

Rules and Regulations of Ph.D. Programme

with effect from Academic Year 2024-25 onwards

(As per amended UGC Regulations - 2024)



TELANGANA UNIVERSITY

Dichpally, Nizamabad-503322

Established under Act-28 of AP

Recognized under 2(f) & 12(B) by UGC Act 1996

Accredited by NAAC with B Grade

Rules and Regulations of Ph.D. Programme

1. Admission to Ph.D. Programme:

Admission to Ph.D. programme will be made in the following disciplines under the faculties as mentioned hereunder.

1.1 FACULTY OF ARTS

- a) English
- b) Hindi
- c) Telugu Studies
- d) Urdu

1.2 FACULTY OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

- a) Business Management

1.3 FACULTY OF COMMERCE

- a) Commerce

1.4 FACULTY OF LAW

- a) Law

1.5 FACULTY OF SCIENCES

- a) Applied Statistics
- b) Biotechnology
- c) Botany
- d) Chemistry
- e) Computer Science
- f) Geo-Informatics
- g) Pharmaceutical Chemistry
- h) Physics

1.6 FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

- b) Applied Economics
- c) Mass Communication
- d) Social Work

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (25) of sub section (1) under chapter IV of the Telangana Universities Act, 4 of 1991 and in supersession of T.U. Ph.D. rules and regulations (with effect from the academic year 2017-18), the Telangana University hereby makes the following rules and regulations for implementation to the Ph.D. students from the academic year 2024-2025 onwards.

2. Short title, Application and Commencement:

- a. These Regulations may be called Telangana University (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2024.
- b. These regulations shall apply to every discipline under each faculty established or incorporated by university and to the colleges/institutions recognized as research centers under the jurisdiction of Telangana University.
- c. These regulations shall come into force from the date of approval.

3. Definitions:

3.1 In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires,-

- a. "Act" means the University Grants Commission Act,1956 (3 of 1956);
- b. "Adjunct Faculty" means a part-time or contingent instructor, but not full-time faculty member hired to teach by Telangana University;
- c. "Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA)" means a measure of the overall cumulative performance of a student over all semesters. 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;
- d. "Credit" means the number of hours of instruction required per week over the duration of a semester. A three-credit course in a semester means three one-hour lectures per week, with each one-hour lecture counted as one credit;
- e. "College" means an institution engaged in higher education and/or research, either established by a University as its constituent unit or is affiliated with it;
- f. "Commission" means the University Grants Commission established under Section 4 of the UGC Act 1956;
- g. "Course" means one of the specified units which go to comprise a programme of study;
- h. "Course Work" means courses of study prescribed by the School/Department/ Centre to be undertaken by a scholar registered for the Ph.D. Degree;

- i. “Degree” means a degree awarded by a Telangana University in accordance with the provisions of Telangana Universities Act 28 of 2006.
- j. “External Examiner” means an academician/researcher with published research work who is not part of the Telangana University.
- k. “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.
- l. “Grade Point” means a numerical weight allotted to each letter grade on a 10-point scale.
- m. “Guide/Research Supervisor” means an academician/researcher recognized by Telangana University to supervise the Ph.D. scholar for his/her research.
- n. “Interdisciplinary Research” means research conducted by a Ph.D. scholar in two or more academic disciplines.
- 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. “Online Mode” shall have the same meaning as defined under the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations 2020.
- q. “Plagiarism” means the practice of taking someone else’s work or idea and passing them as one’s own.
- r. “Prospectus” means any document, whether in print or otherwise, issued for providing fair and transparent information relating to Telangana University and programmes, to the general public (including to those seeking admission) by the Telangana University.
- s. “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.

3.2 Words and expressions used and not defined in these regulations but defined in Act and not consistent with these regulations shall have the meanings assigned to them in that Act.

4. Eligibility criteria for admission to the Ph.D. programme:

The following candidates are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. programme:

4.1 Candidates who have completed:

- a) 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 pointscale wherever grading system is followed.
- b) 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.
- c) 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.

- 4.2 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.

5. Procedure for Admission:

The admission shall be based on the criteria as notified by the Telangana University, keeping in view the guidelines/norms in this regard issued by the UGC and other statutory/regulatory bodies concerned, and taking into account the reservation policy of the Central/State Government from time to time.

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

5.1 Ph.D. Admissions for Fellowship Holders:

The Deans of Faculties shall issue an individual notification for admission to Ph.D. programs in category-I for the following qualified candidates once in every six months, i.e. tentatively in January and July of the year.

Admission to the Ph.D. programme shall be made with reference to UGC public Notice vide No.F.4-1 (UGC-NET Review Committee)/2024(NET)/ 140648 dated March 27, 2024.

