



ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕೇಂದ್ರೀಯ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ

कर्नाटक केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालय

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KARNATAKA

(Established by an Act of the Parliament in 2009)

ಕಲಬುರಗಿ ಕಡಗಂಚಿ-585367, ಆಲಂದ ರೋಡ್, ಕಡಗಂಚಿ 585367-ಕಲಬುರಗಿ

Aland Road, Kadaganchi-585367, Gulbarga Dist., Karnataka.

04.02.2026

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PH.D ADMISSIONS IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING PROGRAMMES UNDER ENTRANCE EXAM CATEGORY FOR AY 2025-26

1. Central University of Karnataka is inviting applications for admission to Ph.D. Science and Engineering programme under the entrance examination category. The eligible candidates shall attend the entrance test conducted at the University.
2. The guidelines for Ph.D entrance test in science and engineering programmes are as follows:
 - a) Entrance Test will be conducted on 09-03-2026 at the university campus.
 - b) Candidates must physically come to the campus to attend the entrance test.
 - c) Entrance Test: 25% general aptitude and 75% subject-specific content.
 - d) Entrance test will be of MCQ format, with a total of 100 marks.
3. The syllabus for the entrance examination is as follows:

PROGRAMME	SYLLABUS	SUBJECT
Ph.D – Physics	CSIR-NET	Physical Sciences
Ph.D – Chemistry		Chemical Sciences
Ph.D. – Life Sciences		Life Sciences
Ph.D. – Geology		Earth Sciences, Atmospheric, Ocean and Planetary Sciences
Ph.D. – Electronics and Communication Engineering	GATE	Electronics & Communication Engineering
Ph.D. – Electrical Engineering		Electrical Engineering
Ph.D. – Mathematics		Mathematics
PhD – Mechanical Engineering		Mechanical Engineering
Ph.D. – Computer Science	UGC-NET	Computer Science

4. The following candidates shall directly appear for an interview:
 - i. Candidates who have qualified for national level examinations [such as JRF (UGC / CSIR / DBT / ICMR), NET (UGC / CSIR), GATE or equivalent, etc.].
 - ii. Candidates who have qualified National Eligibility Test (NET) under PH.D only (Category-3).
 - iii. Candidates who have secured a DST-INSPIRE Fellowship.
 - iv. Candidates with Central Government and State Government-sponsored fellowships
 - v. National/State level Teacher fellowship holders.
5. The candidate must register for Ph.D. admission through the online SAMARTH registration portal (<https://cukadm.samarth.edu.in/>). Submission of the online

registration forms is mandatory for Ph.D. admissions. The candidates are advised to refer to the user manual for online registration on the SAMARTH portal

6. All candidates must pay the non-refundable registration fee as per the following categories.

Category	Non-refundable registration fee (Rs.)*
General, OBC (Non-creamy layer), EWS	500-00
SC/ST/PwD	100-00

(Registration fee is excluding transaction charges)

7. The tentative schedule for registration, declaration of eligible candidates, interview dates, and admission is as follows:

Item No.	Tentative time
Date of registration	06-02-2026 to 02-03-2026
Date of declaration of eligible candidates to write the entrance examination	05-03-2026
Date of addressing grievance on eligibility to write the entrance examination	05-03-2026 to 06-03-2026
Date of conducting entrance examination at CUK campus (Only at CUK campus)	09-03-2026
Date of interviews	09-03-2026 to 10-03-2026
Date of declaration of selected candidates	12-03-2026

8. A list of candidates whose applications are received with the prescribed fee, along with the details of eligibility, will be displayed on the university website. The eligible candidates shall directly appear for the interview. Students who have any grievances regarding their eligibility may contact the relevant department.
9. The candidates applying under the reserved categories shall need to submit the category Certificates (SC/ST/OBC Non-Creamy Layer Certificate/ EWS) issued by the competent authority in the prescribed format at the time of registration and produce the same in original for verification at the time of admission. The candidates are advised to visit the website for the concerned certificate format.
10. The eligibility criteria for various Ph.D programmes are as follows-

