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BHARATHIDASAN UNIVERSITY
(Accredited with 'A' grade by NAAC)
Tiruchirappalli – 620 024



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Ph.D. REGULATIONS

(Applicable from July 2011 onwards)



BHARATHIDASAN UNIVERSITY

Palkalaiperur

Tiruchirappalli-620 024

Ph.D. PROGRAMME

Regulations

(July 2011 onwards)

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BHARATHIDASAN UNIVERSITY

(Accredited with 'A' grade by NAAC)

TIRUCHIRAPPALLI – 620 024

TAMILNADU, INDIA

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Programme

Regulations

(Applicable from July 2011 onwards)

1.0 PREAMBLE

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree is the highest academic degree which requires extended study and extensive intellectual effort. Ph.D. degree is awarded to a candidate who, as per these regulations, has submitted a thesis or dissertation on the basis of original and independent research in any particular subject / discipline or involving more than one discipline (inter-disciplinary), that makes a contribution to the advancement of knowledge, which is approved by Board of examiners as required. There is a minimum period of study for the candidate before submission of thesis. Candidates who fulfill the eligibility requirements of the Bharathidasan University shall be admitted to the Ph.D. programme as per the admission procedure.

1.1 PLACES OF RESEARCH

Research leading to Ph.D. (Full-Time / Part-Time) degree must be carried out only in the places mentioned in 1.1.1 to 1.1.3 which have been recognized by the Bharathidasan University as centres for advanced research and training in the disciplines / areas approved by the Bharathidasan University.

- 1.1.1 Departments / Schools / Centres / Extension Centres of Bharathidasan University
(OR)
- 1.1.2 Approved Research Centres / Departments of the Colleges (Constituent / Autonomous / Aided / Self-financing) affiliated to this University
(OR)
- 1.1.3 Regional / National Institutions / Research Laboratories / Organizations / their regional Laboratories / Centres based at any part of the Country and Institution abroad / Industrial Establishments in India or abroad

1.2 CATEGORIES OF Ph.D. SCHOLARS

- i. Full-Time Research Scholars
- ii. Part-Time Research Scholars
- iii. Independent Research Scholars (Full-Time or Part-Time)

1.3 FULL-TIME Research Scholars

Research Scholars within the definition of this category are those who pursue their full-time doctoral research under the guidance of a Research Supervisor in the places mentioned in 1.1.

1.4 PART-TIME Research Scholars

Research Scholars within this category are those who are presently employed either on regular or temporary basis with a minimum of one year of continuous service / experience in any college / school / institute / industry / organisation, may pursue their doctoral research under the guidance of a Research Supervisor on Part-Time basis in the places mentioned in 1.1.

1.5 INDEPENDENT Research Scholars (Full-Time / Part-Time)

Teachers regularly employed in this University and in the colleges affiliated to this University and the Scientists / Researchers working on regular basis in the Regional / National Laboratories, Institutes and Educational Institutions mentioned in 1.1, who carry out the doctoral research independently without the guidance of a Research Supervisor either on Full-Time or Part-Time basis in the places mentioned in 1.1 belong to this category.

2.0 ELIGIBILITY OF ENROLLMENT FOR Ph.D.

2.1 Full-Time Research Scholars

- 2.1.1 The candidates who have qualified for Master's degree (10 + 2 + 3 + 2 pattern or equivalent in that order) of this university or of any other university recognized by this university as equivalent thereto with not less than 55% of marks or a CGPA of 5.51 and above in the 10.00 point scale under CBCS, under the faculties of Arts, Science, Fine Arts, Indian and other languages, Management, Law, Education / Educational Technology, Engineering, Technology, Commerce, Pharmacy, Medicine, Surgery, Veterinary Science, etc., are eligible to register for Ph.D. in this university under this category. The candidates, who have qualified for CA or CFA or ACS or ICW with basic degree, are also eligible to register for Ph.D. in this University under this category. Their Course of study must be as per the regulations of this University or any other University accredited by UGC for the award of the degrees in the respective disciplines of study co-relatable with those of Bharathidasan University. The candidates who have qualified for Master's Degree prior to 19-9-1991, with not less than 50% of marks, are also eligible to register for Ph.D. programme in this University. The SC/ST candidates are eligible for 5% exemption from the prescribed minimum marks.

Master's Degree Qualifying Marks

55% of marks or 5.51 of CGPA and above in the 10.00 point scale under CBCS
50% of marks and above for SC/ST / Physically or Visually challenged
50% of marks and above for those who got Master's degree prior to 19-9-1991

- 2.1.2 Research Fellows of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) / Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) / Bhabha Atomic Research Centre / Researchers, Scientists and JRF/SRF/PF etc., working in research projects funded by external agencies such as DST/ DOD/ DOEn/ UGC / CSIR and similar national and state level organizations and executed by this University / recognized research centres of the colleges affiliated to this University and regional and National Institutions / Laboratories dedicated to Science and Technology development are also eligible to register for Ph.D. under Full-Time Research provided they fulfill the eligibility norms as mentioned in 2.1.1.

