

Ph.D. Admission and Fee Exemption Policy for Candidates Qualified through National-Level Competitive Examinations

(Applicable to candidates qualified through specified national-level competitive examinations and other equivalent qualifications as notified by the University.)

1. **Objective:** To attract high-quality doctoral scholars by granting admission/fee-related exemption only to candidates who have qualified for recognized national research fellowships or equivalent notified fellowships enabling them to pursue Ph.D. research.
2. **Scope:** This policy applies to applicants seeking admission to the Ph.D. Programme of ITM University who claim exemption/benefit on the basis of national fellowship qualifications.
3. **Eligible Exemption Category:** Candidates who have qualified for fellowship/scholarship in UGC -JRF/UGC-NET/ UGC- CSIR-JRF/UGC- CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar national-level tests based on interviews.
4. **Exemption / Benefit:** Eligible candidates may be exempted from the University Ph.D. entrance/admission test wherever permitted by applicable regulations and may be exempted from the University Ph.D. Programme Fee during the approved tenure of the external fellowship/SRF, subject to verification, admission approval, availability of a supervisor, and University rules. The fellowship amount shall ordinarily be received directly from the concerned funding agency; no additional institutional cash fellowship shall be payable unless separately sanctioned.
5. **Charges Payable:** Even where the Programme Fee is waived, statutory/non-programme charges, registration fee, examination fee, convocation, hostel, mess, and caution money shall remain payable unless specifically waived in writing.
6. **Performance and Review:** Continuation of benefit shall depend on satisfactory research progress, completion of coursework, compliance with research ethics, publication/seminar requirements prescribed by the University, and annual review by the Research Cell/RAC. Institutional teaching/research assistance up to the permissible limit may be assigned.
7. **Interpretation:** Any ambiguity, equivalent fellowship claim, or case not covered under this policy shall be decided by the Vice-Chancellor on the recommendation of the Research Advisory Committee/Research Cell.

Notes:

1. The candidate has to face an interview panel for final selection. Final scores will be computed using the eligibility exam score (70%) and Interview Score (30%) for computing joint merit before the release of the final list.
2. At least 01 seat per approved supervisor in each School/Dept. will be reserved for candidates admitted in this category.