- a. Telangana University may admit students who qualify for fellowship/scholarship in UGC-NET/UGC- CSIR NET/GATE/CEED/DBT and similar National level tests/NFPwD/DST-INSPIRE or FIP/QIP Teacher Fellowships based on an interview.
- b. The Research Fellowship Holders shall submit a filled in application to the Dean of the Faculty concerned in the prescribed format available with the office of the Dean, TU/ in TU Website.
- c. The Ph.D. Admission Committee constitutes the following for interviewing the candidates.

1.The Dean of the Faculty concerned	Chairperson
2.The Head of the Department concerned	Member
3.One Senior Research Supervisor of the Department	Member
4.One External Subject Expert from outside the University nominated by the Vice-Chancellor	Member
5.One SC/ST/BC, Women, Minority, Differently Abled nominee if unrepresented	Member
6. The Chairperson, Board of Studies concerned	Member-Convener.

- d. The Candidates have to submit five (5) hard copies and soft copy of the respective research proposal at the time of submission of application.
- e. The Ph.D. admission committee shall prepare the final marks list of the candidates for 30 marks based on the Academic Record, Research Publication, and Assessment of Research Proposal and for the performance in the interview/viva-voce, in making Ph.D. admissions.
- f. To conduct Ph.D. programme, Telangana University shall notify a prospectus well in advance on the institution's 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.
- g. Adhere to the National/State-level reservation policy, as applicable.

Stage	Research Fellowship Holders		
	Interview/Viva-voce, Academic and Research Performance	Marks	Total Marks
1	Under-graduate Performance a) Distinction–5 Marks b) First Class–4 Marks c) Second Class -3 Marks d) Pass-2Marks	05	30 Marks
	Post-graduate Performance a)Distinction–5Marks b)FirstClass-4Marks c)Second Class -3Marks d)Pass-2 Marks	05	
	Research Publications (One mark per paper for single author and half mark for more than one author published in ISSN journals and ISBN books, maximum five marks.)	05	
	Assessment of submitted Research Proposal <i>The following criteria is followed to ascertain the Research Proposal:</i> Innovation /Uniqueness of the problem and relevance to current research in the chosen field. (No repetition / duplication of topic) Significance of the Research Area/problem Whether research Area/topic/problem is researchable and complete within the stipulated period.	05	
	Suitability/feasibility of resources / availability of competent supervisor to undertake the research work in the Department/ College. Contribution to new/additional knowledge		
	A Presentation of the Research Proposal by the Candidate and followed by Interview. <i>The following criteria is followed to ascertain the Research Competencies of the candidate:</i> <i>Research Knowledge on the area of specialization:</i> Abilities in planning research design/development of tools (instruments)/ carry out experiments/selection of appropriate research methods etc., <i>Communication skills:</i> Ability to write/communicate to others/ summarize information/conclusions. <i>Problem solving & Reflection skills:</i> To find new approaches to a problem, analytical skills to examine the consequences of a particular solution, requires imaginative and creativity, logic and reasoning, conceptual thinking, reflection and feedback, and scientific experimentation. Application of ICT to be used to the research problem. Command (confidence level) over the subject concerned.	10	
	Total Marks		30

- h. If at any stage, original documents relating to the admission of a candidate are found to be fake/ non-genuine or fabricated or in any other manner defective, the said candidate will not be considered for admission. And if already admitted, admission will be cancelled without any prior notice in this regard. If the same is found after the completion of Program, his/her degree will be cancelled and appropriate legal action will be taken against him/her.
- i. In the case of cancellation/withdrawal of the Fellowship/Scholarship/Award, in turn the admission will be cancelled automatically and will not be permitted to continue/transfer to either on full time or Part-time Ph.D. program.
- j. The selected candidates will be given provisional admission letter. The Departmental Research Committee (DRC) will approve the final topic and allotment of the supervisor.

5.2 Ph.D. Admissions through National Eligibility Test (NET) /GATE/GPAT and through Similar National level tests:

- a) The Admissions for the Ph.D. programs shall be filled by candidates who qualify in the National Eligibility Test (NET) /GATE/GPAT and through similar National Level Tests and the percentile/marks obtained by the candidates shall be taken into consideration for admission to Ph.D. Programme.
- b) 70% weightage will be given for test scores and 30% weightage for the interview for admission to Ph.D. programmes. The Ph.D. admission will be based on the combined merit of NET marks and the marks obtained in the interview/viva voce.
- c) The marks obtained in the NET by the candidates will be valid for a period of only one year for admission to Ph.D.
- d) The Ph.D. Notification shall be issued by the Director, Admissions Telangana University, specifying the details of subjects, number of seats etc., The Ph.D. notification shall be kept in TU Website: www.telanganauniversity.ac.in.
- e) The eligible candidates shall be called for interview against the number of available seats in the ratio of 1: 3 in each category.
- f) The Ph.D. admission committee shall prepare the final marks list as mentioned in the table below in making Ph.D. admissions.