2.2 Part-Time Research Scholars

Research candidates as mentioned in 1.4, who possess the eligibility norms as mentioned in 2.1.1.

2.3 Independent Research Scholars (Full-Time or Part-Time)

- 2.3.1 Persons who possess the eligibility norms mentioned in 2.1.1, subject to the Regulation 2.3.2, are eligible to conduct research work independently either in Full-Time or Part-Time basis.
- 2.3.2 The candidates should have 5 years of teaching at UG/PG level or research experience and a minimum of 5 publications in professionally recognized journals.

2.4 Conversion of Full-Time Registration to Part-Time and Vice-Versa

The University may permit the scholars for conversion from Full-Time research to Part-Time basis and vice-versa in respect of registered candidates for valid reasons, with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor. For these scholars the minimum and maximum period of research will be decided on pro-rata basis, based on the period already completed in Full-Time / Part-Time.

3.0 RECOGNITION OF RESEARCH SUPERVISORS

- 3.1 Teachers working on regular basis in the Departments / Schools / Centres of this University and in recognized Research Centres of the colleges affiliated to this University with Ph.D. Degree who have completed a minimum of one year after Ph.D. Degree or with proven research record in the form of a minimum of one research publication after obtaining Ph.D. Degree in professionally recognized National / International journals, whichever is earlier.
- 3.1.1 The teachers working on regular basis in the affiliated colleges shall produce a copy of the appointment order with the present basic pay in the scale of pay, GPF / EPF number and recent service certificate.
- i. A faculty member working on a regular basis, who applies for recognition as a Research Advisor from a self-financing college must submit a copy of the letter of "Qualification Approval" for lecturer / assistant professor given by the Registrar of the University along with their application for Research Advisorship, with approval from the Vice-Chancellor.

- ii. The faculty members of Government Colleges / Government Aided College working on regular / permanent basis who apply for Research Advisorship are exempted from submission of a copy of the letter of “Qualification Approval” for lecturers / assistant professor given by the Registrar.
 - iii. Research Advisorship shall not be granted to the teachers working as Guest Lecturers / Teaching Assistants working on temporary basis.
 - iv. If a research supervisor resigns and joins another institute / college, then he / she must produce the documents again to confirm their present job is also a permanent position.
- 3.2 Scientists/Researchers working on regular basis in various regional and National Institutions / Research Laboratories / Organizations / Industries (which are recognized as Research Centres by this University), possessing a Ph.D. degree and having completed a minimum of one year after Ph.D. or having proven research record in the form of minimum of one research publication after obtaining Ph.D. Degree in professionally recognized National / International journals, whichever is earlier.
- 3.3 Any recognized research guide could also serve as a Co-guide in his/her subject / discipline. Any Ph.D. degree holder who may not be a recognized research guide could serve as a Co-ordinator.
- 3.4 The Research Supervisors should stop registering new candidates for research, two years before their retirement. However, they can register new candidates with a co-guide, till their retirement.
- 3.5 The individuals mentioned in 3.1 and 3.2 desirous of getting themselves recognized as Research Supervisors must apply to the University and seek for recognition. The University has the right to accept or reject the applications of individuals for recognition as Research Supervisors. Such recognition shall normally be given only for the subject in which the individual has contributed original research and after getting the opinion of an expert in the concerned discipline nominated by the Vice-Chancellor. The applicants for guideship should pay the prescribed application processing fee of Rs.3,000/- (Rupees Three Thousand only) in the form of Demand Draft in favour of “Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli”, while applying for Research Advisorship.
- 3.6 A research guide is normally eligible to guide in his / her basic subject / discipline. As a special case, he / she may be permitted to guide in a relevant subject in which he / she has at least two publications in professionally recognized National / International journals, as the first / corresponding author (or) authored a book, after getting approval of the expert in the concerned discipline as nominated by Vice-Chancellor. If there are any issues, then the decision of the Vice-Chancellor shall be final.
- 3.6.1 Further, a Research Supervisor in the field in which he/she has obtained his/her doctoral degree, but working as a regular member of the faculty in a different but related Department, can guide scholars for Ph.D. either in his/her field of Doctoral research or in the area of his/her specialization in the department where he / she serves, after obtaining the research advisorship in the area of his/her specialization in the department where he / she serves.

