

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. When did KTU commence registration for PhD scholars?

Registration for PhD under KTU commenced with 2015-16 academic year odd semester admissions

2. How many times are applications invited for PhD registration every academic year?

Applications are invited once a year – in the even semester (November-December)

3) What are the types of PhD registrations in KTU?

Full time, Part time and External Part time.

4) What are the scholarships for fulltime PhD study in KTU?

KTU scholarship and Higher Education scholarship of Govt of Kerala for three years of study. There are currently 16 scholarships (Rs 25000/-per month) per year granted by the University. Research scholars eligible for Higher Education Scholarship of Govt. Of Kerala (Rs.20000/- per month) will be selected by the Directorate of Technical Education, Kerala.

5) What is the selection procedure for PhD registration?

There are two levels of screening – a written test and an interview. The written test is of objective type. Based on the performance in the written test, eligible candidates are called for an interview. The selection is based on the total marks obtained for the written test and interview. There are separate cut-off marks in the written test as well as for the interview. Candidates seeking admission for either full time or part time PhD have to clear both the eligibility test and interview. AICTE QIP/NDF scholars and candidates with CSIR/UGC JRF fellowships are exempted from appearing for the test and interview. Such candidates can avail admission in the odd or even semester.

6) Is course work compulsory for PhD ? How many subjects should a scholar study for course work? What are the learning and evaluation procedures?

Yes. Minimum two core and two elective courses. Research methodology is a compulsory core course for those scholars who have not studied it earlier. Such scholars need to take one more core and 2 electives. Those who have studied it earlier shall take another core course in place of research methodology. A total of 4 courses need to be taken. Pattern of learning and evaluation is same as that for M.Tech programmes. The scholars have to undergo the courses along with M.Tech students. Scholars from 2010-20 even semester admission onwards are required to take one more core course – “Research and Publication Ethics” as mandated by UGC apart from those mentioned above.

7) What is the minimum grade required in course work?

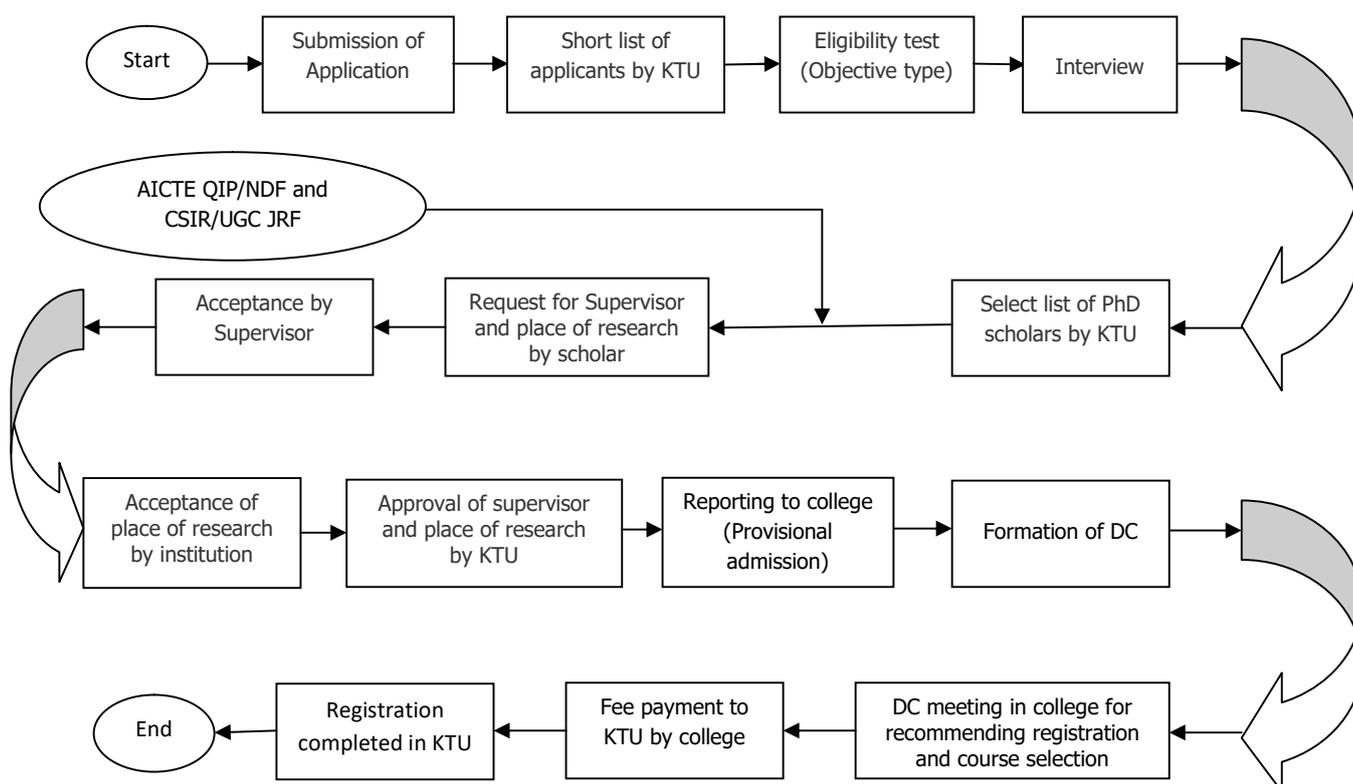
In all prescribed courses, the research scholar should attain overall 50% of marks with a minimum of 45% for internal as well as end-semester examinations.