Stage	Criteria for Admission in Interview	Marks
1.	National Eligibility Test (NET) (70% weightage will be given for test scores)	70
2.	<p>Academic Record, Research Publication, Assessment of Research Proposal and Performance in the Interview:</p> <p>A) Under-Graduate Performance a) Distinction-5Marks; b) First Class-4Marks c) Second Class-3Marks; d) Pass -2Marks</p> <p>B) Post-Graduate Performance a) Distinction-5 Marks; b) First Class-4 Marks c) Second Class-3Marks; d) Pass-2Marks</p> <p>C) Teaching/Industry Experience/Research Experience/M.Phil (One mark for 1 year of experience)</p> <p>D) Research Publications (One mark per paper Published in ISSN journals and ISBN books.)</p> <p>E) Assessment of submitted Research Proposal <i>The following criteria is followed to ascertain the Research Proposal:</i> a) Innovation/Uniqueness of the problem and relevance to current research in the chosen field (No repetition/duplication) b) Significance of the Research Area/ problem c) Whether research Area/topic/problem is researchable and complete within the stipulated period. d) Suitability /feasibility of resources / availability of competent supervisor to undertake the research work in the Department/College. e) Contribution to new/additional knowledge</p> <p>F) A Presentation of the Research Proposal by the Candidate and followed by Interview <i>The following criteria is followed to ascertain the Research Competencies of the candidate:</i> a) Research Knowledge on the area of specialization: Abilities in planning research design/development of tools (instruments)/ Software/ Simulations/carryout experiments/selection of appropriate research methods etc., b) Communication skills: Ability to write/ communicate to others/presentations/summarizes information/conclusions. c) Problem solving & Reflection/Analytical skills: d) To find new approaches to a problem, analytical skills to examine the consequences of a particular solution, requires imaginative and creativity (diversified), logic and reasoning, conceptual thinking, reflection and feedback, and scientific experimentation. e) Application of Computing Skills/Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to be used to the research problem.</p> <p>f) Command (confidence level) over the proposed research.</p>	<p>05</p> <p>05</p> <p>05</p> <p>05</p> <p>05</p> <p>05</p>
	Marks	30

5. 3 The Admission Committee shall consist of the following members:

- | | | |
|---|------|------------------|
| 1. The Dean of the Faculty concerned | | Chairperson |
| 2. The Head of the Department concerned | ... | Member |
| 3. One Senior Research Supervisor of the Department | ... | Member |
| 4. One External Subject Expert from outside the University nominated by the Vice-Chancellor | ... | Member |
| 5. One SC/ST/BC, Women, Minority, Differently Abled nominee if unrepresented | ... | Member |
| 6. The Chairperson, Board of Studies concerned | ... | Member-Convener. |

- a) The Admission Committee shall strictly adhere to the merit and the rule of reservation policy of the State Government issued from time to time in making Ph.D. admissions.
- b) If at any stage, original documents relating to the admission of a candidate are found to be fake/ non-genuine or fabricated or in any other manner defective, the said candidate will not be admitted; and if already admitted, admission will be cancelled without any prior notice in this regard. If the same is found after the completion of Program, his/her degree will be cancelled and appropriate legal action will be taken against him/her.
- c) The selected candidates will be given provisional admission letters and the Departmental Research Committee (DRC) concerned will decide the final topic and allotment of the supervisor.

6. Reporting/Registration Process:

- a) The candidates who have been issued orders of admission to the Ph.D. program shall have to report to the Principal of the college concerned, through the Supervisor, Head of the Department, Chairperson, Board of Studies and the Dean of the Faculty concerned after paying the prescribed fee as fixed by the University from time to time.
- b) The candidates seeking admission in the University departments have to remit the entire fee through the challan supplied by the Principal Office.
- c) Whereas, the candidates obtained admission in the colleges/institutes recognized as Research Centres by the University have to pay the Registration, Recognition and Affiliation fee every year as prescribed by the University through the Research Centre concerned to the University. Non-payment of any fee or non-renewal of admission will entail cancellation of admission.
- d) The Research Scholars applying for change of title, change of topic of research, extension or re-registration, shall have to pay processing fee prescribed by the University time to time in prescribed challan. ("A" Challan, Registrar University Income Account, A/C No. 31079101757. TG Branch, State Bank of India, Telangana University.)

7. The Departmental Research Committee (DRC):

7.1 There shall be a Departmental Research Committee for each subject, constituting the following:

- | | | |
|----|---|-----------------|
| a) | Dean | Chairman |
| b) | Head of the Department | Member |
| c) | Research Supervisors in the Department | Member |
| d) | Chairperson, Board of Studies concerned | Member-Convener |

Note: In the absence of the Dean, the Head will chair the DRC meeting.

