty members working as Assistant Professors of the University with a Ph.D., and at least three research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals may be recognized as a Research Supervisor. Such recognized research supervisors cannot supervise research scholars in other institutions, where they can only act as co-supervisors. 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.
- i. Provided that in areas/disciplines where there is no, or only a limited number of peer-reviewed or refereed journals, the University may relax the above condition for recognition of a person as Research Supervisor with reasons recorded in writing.
 - ii. Co-Supervisors from within the same School or other Schools of the University or other institutions may be permitted with the approval of the competent authority.
 - iii. Adjunct Faculty members shall not act as Research Supervisors and can only act as co-supervisors.
- 7.2. In case of interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research work, if required, a Co-Supervisor from outside the School/ University may be appointed.
- 7.3. 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.
- 7.4. In case of relocation of a female Ph.D. scholar due to marriage or otherwise, the research data shall be allowed to be transferred to the Higher Educational Institution 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.
- 7.5. Faculty members with less than three years of service before superannuation shall not be allowed to take new research scholars under their supervision. However, such faculty members can continue to supervise Ph.D. scholars who are already registered until superannuation and as a co-supervisor after superannuation, but not after attaining the age of 70 years.

8. Admission of International Students in Ph.D. Programme -

- 8.1. Each supervisor can guide up to two international research scholars on a supernumerary basis over and above the permitted number of Ph.D. scholars as specified in clause 7.3 above.
- 8.2. The University may decide the selection procedure for Ph.D. admission of international students keeping in view the guidelines/norms in this regard issued by statutory/regulatory bodies concerned from time to time.
- 8.3. At any point, the total number of Ph.D. scholars under a faculty member, either as a supervisor or a co-supervisor, shall not exceed the number prescribed in clause 7.3 and clause 8.1.

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

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

10. Research Advisory Committee and its Functions -

- 10.1. There shall be a Research Advisory Committee for each PhD student. The Research Supervisor of the Ph.D. scholar concerned shall be the Convener of this committee.
- 10.2. The rules of composition of the RAC are as follows:
- The RAC must have at least three (03) members;
 - The Research supervisor is the Convenor of the RAC and the co-supervisor (if any) must be a member of the RAC.
 - At least two (02) members shall be within the Ph.D. programme faculty
 - At least one (01) member shall be from outside the Ph.D. programme faculty;
 - At most two (02) members may be from outside the Ph.D. programme faculty;
 - All RAC members should be eligible for Ph.D. supervision.
- 10.3. The RAC shall have the following responsibilities.
- To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research.
 - To guide the Ph.D. scholar in developing the study design and methodology of research and identify the course(s) that he/she may have to do.
 - To periodically review and assist in the progress of the research work of the Ph.D. scholar.
- 10.4. Each semester, a Ph.D. scholar shall appear before the Research Advisory Committee to make a presentation and submit a brief report on the progress of his/her work for evaluation and further guidance. The Research Advisory Committee shall submit its recommendation along with a copy of the Ph.D. scholar's progress report through the programme coordinator and to the RSC, and SCR with a copy to the research scholar.
- 10.5. In case the progress of the Ph.D. scholar is unsatisfactory, the Research Advisory Committee shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures. If the Ph.D. scholar fails to implement these corrective measures, the Research Advisory Committee may recommend, with specific reasons, the cancellation of the registration of the Ph.D. scholar from the Ph.D. programme. Such recommendation shall be considered by the RSC of the School and the SCR before presenting to the Academic Council and the decision of the Academic Council shall be final.

