

**RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**  
**Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India**  
Sriperumbudur – 602 105

**Ph.D REGULATIONS**

(Amended as on 17.09.2016)

**Preliminary**

1. Any candidate who has been awarded a Master's Degree of this Institute or any other Institute / University recognised by UGC is eligible to apply for the Doctoral programme of the Institute.
2. The award of Ph.D. degree shall be in accordance with the regulations of the UGC, (2009 minimum standards and procedure for award of M.Phil / Ph.D. degree) and RGNIYD.

**1.0. Categories of Doctoral Programmes**

Candidates shall be admitted to research leading to the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) under any one of the following categories:

- 1.1. Full-Time Doctoral Programme (FT):** A Post Graduate candidate who has completed the Post Graduation under 10+2+3+2 or 11+1+3+2 pattern may pursue doctoral research as a Full-time Research Scholar with or without fellowship or project support. The Full-time Ph.D. candidate shall carry out research under the supervision of a recognised Research Supervisor(s) of RGNIYD.
- 1.2. Part-Time Doctoral Programme (PT):** A candidate in service with at least five years of continuous work experience (Teaching /Research/ Project /Youth related work) may pursue doctoral research as a part time research scholar. The part-time Ph.D., candidate shall carry out research under the supervision of a recognised Research Supervisor(s) of RGNIYD.

**2.0. Eligibility**

**2.1. Full-time Research**

- 2.1.1. Non-stipendiary:** A candidate with Master's degree and minimum of 55% of marks (50% in case of SC/ST candidates) is eligible to apply for admission to full time doctoral degree programme under non-stipendiary category.

**2.1.2. Stipendiary:** In addition to Master's Degree with minimum of 55% of marks (50% in case of SC/ST candidates), the candidate who is qualified in UGC-JRF/ ICSSR/ICHR/ICMR is eligible to apply for admission to doctoral programme with *fellowship*.

The Institute awards stipend to a few select NET/SLET/SET qualified candidates on the basis of the Entrance Test and Interview of RGNIYD

**2.1.3. Project Support:** A candidate with Master's Degree and a minimum of 55% (50% in case of SC/ST candidates) of marks working in the projects funded by UGC/ICSSR/ICHR/ICMR/any other funding agency as project fellow/research associate/ research assistant is eligible to apply for admission to doctoral programme with *fellowship*.

## **2.2. Part-time Research**

In-service candidate with Master's degree and minimum of 55% of marks (50% in case of SC/ST candidates) and with not less than five years of continuous work experience in the recognized teaching and research institutions/ NGOs/ Youth Development organizations after obtaining Master's degree, is eligible to apply for admission to part-time research leading to doctoral degree.

Part-time external candidates are required to reside in the campus of RGNIYD for a minimum of 180 days in different spells and the Research Supervisor will decide the residential requirement.

## **2.3. Overseas Students**

Overseas students with foreign degrees obtained from UGC recognised universities and equivalent to Indian Master's Degree as approved by AIU with not less than B+ or equivalent grade are eligible to apply for the Full-Time doctoral programme.

Necessary visa/ study permit should be submitted by the overseas students

## **3.0. Submission of Application form**

3.1. Applications for Ph.D. programme can be obtained either directly from the RGNIYD Institute office or downloaded from the website, [www.rgnyd.gov.in](http://www.rgnyd.gov.in). (For details regarding Cost of Application form, Research Fees etc See [Appendix 'A'](#)).

3.2. Applications shall be submitted only during the specified sessions of the year i.e., March and September to:

The Registrar,  
Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development,  
Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu – 602105

3.3. The candidate should enclose the following along with duly filled in application:

- P.G Degree certificate or provisional certificate along with consolidated Marks Statement
- M.Phil Degree Certificate or Provisional Certificate if any
- Transfer Certificate
- Conduct certificate
- Proof of Date of Birth
- Nationality Certificate for foreign students
- Migration certificate (in case of other university students)
- Fellowship award certificate (if any)
- Copies of publications (if any)
- Service Experience certificate
- No objection Certificate from the Employer (in case of part-time candidates)
- Two Passport size photographs

3.4. All the applications shall be forwarded to the Dean of Research who will be responsible for coordinating and conducting entrance test and valuation of test papers

#### **4.0 Admission Procedure**

4.1. The selection process comprises of an Entrance Test and interview

4.2. The candidates qualified in UGC-JRF/NET/SLET/SET, M.Phil. (Obtained as per UGC 2009 REGULATIONS) and those who are working in the sponsored projects of the Institute as project fellow / research associate / research assistant shall be exempted from the Entrance Test. Nevertheless, these candidates should attend the interview along with others.

