

Ph.D. REGULATIONS 2022

(Amended upto Aug 2025)

Ref: University Grants Commission (Minimum standards & procedures for award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations 2022, GO dated 07.11.2022

Ph.D. REGULATIONS 2022

In supersession of the B.S. Abdur Rahman Crescent Institute of Science and Technology (BSACIST) - Ph.D. Regulations 2009, Regulations 2016 and their amendments, the Institute hereby constitutes the following Regulations in accordance with the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022, G.O, dated on 07th November 2022.

1.0 DEFINITIONS

In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires;

1. Adjunct Faculty means a part-time or contingent instructor, but not full-time faculty member hired to teach in the Institute.
2. Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) means a measure of the overall cumulative performance of a student in 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.
3. 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.
4. Course refers to a theory or subject that the Research Advisory (Doctoral) Committee may suggest for the candidate to undergo as a part of the requirement of Ph.D. programme.
5. External examiner means an academician / researcher with published research work who is not part of the BSACIST.
6. 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.
7. Grade Point means a numerical weight allotted to each letter grade on a 10-point scale.
8. Guide / Research Supervisor means an academician / researcher recognized by BSACIST to supervise the scholar for his/her research.
9. Institute refers to B.S. Abdur Rahman Crescent Institute of Science and Technology (BSACIST).

10. Interdisciplinary Research means research conducted by a Ph.D. scholar in two or more academic disciplines.
11. 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.
12. Online Mode shall have the same meaning as defined under the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations 2020.
13. Plagiarism means the practice of taking someone else's work or idea and passing them as one's own.
14. Prospectus means any document, whether in print or otherwise, issued for providing fair and transparent information relating to BSACIST and programmes, to the general public.
15. 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.
16. Programme refers to Doctoral Programme leading to the award of Ph.D. degree in Engineering / Technology / Science / Social Sciences & Humanities / Management Studies / Law / Pharmacy in both Full-Time and Part-Time modes.
17. Research Board refers to the Board of members duly constituted by the Vice-Chancellor to oversee the Institute's research activities.
18. Dean (Research) refers to the Faculty member who monitors the research progress of all the scholars admitted for the Ph.D. programme from the date of provisional registration to Viva-Voce examination.
19. Dean (Academic Affairs) refers to the Faculty member who is responsible for the implementation of relevant rules and regulations for all the academic activities.
20. Controller of Examinations refers to the Faculty member who is responsible for the conduct of examinations, declaration of results for the courses registered by the scholar and certifies the award of Ph.D. degree to the scholar after successful completion of his / her Viva-Voce examination.
21. Research Advisory (Doctoral) Committee means a committee constituted by the Institute for the research scholar to monitor the progress of his / her research work.
22. School refers to the Schools of Mechanical Sciences / Electrical and Communication Sciences / Computer Information & Mathematical Sciences / Infrastructure / Architecture / Physical and Chemical Sciences / Social Sciences and Humanities / Life Sciences / Pharmacy / Arabic & Islamic Studies / Law and other schools that may be constituted by the Board of Management of the Institute.

23. Candidate means the applicant who has applied for the Ph.D. programme in BSACIST.

24. Scholar means any candidate admitted in the Institute under Full-Time or Part-Time mode for pursuing the programme for the award of the Ph.D. degree.

2.0 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

2.1 Candidates who have completed:

- i. 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)

- ii. 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.