- 3.6.2 If a Research Advisor is transferred to another college coming under the jurisdiction of Bharathidasan University and that the department of the college is recognized by the university for Ph.D. research, the full-time and part-time Research scholars of the Research Advisor should get change of centre and continue their research under the same guide at the department of the college to which the Research Advisor is posted on transfer.
- 3.6.3 If the department of the college, to which a Research Advisor is posted on transfer, is not recognized by Bharathidasan University for Ph.D. research
- i. the full-time and part-time Ph.D. research scholars, who have registered for Ph.D. program under the said Research Advisor before his/her transfer, should either get change of guide
 - (OR)
 - ii. they can continue their research in the same college from which they registered for Ph.D. program and under the same Research Advisor but they should have a co-guide in the college in which they continue their research.
- 3.6.4 If a Research Advisor is transferred to a college situated outside the jurisdiction of Bharathidasan University, his/her full-time and part-time Ph.D. Research students should get change of guide or pursue their research with a co-guide in the same research department of the college.
- 3.6.5 The Research Advisors working in affiliated colleges can take both full-time and part-time Research Scholars only if the departments to which they are attached to are recognized by the University for Ph.D. research.
- 3.6.6 The research guides in the Departments of various affiliated colleges of Bharathidasan University offering UG degree in any subject which do not fulfill the requirements of 4.2.2 can guide part-time research scholars by admitting them in an approved research department / centre of a nearby college / institute with their necessary permission.
- 3.6.7 Candidates registered for Ph.D in the related discipline of the guide, as mentioned in 3.6, may be permitted to register in the approved research centre of the department of the guide. In this case, the Departmental Research Committee (DRC), will also be the same as the DRC of the basic department of the guide. However, at least one of the members of the Doctoral Committee (DC) must be from the related discipline of Research. If there are any issues in the functioning of Departmental Research Committee (DRC), it shall be brought to the notice of University administration and the decision of Vice-Chancellor shall be final.
- 3.7 A Research Supervisor shall guide a maximum of eight Ph.D. candidates including part-time scholars and Ph.D. candidates registered with other universities, if any, and a maximum of five M.Phil. scholars, at a time. The Supervisor shall be required to give a declaration to this effect at the time of registration. Further, a Research Supervisor is not permitted to take more than two research scholars in a session. However, to increase the number of Ph.D. research candidates to Eminent Scientists / Academicians, the decision is left to the discretion of the Vice-Chancellor, based on the merit of the individual case.
- 3.8 A Research Supervisor recognized to guide for Ph.D. can also guide M.Phil. scholars without obtaining a separate recognition as a M.Phil research supervisor.

4.0 RECOGNITION OF RESEARCH CENTERS

To offer Ph.D. (Full-Time / Part-Time) research programmes, it is necessary to obtain the approval for the research centers / departments from the university as recognized research centers / departments.

4.1 Departments / Schools / Centers of this University

All the Departments / Schools / Centres functioning directly under the administrative control of Bharathidasan University are recognized as Research Centres. They can admit scholars falling under all three categories mentioned in 1.3 to 1.5.

4.2 Colleges / Institutions affiliated to this University

4.2.1 The P.G. Departments of various affiliated colleges and approved Institutions of Bharathidasan University offering post-graduate programmes are eligible to obtain official recognition to be a Research Centre from the University to admit candidates for Ph.D. Full-Time / Part-Time under categories 1.3 & 1.4.

4.2.2 The Departments of various affiliated colleges of Bharathidasan University offering UG degree in any subject (offering that subject as the main subject) are eligible to obtain official recognition to admit candidates for Ph.D. Full-Time / Part-Time under categories 1.3 & 1.4 in that subject provided

- i. adequate facilities for the concerned subjects exist for carrying out research,
- ii. there is at least one Research Supervisor in the subject
- iii. there should be evidence of research activities by means of published work in refereed journals over a period of three years

4.2.3 In the case of special area of research, collaboration can be made only with the approved research centres of Bharathidasan University.

4.3 Research Laboratories/ Organizations/ Institutions/ Industries

Various Regional and National Research Laboratories / Institutions / Organizations / Industries are also eligible to apply and obtain official recognition from the university to be the Research Centres to admit candidates for Ph.D. Full-Time / Part-Time under categories 1.3 & 1.4. Institutions desirous of getting recognition must apply to the University for securing recognition as Centres of Research.

4.4 Committee for awarding recognition

The University will get these institutions mentioned in 4.2 and 4.3, assessed through a committee before awarding the recognition. The committee must also recommend the number of the Ph.D. scholars to be admitted based on the infrastructural facilities available including the conduct of the course work in the department / centre.

5.0 ADMISSION PROCESS

5.1 Constitution of Departmental Research Committee (DRC)

Departmental Research Committees (DRCs) are constituted for an effective coordination of the Ph.D research activities of the departments including selection and admission of Research scholars, constitution of Doctoral Committees (DCs) and maintenance of the quality of research.

- 5.1.1 Faculty Members who have been recognized as Research Guides by the university shall be the members of the Departmental Research Committee (DRC).
- 5.1.2 If the Head of the Department is a recognized Research Guide he/she shall be the coordinator of the DRC
- 5.1.3 If the Head of the Department is not a recognized Research Guide, then the faculty member who has more experience as a recognized Research Guide in the Department shall be the Coordinator of the DRC.
- 5.1.4 If there are any issues either in the constitution or functioning of the Departmental Research Committee, then it shall be brought to the notice of the University administration and the decision of the Vice-Chancellor shall be final.
- 5.1.5 The Departmental Research Committee shall select candidates for admission to Ph.D. program and allocate guides in the subject / discipline to them.