7.2 Functions of the DRC:

- a) To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research.
- b) To guide the Ph.D. scholar initially in developing 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 their research work of the Ph.D. scholar.
- d) To review the progress reports and decide the cases related to the renewals / cancellations / other issues of the research scholars.
- e) To monitor seminar presentations and to make suggestions before the submission of the thesis / dissertation.
- f) The feedback and comments made by the DRC during the pre-submission seminar presentations should be invariably incorporated before the submission of the thesis and the same may be verified by the DRC.

7.3 Allocation of Research Topic and Supervisor:

- a) The allocation of Research Topic and Supervisor for a provisionally selected research scholar(s) shall be decided by the Departmental Research Committee (DRC).
- b) The Departmental Research Committee (DRC) shall ensure that a candidate allotted to a Research Supervisor is not his/her blood relation.

7.4 Change of Research Supervisor/Co-Supervisor:

- a) The Supervisor/Co-Supervisor of the candidate once allotted and approved shall not ordinarily be changed. However, the Dean with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor may, after ascertaining the facts permit change of Supervisor/Co-Supervisor in exceptional circumstances like demise/non-availability of the approved Supervisor/Co-Supervisor for a continuous period of six months or more due to ill health or residing outside India or by any other reason. Such a change in Supervisor/Co-Supervisor is subject to availability of vacancy with the New Supervisor/Co-Supervisor and is permitted only once.
- b) All requests for change of Supervisor/Co-Supervisor should originate from the Candidate with necessary documentary evidence such as no objection from the existing guide and consent letter from the new guide.
- c) The candidate will have to work with new Supervisor for a period of at least one year before submitting his /her thesis.

8. Pre-Ph.D. Course Work: Credit requirements, number, duration, syllabus, minimum standards for completion and seminars etc.

- a. The Department concerned shall conduct the Course Work of 60 hours of contact classes within six months from the date of admission. Candidates admitted to the Ph.D. Programme shall have to attend the course work and appear for the Pre-Ph.D. Examination. Candidates admitted into the Ph.D. programme with M. Phil. or M. Litt., awarded in regular mode shall, however, be exempted from the course work and the Pre-Ph.D. Examination.
- b. The Pre-Ph.D. examination shall be conducted after the course work, but within one year from the date of registration.
- c. The Credit requirement for the Ph.D. course work 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, a core paper 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.
- d. There shall be three papers in Pre-Ph.D. examination:
 - Paper I: Research Methodology** paper which is common to all the candidates admitted in to a department is of 3 hours duration with 100 marks- 5 credits
 - Paper II:Related to research area concerned** of 3 hours duration with100 marks-5credits
 - Paper III: Research and Publication Ethics** paper which is common to all the candidates admitted in to a department of 2 hours duration with 50 marks-2 credits
- e. Minimum pass marks in each paper shall be 55 percent. If any candidate fails in any of the papers, he/she has to appear and pass only that paper.
- f. 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.
- g. 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.
- h. The registration of those research scholars, who do not pass the Pre-Ph.D. examination in two successive examinations, from the date of registration, shall be cancelled.
- i. The research scholars shall have to attend a minimum of 75 percent classes of the course work to become eligible for appearing the Pre-Ph. D. examination.
- j. The research scholars who could not attend 75 percent of the classes of the course work shall not be eligible to appear for the Pre-Ph. D. examination and they have to attend the classes with the next batch of students.
- k. The research scholars registered for the Ph.D. Programme should present a minimum of THREE Seminars during the programme under the chairmanship of the Dean, concerned as detailed below. In the absence of the Dean, the Head of the concerned Department shall chair the DRC meeting.

I Seminar: The first seminar shall be on the Research Design covering problem formulation, hypothesis and methodology after clearing the Pre-Ph.D. examination.

II Seminar: The second seminar entitled as Progress of Research has to be presented 12 months after the presentation of the Research Design seminar and it deals with the research work carried out.

III Seminar: The third seminar is Pre-submission Seminar. It has to be presented 6 months after the presentation of the progress seminar by a candidate whose Ph.D. thesis is ready for submission. This seminar deals with the entire Ph.D. work carried out by the candidate and is presented in front of DRC in the department where he/she is registered. And any feedback, comments and suggestions from the DRC and participants be included in the final manuscript of the thesis. The draft copy of the Ph.D. thesis must be available during this presentation. After successful presentation of pre-submission seminar, the scholar should submit his/her final thesis within 3 months. However, if a scholar fails to submit thesis within 3 months from the date of pre-submission seminar need to re-present the pre-submission seminar.

1. The Dean, Head and Chairperson, Board of Studies of concerned Department shall issue a certificate of presentation of the seminars.

9. Progress Reports:

1. Every candidate shall submit half yearly progress report to the Dean duly forwarded by the Research Supervisor, chairperson, Board of Studies and the Head of the Department concerned through Departmental Research Committee. The half yearly progress report should cover, the aspects such as the review of literature, data collected, techniques developed, progress in research, discussion of the work done including any findings etc.