Specific educational qualifications are given below:

Sl.No.	Programme	Qualification
(i)	Ph.D. degree in Engineering / Technology	M.E. / M.Tech.in the relevant branch of Engineering or Technology/ M.S (Research)
(ii)	Ph.D. degree in Science	M.Sc. / MCA / M.Tech in the relevant branch of Science
(iii)	Ph.D. degree in Social Sciences, Arts & Humanities	M.A. / M.Com / M. P.Ed / MLIS in the relevant branch of Social Sciences, Arts & Humanities
(iv)	Ph.D. degree in Management Sciences	MBA / MMS / Two-years Post Graduate (PG) Diploma in Business Management / Administration / any associated specialization approved by AICTE / awarded by the Indian Institute of Management (IIMs) / other Institutions recognized by AICTE

Sl.No.	Programme	Qualification
(v)	Ph.D. degree in law	Master of Law (LL.M.) or relevant degree from a recognized Institution approved by the Bar Council of India
(vi)	Ph.D. degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences	M.Pharm in the relevant branch of Science

- iii. 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.
 - iv. 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.
 - v. Foreign Nationals / Non-Resident Indians (NRI) with an equivalent Master's degree under regular Full-Time mode from a foreign educational Institution. Further, the foreign nationals must submit an equivalent degree certificate approved by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), New Delhi.
- 2.2 i. Candidates who have completed the M.Phil. programme with atleast 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed
- or
- ii. 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
 - iii. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC / ST / OBC (non-creamy layer) / Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

3.0 DURATION OF THE PROGRAMME

- 3.1. i. Two modes of Ph.D. programmes are available: Full-time mode and Part-time mode. (For Part-time mode, refer clause 11.0).

The duration of the programme and the time for submission of thesis are counted from the date of registration. The minimum and maximum period for submission of thesis and the duration of the programme shall be as under:

- (a) The minimum duration of the programme in Engineering & Technology, for Full-time and Part-time shall be three years. However, a Full-time scholar can submit thesis after completion of two years of registration, provided all other requirements are satisfied.
- (b) The minimum duration of the programme in Science / Social Sciences & Humanities / Law for Full-time / Part-time shall be three / four years respectively.
- (c) The minimum duration of the programme in Management Science for Full-time / Part-time shall be three / four years for scholars with Engineering and Science / Social Sciences & Humanities backgrounds respectively.

The maximum duration for all the above programmes shall be six years.

- ii. 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.
 - iii. The conversion of the mode of Ph.D. registration from Full-time to Part-time and Part-time to Full-time shall be permitted, provided the scholar's Supervisor and the Head of the Department / School Dean recommend the same for valid reasons, and if the candidate fulfils the other required norms.
- 3.2. i. A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re-registration as per the Statute / Ordinance of the Institute concerned; 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.
- ii. 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.

- iii. Break of study to research scholars shall be granted up to a maximum period of one year in spells of six months at a time. Such period shall be accounted for the counting of duration of the programme [clause 3.1 (ii)]. The research scholar should remit the programme fee during the break of period.
- 3.3 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.

4.0 PROCEDURE FOR ADMISSION

- 4.1 The admission shall be based on the criteria notified by the Institution in the website well in advance specifying the number of seats for admission, criteria for admission, the procedure for admission, and all other relevant information for the candidates. The guidelines / norms in this regard issued by the UGC and other statutory / regulatory bodies from time to time shall also be considered.

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

- i. BSACIST shall admit students who qualify for fellowship / scholarship in UGC-NET / UGC- CSIR NET / GATE / CEED and similar National level tests based on an interview.
(Or)
- ii. BSACIST shall admit students through an Entrance Test conducted at the Institute. The Entrance Test syllabus shall consist of 50% of research methodology, and 50% of subject- specific.
- iii. Students who have secured 50% marks in the entrance test are eligible to be called for the interview.
- iv. 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.
- v. BSACIST may decide the number of eligible students to be called for an interview based on the number of Ph.D. seats available.
- vi. Provided that for the selection of candidates based on the entrance test conducted by the Institute, a weightage of 70 % for the entrance test and 30 % for the performance in the interview / viva- voce shall be given.
- vii. The Research Board shall determine the suitability of such candidates and recommend to the Vice Chancellor for the admission of these candidates in the appropriate fields, after giving due consideration to the inter-disciplinary fields of research, if any.