5.2 General Procedures for Admission and Provisional Registration

- 5.2.1.
 - i Candidates desirous of admission and registration into the Ph.D. research programme under any category specified in 1.2 shall obtain the prescribed "Application Form for Admission and Provisional Registration" from the University or from the University website and submit the application form along with a brief research proposal of 500 words, experience certificate, if any and research publications, if any to the concerned Departments of the University or the concerned college, as the case may be.
 - ii The Departmental Research Committee (DRC) will follow the selection process given in 5.2.2, for the provisional admission of the candidates, and forward the applications with its recommendations to the Registrar of the University through the Principal of the respective college / the Head of the Departments of the University for necessary action. The Registrar will inform the candidates about their provisional admission and registration.
 - iii The research guide and the candidate must ensure that the application is complete and all the necessary documents enclosed before submitting the application.
 - iv Incomplete applications submitted without enclosing any necessary documents will not be accepted. No interim correspondence will be made.

5.2.2 Selection Procedure for Provisional Admission and Registration

The selection of candidates for provisional admission and registration shall be based on the following procedure

- i. The selection shall be based on both written test and interview. The written test would comprise of objective questions for 75 marks and examine research aptitude, grasp of the subject, intellectual ability and general knowledge of the prospective candidates. The interview would be conducted for 25 marks. The teacher candidates, the candidates who have passed M.Phil./UGC/CSIR/NET/SLET examinations, candidates working in the sponsored research projects, University Research studentship candidates and FIP candidates shall be exempted from the written test; but shall have to take the interview.
- ii. Students are free to indicate their own choice of the research guide.
- iii. The Research Proposal of the student should be placed before the research guides for selecting their choice of students.
- iv. In the case of Part-time Research candidates there should be a co-guide or coordinator at the place of work (College / Research Institution), if it is different from the college / institute of their research guide.
- v. The allocation of the Research guide (supervisor) for a selected student will be decided by the Departmental Research Committee, depending upon the vacancy based on the number of students per faculty member, permitted by the University, the available specializations among the faculty supervisors and the chosen topic of research by the student. In no case, the allocation of guide should be left to the individual student or guide.
- vi. The “Minutes of the Departmental Research Committee” should indicate the chosen guide and the subject / discipline.
- vii. The Departmental Research Committee (DRC) should certify to the effect that the selected topic for research is not a repetition of the earlier research works based on earlier Ph.D. research works of the guide.

5.2.3 A candidate seeking admission to Ph.D. programme under Independent Research Scholars category 1.5 is exempted from the written test and has to follow the same procedure.

5.3 Research in another related Discipline

Candidates shall normally be eligible for registration for Ph.D. Programme in the discipline in which he/she has obtained Master's Degree. He / She shall be allowed to join for Ph.D. programme only in that Department which is named after the subject of his / her Master's degree. It shall, however, be open to a candidate to apply for admission to a doctoral programme in another discipline related to the subject in which he/she has obtained Master's degree. When the candidate registers for a Ph.D. in a discipline different from his / her Master's degree, the candidate would be given Ph.D. Degree as decided by the Departmental Research Committee at the time of Registration. The guide should be a recognized guide in the area of research irrespective of the department he/she works.

- 5.3.1 In the case of inter-disciplinary nature of research, the Ph.D. degree will be awarded in the PG subject of the student along with the interdisciplinary subject mentioned as interdisciplinary within brackets, which must be recommended by the DRC based on the request of the student and the guide.
- 5.4 A candidate provisionally registered for the Ph.D. degree Programme but wishing to qualify for the M.Phil. degree in a subject related to the area of Ph.D. work shall register for the M.Phil. degree simultaneously and qualify there of, fulfilling the regulations governing the M.Phil. degree and shall proceed to continue the research thereafter in the same subject.
- 5.5 Registration of any candidate under the guideship of his/her relative is prohibited.
- 5.6 A scholar provisionally registered for the Ph.D. degree should not register for any other degree of any University either in formal programme or non-formal programme except as provided in 5.4. However, the scholars can register for not more than two certificate / diploma programmes of one year duration through correspondence stream of any University.

6.0 MONITORING

6.1 Doctoral Committee

The members of the Doctoral committee will be recommended by the Research Supervisor for the approval of the University for each candidate immediately after selecting the candidate for provisional registration.

6.1.1 Full-Time & Part-Time Research Scholars

The Doctoral Committee, approved by the University for the above two categories of scholars, will have a composition of three members, as detailed below.

- i. Research Supervisor as the Convenor
- ii. Two subject experts to be recommended by the Research Supervisor.
- iii. In the case of Part-time Research Scholars, the co-guide or co-ordinator will be a member of the Doctoral Committee.

