

FAQs:

1. What is the minimum qualification for admission to a Ph.D. Program ?

A Master's Degree in the relevant field is the minimum qualification required for admission to a PhD program. For precise details regarding eligibility criteria, percentage requirements, and specific subject areas, please refer to the respective PhD program on <https://www.kkuniversity.ac.in/> under "Programs & their eligibility."

2. To apply for a Ph.D. program at K. K. University, is it mandatory that I have with me all mark sheet of the required degree/master's program, till the final semester?

Certainly, possessing all necessary mark sheets is a prerequisite. The registration of a candidate's form and the scheduling of a Ph. D. Entrance Test (PET) date will only occur upon the submission of all required documents, which includes the last semester mark sheet for those candidates currently in their final year.

3. Can I apply to the Ph.D. program by personally visiting the campus and submitting a hard copy?

No, the completion and submission of Ph.D. application forms are exclusively conducted online, and this process can only be carried out through the official website at <https://www.kkuniversity.ac.in/> .

4. When can I apply to a Ph.D. program at K. K. University?

Ph.D. application submissions are accepted biannually, indicating that candidates have two opportunities within the year to apply.

For January Session - During the period from October to December

For July Session - During the period from April to June

5. Who all are expected to submit an NOC (No Objection Certificate)?

If you are currently employed, it is necessary for you to provide a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from your employer when you join.

6. What is the admission procedure?

Once your online form is deemed complete and accepted, you will be invited to participate in an Entrance Test (unless exempted), followed by an Interview at the K. K. University campus on the specified date. The entire selection process will be conducted on the same day. It's important to note that you are permitted to partake in the selection process for a specific Ph.D. Program, whether full-time or part-time, only once during a single session. Additionally, the form fee is non-refundable.

7. In the PET, what subject will I be tested in and what is the difficulty level?

Apart from the General Section, you will be tested in the specific subject related to the Ph.D. program to which you have applied. Additionally, you will be tested in the subject of your Master's degree if it differs but is related. The difficulty level of the tests is aligned with standards such as UGC-CSIR-NET, GATE, and similar examinations.

8. On what basis is a candidate selected for a Ph.D. program at K. K. University?

The selection for admission to a Ph.D. Program at K.K.U is based on various criteria, including:

Performance in the K.K.U PET

Evaluation during the Interview rounds

Significance and excellence of the proposed research idea

Academic record

9. I have completed M. Phil. Will I be exempted from the Ph.D. Entrance Test?

Exemptions are granted in accordance with the guidelines set by K.K. University, following the regulations stipulated by the University Grants Commission (U.G.C).

10. I have a rich teaching /corporate work experience, Am I exempted from the Entrance Test?

No, it is necessary for you to complete the entire selection procedure.

11. Is Ph.D. available on distance mode?

No.

12. How is a research topic/ preliminary research idea decided?

The candidate conceptualizes the research topic, which can be adjusted with the guidance of the appointed supervisor and co-supervisor after the selection process. The final approval for the research topic is granted by the Department Research Committee (DRC).

13. Is the preliminary research idea uploaded at the time of applying, final?

It is not mandatory. You have the flexibility to modify or enhance your research idea with the assistance of your assigned guide after enrolling in the Ph.D. program.

14. How do I write the preliminary research idea?

Refer to the guidelines provided on <https://www.kkuniversity.ac.in/>, specifically under the "Application Procedure" section.

15. Does University provide any Hostel facility to a Ph.D. scholar?

Hostel accommodation may be provided to full-time research scholars based on availability. Priority is given to undergraduate and graduate students.

16. What is the pattern of classes for full time and part time candidates during the first year coursework?

Full-time Ph.D. candidates attend classes on weekdays, tentatively between 09:30 am to 04:30 pm.

Part-time Ph.D. students have classes on Saturdays and Sundays, from 9:30 am to 04:30 pm.

There is no flexibility in this schedule, particularly during the first semester, as classes are conducted jointly in a group.

17. How is a Guide and Co-Guide decided?

The selection of the Main Guide and Co-Guide is determined by the University Research Committee (URC). The Main Guide must be affiliated with K.K.U, while the Co-Guide, if necessary, is anticipated to be external to K.K.U. The appointment of a Co-Guide is contingent upon the approval of their profile by the DRC.

18. Am I assigned a Guide by the university or I select one on my own and when?

Upon admission to the Ph.D. program, the university designates a Guide for each candidate. The selection of a Guide is contingent upon the guide's availability, the candidate's research area, and the candidate's preferences, as indicated in a form submitted after meeting all eligible guides of the university following enrollment in the program.

19. How many Guides am I allowed to work with?

A candidate is permitted to have two guides: a Main Guide from the relevant department at K.K.U and a Co-Guide from outside K.K.U. In situations involving interdisciplinary topics, a provision exists to appoint a third guide, if deemed necessary.

20. Am I allowed to change my appointed Guide during the course of the Ph.D. program?

No, unless the Guide becomes unavailable for specific reasons.

21. Is a transfer to/ from another University (Including K. K. University in another city) possible during the course of Ph.D. program?

Transfers are not permitted at any point in the process.

22. What are the criteria for Exemption from the Course work?

Candidates who have successfully completed the M.Phil course work with a minimum of 55% marks in aggregate or an equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 7-point scale (or a corresponding grade in a scale where a grading system is applied) and have obtained the M.Phil. degree are qualified to pursue research leading to the Ph.D. degree in the same institution through an integrated program. An individual whose M.Phil. Dissertation has been evaluated, with the viva voce pending, may also be admitted to the Ph.D. program in the same institution.