2. If a candidate fails to submit two consecutive half yearly progress reports in time and/or if the progress of the candidate is not satisfactory for two half year periods, the Department Research Committee shall recommend to the Dean of the faculty for the cancellation of his/her registration in consultation with the concerned Research Supervisor.

10. Research on Full time/Part-time.

1. **Full Time Ph.D. Program:** The Candidates with Fellowship must work as Full-time Research Scholars only, till the submission of the thesis. The full time Scholars shall not accept any employment during their tenure of the program. All the candidates who were registered as Full Time Scholars must work minimum of three (3) years for completion of their Ph.D. program.

2. Hostel Facility, including dining, for full time research scholars registered in the University Constituent Colleges only is allowed subject to the availability of accommodation in the University hostels and continuation of the hostel facility during their tenure of the program is subject to satisfactory progress reports submitted once in every six months as certified by the Research Supervisor and the Dean of the faculty concerned. Further, the fellowship holders who take hostel accommodation should pay their HRA sanctioned by the funding agency to the University.

- 3. Part-Time Ph.D. Program:** Candidates who are eligible for Ph.D. admission/registration and employed in organizations in the area of study related to domain knowledge of concerned subject and are allowed for leave required for Ph.D. program will be designated as Part-time Research Scholars.
- 4. No Objection Certificate:** The candidates who wish to pursue their Ph.D. program on part-time basis should produce the “No Objection Letter” from their competent authority in the organization where the candidate is employed clearly stating that the candidate seeking admission as Part-time Research Scholar must give an undertaking that he/she would take leave for a minimum of six months for attending the classes of the Ph.D. course work during the tenure of the Ph.D. course, and a letter from the employer that the required leave of six months will be sanctioned for the purpose stated, as additional documents at the time of registration. Without the permission letter from the employer, the Ph.D. admission cannot be granted.
 - a. A Part-time research scholar is not eligible for any hostel facility in the University.
 - b. His/her official duties permit him/her to devote sufficient time for research.
 - c. If required he/she will be relieved from the duty to complete the course work.
- 5. Conversion from Full-time to Part-time vice versa:** The Fellowship holders are not allowed for conversion of their admission status from full time to part time at any point of time till the completion of their program. However, in any exceptional cases who intend to terminate his fellowship for valid reasons the Dean can refer the case to the Standing Committee of the Academic Senate whose decision is final for conversion. The other candidates are permitted to change their status from full-time to part-time research or vice versa for any valid reason and upon approval by the Dean of the faculty concerned. Such candidates shall comply with the rules of the duration of the program and hostel facility as per the norms.

11. Duration of the Programme:

1. Ph.D. Programme shall be for a minimum duration of three (3) years, including course work, and a maximum duration of six (6) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme.
2. A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re-registration as per the Statute/Ordinance of the Telangana University provided, however, that the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme should not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.

Provided further that, female Ph.D. scholars and Persons with Disabilities (having more than 40% disability) may be allowed an additional relaxation of two (2) years; however, the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme in such cases should not exceed ten (10) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.

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.

12. Submission of Thesis:

1. The thesis intended for submission shall comply with the following conditions:
 - a. It shall be a distinct contribution to the subject and afford evidence of originality and scholarliness shown either by the discovery of new facts or by the exercise of independent critical analysis.
 - b. Research Scholar has to submit a soft copy of the thesis along with an undertaking for plagiarism test and get a certificate from the anti-plagiarism cell of the University.
 - c. The thesis in all subjects shall be written and submitted only in English, except in language subjects where the candidates shall have the option of writing it either in English or in the language concerned. Where the thesis is in a language other than English, a detailed summary of the same in English may also be submitted.
 - d. Every research scholar shall apply to the Controller of Examinations in a prescribed form for submission of the thesis in FOUR copies along with the following:
 - i. Four copies of the abstract in 10 to 15 pages.
 - ii. The thesis must be typed one side of A4 size paper using font type 'Times New Roman' font size 12 with 1.5 line spacing. For drawings and maps these restrictions do not apply. Binding should conform to the norms fixed by the University Library.
 - iii. Proper receipt for the prescribed thesis submission Fee paid through B- Challan, The Registrar Examination Account No. 31079102875 at the State Bank of India, Telangana University Branch, Nizamabad.
 - iv. Certificates duly signed by the Head of the Department, Chairperson, Board of Studies and the Dean of the Faculty to the effect that the candidate has given THREE Seminars.
 - v. A certificate from Anti-Plagiarism Cell, Telangana University.
 - vi. While submitting for evaluation, the 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.
 - vii. Memorandum of marks of Pre-Ph. D. examination and copies of the PG degree certificate. A copy of the M. Phil certificate shall be enclosed in case of the exemption from Pre-Ph.D. examination.