4.3. The candidates without M.Phil (UGC 2009 REGULATIONS) and /or UGC-JRF/NET/ SLET /SET shall take both Entrance Test and Interview. The weightage of 50% for qualifying exam and 50% for entrance and interview will be carried out.

- 4.4. Duration of the entrance test will be two hours and the question paper shall contain two parts. Part 'A' will consist of questions in research methodology/research aptitude. Part 'B' will consist of questions in the subject concerned (to which the candidate has submitted his / her application)
- 4.5. Interviews shall be conducted soon after the Entrance Test by a Research committee consisting of Dean of Research as Chairperson and Head of Department concerned and a faculty member of the concerned department eligible to guide Ph.D students.
- 4.6. The candidates will be selected on the basis of their performance in the qualifying degree examination, Entrance Test and Interview conducted by RGNIYD and as per Govt. of India rules for reservation. The Candidates should have secured minimum of 55% in the qualifying exam (Master's Degree) and 55% in the entrance exam and interview.
- 4.7. The lists of selected candidates shall be forwarded to the Registrar by the Dean of Research ([Appendix 'B'](#)) and also hosted in the RGNIYD website.
- 4.8. The selected candidates will be intimated by the Registrar about the selection. *The candidate selected for admission should report within 30 days of receipt of the admission order, failing which the admission is liable for cancellation without further notice, provided the students seeks permission from the Director through Research Supervisor<sup>1</sup>.*
- 4.9. Duration of the Programme

For candidates without M.Phil Degree, the duration of full-time Ph.D. Programme shall be a minimum of three years from the date of registration and a minimum of four years for part-time Ph.D. Programme. The maximum duration shall be five years for full-time and six years for part-time Ph.D. Programmes.

For the candidates with M.Phil., the minimum duration of full time Ph.D. programme shall be two years from the date of registration and three years for part-time Ph.D. programme. The maximum period shall be four years for full time and five years for part-time Ph.D. programme

1 – inserted through the decision of the Academic/Executive Council date on 17.09.2016

## 5.0. Research Supervisor

- 5.1. The Research Supervisor shall provide constant guidance for research, supervise the research process and monitor the progress of the research work. The Research Supervisor shall function as a vital link between the candidate and the university in all matters of academics and administration relating to the Ph.D. work of the candidate.
- 5.2. In case of Interdisciplinary research, a co-supervisor (either at RGNIYD or any other Institution approved by RGNIYD) will be appointed based on the recommendation of the Doctoral Committee in its first meeting. The name of the Co-supervisor should be included in the registration form.
- 5.3. *Eligibility criteria of a Research Supervisor:* A faculty of this Institute may be recognised as a Research Supervisor for guiding students leading to the award of Ph.D. degree provided s/he possesses the following credentials: (A permanent Faculty may be recognized as a guide provided she/he has
  - a. A Ph.D. degree from a University recognised by the UGC.
  - b. A minimum of two years of either teaching or research experience after acquiring the Ph.D. degree.
  - c. A minimum of two research publications after the award of Ph.D. degree in National/International peer reviewed journals or equivalent published work as books or chapters in edited books.
  - d. However, a faculty on deputation to RGNIYD for not less than 3 years is also eligible to supervise provided he/she fulfills the above 3 conditions
- 5.4. Emeritus Professors/Honorary Professors/Adjunct Professors<sup>2</sup> in the Institute may be permitted to guide Ph.D. scholars based on the specific recommendations of the Head of the Department taking into consideration the fulfillment of the above 3 conditions (as in 5.3) and the age of the Professor along with his /her consent as well with the approval of the Director.