11. Synopsis Defense-

- 11.1. Upon satisfactory completion of course work and obtaining the marks/grade prescribed in clause 9.3 of the Regulations, Ph.D. scholar shall be required to defend a synopsis, undertake research work and produce a draft thesis.
- 11.2. A synopsis as an articulated plan of research work containing objectives and hypothesis and/or research questions, methodology, bibliography and chapter outline.
- 11.3. To ensure that the dignity, rights, safety and well-being of research participants is safeguarded during the research work, every research scholar shall seek ethical clearance from the ethics committee of the School / University in the applicable manner and format as may be laid down from time to time. The research scholar may proceed for any research activity involving human participants or the collection/use of personally-identifiable information only after such clearance has been granted. Any change in the research plan must be resubmitted to the ethics committee for re-clearance.
- 11.4. On the recommendation of the RAC a public defence of the synopsis shall be organized by the Programme Coordinator with the concurrence of the Dean of the School. The proceedings of the defence should be recorded in writing by the Programme Coordinator stating clearly therein whether the synopsis was found to be satisfactory or otherwise by the Program Faculty. If otherwise specific reasons and recommendation should be recorded and communicated the student and supervisor. The record of the synopsis defence should be reported to the SCR.
- 11.5. Each Ph.D scholar must successfully defend the synopsis within two year from the date of registration. The RSC may recommend to the SCR to extend this time limit by six months for a Ph.D. scholar, with reasons recorded in writing.
- 11.6. If a scholar is unable to successfully defend the synopsis within the stipulated time their admission shall be cancelled with approval of the SCR to be ratified by the Academic Council.
- 11.7. Once the synopsis presentation has occurred, any significant departure from the defended synopsis in terms of basic definition of the research topic or the plan of research must be recommended by the RSC to the SCR and to be approved by the Academic Council.

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

- 12.1. Before submitting the dissertation/thesis, the Ph.D. scholar shall make a presentation before the Research Advisory Committee which shall also be open to all faculty members and other research scholars/students.
 - i. The feedback and comments obtained in the Pre-submission Ph.D. Presentation may be suitably incorporated into the draft thesis by the Ph.D. scholar in consultation with the Research Advisory Committee.
 - ii. Ph.D. scholars shall be required to submit their thesis within three months of the pre-submission presentation, failing which they will be required to make another pre-submission presentation.
 - iii. The Chair of the RSC shall certify that the student has fulfilled all pre-submission requirements as laid down in the Ordinance and these Regulations, at the time of submission of thesis.
 - iv. The scholar may incorporate in her/his thesis the contents of any research work which she/he may have published (or publicly presented) and shall document the

same in the thesis.

- 12.2. The University shall have a mechanism using well-developed software applications to detect Plagiarism in research work and the research integrity shall be an integral part of all the research activities leading to the award of a Ph.D. degree.
- 12.3. A Ph.D. scholar shall submit the thesis for evaluation; along with (a) an undertaking from the Ph.D. scholar that there is no plagiarism and (b) a certificate from the Research Supervisor attesting to the originality of the thesis and that the thesis has not been submitted for the award of any other degree/diploma to any other Higher Educational Institution.
- 12.4. The Ph.D. thesis submitted by a Ph.D. scholar shall be evaluated by his/her Research Supervisor and at least two external examiners who are experts in the field and not in employment of the University. Such examiner(s) should be academics with a good record of scholarly publications in the field. Wherever possible, one of the external examiners should be chosen from outside India. The examiners cannot include external members of the RAC or the co-supervisors if any.
- 12.5. Immediately after the pre-submission presentation the supervisor shall submit a list of **seven** names as potential examiners of thesis in writing to the RSC Chair. The Chair RSC will forward the list through the Chair SCR to the Vice-Chancellor. The Vice-Chancellor will nominate a panel of **four** external examiners in order of priority who fulfill the criteria laid down in these Regulations. In doing so the Vice-Chancellor may nominate any external examiner other than the names mentioned in the list provided that they fulfill the laid down criteria.
- 12.6. The Ph.D. scholar shall submit as many draft copies in their thesis in printed and/or electronic form as may be specified by the SCR from time to time. The SCR may also formulate guidelines regarding style and formatting which will be binding on the scholar.
- 12.7. The thesis will be submitted by the student to the School office which will then forward it to the SCR office. The SCR office will seek the consent of the external examiners from the panel nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, approaching them in the order of priority as specified by the Vice-Chancellor, seeking their response in two weeks' time. On receiving the consent it shall send the thesis to the external examiners. Each examiner will be requested to examine the thesis and send the report in eight weeks' time.
- 12.8. The SCR office will maintain a separate file of every Scholar and monitor the developments. It will send periodic reminders through phone and email to the examiners while maintaining confidentiality of the thesis evaluation process.
- 12.9. In case any nominated external examiner fails to give consent for evaluation within the stipulated time, refuses to evaluate the thesis or fails to send the report within the stipulated time, the SCR office will proceed to contact the next examiner as per the order of priority specified in the panel approved by the Vice-Chancellor. In the case the panel is exhausted the SCR office will initiate the process of forming a fresh panel as per clause 12.5 of this Regulation. Once a new examiner consents to evaluate the thesis, any report from a previously nominated examiner from whom report had not been received within the stipulated time, shall not be considered.
- 12.10. On receipt of report from the examiners, they shall be placed before the URDC. The URDC will examine the report and recommend that viva-voce of the Ph.D. scholar to