- viii. A copy of the published paper(s) / certificates of conference/ seminar presentations duly certified by the Head of the Department, Chairman, Board of Studies and the Dean of the Faculty.
- ix. A copy of the letter of admission.
- x. A copy of the letter of extension / change of title/re-registration, if any to the Ph. D. program along with a proof of having paid the prescribed fees and satisfied all the conditions.
- xi. A copy of the permission letter for change of topic/ supervisor if any.
- xii. A No Dues Certificate duly certified by:
Accounts Branch of the College concerned
Library
Hostels Office
Department concerned

2. A research scholar whose thesis is referred back for revision may be permitted by the Vice-Chancellor to resubmit the thesis after revision within a maximum period of two years, but not within six months from the date on which it is referred back. When a thesis is re-submitted, the research scholar shall be required to pay half of the prescribed fee.

3. The revised thesis shall be referred to those examiners who have originally recommended revision and in case it is rejected by any of the examiners, it shall be sent to the fourth examiner.

4. If the thesis of a candidate is rejected, he / she may be permitted to register himself / herself afresh for the Ph.D. program and he/she shall be exempted from passing the Pre-Ph.D. examination.

5. Examiners appointed from outside India may send questions to be put to the research scholar at the viva-voce, and the Vice-Chancellor may appoint expert/s from within India from the subject concerned to conduct viva-voce of the research scholar.

6. The viva-voce is open to the students and the faculty of the Department and to the faculty/ Scientists in the aligned or subject concerned.

13. Evaluation and Assessment Methods, Minimum Standards/Credits for Award of the Degree, etc:

- 1. Upon satisfactory completion of course work and obtaining the marks/grade prescribed in clause (vii) of Regulation 8 above, the Ph.D. scholar shall be required to undertake research work and produce a draft dissertation/thesis.
- 2. Before submitting the dissertation/thesis, the Ph.D. scholar shall make a presentation

before the Departmental Research Committee of the concerned Department, which shall also be open to all faculty members and other research scholars. The Dean of the faculty, Head of the Department, The Chairperson, Board of Studies and the Research Supervisor concerned shall sign a certificate of presentation of the seminar, and the certificate should be presented along with the application at the time of submission of the thesis.

3. As was discussed and resolved in the Vice Chancellor's meeting with Deans, various faculties held on date: 25/10/2024 the UGC (Promotion of academic integrity and prevention of plagiarism in higher educational institutions) regulations 2018 are adopted and the similarity of 10 percent only would be permissible in the entire faculties, with effect from 25/10/2024. All the chapters of thesis are included in plagiarism check. If a candidate fails to reach the permissible limit, he/she can resubmit his work for plagiarism check for one more time after incorporating required changes. Not more than two chances will be given for plagiarism check.
4. A Ph.D. scholar shall submit the thesis for evaluation, along with (a) an undertaking from the scholar that there is no plagiarism and (b) 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.
5. A panel of nine external examiners consisting of a minimum of six examiners from outside the Telangana State shall be submitted by the supervisor to the Chairman of concerned Board of Studies, who in turn will submit the APPROVED panel to the Examination Branch. The panel shall be drawn from the field of specialization. In areas where experts are not available within the country, examiners from abroad may be included in the panel. In case of interdisciplinary research, the panel of examiners shall be submitted jointly by the two supervisors mentioning their areas of research for approval of the Board of Studies of the subject concerned.
6. In specific instances (in case of languages discipline) the examiners may be drawn from available experts.
7. Ph.D. Supervisors recognized by the Telangana University and persons related to the research scholar shall not be included in the panel of adjudicators.
8. The Vice-Chancellor shall appoint **THREE** External Examiners from the panel submitted by the Chairman, Board of Studies of the Department concerned. Two of the examiners shall be from outside the State.
9. Every Examiner shall state in clear terms whether the thesis should be:
 - Accepted
 - Revised and re-submitted for fresh evaluation (Examiner is expected to suggest specific guidelines for revision):
 - Rejected
10. The viva-voce of the Ph.D. scholar to defend the thesis shall be conducted if both the external examiners recommend acceptance of the thesis after incorporating any corrections suggested by them. If one of the external examiners recommends rejection, the University shall send the thesis to an alternate external examiner from the approved panel of

examiners, and the viva- voce examination shall be held only if the alternate examiner recommends acceptance of the thesis. If the alternate examiner does not recommend acceptance of the thesis, the thesis shall be rejected, and the Ph.D. scholar shall be declared ineligible for the award of a Ph.D.

11. The viva-voce shall be conducted by a board consisting of the following members:

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| 1. Dean of the faculty concerned | Chairperson |
| 2. Head of the Department concerned | Member |
| 3. Chairperson Board of Studies concerned | Member-Convener |
| 4. One External Examiner | Member |
| 5. Supervisor concerned | Member |

In the absence of the Dean, The Chairperson, Board of Studies shall chair the meeting. The external examiner from other state may attend the viva-voce through online/offline mode as per his/her choice.

12. The entire process of evaluating the PhD thesis, including the declaration of the viva-voce Result must be completed within a period of six (6) months from the date of submission of the thesis.