<sup>2</sup> – inserted through the decision of the Academic/Executive Council date on 17.09.2016

5.5. **Number of candidates under a Research Supervisor**

- a. The maximum number of candidates to be registered under a faculty of RGNIYD, including the part-time scholars at any point of time, shall not exceed eight.
  - b. The maximum number of candidates to be registered for the Ph.D. programme under the Emeritus Professors/ Honorary Professors shall not exceed Four at any point of time
- 5.6. Continuation of Research Supervision by the retired faculty / Emeritus Professors: when a faculty member retires, the scholars who have completed minimum period (as in 4.9) can be permitted to be guided by the same supervisor.
- 5.7. Regular faculty from RGNIYD on deputation to another institution is allowed to continue to guide those candidates registered with him /her provided course work and methodology examination is already completed minimum period.
- 5.8. For assessing the number of vacancies under a Research Supervisor, the actual submission of the thesis by the candidates registered shall be taken in to account.

**6.0. Registration**

- 6.1. Registration is to be completed from the date of Admission<sup>3</sup>.The broad area (interdisciplinary or not) of research and proposed topic of research should be indicated at the time of registration. A research proposal containing the rationale, context, objectives and methodological framework of the study in 500 words should be submitted along with the application form ([Appendix 'C'](#)).
- 6.2. The candidate shall be provisionally registered for Ph.D. and the same will be communicated to the candidate by the Dean of Research with a copy to the Head of the Department, Research Supervisor, and Controller of Examinations.

- 6.3. The registration will be confirmed only after the successful completion of the course work/methodology examination prescribed by the Doctoral Committee, which will be conducted within 18 months after the registration. The course work will include methodology, concepts and theories related to research as decided by the Doctoral Committee.
- 6.4. **Conversion:** If a Full-Time Research Scholar takes up regular employment in course of time, he or she may be permitted for the conversion of registration from Full-Time to Part-Time. The candidate shall apply for conversion with proof of employment and recommendations of the Research Supervisor to the Dean of Research through HoD. Similarly, upon getting any fellowship, candidates may convert from part time to fulltime. The period put in by the Candidate will be calculated out in the ratio of 2:3 for the length of research put in before and after such conversion.
- 6.5. **Cancellation of Registration:** The registration of candidate may be cancelled for any of the following reasons based on the recommendations of the doctoral committee
- Failure to complete coursework / Methodology Examination/ submission of thesis within the stipulated time.
  - Failure to submit.
  - Unauthorised long absence for a period of six months.
  - Unsatisfactory progress of research work.
  - Non-compliance with the rules and regulations of the Institute framed from time to time including code of conduct.

An undertaking should be taken from the candidate on the above conditions at the time of admission

## 7.0. Doctoral Committee

- 7.1. **Constitution:** Within three months after the provisional admission of the candidate for Ph.D. programme, the Research Supervisor shall constitute a Doctoral Committee in consultation with the Head of the Department and Dean of Research and the same will be intimated to the Controller of Examinations (CoE).

7.2. **Composition of Doctoral Committee:** The Doctoral committee is comprised of the following members.

- Dean of Research (Chairperson)
- Research Supervisor (Member Convenor)
- One subject expert who is the recognised research supervisor from other Universities/Research institutions
- Head of the Department
- Co- Supervisor (if any)

7.3. **Functions of Doctoral Committee:** The Research Supervisor shall convene the Doctoral Committee Meetings in consultation with HoD and Dean of Research with the approval of the Director.

The Doctoral Committee is responsible for assessing the performance of the scholar, evaluating research work and facilitation of research process by providing requisite academic and methodological inputs.

Doctoral Committee shall prescribe the course work that each candidate has to take as well as the syllabus at the first meeting. The minutes of the doctoral committee meeting shall be submitted to the Controller of Examinations with a copy marked to Dean of Research

## 8.0. Course Work and Evaluation

The candidate shall undergo coursework as prescribed by the Doctoral Committee. S/he should complete the course work before the methodology examination within stipulated period of 18 months and secure minimum marks of 55% marks in each paper.

## 9.0. Methodology Examination

9.1. The Doctoral committee shall assess the scholar's performance in the examination and evaluate the research work done

The Methodology Examination will be conducted by the CoE and is comprised of three parts.

Written Examination	Max. Marks	Passing Minimum
Paper - I Research Methodology	100	55%
Paper - II Broad Area Research	100	55%
Paper -III Research proposals	100	55%



**Candidates with M.Phil. degree (UGC minimum standard 2009) are exempted from Paper – 1 (Research Methodology) Examination**

Doctoral committee shall set the question paper and evaluate the answer books for paper 1 & 2 and for Paper III may be evaluated the exams by Seminar/Assignment/written test.

