



UNIVERSITY OF KERALA

Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India – 695034

(Established as University of Travancore by the Travancore University Act in 1937 and reconstituted as University of Kerala by the Kerala University Act of 1957 and presently governed by the

Kerala University Act of 1974 passed by the Kerala State Legislative Assembly)

(Re-accredited by NAAC with A++ Grade)

28047/Ac B I/2026/UOK

15.07.2026

Notification for Ph D Entrance Exam 2026

Online Applications are invited from eligible candidates for the Ph.D Entrance Examination 2026 (General Aptitude Test) for determining eligibility for admission to Full-time/Part-time research leading to Ph D Degree.

The following is the schedule for the conduct of entrance examination

1.	Date of Publication of notification	14.08.2026 (Friday)
2.	Commencement of Submission of Application	14.08.2026 (Friday)
3.	Last date of submission of Application	23.09.2026 (Wednesday)
4.	Date of Entrance examination	24.10.2026 (Saturday)

1.Conditions of Eligibility

The following are eligible to seek admission to the Ph D programme:

1. Candidates who have completed :

1. A 1- year/2 semester Master's degree programme after a 4 – year /8-semester Bachelor's degree programme or a 2- year/4-semester Master's degree programme after a 3-year Bachelor's degree programme or qualifications declared equivalent to the Master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed.

or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of the educational institution. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently – Abled, Economically weaker section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the



decision of the State Government/University from time to time.

Provided that a candidate seeking admission after a 4- year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently – Abled, Economically weaker section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the State Government/University from time to time.

2. Candidates who have completed the M.Phil Programme with atleast 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of the educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to the Ph.D programme. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently – Abled, Economically weaker section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as decided by the State Government/University from time to time.

2. Exemption from Entrance Test

All Candidates seeking admission for Ph.D. Programme in a particular subject under this University shall pass the entrance test conducted by the University in the concerned subject except the following categories:

2.1. Candidates with UGC-NET/JRF, UGC-CSIR-NET/JRF, SLET, GATE, ICAR-JRF, ICMR -JRF, KSCSTE, DST Women Scientist Scheme., awardees of VSSC-JRF/ UGC-NFSC/ UGC-NFOBC/ NFPwD and research fellowships of Central or State Government Departments/agencies as approved by the University from time to time.

2.2. M.Phil and teacher fellowship holders. However, candidates who have qualified M.Phil. in subjects other than the subjects in which he/she seeks registration for Ph.D. would be required to qualify the Entrance Test.

2.3. Candidates awarded with DBT/JRF are permitted to register for research leading to Ph D degree in Biotechnology.

2.4. Candidates with DST-INSPIRE fellowship.

2.5. Scientists working in approved Research Laboratories either owned or managed by the Central/State Government or an Autonomous research Institution of National Status with seven years experience in the Scientist Grade, having two research papers published in the recognized research journals of the concerned subject approved by the UGC.

2.6. Teachers working in Government/Aided colleges affiliated to this University who have seven or more years of teaching experience.

3. Scheme of the Test

3.1. The general aptitude test will be of three hours duration and will carry a maximum of 100 marks.

3.2. The test comprises of two papers (Descriptive)– Part A - Research Methodology



(50%) and Part B – Subject chosen (50%).

3.3. Post graduate level knowledge of the chosen subject and aptitude for research are expected of the candidate.

3.4. Students who have secured 50% marks each in research methodology and the specific subject are eligible to be called for the interview. A relaxation of 10% marks will be allowed in the entrance examination for the candidates belonging to SC/ST category. A relaxation of 5% marks will be allowed in the entrance examination for the candidates belonging to OBC/differently-abled category, Economically Weaker Section (EWS), and other categories of candidates as decided by the State Government/University from time to time.

3.5. Provided that for the selection of candidates based on the entrance test conducted by the University, a weightage of 70% for the entrance test and 30% for the performance in the interview/Viva-voce shall be given.

4. Subjects offered for entrance test with faculty

The following table lists out the faculty and the respective subjects that are offered by the university for conducting research.