PROGRAMME	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA / MINIMUM QUALIFICATION FOR ADMISSION
Ph.D – Physics	M.Phil. with course work or Master's degree in different branches of Physics from any University / Institute recognized by the UGC / MHRD for this purpose with at least 55% marks (50% for SC, ST, OBC {NON CREAMY LAYER}, PWD and Kashmiri Migrant and non-migrants Students), preceded by a Bachelor's Degree or an equivalent Degree of three years duration from a recognized University/Institute.
Ph.D – Chemistry	M.Phil. with course work or Master's degree in different branches of Chemistry from any University/Institute recognized by the UGC / MHRD or foreign university (as per the AIU foreign equivalence list) with at least 55% marks (50% for SC, ST, OBC {NON CREAMY LAYER}, PWD and Kashmiri Migrant and non-migrants Students), preceded by a Bachelor's Degree or an equivalent Degree of three years duration from a recognized University/Institute.
Ph.D. – Mathematics	M.Phil. with course work or Master's degree in Mathematics from any University/Institute recognized by the UGC / MHRD or foreign university (as per the AIU foreign equivalence list) with at least 55% marks (50% for SC, ST, OBC {NON CREAMY LAYER}, PWD and

	Kashmiri Migrant and non-migrants Students), preceded by a Bachelor's Degree or an equivalent Degree of three years duration from a recognized University/Institute.
Ph.D. – Life Sciences	M.Phil. with course work or Master's degree in different braches of Life sciences from any University/Institute recognized by the UGC / MHRD or foreign university (as per the AIU foreign equivalence list) with at least 55% marks (50% for SC, ST, OBC {NON CREAMY LAYER}, PWD and Kashmiri Migrant and non-migrants Students), preceded by a Bachelor's Degree or an equivalent Degree of three years duration from a recognized University/Institute.
Ph.D. – Geology	M.Phil. with course work or Master's degree in Geology from any University/Institute recognized by the UGC / MHRD or foreign university (as per the AIU foreign equivalence list) with at least 55% marks (50% for SC, ST, OBC {NON CREAMY LAYER}, PWD and Kashmiri Migrant and non-migrants Students), preceded by a Bachelor's Degree or an equivalent Degree of three years duration from a recognized University/Institute.
Ph.D. – Electronics and Communication Engineering	M.E/M.Tech degree in Electronics and Communication/ Electronics/ Communication/ Microwav Engineering Engineering from any University/ Institute recognized by the UGC / MHRD / AICTE or foreign university (as per the AIU foreign equivalence list) with at least 55% marks (50% for SC, ST, OBC {NON CREAMY LAYER}, PWD and Kashmiri Migrant and non-migrants Students), preceded by a Bachelor's Degree or an equivalent Degree of four years duration from a recognized University/Institute.
Ph.D. – Electrical Engineering	M.E/M.Tech degree in Electrical Engineering from any University/ Institute recognized by the UGC / MHRD / AICTE or foreign university (as per the AIU foreign equivalence list) with at least 55% marks (50% for SC, ST, OBC {NON CREAMY LAYER}, PWD and Kashmiri Migrant and non-migrants Students), preceded by a Bachelor's Degree or an equivalent Degree of four years duration from a recognized University/Institute.
Ph.D. – Computer Science	M.Phil. with course work or Master's degree in Computer Science/ Master of Computer Applications from any University/Institute recognized by the UGC / MHRD or foreign university (as per the AIU foreign equivalence list) with at least 55% marks (50% for SC, ST, OBC {NON CREAMY LAYER}, PWD and Kashmiri Migrant and non-migrants Students), preceded by a Bachelor's Degree or an equivalent Degree of three years duration from a recognized University/Institute.
PhD – Mechanical Engineering	B. Tech/B.E and M. Tech/ME in relevant fields of Mechanical Engineering from any University/ Institute recognized by the UGC / MHRD / AICTE or foreign university (as per the AIU foreign equivalence list) with at least 55% marks (50% for SC, ST, OBC {NON CREAMY LAYER}, PWD and Kashmiri Migrant and non-migrants Students), preceded by a Bachelor's Degree or an equivalent Degree of four years duration from a recognized University/Institute.

11. The programme wise Ph.D vacancy is as follows:

PROGRAMME	VACANCIES						CONTACT
	UR	OBC (NCL)	SC	ST	EWS	Total	
Ph.D – Physics	5	4	2	2	0	13	hodphysics@cuk.ac.in
Ph.D – Chemistry	9	5	3	1	2	20	hodchemistry@cuk.ac.in
Ph.D. – Life Sciences	7	4	3	1	0	15	hodls@cuk.ac.in
Ph.D. – Geology	6	3	3	2	2	16	hodgeology@cuk.ac.in
Ph.D. – Electronics and Communication Engineering	5	4	4	3	0	16	hodece@cuk.ac.in
Ph.D. – Electrical Engineering	5	3	2	2	0	12	hodee@cuk.ac.in
Ph.D. – Mathematics	7	3	1	0	0	11	hodmathematics@cuk.ac.in
PhD – Mechanical Engineering	2	1	1		0	4	sangameshrajole@cuk.ac.in
Ph.D. – Computer Science	6	4	3	0	0	13	hodcs@cuk.ac.in

12. The vacancies shown above are tentative only and may increase or decrease at the time of admission. The above vacancies may also change depending on the applications and the applicant's interest in working on the research topic. The university reserves the right to fill or not to fill the vacancies for any reason whatsoever.

