

Vinayaka Mission Sikkim University

(Established by the Government of Sikkim & Recognized as per Section 2f of UGC Act 1956)

ADMISSION POLICY FOR THE Ph.D. PROGRAM

1. ADMISSION TO Ph.D. PROGRAMME

Subject to the conditions stipulated in these ordinances, the following persons are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. programme:

- 1.1** Candidates for admission to the Ph. D. programme shall have a Master's Degree or a Professional Degree in a relevant area declared equivalent to the Master's Degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 10-point scale (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) or an equivalent degree from a foreign educational Institution accredited by an Assessment and Accreditation Agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country for the purpose of assessing, accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions.
- 1.2** A relaxation of 5% of marks, from 55% to 50%, or an equivalent relaxation of grade, may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer) / Differently-abled and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the UGC from time to time.
- 1.3** Candidate seeking admission in Ph.D. after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on appoint scale wherever the grading system is followed.
- 1.4** Candidates possessing a degree considered equivalent to M. Phil. Degree of an Indian Institution, from a Foreign Educational Institution accredited by an Assessment and Accreditation Agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country for the purpose of assessing, accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to Ph.D. programme.
- 1.5** The candidate who has appeared in M.A./ M. Sc./ M. Com. final semester examination can also apply for entrance test for PhD and their case will be considered only if their results are declared at the time of determining the merit i.e. before interview.

2. ADMISSION PROCEDURE

- 2.1** Provisional admission to the Ph. D. program shall be either through a Research Entrance Test or through exemption from entrance test as per Clause laid down below in these ordinances.
- 2.2** The candidate who has qualified for fellowship/ scholarship in UGC-NET/UGC- CSIRNET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests will be exempted from university entrance test however, they must attend the Viva-voce /interview conducted by Vinayaka Mission Sikkim University.

- 2.3** Qualifying marks in the entrance test will be 50%, 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 Commission from time to time.
- 2.4** The seat reservation will be based on 60:40 ratios for NET/JRF holders and university entrance test qualified students respectively.

3. VINAYAKA MISSION SIKKIM UNIVERSITY RESEARCH ENTRANCE TEST (VMSURET):

- 3.1** The admission notification well in advance shall be widely circulated by displaying it on the University website; entrance test shall be conducted and all other relevant information for the benefit of the candidates. and through advertisement in at least two (2) newspapers, of which at least one (1) shall be in the regional language,
- 3.2** The interested candidates shall be admitted to the Ph.D. programme through VMSURET entrance test followed by an interview. Candidates exempted from the VMSURET entrance test will directly appear in the interview.
- 3.3** The VMSURET shall be qualifying with qualifying marks as 50%. The syllabus of the Entrance Test shall consist of 50% of research methodology and 50% shall be subject specific. The Entrance Test shall be conducted at the Centre(s) / University notified well in advance.
- 3.4** The candidates shall discuss in the interview, their research interest/area through a presentation before a duly constituted Department Research Committee (which may be called as Admission Committee of the Department/Centre).
- 3.5** The Merit List of candidates shall be prepared based on the following criteria:
- 70% weight age for percentage of marks obtained in the PG Degree of concerned /relevant subject.
 - 30% weight age shall be given to personal interview.
- 3.6** The interview/ viva voce shall also consider the following aspects, viz.
- Competence of the candidate for the proposed research;
 - Suitability of the research work to be undertaken at the University.
 - Whether the proposed area of research can contribute to new/ additional to knowledge.

4. EXEMPTION FROM THE VINAYAKA MISSION SIKKIM UNIVERSITY RESEARCH ENTRANCE TEST

A candidate who fulfils one of the following requirements are exempted from the VMSURET and may be considered for provisional admission to the Ph. D. program without appearing in the written test:

(However, the University, if required, may conduct separate Entrance Test for those students who are exempted from the VMSURET entrance test.

- 4.1** A candidate who is qualified in a national level test such as UGC-NET(with.JRF)/UGC- CSIRNET (with JRF).
- 4.2** UGC-NET/UGC-CSIRNET/SLET/GATE/teacher fellowship holder or have passed M. Phil programme.
- 4.3** A NET qualified person, employed in other university/ institution/ college, who is sponsored as a full-time candidate by the said organization, with at least two years of experience and is relieved on study leave for a period of not less than two years for pursuing Ph.D. program in a Department of the University. The number of seats under this category shall not exceed 10% of the total seats available in a Department.
- 4.4** A NET qualified regular teacher of this University should have been relieved on study leave for a period of at least two years. The number of seats under this category shall not exceed 20% of the total seats available in a Department.
- 4.5** Candidates possessing a Degree considered equivalent to M. Phil. Degree of an Indian Institution OR from a Foreign Educational Institution accredited by an Assessment and Accreditation Agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country for the purpose of assessing, accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to Ph.D. programme.

5. CANDIDATES WORKING IN AN EXTRA MURAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

A candidate, working in an extra mural research project in the University as research personnel, maybe allowed to register for Ph.D. in the University provided s/he gets short- listed in the main entrance test and then selected in the interview.

6. THE DATE OF REGISTRATION

- 6.1** The date of admission shall be considered as the date of registration on provisional basis. After successful completion of the course work, as prescribed by UGC, the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) shall confirm the date of registration as in the provisional registration.
- 6.2** After admission, the details of admitted students along with all necessary documents must be submitted to the Examination Section of the University within one month from the last date of admission. It shall be the responsibility of the concerned Head of the department.
- 6.3** Every admitted Ph.D. student shall be provided a Letter of Registration (within Ninety days from the date of admission), from Examination/DRC section, confirming his/her provisional admission in the Ph.D. programme.
- 6.4** Record (in the form of photocopies) of all the documents related to the entire Ph.D. admission process, including merit list and application forms of the applicants may be maintained in the Department/Centre for future reference.

- 6.5** For maintaining transparency, the entire merit list along with the name of the selected candidates shall be made public on the Department notice board as well as the University website.
- 6.6** An admitted Ph.D. candidate shall not be permitted to join any other regular degree course. The candidate should not join any full time or part time job during his/her Ph.D. If found so, the candidature shall be terminated with immediate effect.