Sl No	Faculty	Subject
1	Applied Sciences & Technology	1. Biotechnology 2. Computational Biology & Bioinformatics 3. Computer Science 4. Environmental Sciences 5. Futures studies 6. Microbiology 7. Computational Linguistics 8. NanoScience & Nanotechnology 9. Optoelectronics 10. Technology Management
2	Arts	1. Communication & Journalism 2. English 3. German 4. Library and Information Science 5. Philosophy 6. Russian
3	Commerce	1.Commerce
4	Education	1. Education
5	Engineering & Technology	1. Chemical Engineering 2. Computer Science and Engineering 3. Computational Biology & Bioinformatics. 4. Electrical & Electronics Engineering 5. Electronics & Communication Engineering 6. Mechanical Engineering 7.Civil Engineering



		8. Architecture 9. Industrial Engineering and Management
6	Fine Arts	1. Music 2. Theatre Arts & Film Aesthetics for Education
7	Law	1. Law
8	Management Studies	1. Management Studies 2. Tourism Management
9	Physical Education	1. Physical Education
10	Science	1. Aquatic Biology And Fisheries 2. Biochemistry 3. Botany 4. Chemistry 5. Demography 6. Geography 7. Geology 8. Home Science 9. Mathematics 10. Physics 11. Psychology 12. Statistics 13. Zoology
11	Social Sciences	1. Archaeology 2. Economics 3. History 4. Islamic History 5. Political Science 6. Public Administration 7. Social Work 8. Sociology
12	Oriental Studies	1. Arabic 2. Hindi 3. Linguistics 4. Malayalam 5. Sanskrit 6. Tamil 7. Malayalam Literature & Kerala Studies

Note : The list of PG Degrees considered as eligible qualification for appearing Ph D Entrance examination is detailed in the appendix:

5. How to apply



5.1. Candidates are requested to visit official website of Research Portal of University of Kerala: www.research.keralauniversity.ac.in

5.2. Click on the Login/Register.

5.3. If not registered, choose register option and enter your name, mobile number and email number carefully. You may then click to register. An email with login credentials will be sent to the entered email id.

5.4. If already registered, then login to the portal and complete the one-time profile as per guidelines mentioned in the portal.

5.5. All relevant documents proving qualification and eligibility should be uploaded before submitting the profile.

5.6. Please ensure that the details entered are correct before submission. **Please note that details cannot be edited once submitted.**

5.7. Online registration can be done from **14/08/2026 to 23/09 /2026** through the portal.

5.8. The Registration fee will be as follows:

- a. For General / SEBC candidates: Rs.1075/-
(Rs.1050/- Exam fee + Rs.25/- Cost of application).
- b. For SC/ST candidates: Rs. 550/-
(Rs. 525/- Exam fee + Rs.25/- Cost of application).

5.9. Candidates can apply only for the subjects mentioned in (4). While applying for the Entrance Test, the candidate can choose the subject from the list displayed in the portal as per University rules and regulations.

5.10. Candidate can pay the registration fee only through the online payment facility by clicking on "Proceed to pay" button; no other mode of payment will be accepted. **Please note that Fees once paid will not be refunded.**

6. General Instructions

6.1. A comprehensive mark list showing the exact percentage of marks secured or an equivalent certificate should be uploaded. **In case of grades awarded, a certificate showing the equivalent percentage of marks from the competent authority should be uploaded.**

6.2. Candidates who have qualified from **universities other than University of Kerala should obtain Eligibility Certificate from University of Kerala and upload the same**, failing which the results will be withheld.

6.3. Copy of relevant community certificate obtained within one year prior to the date of notification should be uploaded in the case of SC/ST candidates.

6.4. A valid Non Creamy Layer Certificate should be uploaded in case of OBC candidates, if eligible for reservation.

6.5. A valid EWS certificate should be uploaded in case of EWS candidates.

6.6. In the case of differently abled candidates a disability certificate issued by the competent Medical Board should be uploaded.

6.7. Candidates who have **appeared for the final semester/year** of the Master's Degree Examination and whose results are still awaited should upload the certificate in prescribed format duly signed by Principal/ Head of the department.

6.8. Pass Memo will be issued only on clearance of defects noted, if any, even if the entrance test results are published provisionally.



6.9. Qualifying in the Ph.D. entrance examination alone does not imply that the candidates have become eligible for Ph.D registration in the University. Separate application should be made for registration as per the notification to be issued by the University in this regard and the candidates should be otherwise eligible for registration with respect to the eligibility conditions specified in the Regulation for award of Ph.D degrees, University of Kerala in force

6.10. Offline applications will not be accepted.

6.11. The University reserves the right to reject any application for proper reasons adduced therewith without prior notice

6.12. The registration for PhD shall only be granted, subject to availability of seats with the supervising teachers and as per the norms and regulations framed by the UGC/University.

RESMI R

Registrar(i/c)