defend the thesis shall be conducted if both the external examiners recommend acceptance of the thesis after incorporating any corrections suggested by them. If one of the external examiners recommends rejection, the University shall send the thesis to an alternate external examiner from the approved panel of examiners, and the viva-voce examination shall be held only if the alternate examiner recommends acceptance of the thesis. If the alternate examiner does not recommend acceptance of the thesis, the thesis shall be rejected, and the Ph.D. scholar shall be declared ineligible for the award of a Ph.D.'

- 12.11. In the event of the scholar being required by the external examiners to make corrections/revisions to the thesis, as mentioned in clause 12.10, he/she shall, submit the same within a period of one year from the date of communication in this regard. The Supervisor shall certify that corrections/revisions have been incorporated which may be examined by the external examiner at the time of the viva-voce and recommendations may be made accordingly.
- 12.12. The viva-voce board shall consist of the Research Supervisor and at least one of the two external examiners to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor and may be conducted online. The Dean of the school shall chair the viva-voce. The viva-voce shall be open to the members of the Research Advisory Committee/faculty members/research scholars, and students.
- 12.13. The report of the viva-voce examination shall be placed before the URDC. In case the viva voce board recommends the award of the Ph.D. degree the URDC shall verify that all the conditions for the award of Ph.D. degree as per these Regulations, as well as applicable UGC regulations, have been met and if so it shall recommend the award of the Ph.D. degree to the scholar.
- 12.14. The University shall complete the entire process of evaluating a Ph. D. thesis, including the declaration of the viva-voce result, within a period of six (6) months from the date of submission of the thesis.

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

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

13.2- The school(s) of the university shall offer Ph.D. programmes provided they have:

- At least two faculty members in a School.
- Adequate infrastructure, administrative support, research facilities and library resources as specified by the university.

14. Ph.D. through Part-time Mode-

14.1 Ph.D. programmes through part-time mode will be permitted, provided all the conditions stipulated in these Regulations are fulfilled.

14.2 The University shall obtain a "No Objection Certificate" through the candidate for a part-time Ph.D. programme from the appropriate authority in the organization where the

candidate is employed, clearly stating that:

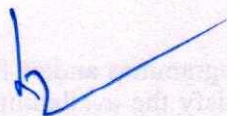
- i. The candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis.
- ii. His/her official duties permit him/her to devote sufficient time for research.
- iii. If required, he/she will be relieved from the duty to complete the course work.

14.3 Not with standing 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. Also refer to pages 15 to 17.

15. Issuing a Provisional certificate - The URDC having recommended the award of degree to a scholar, and prior to the actual award of the Ph.D. degree, the University shall issue a provisional certificate to the effect that the Ph.D. is being awarded in accordance with the provisions of the applicable UGC Regulations.

16. Award of Ph.D. degrees prior to Notification of these Regulations - Award of degrees to candidates registered for the Ph.D. programme on or after July 11, 2009, till the date of Notification of these Regulations shall be governed by the provisions of the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2009 or the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016 and the relevant University Regulations as the case may be. Further, the award of degrees to candidates already registered and pursuing Ph.D. shall be governed by these Regulations or UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016 and the relevant University Regulations as the case may be. Nothing in these Regulations shall impact the M.Phil. Degree programmes commencing prior to the enactment of these Regulations.