6.1.2 Independent Research Scholars

For this category of scholars, the Vice-Chancellor will constitute a Doctoral Committee consisting of three subject experts out of whom one will be designated as Convenor.

6.2 Monitoring of Research

6.2.1 Course Work for Ph.D. Scholars

All candidates, (Full-time or Part-time) shall undergo Course Work after provisional registration, as part of Ph.D. programme in the first year. The course work should be treated

as pre-Ph.D. preparation. One of the courses to be prescribed for course work must be Research Methodology. However, for those candidates (Full time /Part time) with M.Phil. qualification, the course on Research Methodology shall be exempted. The Research Scholars registered under the faculty of Arts, Science and humanity must undergo three courses of which one will be 'Research Methodology' (exempted for M.Phil. candidates), the second course will be in the core area of research and the third will be in the related areas to support the research work. In the case of Research Scholars registered under the faculty of Engineering and Technology Pharmacy, Medicine, Surgery, Veterinary Science, etc., they must undergo four courses of which one will be Research Methodology, two courses will be in the core areas of Research and the fourth course will be in the related areas required to support the research work. The Research Scholars must complete the course requirements normally within a period of 1½ years in order to pursue further with his / her Ph.D. research. The Registration shall be confirmed only after the completion of the course work. Failure to complete the course work within the stipulated period shall entail automatic cancellation of registration. The course will be evaluated for an internal assessment of 40% and a final examination 60%. Each course work must have 4 credits. The conduct of course work and question pattern may be followed according to the M.Phil. degree. Some of the course work may be of 'self-study' nature.

These course works must be decided by the Doctoral Committee, in its first meeting to be held within three months from the date of provisional Registration based on the level of knowledge of the scholar in the area of research. Depending upon the level of the scholar the Doctoral Committee can recommend for waiving one or more courses or add one or more courses over and above the minimum number of courses prescribed for the approval of the Vice-Chancellor.

- i. The Research Advisors shall conduct the final examinations for the course work of their research students, evaluate the answer scripts and send the marks to the Controller of Examinations of the university along with a copy of the syllabus, the Question papers and the original answer scripts of the course work. The research students shall have to pay a fee of Rs.60/- towards the cost of the Statement of Marks and that the fee should be sent to the Controller of Examinations of the University by means of Demand Draft drawn in favour of "Bharathidasan University Tiruchirappalli".
- ii. The Research Scholars who registered themselves for Ph.D. program on or after 01.04.2006 and still have not completed their course work papers shall do and complete them in accordance with the aforesaid new guidelines.

6.2.2 Presentation of broad area of research

The research scholars belonging to all the three categories mentioned in 1.2 will present their broad area of research and submit the proposal to the Doctoral Committee within six months from the date of grant of provisional registration by the University.

6.2.3 Submission of Half Yearly progress reports

The research scholars of all categories must submit half-yearly progress reports every six

months to the university, counter signed by the Convener of the Doctoral Committee after six months from the date of provisional registration, until they submit the synopsis of the thesis.

6.2.4 Presentation of progress report

Between 1½ and 2 years after provisional registration, the scholars must present themselves before Doctoral Committee along with their one and half year's progress report and the results of the course work for assessment by the Doctoral Committee and then a report will be forwarded to the University by the Doctoral Committee. On the basis of this progress report and the recommendations of the Doctoral Committee, the Provisional Registration of the scholars will be confirmed (Failure to present before the Doctoral Committee within the above mentioned period shall entail automatic cancellation of registration). For those who undergo course work and fail to complete the course work within 1½ years and the Doctoral Committee may recommend for an extension of period of six months, if the doctoral committee is convinced of their performance, if not, the Doctoral Committee may recommend for canceling the registration.

When a Research Scholar is not recommended by the Doctoral Committee for confirmation of Registration at the end of the presentation of his/her progress report, the Research Scholar should continue to pursue research for a further period not exceeding six months at the end of which the Research Scholar shall present himself/herself along with another progress report for assessment by the Doctoral Committee again. If found fit, the Doctoral Committee will recommend along with the progress report to the University, for confirmation of the Provisional Registration. On this basis, the University will confirm the Provisional Registration and permit the candidate to proceed with his/her research. A Research Scholar who is not recommended second time by the Doctoral Committee, shall not be permitted to continue his/her research and his/her Provisional Registration shall be cancelled (Failure to present before the Doctoral Committee with in the above mentioned period shall entail automatic cancellation of registration).

6.2.5 Presentation of progress reports for the second year and subsequent years

In addition to submitting the half-yearly progress reports, the scholars must submit annual progress reports to the university every year through the Doctoral Committee until they submit the synopsis of the thesis.

6.2.6 Failure to submit half-yearly progress reports and annual progress reports shall entail automatic cancellation of registration.