- viii. With the approval of the Vice Chancellor, the selection of such candidates for provisional registration for the Ph.D. programme shall be communicated to the HOD of concerned Department, supervisor, the candidate and the sponsoring institution, if any.
- ix. The date of registration shall normally be the first working day of the month of July and January of the academic year in which the candidate is admitted.

5.0 ALLOCATION OF RESEARCH SUPERVISOR

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

- 5.1 i. Permanent faculty members working as Professor / Associate Professor of BSACIST 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 BSACIST 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 Institute where the faculty member is employed. Such recognized research supervisors cannot supervise research scholars in other institutions, where they can only act as co-supervisors. Ph.D. awarded by a Institute under the supervision of a faculty member who is not an employee of the Institute or its affiliated Post- graduate Colleges / Institutes would be in violation of these Regulations.

- ii. For Ph.D. scholars working in Central government / State government research Institutions whose degrees are given by BSACIST, the scientists in such research institutions who are equivalent to Professor / Associate Professor / Assistant Professor can be recognized as supervisors if they fulfill the above requirements as stated in 5.1.(i).
- iii. Provided that in areas / disciplines where there is no, or only a limited number of peer-reviewed or refereed journals, BSACIST may relax the above condition for recognition of a faculty member as Research Supervisor with reasons recorded in writing.
- iv. The mentor from the Industry / Research Organisations / Central University / State University with R & D facilities where the Part-time research scholars have been employed shall function as a Joint-Supervisor (Co-Supervisor) provided he / she satisfies the eligibility criteria.
- v. Adjunct Faculty members shall not act as Research Supervisors and can only act as co-supervisors.

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- vi. (a) Under normal circumstances, the change of Research Supervisor for a scholar will not be entertained. However, if the existing Supervisor attains superannuation / gets relieved from the service, the request for a change of Research Supervisor will be considered.
- (b) When a supervisor of a scholar happens to be away from the Institute due to any other assignment for more than six months, a coordinator shall be nominated on a temporary basis by the Dean (Research) in consultation with the concerned HOD and Dean of the research scholar.
- (c) If the scholar has submitted the thesis to the Office of Dean (Research) before the relieving date of his / her Supervisor, the name of the Supervisor remains unaltered. In such a case, the Dean (Research), in consultation with the concerned HOD and Dean of the research scholar, will appoint a coordinator to conduct the viva-voce proceedings.
- 5.2 In case of interdisciplinary / multidisciplinary research work, if required, a Co-Supervisor from outside the Department / School / Centre / College / University may be appointed.
- 5.3 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.
- 5.4 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.
- 5.5 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.
- 6.0 ADMISSION OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN Ph.D. PROGRAMME**
- 6.1 Each supervisor can guide upto two international research scholars on a Supernumerary basis over and above the permitted number of Ph.D. scholars as as stated in 5.1.(i).
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6.2 BSACIST may decide their own 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.

7.0 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 5.3 and clause 6.1.

8.0 COURSEWORK – CREDIT REQUIREMENTS, NUMBER, DURATION, SYLLABUS, MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR COMPLETION, ETC

8.1 (i) 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. Ph.D. scholars who have studied “Research Methodology” in their PG programme shall be exempted from that course only with due approval from the Research Advisory (Doctoral)Committee. However, exemption of coursework upto a maximum of 6 credits only. Ph.D. scholars shall be permitted to take one directed course under the guidance of Supervisor.

(ii) The Research Advisory (Doctoral) Committee can also recommend UGC recognized online courses as part of the credit requirements for the Ph.D. programme. The courses which are evaluated and certificates with grades / marks issued alone will be considered.

8.2 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.

8.3 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.

9.0 RESEARCH ADVISORY (DOCTORAL) COMMITTEE AND ITS FUNCTIONS

9.1 There shall be a Research Advisory (Doctoral) Committee or an equivalent body as defined in the Statutes / Ordinances of the BSACIST concerned for each Ph.D. scholar. The Research Supervisor shall be the Convener of the committee, and it shall have the following responsibilities:

- i. To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research.
- ii. 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.