13. The selection process for PhD admission are as follows:

- i. 70% weightage to JRF, NET and allied qualification, PG programme, and project proposal.
- ii. 30% weightage for presentation and viva-voce.
- iii. The distribution of marks is as follows-

Weightage	Criteria	Range	Total marks
70%	JRF (UGC/CSIR/DBT..etc)	JRF (UGC/CSIR/DBT..etc): 50 marks DST-INSPIRE/other. Fellowships: 45 marks NET (UGC/CSIR), NET-PHD only, GATE, etc : 40 marks	Max. 50 marks
	OR		
	Entrance test score	50% marks of the eligible entrance score	Max. 50 marks
	PG programme marks	> 80% : 10 marks >60% : 8 marks >55% (50 others) -60% : 6 marks	Max. 10 marks
30%	Project proposal	10 marks	Max. 10 marks
	Presentation on a proposed field of research	10 marks	Max. 10 marks
	Online Viva-voce on domain knowledge	20 marks	Max. 20 marks

14. Candidates may refer the following research specializations available for the respective Ph.D programmes:

PROGRAMME	SPECILIZATION
Ph.D – Physics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Condensed Matter Physics Theory • High Energy Physics (Neutrino Physics at DUNE / Dark Matter Modelling) • Condensed Matter Physics • Soft Matter Physics, Biophysics
Ph.D – Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biophysical Chemistry • Solid State Chemistry and Chemical Crystallography • Organic Synthesis • Supramolecular Chemistry • Inorganic Chemistry / Nanomaterials • Natural Product and Medicinal Chemistry • Peptide chemistry, Cosmetics.
Ph.D. – Life Sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Genetics and Genomics • Mechanism-guided diabetes drug discovery • Plant Genomics and Chemical Ecology • Plant Genomics and Chemical Ecology • Lectins and Glycobiology • Plant developmental biology and Omics, • Cardiovascular Disease Biology
Ph.D. – Geology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experimental Mineralogy and Petrology • Micropaleontology, Paleoclimatology, Mineralogy, Placer Mineralogy, Marine Geology, Sedimentology and Geochemistry. • Hydrogeology, Geoinformatics/Remote Sensing & GIS • Geoinformatics and sedimentology
Ph.D. – Electronics and Communication Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microwave Engineering, Antennas and Filters. • Microwave Technology and Antenna • Computer Vision, Machine learning, AI • Swarm Intelligence, Embedded System • Medical Image Processing, Deep Learning, Signal Processing.
Ph.D. – Electrical Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power System operation, control, protection and stability studies • Electrical & Computer Engineering • Power Electronics, Microgrids and Electric Vehicles
Ph.D. – Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numerical Analysis • Analytic number theory • Fluid dynamics

PhD – Mechanical Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechanical engineering , Advance Materials , composites, additive manufacturing
Ph.D. – Computer Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital image processing, • Robotics, Machine learning. • Artificial Intelligence and Machine learning • Big Data Analytics, Cloud Computing, IOT. • Wireless Networks. • Information Security, Multimedia Security • Pattern Recognition, Computer Vision

15. Candidates securing a minimum of 50% marks (45% for SC, ST, OBC {NON CREAMY LAYER}, EWS) in the combined score of the 70% and 30% weightage marks calculations will be eligible to be considered for admission as per the merit list.
16. Deans/HODs/Coordinators of concerned programmes will communicate the credentials of the online exam/interview link to the candidates registered Email ID (candidates provided Email ID on SAMARTH registration portal) only to participate in the selection process and admission to the corresponding programmes.
17. The University reserves the right not to offer the programme in any particular discipline due to administrative reasons or if the response to the programme is inadequate. The decision of the University will be final in this regard.
18. Reservation/relaxation will be given as per Government of India/University Rules adopted by the University from time to time.
19. Ensuring the eligibility for applying to a particular programme will be the sole responsibility of the candidate. Please read the eligibility criteria and other requirements before submitting the application form. Submission of online registration form and attending the interview through online mode are mandatory for the admission to the Ph.D programme.
20. These instructions are subject to alterations & modifications, and the same will be notified on the University website. These instructions are for information only and it does not constitute a legal document. Candidates are advised to visit the university website regularly for further information and instructions.


 Registrar

कुलसचिव / REGISTRAR
 कर्नाटक केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय
 Central University of Karnataka
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