6.2.7 Number of Meetings by the Doctoral Committee

The Doctoral Committee should be convened within 6 months from the date of provisional Registration to access the progress; otherwise the registration will be treated as cancelled.

The Doctoral Committee must meet at least once in a year for each scholar until the scholar submits the synopsis of his / her thesis, to study the annual progress reports.

- 6.2.8 During the course of the research period, for reasons approved by the Research Supervisor or Doctoral Committee (in the case of independent research scholar) a candidate may be permitted to spend not more than ONE YEAR in an institution (including foreign countries) outside the present research institution where the scholar is doing research, on a research project approved for the purpose, for carrying out investigation/research related to the subject of Ph.D. work.
- 6.2.9 The part-time scholars be required to have put in a minimum of 30 contact days in each year of his/her Ph.D. programme directly under Research Supervisor, in one or two spells. Independent research scholars who are doing research under part-time research basis should present themselves for a minimum of 30 days during each year of their Ph.D. programme in the research institution where they conduct the research work, in one or two spells. The department / centre should maintain an attendance register for the Part-Time candidates also for this purpose.
- 6.2.10 Before the submission of thesis the Ph.D. candidates should present the synopsis of his/her thesis before the doctoral Committee, faculty members and Research Scholars at a seminar for public defence and then submit the synopsis within two weeks from the date of seminar along with signatures of attendees including the members of the doctoral committee to the Controller of Examinations.

7.0 REGISTRATION SESSION

There shall be Four Sessions for registration and the last date for submission of Admission and Provisional Registration application forms is as follows.

Session	Last Date
January	1 st December
April	1 st March
July	1 st June
October	1 st September

8.0 DURATION OF RESEARCH

- 8.1 The duration of research for the three categories of scholars mentioned in 1.2 will be as given in the table below.

Sl. No.	FACULTY	TYPE	MINIMUM YEARS	MAXIMUM YEARS
1.	M.A./M.Sc./M.Com./M.Ed./CA/CFA/M.Pharm./B.L./M.C.A.	Full-Time	3	5
2.	M.A/M.Sc. with M.Phil/M.Tech.	Full-Time	2	4
3.	M.E./M.Tech./M.D./M.S./M.L/M.V.S.	Full-Time	2	4

The minimum and maximum periods for Part-Time research are longer by one year than the corresponding period prescribed for his/her counterpart Full-Time scholar.

8.2 Re-Registration

The scholars who could not complete the Ph.D. within the prescribed maximum time limit will be given only one chance to re-register for Ph.D. provided they continue on the same topic under the same Research Supervisor or Doctoral Committee as the case may be. They must apply for re-registration prior to the expiry of the prescribed maximum period. These re-registered scholars are permitted to submit the synopsis and thesis after one year but not later than two years after the re-registration. The re-registered scholars will continue to be governed by the same regulations under which they have been previously registered. However, the fees must be paid as per the regulations in force.

8.3 Publication of Research Papers by the Ph.D. Scholars

All the Ph.D., scholars (both full-time and part-time) shall be permitted to submit their synopsis and thesis provided they had published atleast one research paper (relevant to their area of research) in the refereed/standard National/ International Journals, besides fulfilling all other requirements. The Doctoral Committee should certify the quality of research and the quality of publications. References of the research papers published should be given in the synopsis and thesis, under the Reference section.

8.4 Change of Topic of Research

The request for change of research specialization (within the approved broad area) shall be submitted along with the recommendations of the Doctoral Committee with the prescribed fee. Such requests shall be permitted only once.

In general, change of subject / discipline will not be permitted. However, the change of subject / discipline requests must be submitted with the recommendations of the Departmental Research Committee. In such case, DRC minutes must include whether the research supervisor and the course work undertaken by the candidate are relevant to the subject / discipline, which has to be changed. If there is any difficulty in making a decision, then the Vice-Chancellor's decision is final, in this regard.

9.0 SUBMISSION OF SYNOPSIS

- 9.1 The scholar whose registration has been confirmed, and who has completed his/her research work and is sure of compiling the results into the thesis within six months prior to the completion of the minimum required duration of research, can submit 6 copies of the synopsis of the proposed thesis along with a soft copy in PDF format on CDs to the Controller of Examinations, Bharathidasan University through the Research Supervisor or the Doctoral Committee (in the case of independent research scholar) and forwarded by Head of the Department / Head of the Institution / Organization as the case may be.

The synopsis should include the following components

- a. Title of the thesis
- b. Brief description on the state of the art of the research topic
- c. Definition of the problem

- d. Objectives and Scope of research work
- e. Methodology
- f. Original contributions
- g. Papers published
- h. Conclusion

9.2 The synopsis will not be accepted if it does not fulfill the above requirements. In such case, synopsis will be returned to the candidate within 15 days.