13. The members of the viva-voce board constitute the quorum for conduct of the viva voce. The Board members shall sign the report of the viva-voce. Minimum 2/3rd quorum is required to conduct viva-voce.

14. If the report of the viva-voce is satisfactory, the Controller of Examinations shall finally declare the research scholar qualified for the award of Ph.D. degree with the approval of the Vice- Chancellor, subject to the ratification by the Executive Council.

15. A copy of every Doctoral Thesis for which a degree has been awarded after incorporating the corrections, if any, suggested by the examiners shall be placed in the University Library with the inscription "Thesis approved for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Telangana University". A hard copy of the thesis shall be made available in Department Library.

14. Issuing of a Provisional Certificate: Prior to the actual award of the Ph.D. degree, a Provisional Certificate shall be issued to the successful Ph.D. Scholar to the effect that the Ph.D. degree is being awarded in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.

15. 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 2011-12, 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, 2011-12 or the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016 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. Degree) Regulations, 2016. Nothing in

these Regulations shall impact the M.Phil. degree programmes commencing prior to the enactment of these Regulations.

16. The fee structure for Ph.D. Program:

All the Candidates admitted in to Ph.D. program shall pay the prescribed fee annually and renew their admission to continue the program. The Candidates who do not pay the fee and submit the progress reports for the two consecutive academic years shall forego their admission.

Scholars who successfully complete pre-submission seminar before 3 years from the date of admission are exempted from paying fees for fourth year. However, a scholar who fails to submit thesis within 3 months from the date of pre-submission seminar, need to pay fee of fourth year.

17. Cancellation of Ph.D. Admission/Registration:

The Dean may cancel the registration of a Ph.D. Scholar on the recommendation of the Supervisor, Chairperson, Board of Studies and the Head of the Department, if the candidate fails to satisfy the conditions stipulated in the following circumstances:

1. If the progress of the research work has been found to be unsatisfactory in two consecutive half yearly reports or when two consecutive progress reports are not submitted.
2. Where a candidate discontinues his/her research or when he/ she (full time scholar) accepts any employment without the written consent of the Dean.
3. Where a Research Scholar indulges in misconduct and misbehavior with any fellow research scholar or staff of the University or elsewhere.
4. If a Scholar is found guilty of committing any irregularity malpractice, plagiarism, etc., in research, his/her result will be withheld/cancelled by the Controller of Examinations, even after the publication of the result.
5. If the stipulated period of Ph.D. program is completed as per the norms.
6. Any violation of this regulation will automatically lead to the cancellation of his/her admission in Ph.D. program.

18. Recognition of Research Supervisors and Scholars' Allotment

1. Permanent faculty members working as Professor/Associate Professor of the Telangana 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 in Higher Educational Institutions with a Ph.D., and at least three research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals may be recognized as a Research Supervisor in the university.
2. For Ph.D. scholars working in Central Government/State Government research institutions whose degrees are given by Telangana University, 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.

3. Provided that in areas/disciplines where there is no, or only a limited number of peer- reviewed or refereed journals, the Telangana University may relax the above condition for recognition of a person as Research Supervisor with reasons recorded in writing.
4. Co-Supervisors from within the same department or other departments of the same institution or other institutions may be permitted with the approval of the competent authority.
5. Adjunct Faculty members shall not act as Research Supervisors and can only act as co-supervisors.
6. In case of interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research work, if required, a Co-Supervisor from outside the Department/ School/ Research Centre/ College/ University may be appointed.
7. An eligible Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor can guide upto eight (8)/six(6) /four (4) Ph.D. scholars, respectively, at any given time.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. At any point, the total number of Ph.D. scholars under a faculty member, either as supervisor or a co-supervisor, shall not exceed the number prescribed under these rules.

19. Academic, Research, Administrative and Infrastructure Requirements to be fulfilled by Colleges for getting recognition for offering Ph.D. Programs:

1. Post-graduate Colleges offering 4-year Under-graduate Programs and/or Post-graduate Programs, may offer Ph.D. programs, provided they satisfy the availability of eligible research supervisors, required infrastructure and supporting administrative and research facilities as per these Regulations.
2. Colleges and research institutions established by the Central Government or a State Government whose degrees are awarded by Telangana University shall offer Ph.D. programs provided they have:
 - a) At least two faculty members in a college or two Ph.D. qualified scientists in the research institution.
 - b) Adequate infrastructure, administrative support, research facilities and library resources as

specified by the University.

3. In case of science and technology disciplines, exclusive research laboratories with sophisticated state of the art equipment as specified by the Institution concerned as demanded by the respective research areas and with provision for adequate space per research scholar along with computing facilities with dedicated Internet Bandwidth of 100 Mbps (yearly subscribed) should be available and licensed software, and uninterrupted power and water supply. The approved laboratories must be updated with latest technology and adequate budget must be provided.

