

Policy for Admission of International Students to Ph.D. Programme

1. Preamble

This policy governs the admission of International Students (foreign nationals, Overseas Citizens of India (OCI), and Non-Resident Indians (NRI)) to the Ph.D. Programme at Sarvajanik University (SU), in accordance with:

- UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022 (Notified 7th November 2022)
- Sarvajanik University Ph.D. Regulations (2022).
- Sarvajanik University Ph.D. Ordinances.

2. Admission Capacity

Each eligible supervisor may guide up to two international scholars as prescribed caps of 8 (Professor), 6 (Associate Professor), and 4 (Assistant Professor). Total allocation shall respect combined limits across supervisors as per Clause 7.1 of UGC Regulations, 2022 and O.Ph.D.07 of SU Ordinance.

3. Eligibility

- Master's degree/PG or equivalent with at least 55% marks (or equivalent grade), from a recognized foreign university/institution accredited by its national quality assurance agency/statutory authority.
- Equivalence may be verified through AIU (Association of Indian Universities) or another agency recognized by SU, as per UGC Clause 3 and O.Ph.D.03.
- Candidates who are employed must produce a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from their employer at the time of admission.

4. Admission Procedure

SU shall announce available seats (discipline-wise) on its website and prospectus, including supervisors and vacant seats (UGC Reg. 5.3, 5.4). International Students may be admitted via:

1. Entrance Test & Interview Route: Appearing in SU-PET (online proctored test permissible) followed by interview, with 70% weightage test + 30% interview.

5. Mode of Instruction & Attendance

Ph.D. programmes shall not be offered in ODL/Online mode (UGC Reg. 13.3). Coursework may include blended delivery, but final examinations must normally be in offline/physical mode, as per SU Ordinance O.Ph.D.11. Minimum 75% attendance in coursework is mandatory.

6. Coursework

Minimum 12 credits, including:

- Research Methodology (4 credits)
- Research & Publication Ethics (2 credits)
- Discipline-specific/electives (remaining credits)

Must be completed in the first two semesters (UGC Reg. 8.3; SU O.Ph.D.11). Minimum 55% required to continue.

7. Research Progress & RAC

Each scholar shall be assigned a Research Advisory Committee (RAC) (SU O.Ph.D.16; UGC Reg. 10.1). Progress presentations may be conducted online (permitted), but at least one pre-submission open seminar must be held in physical mode. As per the SU RC, it is recommended that international students remain present in physical mode at least once during the year.

8. Thesis Submission & Viva

Synopsis, thesis, and compliance reports may be submitted in soft copy/electronic format (SU O.Ph.D.17; UGC Reg. 17.6). Final Viva Voce must be conducted in physical mode at the University (UGC Reg. 17.9; SU O.Ph.D.20).

9. Language Proficiency

International applicants must demonstrate English proficiency through IELTS/TOEFL/PTE or proof of an English-medium qualification. SU reserves the right to exempt students from countries where English is the official medium of higher education.

10. Visa & Legal Compliance

International students must obtain a Student/Research Visa endorsed by Sarvajani University. Must register with FRRO within the stipulated timelines. Health insurance valid in India is mandatory.

11. Fees & Scholarships

International Ph.D. fee structure (USD/INR equivalent) shall be published in the Admission Prospectus. Scholarships, fee waivers, or sponsorships (if any) must be transparently notified. Refunds, if applicable, shall follow UGC & SU norms.

12. Integrity & Ethics

All research must comply with Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC) clearance requirements, plagiarism checks, and submission of the final thesis to Shodhganga/INFLIBNET.

13. Offer & Enrolment

- Provisional admission shall be confirmed only after verification of original documents, visa, insurance, and compliance with all statutory requirements.
- Once admission is confirmed under the International Student Category, the category cannot be changed under any circumstances.