9.3 The synopsis may be submitted within the maximum duration of research.

10.0 SUBMISSION OF THESIS

10.1 Within 6 months from the date of submission of synopsis but after completion of the minimum required period of research, scholars can submit 6 copies of thesis along with a soft copy in PDF format on CDs to the Controller of Examinations, Bharathidasan University after getting the thesis signed by the Research Supervisor and forwarded by Head of the Department / Head of the Institution / Organization, as the case may be.

Six Copies of thesis along with CDs containing a soft copy of the thesis in PDF format and additional supplementary materials, if any, should also be submitted along with the thesis and the University would send them along with thesis to the examiners. The scholars can also submit the copies of the thesis in book form (size: 21.0 cm x13.5 cm)

The thesis shall not exceed 300 pages excluding appendices, tables and figures. Appropriate mechanics of thesis writing must be followed.

10.2 The scholar may be given extension to submit the thesis for valid reasons only, twice at the rate of 6 months each after the submission of synopsis. For such extensions, the scholar has to pay an additional fee of Rs.3,000/- each.

10.3 The Ph.D. synopsis and thesis shall be submitted either in English or in Tamil except in Language subjects where the thesis shall be in that language.

10.4 The Ph.D. thesis in subjects other than languages, if submitted in Tamil, should also submit an equal number of copies in English.

10.5 All Ph.D. theses, except in Language subjects, when submitted in English should be accompanied by an abstract in Tamil.

11.0 PANEL OF EXAMINERS

11.1 A Panel of 9 External Examiners, of whom at least five from abroad and the rest from India, but outside Tamil Nadu, shall be recommended for the approval of the Vice-Chancellor, by the Research Supervisor / Research Advisory Committee for adjudicating the thesis. However, in respect of Indian Languages (other than Tamil Language) Arts and Humanities, if the Research Supervisor / Research Advisory Committee justifies that the subject matter of the thesis needs no reference to a Foreign Examiner, a panel of Seven Examiners from India itself, but outside Tamil Nadu may be suggested, stating the reasons for the same.

However, in respect of Tamil Language, the Research Advisor / Advisory Committee shall recommend, a panel of 7 examiners outside Bharathidasan University Jurisdiction. The Research Supervisor should also submit the Telephone numbers of Office and Residence, Mobile numbers and the e-mail addresses of the examiners.

- 11.2 The Research Supervisor or the Doctoral Committee (as the case may be) shall provide a certificate stating that all the examiners suggested are experts and qualified to adjudicate the thesis.
- 11.3 If the acceptance is not received from the first panel within 45 days, the University shall call for an additional panel of 6 names from the Research Supervisor or Doctoral Committee, as the case may be.

12.0 ADJUDICATION OF THE THESIS

- 12.1 The thesis shall be referred by the University for evaluation to a Board of examiners, consisting of 3 experts of whom one expert shall be from outside India and another expert from within India but outside Tamil Nadu (subject to the Regulation 11.1) and third one shall be the Research Supervisor.
- 12.2 In the case of Independent Research Scholars, all the three examiners will be from the panel of examiners suggested by the Doctoral Committee. One of the three examiners shall be designated by the Vice-Chancellor as the Convener of the Board of Examiners.
- 12.3 As soon as the synopsis and panel of examiners are received, the University shall take steps to fix the board of examiners without waiting for the receipt of the thesis, after due verification of the fulfillment of research paper published as per the provisions in the Ph.D. Regulation.
- 12.4 Each examiner appointed by the University to adjudicate the thesis shall be requested to send his/her report within 2 months from the date of receipt of thesis to the Controller of Examinations.
- 12.5 The report of the examiner should include,
 - i. critical survey of the work carried out by the candidate as expressed in the thesis.
 - ii. a definite recommendation as to whether the thesis attains the standard for Ph.D. degree or not.
 - iii. questions if any to be asked or points to be clarified at the public viva- voce examination
 - iv. duly filled-in check list provided by the University.
- 12.6 If all the three examiners have recommended for the award of Ph.D. Degree, the candidate shall be permitted to take the viva-voce examination.
- 12.7 If one of the examiners gives a definite recommendation against the award of the Degree, the thesis will be referred to an additional examiner (fourth examiner) for adjudication.
- 12.8 In total, if two examiners give definite recommendation against the award of the Degree, the thesis will be rejected.