4. Earmarked digital library resources including latest books, Indian and International journals, e-journals, extended working hours for all disciplines, adequate space for research scholars in the Department/ library for reading, writing and storing study and research materials.

5. The Colleges should submit the reprints of, at least, six research publications out of which at least two after Ph.D. obtained must be published in a reputed journal by the faculty of the college in each discipline. The Research Publications so submitted shall be evaluated by a committee consisting of the Dean, the Head and the Chairman, Board of Studies in a discipline concerned.

6. The Colleges seeking recognition as a Research Centre of the Telangana University shall apply in the prescribed Application Form by paying required fee (Non-refundable) Rs. 1,00,000/- for each Government Degree & PG College through A-Challan, Registrar University Income Account, A/C No.31079101757, at State Bank of India, Telangana University Branch, Telangana University. They have to submit the college profile and teacher's profiles in the prescribed format along with the Fee Receipt to the Assistant Registrar, Academic Branch, TU.

7. The Colleges have to pay the entire fee pertaining to Research Programs, i.e. the application fee and annual recognition fee or any other fee payments shall be through A- Challan, "Registrar University Income Account, TU A/C. No: 31079101757, at the State Bank of India, Telangana University Branch, Telangana University,

8. The prescribed Annual Recognition fee is Rs.50,000/- for Government Degree & PG Colleges.

9. The committee constituted by the University with the following Members will visit the College and submit the report to the University for the approval of the Standing Committee of Academic Senate and Executive Council of Telangana University:

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| 1. | The Dean of the Faculty concerned, TU | ... | Chairman |
| 2. | The Dean, Academic Audit, TU | ... | Member |
| 3. | The Head of the Department concerned, TU | ... | Member |
| 4. | The Chairperson, BOS in discipline Concerned | ... | Member |
| 5. | A Senior Faculty member of the department. | ... | Member |
| | (Nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, TU) | | |
| 6. | An External Subject Expert outside of the University | | |
| | (Nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, TU) | ... | Member |

The Assistant Registrar, Academic Branch, TU shall accompany to coordinate in conducting inspection by the Committee

10. When the college is applying for more than one research areas, the committee consisting of faculty members from each discipline as mentioned in 19.9 will visit the college for evaluating the feasibility of research facilities at research centre.

11. At the time of application, the Colleges should provide the proof of its commitment for research activity by way of organizing at least two National Conferences /Seminars /Workshop (of not less than 2 days) etc., in the last five years or its support and active participation in such programs. Once the recognition is accorded by the University, the institution should continue to participate regularly in such activities.

12. At the time of application, the principal of the college should submit an undertaking to the effect that, the college will continue all the research facilities originally indicated and if any short fall is found at any point of time and evaluated by the inspection committee at later time, the University reserves the right to revoke the recognition at any time.

13. In case the college fulfils the above conditions, the university may accord recognition as Research Centre for a period of Five years initially. After recognition, it is mandatory on part of the Centre to adhere to the following guidelines:

a) The Recognized College should get renewal of its recognition by paying the recognition fee for each discipline annually.

b) The Recognized College should furnish the required information in the prescribed proforma to be obtained from the Office of the Dean, Academic Audit as sought by the University within the stipulated time annually.

c) The Recognized College should submit the detailed research facilities improved from time to time and the progress of the research work of the scholars on rolls, once in every six months to the Dean, Faculty of the discipline concerned.

d) In case the Recognized College does not fulfil any of these conditions, the University reserves the right to cancel the recognition granted, after serving a notice.

14) The University shall review the research activities of the Centre by appointing an Inspection Committee and if found satisfactory, extend the recognition for a period of another five (5) years.

15) As and when the College ceases to have a Research Supervisor in a discipline, no candidate shall be permitted to register in the subject for Ph.D. by the University.

20. Admission of international students into Ph.D. Programs

1. The admission process of International Students will be carried out by University Foreign Relations Office(UFRO). The UFRO will receive the applications from the International Students and forward to the Dean of the Faculty concerned. The Dean will place the applications before the DRC of the department concerned. On recommendations of the DRC the admission will be given

to the International Students in to Ph.D. Program by the Dean of the faculty concerned. They shall pay the fee for the Ph.D. Program as prescribed by the University from time to time.

2. Each Supervisor can guide up to two International Scholars on a supernumerary basis over and above the permitted number of Ph.D. Scholars as specified under these rules.

21. 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 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.

22. Data at Telangana University Website:

The University shall maintain a list of Ph.D. supervisors (specifying the name of the supervisor, his or her designation, and the department/school/centre), 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 in their faculties by the respective Deans of Faculties and will update on the TU website every academic year. The staff of Office of the Dean shall maintain record of hard copies of the details of admissions.

All other matters that have not been covered by the rules mentioned above, the Dean of the Faculty concerned may refer the matter to the Standing Committee of the Academic Senate whose decision shall be final.