- iii. To periodically review and assist in the progress of the research work of the Ph.D. scholar.
- 9.2 Each semester, a Ph.D. scholar shall appear before the Committee to make a presentation and submit a brief report on the progress of his / her research work for evaluation and further guidance. The Committee shall submit its recommendations along with a copy of Ph.D. scholar's progress report to the BSACIST. A copy of such recommendations shall also be provided to the Ph.D. scholar.
- 9.3 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.
- 10.0 EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT METHODS, MINIMUM STANDARDS / CREDITS FOR AWARD OF THE DEGREE etc.,**
- 10.1 Upon satisfactory completion of course work and obtaining the marks / grade prescribed in clause(3) of Regulation 9 above, and subsequently, the Research Advisory (Doctoral) committee shall conduct an oral examination towards confirmation of Ph.D registration within two (02) years from the date of provisional registration.
- 10.2 Before submitting the dissertation / thesis, the Ph.D. scholar should fulfill the following criteria:
- (a) The scholars from Science / Engineering stream should have a minimum of two research papers in the Scopus / WOS (SCI / SCIE) indexed journals, either published or accepted for publication.
 - (b) The scholars from Management studies should have a minimum of two research papers in the Scopus / WOS (SSCI / AHCI) / ABDC indexed journals, either published or accepted for publication
 - (c) The scholars from Social Sciences & Humanities should have a minimum of two research papers in the Scopus / WOS (SSCI / AHCI) journals, either published or accepted for publication.

- (d) The scholar is encouraged to participate & present his / her research work in national / international: conferences / seminars / symposia with ISSN or publish a book chapter / edited volume with ISBN.
 - (e) The publications claimed for the completion of the Ph.D. programme should be relevant to the scholar's thesis topic; the scholar shall be the first author, and the Supervisor, the corresponding author.
- 10.3 Before submitting the dissertation / thesis, the Ph.D. scholar shall make a presentation before the Research Advisory (Doctoral) Committee, which shall also be open to all faculty members and other research scholars / students.
- 10.4 The Higher Educational Institution concerned 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.
- 10.5 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.
 - (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.
 - (c) The thesis submitted will be checked for plagiarism check using TURNITIN software
 - (d) The similarity index of the submitted thesis should not be more than 10%
- 10.6 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 Higher Educational Institution concerned.

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 viva-voce board shall consist of the Research Supervisor and at least one of the two external examiners and may be conducted online. The viva-voce shall be open to the members of the Research Advisory Committee / faculty members / research scholars, and students. Higher Educational Institutions may formulate appropriate rules / ordinances to effect the provisions of this Regulations.

- 10.7 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, BSACIST 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. degree.
- 10.8 BSACIST 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.

11.0 Ph.D. THROUGH PART-TIME MODE

- 11.1 Ph.D. programmes through Part-time mode will be permitted, provided all the conditions stipulated in these Regulations are fulfilled.
- 11.2 BSACIST 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.
- 11.3 Notwithstanding anything contained in these Regulations or any other law, for the time being in force, no Higher Educational Institution or research institution of the Central government or a State Government shall conduct Ph.D. programmes through distance and / or online mode.

12.0 ISSUING A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE

Prior to the actual award of the Ph.D. degree, BSACIST shall issue a provisional certificate to the effect that the Ph.D. is being awarded in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.

13.0 AWARD OF Ph.D. DEGREES PRIOR TO NOTIFICATION OF THESE REGULATIONS

- i. 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
- ii. 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
- iii. UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil. / Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016. Nothing in these Regulations shall impact the M.Phil. degree programmes commencing prior to the enactment of these Regulations.

14.0 DEPOSITORY WITH INFLIBNET

Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and before the announcement of the award of the Ph.D. degree(s), BSACIST 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.

15.0 POWER TO MODIFY

Notwithstanding all that has been stated above, the Academic Council of the Institute has the right to modify any of the above regulations from time to time.