13.0 PUBLIC VIVA-VOCE

- 13.1 A public viva-voce examination shall be arranged if in total three examiners who adjudicated the thesis have recommended the award of the Degree.
- 13.2 The public viva-voce examination shall be conducted in the place mentioned in 1.1, where the Research Scholar has carried out his/her Ph.D. research by a two member board.
- 13.3 In the case of Research Scholars under Full-Time and Part-Time categories 1.3 and 1.4, one of the members of the Board for conducting public viva-voce shall be the Supervisor who will also be the Convener of the Board. The other member shall be chosen by the Vice-Chancellor from a panel of names of three examiners proposed by the Research Supervisor.
- 13.4 In the case of Research Scholars under Independent Research Scholars category 1.5, the Vice-Chancellor shall choose two persons as examiners from a panel of 5 names of examiners from within India submitted by the Doctoral Committee for conducting public viva-voce and shall designate one of the two examiners so chosen as the Convener.
- 13.5 The viva-voce shall primarily be designed to test the understanding of the scholar on the subject matter of the thesis and the competence in the general field of study. The scholar shall be asked to make a brief presentation before the audience and when all the questions raised by the examiners and the audience are answered.
- 13.6 A pass in the viva-voce is compulsory. If a scholar fails in the examination, he/she shall be allowed to re-appear before a panel constituted for this purpose by the Vice-Chancellor once again after 3 months from the date of first viva-voce. If he/she fails again, his/her candidature for the Degree will be rejected.

14.0 CONSOLIDATED RECOMMENDATION

If the candidate passes the viva-voce, the viva-voce examination board shall consolidate the recommendations for the award of the Degree based on the following:

- i. The reports of the examiners who adjudicated the thesis and
- ii. The evaluation of the candidate's performance in the viva-voce examination.

The board shall then forward its consolidated recommendations with the classification "Highly Commended / Commended" to the Controller of Examinations, along with such other documents as may be required by the University for its consideration. For placing the thesis under the "Highly Commended" category, it should have been so placed by all the examiners. The consolidated recommendation will be placed before the syndicate for approval and the degree for the approved candidates will be awarded in convocation either in person or in absentia.

15.0 CERTIFICATE OF RESEARCH WORK

Each candidate and the research supervisor shall furnish a certificate in the thesis that the thesis submitted is a record of research work done by the candidate during the period of study under the Research Supervisor and that the thesis has not been submitted for the award of any Degree anywhere.

16.0 FORM OF RESEARCH DEGREE

The Ph.D. degree will be awarded only in the discipline of the subject in which the candidate has registered for the Ph.D. and for the inter-disciplinary subjects as mentioned in 5.3.1.

17.0 PUBLICATION OF THESIS

Any publications during the Ph.D. work may also be submitted along with the thesis for onward transmission to the examiners. The scholar has to obtain the necessary permission from the university to publish his/her thesis work as a whole or in parts.

18.0 CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION

The requests for the cancellation of Ph.D. registration may be submitted either by the research guide or by the candidate. However the final decision rests with the university.

The cancellation may be revoked upon request within three months after the date of cancellation by paying a cancellation revoke fee of Rs.20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand only) along with the research fees due to the university. After this period, if the registration is not maintained by paying all the applicable fees, the registration shall be cancelled once for all.

19.0 FEES FOR RECOGNITION OF RESEARCH ADVISORSHIPS AND EXPERTS

- | | | |
|---|---|------------|
| i. Application Processing Fee for Recognition of Research Advisorship | - | Rs.3,000/- |
| ii. Honorarium to the subject experts for evaluating the publications of a Research Advisorship applicant | - | Rs.500/- |

20.0 INSTITUTION RECOGNITION FEES

Nature of Institution	Recognition Fees (Rs.)
a. Departments / Research Centres of the Colleges	40,000/-
b. National Research Laboratoires / Institutions	50,000/-
c. Industries	1,00,000/-

Sl. No.	Name of the Fees	Faculties of Science/ Engg./ Tech. Medicines (Rs.)	Other Faculties (Rs.)	Fee for NRI* & Foreign Students (All faculties) U.S. \$.
1	Application Fee (Admission and Provisional Registration)	1,000/-	1,000/-	100
2	Registration Fee	2,000/-	2,000/-	200
3	Research Fee For SAARC Countries	6,000/- p.a 10,000/- p.a	4,000/- p.a 6,000/- p.a	800 p.a. ----
4	Caution Deposit (One time)	3,000/-	1,000/-	300
5	Change of Topic/Change of guide/ Change of Centre	2,000/-	2,000/-	200
6	Submission of Synopsis Fee for first submission Revision and Resubmission fee	5,000/- 3,000/-	5,000/- 3,000/-	500 300
7	Late Submission of Thesis Fee for first submission Fee for extension (Six months)	5,000/- 3,000/-	5,000/- 3,000/-	500 300
8	Re-registration Fee	3,000/-	3,000/-	300
9	Postal Charges	2,000/-	2,000/-	200
10	Computer / Internet charges (only for scholars in the University Departments)	1,000/- p.a.	1,000/- p.a.	---
11	Library fee (only for scholars in the University Departments)	500/- p.a. 300/- p.a. (SC/ST only)	500/- p.a. 300/- p.a. (SC/ST only)	---

*NRI – Non-Resident Indian

p.a – per annum

Note : All Ph.D. scholars shall pay the research fee within the due date. In case, the tuition fee is not paid within 30 days after the due date, the registration shall stand cancelled. Such candidates may seek renewal of registration within a period of three months from the due date, by paying the prescribed fee and penalty of Rs.1000/- .