If the candidates fail in any of the three papers, he/she shall reappear for **the examination within six months of the first attempt**

- 9.2. The Doctoral committee shall submit the results of Course work-evaluation to CoE with a copy to Dean of Research. The content and the enclosures as follows.

**Minutes:**

- Date and venue of the examination
- Titles of the papers prescribed for examination
- Marks awarded
- Title of the topic of research (Paper 3)
- Recommendation for the confirmation of the registration on the basis of the candidate's performance
- Suggestion for the further progress of the research if any.

**Enclosures:**

Question paper(s).  
Answer books-valued (with Marks).  
Research proposal/Seminar paper if any (with marks).

- 9.3. Candidate's registration will be confirmed only on the completion of the course work Examination.

## **10.0. Progress Report**

Right from the date of registration, the research scholar shall submit the work done report every six months in the prescribed format to the Research Supervisor. ([Appendix 'D'](#)).

The Research Supervisor shall forward the report along with his specific comments and recommendations to the Dean Research through HoD with a copy to CoE

## **11.0. Submission of Synopsis**

Before the submission of synopsis, the candidate is required to publish at least two papers in peer-reviewed journals and also present two Departmental Seminars in relation to the topic of his research.

The Doctoral committee shall meet to assess the research work done prior to the submission of synopsis by a candidate. The candidate shall present the synopsis before the Doctoral Committee in an open forum. Only on the approval of the synopsis by the Doctoral Committee, the candidate be permitted to submit the synopsis.

Candidate shall submit ten copies of synopsis along with a soft copy of synopsis along with the duly filled in synopsis application form and Demand Draft for the payment of the prescribed fee.

The doctoral committee shall submit a panel of examiners for the adjudication of the thesis to CoE in a sealed envelope along with synopsis.

## **12.0. Submission of Thesis**

The thesis shall be submitted after three months from the date of submission of the synopsis but not later than six months ([Appendix 'E' and Appendices F1 and F2](#)).

The thesis shall be written in English not exceeding 250 pages excluding bibliography and annexures. The thesis shall be in a 'word processor' with 12 font size in 1.5 line space and hard bound format.

The candidate shall submit six copies of the thesis along with a soft copy on CD in 'pdf' format.

The thesis shall carry a certificate of original work by the candidate as duly countersigned by the Research Supervisor, and acknowledgement by the student

## **13.0 Board of Examiners**

The Research Supervisor, in consultation with the members of the Doctoral Committee, shall, along with synopsis submit a panel of TEN external examiners consisting of Five from India, and Five from foreign countries.

The examiners suggested shall have having minimum of 10 years of experience in teaching and research and shall be recognised Research Supervisors of the recognised universities or reputed research institutions with specialisation in the field of research in which the thesis is submitted.

The Director of RGNIYD shall constitute a Board of Examiners (BoE) consisting of the Research Supervisor as the Convener and two **external examiners (one from India and the other from outside India)** from the panel submitted for the evaluation of the thesis.

No close or immediate relative of the candidate/Research Supervisor be appointed to act as an examiner.

#### **14.0. Evaluation of Thesis**

All the Three external examiners including supervisor shall submit their reports independently to the Controller of Examinations (CoE) within three months after receiving thesis ([Appendix 'G'](#)).

The reports should clearly indicate the recommendation on the acceptance or rejection of the thesis along with a detailed report as follows:

- Highly commended
- Commended
- To be revised & resubmitted
- Not recommended

If the thesis is to be resubmitted or not recommended, reasons must be given by the Examiner justifying the stand in the report.

If all the examiners unanimously recommend the thesis for award of the degree, the candidate will be asked to appear for the viva-voce (Open defence) examination.

In addition, the candidate should carry out the corrections if any, suggested by the examiners, before the public viva-voce examination. The Supervisor shall certify to this effect, together with the list of corrections made before the public viva-voce examination.

If one of the external examiners recommends the thesis to be re-submitted with corrections, the candidate will be asked to incorporate the corrections in the thesis, within a period of three months and resubmit the thesis.

If one of the external examiners recommends the thesis for award of the degree and the other examiner rejects the thesis, then the thesis will be valued by a third External Examiner (in that particular category, namely, Indian / Foreigner) and the third External Examiner's Report shall be final.