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



Guidelines Relating to the Doctor of Philosophy in Part-Time Mode 2023

[Note: UGC Regulations 2022 do not provide any scope of relaxation in the duration of coursework completion, synopsis defence and PhD submission.]

1. Application and Commencement

(i) These guidelines are for further details regarding PhD Programme in Part-Time mode and are to be read in the light of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023

(ii) These guidelines apply only to PhD programmes in Part-time mode.

(iii) PhD programmes through part-time mode will follow all the conditions stipulated in the UGC Regulations relating to the Doctor of Philosophy 2022 and any other stipulations of the UGC issued from time to time.

2. Definitions

Same as Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023

3. Composition and Functions of SCR and RSC

Same as Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023

4. Eligibility criteria for admission to the PhD Programme in Part-time mode

(i) Candidates with minimum 2 years of continuous work experience in the following categories may be admitted to pursue research towards PhD degree in part-time mode in various areas while in full-time employment: Candidates employed in higher education institutions, public sector undertakings, government departments, research and development organisations, recognised/registered public and private organisations, and candidates from companies/industry in relevant areas, provided that the candidate possess the minimum eligibility qualifications for the degree as per the norms [same as for the full-time candidates in respective areas].

(ii) The reservation norms for relaxation in marks at the qualifying degree at the time of admission as stipulated in the Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023 shall apply.

(iii) At the time of application, the Part-time candidates are required to submit a "No Objection Certificate" (NOC) on a proper letterhead from the appropriate authority in the employing organisation clearly stating the following:

- a) the candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis;
- b) the candidate's official duties permit the candidate to devote sufficient time for research;
- c) If required, the candidate will be relieved from the duty to complete the coursework requirements of the PhD programme;
- d) Any conditions notified by the UGC will be accepted by the organisation.

(v) No candidate will be permitted to complete the programme in distance/online mode.

(vi) Candidates with valid UGC JRF or equivalent certificates who apply for the Part-time programme will not be eligible for fellowships. The scholars admitted to the programme as part-time candidates

will not be eligible to receive any fellowship/stipend from the University or other fellowships that are meant exclusively for the full-time candidates.

5. Duration of the Programme

Ph.D. programme (Part-time) shall be for a minimum duration of four (4) years, including course work and a maximum duration of six (6) years, from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme. The other guidelines pertaining to Duration of the Programme would be same as given in Clause (5.2-5.5) of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023.

6. Procedure for admission

Same as Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023.

Note: A differential fee structure with higher per semester fee for the Part-time programme may be implemented by the University as the programme is for working professionals in active service.

7. Allocation of Research Supervisor

Same as Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023.

8. Coursework - Credit requirements, number, duration, syllabus, minimum standards for completion etc.

a. Coursework:

(i) All the coursework requirements for Part-time scholars will be the same as stipulated in the Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023.

(ii) Relaxation in the elective courses may be granted to Part-time scholars by respective School of study on a case-to-case basis on the recommendation of the scholar's Research Advisory Committee and with due approvals of the statutory bodies - provided that the minimum credit requirement 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] is met.

b. Attendance requirement and contact hours with supervisor:

(i) The Part-time scholars will be expected to attend coursework classes and complete the mandatory requirements.

(ii) To facilitate PhD in Part-time mode, the coursework classes may be organised in evenings/weekends, or in guided reading, workshop, seminar, independent practice-based assignments and blended modes for the Part-time scholars. However, no candidate will be permitted to complete the programme in distance/online mode.

(iii) Contact hours with supervisors for the Part-time candidates will be the same as for the full-time candidates. The contact hours may be planned in blended mode, if required.

9. Research Advisory Committee and its Functions

Same as Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023.

10. Synopsis defence

Same as Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023.

11. Evaluation and Assessment Methods, minimum standards for award of the degree, etc.

Same as Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023.

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

Same as Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023.

13. Issuing a Provisional certificate

Same as Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023.

14. Award of Ph.D. degrees prior to Notification of these Regulations

Same as Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy 2023.