23. If I want to withdraw from the program, then what is the procedure and refund policy?

To apply for withdrawal from the program, candidates must submit their request through the Department. Any requests through other modes will not be entertained. The withdrawal application will be processed in accordance with K.K.U refund guidelines provided on the main university website <https://www.kkuniversity.ac.in/>

24. Can I complete course work at my work place?

No, there are no provisions or relaxations in the rules.

25. Is it mandatory to publish a research paper before submitting the thesis for award of Ph.D. degree from K. K. University?

Yes, it is a requirement to publish a minimum of two papers in Peer reviewed journals.

26. Is the Ph.D. degree conferred by K. K. University recognized in India and abroad? And, is it valid for Indian Government jobs?

Yes

27. Do all Ph.D. scholars get stipend/financial assistance for pursuing a PhD program at K. K. University?

Full-time scholars who hold Junior Research Fellow (JRF) or Senior Research Fellow (SRF) positions through NET of UGC/CSIR/ICMR/ICAR/INSPIRE or any other fellowship, and have enrolled in the program within the validity period, are eligible for fellowships/grants from their respective funding organizations to pursue a Ph.D. at K.K.U. Additionally, K. K. University provides opportunities for full-time scholars to engage in on-going projects within various institutions on campus. Candidates interested in these opportunities can directly approach the head of the institution or apply at <https://www.kkuniversity.ac.in/> before or at the

time of applying for a Ph.D. program. Furthermore, teaching assistantships may also be offered to full-time Ph.D. scholars.

28. As a full time Ph.D. student, can I work after classes to support myself financially?

Certainly, you are allowed to take up part-time work, either on or off-campus, as long as you consistently attend coursework classes and mandatory attendance requirement of 75%. It is important to inform your Guide about your engagement in part-time work.

29. Duration of the Programme: As per University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2024

(1) The Ph.D. Program is designed for a minimum duration of three (3) years, inclusive of course work, and a maximum duration of six (6) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. program.

(2) An additional extension of up to two (2) years may be granted through a re-registration process in accordance with the Statute/Ordinance of the relevant Higher Educational Institution. However, the overall timeframe for completing a Ph.D. program should not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission. Additionally, female Ph.D. scholars and Persons with Disabilities (with a disability of over 40%) may be eligible for an extra relaxation of two (2) years, but the total period for completing a Ph.D. program in such cases should not exceed ten (10) years from the date of admission.

(3) Female Ph.D. scholars may be granted Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave for a duration of up to 240 days throughout the entire Ph.D. program.

Admission Procedure

- Applications for enrollment in a Ph.D. program at K.K. University are accepted twice annually, for the January and July sessions.
- Candidates aspiring to join the Ph.D. program, whether on a full-time or part-time basis, must meet the specified criteria regarding the percentage of marks/grade point average/subjects/specializations in the qualifying examination, as outlined for each Ph.D. program.
- Applicants for part-time Ph.D. positions are required to submit employment verification details during form submission and a No Objection Certificate (NOC) as per the prescribed format upon joining after their selection into the program.

- The admission form is to be completed and submitted exclusively online, accompanied by the necessary documents uploaded in the provided format and an online payment of Rs 2500/- made through a Credit/Debit card/Payment Gateway. Hard copies will not be entertained. A candidate is permitted to participate in the selection process for the applied Ph.D. Program only once in a session, regardless of whether separate forms are filled for full-time and part-time modes in that program.
- **Candidates** will receive communication regarding their application form requirements, as well as the date, time, and venue of the selection process (written test and/or interview) from the team Admissions and also on KKU website. It is the candidate's responsibility to regularly check the admission microsite for updates and for PET. No separate communication will be sent in this regard.
- **Eligible candidates** must participate in the Selection Process, which includes the Ph.D. Entrance Test (PET) and an interview round, as per UGC's Ph.D. Guidelines. Candidates exempted from PET based on criteria outlined in the 'eligibility criteria' section will only appear for the interview.
- **Selected candidates** will be informed about their selection status on the Admission Microsite. A printable online admission letter will be uploaded on the admission microsite within two days of candidate selection. This letter will contain details about fee payment at the time of admission, as well as information on the date, time, and venue for the commencement of the academic session.
- **The offer of admission will be provisional and valid only for the specific program chosen by the candidate and for the same academic session. The offer will automatically be canceled if the specified conditions are not fulfilled within the stipulated time.**

Note 1: Foreign nationals/NRI applicants are required to submit an K.K.U certificate along with other documents during the application process. (Click here <https://www.kkuniversity.ac.in/>) for more information.

Note 2: Working applicants must submit a No Objection Certificate (NOC) at the time of registration cum orientation for the program, i.e., within a month of their selection. (Click here <https://www.kkuniversity.ac.in/>) for the format.

Selection Process Details

The Entrance Test will be of 90 minutes and will be worth 100 marks, comprising 100 objective-type questions. The test will be divided into two sections, which will be administered in a single session, as detailed below:

PARTICULAR	COMPONENT	QUESTIONS	MARKS
Section 1 - General	<p>Section 1 shall be common to all candidates for testing their aptitude in research by covering questions from following areas for research methodology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• General Knowledge & Research Awareness• English Language• Logical Reasoning• Quantitative Analysis• Data Analysis and Interpretation	50 Questions of 1 mark each	50 marks
Section 2 – Subject Specific	<p>Section 2 shall be Program / Subject Specific as per applied Ph.D. program of the applicant. This section shall be divided into two parts - 25 questions shall be purely from the Ph.D. Program subject & 25 questions from either the Ph.D. Program subject or any related and offered allied field. Difficulty level is UGC-CSIR-NET, GATE etc./ Masters level of the subject</p>	50 Questions of Master's level of 1 mark each	50 marks
INTERVIEW BY UNIVERSITY RESEARCH COMMITTEE (URC)			30 marks