



**Mahatma Gandhi University
Meghalaya**

**Admission Policy for Ph.D.
Program**

Mahatma Gandhi University, Meghalaya

Admission Policy for the Ph.D. Program

Mahatma Gandhi University, Meghalaya

1. Preamble

In accordance with the *University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022*, Mahatma Gandhi University, Meghalaya (hereinafter referred to as “the University”) establishes this **Ph.D. Admission Policy** to regulate, standardize, and maintain the quality of doctoral admissions. This policy ensures transparency, fairness, and adherence to academic and ethical standards in the selection of candidates for Ph.D. programs across disciplines.

2. Objectives

The primary objective of this policy is to uphold the integrity and credibility of the doctoral admission process by implementing a structured and merit-based selection system. This policy aims to:

1. Identify and admit candidates with exceptional academic and research aptitude.
2. Ensure compliance with UGC regulations and maintain national and international standards in research.
3. Promote inclusivity, diversity, and accessibility in doctoral education.
4. Encourage interdisciplinary and socially relevant research contributions.

3. Eligibility Criteria

In accordance with *Clause 2.1* of the UGC Ph.D. Regulations, 2022, the eligibility criteria for admission to the Ph.D. program at Mahatma Gandhi University, Meghalaya are as follows:

1. Candidates must have obtained a **Master’s degree** (or equivalent) in a relevant discipline from a recognized university with a minimum of **55% marks** in aggregate or an equivalent grade.
 - A relaxation of **5% marks** (i.e., 50%) is granted for candidates belonging to **SC/ST/OBC (Non-Creamy Layer)/Differently Abled** categories, as per UGC norms.
2. Candidates who have cleared **UGC-NET (including JRF)/UGC-CSIR NET/GATE/CEED/GPAT** or equivalent national-level examinations shall be exempted from the university’s entrance test but are required to appear for the interview.
3. Candidates holding an **M.Phil. degree** (recognized by UGC) with coursework shall be eligible for direct admission to the Ph.D. program, subject to evaluation.

4. Working professionals from academia, industry, or government organizations with relevant experience may be considered under the **Part-Time Ph.D. category**, provided they fulfill the required academic qualifications.

4. Admission Process

The admission process for the Ph.D. program at Mahatma Gandhi University, Meghalaya comprises **three stages**:

4.1 Notification & Application Submission

- The University shall issue an official **Admission Notification** in national and regional newspapers, the university website, and other digital platforms.
- Candidates must apply online/offline within the stipulated deadline by submitting a duly completed application form, along with required academic credentials and research proposals.

4.2 Entrance Examination

- Except for candidates exempted under *Clause 3.2*, all applicants must qualify in the **Ph.D. Entrance Test (PET)** conducted by the university.
- The **syllabus** of PET shall comprise:
 - **50% Research Methodology**
 - **50% Subject-Specific Content**
- The qualifying cut-off for PET shall be **50%** (45% for SC/ST/OBC (Non-Creamy Layer)/Differently Abled candidates).

4.3 Interview & Final Selection

- Shortlisted candidates (based on PET scores or exemptions under *Clause 3.2*) shall be invited for a **Research Proposal Presentation and Interview** before the **RAC** (Research Advisory Committee). The evaluation shall be based on:
 1. **Research Aptitude and Feasibility of Proposed Study**
 2. **Academic and Professional Experience**
 3. **Alignment with University Research Priorities**
- The final selection shall be based on the **cumulative performance in the entrance test (if applicable) and interview (70% Marks weightage of Entrance & 30% weightage of Interview)**. The University shall publish a **merit list** on its official website.

Note: After Final Selection, Students has to complete Ph. D. Course Work successfully with Minimum 50% Marks.

5. Constitution of the Doctoral Research Committee (DRC)

The **Doctoral Research Committee (DRC)** is the apex body responsible for overseeing the Ph.D. admission process, ensuring academic integrity, and evaluating research proposals. The composition of the **DRC** shall be as follows:

6. Reservation and Diversity Policy

Mahatma Gandhi University, Meghalaya adheres strictly to the **Reservation Policy of the Government of India** and UGC guidelines. The seat allocation shall be in compliance with the university's affirmative action framework to ensure equitable access to research opportunities.

7. Validity of Admission

- Candidates **must enrol within one semester** from the date of admission confirmation.
- Failure to register within the stipulated period shall result in the cancellation of admission unless prior approval is granted by the **Doctoral Research Committee (DRC)**.

8. Fee Structure

- The **Ph.D. admission fee, coursework fee, and annual research fee** shall be determined by the University's Fee Regulation Committee and notified before each admission cycle.
- Candidates receiving fellowships/scholarships from UGC, ICSSR, DST, or any other funding agency shall be required to comply with their respective funding norms.

9. Cancellation of Admission

Admission shall be revoked under the following circumstances:

1. If any fraudulent or misleading information is found in the application.
2. Failure to adhere to the university's research code of conduct.
3. Plagiarism or violation of research ethics as per *Clause 9 of the UGC Regulations, 2022*.
4. Failure to complete coursework or submit progress reports within stipulated deadlines.

10. Policy Review and Amendments

This policy shall be reviewed periodically by the **Academic Council and Doctoral Research Committee (DRC)** to align with UGC regulations and evolving research paradigms. Any amendments shall be duly notified to stakeholders.

Mahatma Gandhi University, Meghalaya remains committed to upholding the highest standards of academic rigor and research excellence through its **Ph.D. Admission Policy**. This policy fosters a transparent, merit-driven, and research-intensive ecosystem, ensuring that scholars contribute meaningfully to academia and society at large. The University pledges unwavering adherence to UGC norms while fostering a culture of **scholarly integrity, innovation, and ethical research practices**.