If both the examiners reject the thesis, the thesis is rejected.

On receipt of all the reports, the CoE shall send the photo copies of the reports to the Research Supervisor (Convenor, BoE), who will prepare a Consolidated Report which shall categorically indicate the final decision on the acceptance or rejection of the thesis as per provision of the regulations.

### **15.0. Viva-voce (Open Defence)**

15.1. The viva-voce shall be conducted only when the thesis is finally accepted. A candidate whose thesis has been recommended for the award of the degree by the Board of Examiners shall submit himself/herself to a viva-voce examination in the Department where the research work was conducted. The Research Supervisor with the concurrence of the CoE shall inform the date, time and venue for the conduct of the viva-voce (Open defence) with notification of 10 days before the date of viva and shall send invitations for viva voce.

15.2. The viva-voce Board shall consist of the following:

- Research Supervisor (Convenor)
- One external examiner from the BoE (Chairperson)
- Head of the Department
- Dean of Research

15.3. A copy of the Ph.D. Thesis shall be kept in the Institute Library at least three days in advance for the purpose of reference to those who are interested in the topic. A minimum of 20 participants, consisting of invited academicians, Faculty, research scholars, and students, interested in the topic should necessarily participate in the viva-voce (Open defence).

15.4. The Chairperson of the viva-voce Board will conduct the proceedings. The research scholar shall present a summary of his/her thesis. In the viva-voce, the Board shall examine the candidate on the thesis and evaluate the performance of the candidate.

The Board will ensure that all the questions raised by the examiners are answered satisfactorily.

If the performance of the candidate in the first attempt is not satisfactory the candidate must be asked to reappear for the viva-voce again within one month

- 15.5. The performance of the candidate in the viva-voce (Open defence) shall be judged by the Viva-Voce Board. The report on the viva-voce will be submitted by the Chairperson to the CoE. In the report, it shall be mentioned whether the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy can be awarded or not. The report shall include the list of participants in the open defence with their designation, address and signature.
- 15.6. On receipt of the viva-voce report, necessary steps have to be initiated by the CoE for notification of degree with the approval of the Director and subsequently for approval of the Academic Council & Executive Council for issue of Degree Certificate in the convocation. ([Appendix H1 and H2](#)).
- 15.7. On receipt of the report, necessary steps have to be initiated by the CoE to declare the result of the Ph.D. degree by placing the report before the subsequent Executive Committee ([Appendix H1 and H2](#)).
- 15.8. The candidate must be asked to reappear for the viva-voce again within one month, if the performance is not satisfactory.

## **16.0. Publication of the Thesis**

The thesis, once submitted to RGNIYD, becomes the property of the Institute. The candidates who wish to publish the thesis in the form of book should seek written permission from the Institute through Research Supervisor. It is necessary to make proper acknowledgement to the university and the Research Supervisor. Once published, two copies of the publication should be submitted to the Registrar through the Research Supervisor for onward transmission to the Institute Library.

## **17.0. Extension and Second Registration**

A Candidate who has not been able to submit the thesis even after the completion of the maximum period, may be given an extension period of one year by the Director upon paying a penal fee (*as prescribed by the Director from time to time*<sup>3</sup>) and other research fees on the request of the candidates and recommendation of the supervisor. A Candidate who has not been able to submit the thesis even in the extended period may be permitted to re-register on such terms and conditions decided by the Academic Council

## **18.0. Power to remove any difficulty**

In case of any difficulty in giving effect to the provisions of these regulations, arising out of their interpretation, the Director may initiate such action(s) that she/he deems rational and are in the interest of the Institute and students and may have such actions ratified by the appropriate bodies at the earliest opportunity.

In case of any difference of opinion between the student and the supervisor during the course of Ph.D programme the Director has the power to resolve the issue in a manner she/he thinks is in the academic interest of the Institute.

Depository with UGC: Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and announcements of the award of Ph.D, the Institute shall submit a soft copy of the M.Phil./Ph.D., thesis to the UGC within a period of thirty days, for hosting the same in INFLIBNET, accessible to all Institutions / Universities.

Provisional Certificate: Along with the Degree, RGNIYD shall issue a Provisional Certificate certifying to the effect that the Degree has been awarded in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations of the UGC.

3 – inserted through the decision of the Academic/Executive Council date on 17.09.2016

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