8) What is residential period?

It is mandatory for all part time PhD scholars to reside at the place of research for a duration of 180 days in a single spell or two by availing eligible leave. This period is called residential period.

9) Does getting selected by eligibility test and interview ensure registration?

Clearing eligibility test and interview alone will not ensure PhD registration. The candidate has to choose supervisor and place of research. There will be a Doctoral Committee (DC) for every scholar and the DC has to recommend the registration. The online process of registration is as shown below:



10) Is comprehensive viva compulsory in PhD research? How many chances?

Yes. Two chances within six months after first year. If the scholar is not able to clear in two chances, the registration will be cancelled.

11) What is the pattern of conduct of comprehensive viva?

Comprehensive viva is conducted by the comprehensive viva committee constituted by the DC of the scholar. This consists of a written examination of 3 hr duration and 100 marks maximum. Scholars qualifying the written examination will have a viva of 1hr duration with maximum of 100 marks. Pass minimum is 50% for each.

12) What is the minimum period of PhD study?

The minimum period of study and research for regular full time research scholars from the date of registration for the PhD (date of commencement of research) to the date of submission of the thesis shall be 30 months.

13) What is the maximum period of PhD study?

5 years for full time PhD and 6 years for part time PhD. DC may grant one year extension for Full time PhD in special cases. A relaxation of two years is allowed to women and physically disabled persons (with more than 40% disability).

14) How many PhD scholars can a supervisor retain at a time?

The number of research scholars that a Professor, Associate Professor and Assistant Professor shall supervise at any given time is 8, 6 and 4 respectively. The maximum number mandated above also includes the number of scholars co-supervised. The cadre to which a faculty belongs, will be decided by the qualifications as per AICTE norms and their salary. Those who are presently guiding a number more than what is mentioned are allowed to retain them till their completion of research.

15) Is a faculty in affiliated college allowed to supervise new PhD scholars in any other University?

No.

16) Is co-supervisor compulsory in KTU?

No.

17) What is the University fee structure for PhD studies?

University fee per semester is Rs 10000/- (Rs.4000/- University component +Rs.6000/- college component). Onetime fee while submitting the thesis is Rs 15,000/-. The semester fee shall be remitted at the time of registration and subsequently on every 1st January and 1st July. The fee remitted at the time of registration will be taken as the fee corresponding to the 1st semester. All fees to the University are to be remitted online through KTU web portal by the college. Any other fee or deposits as per the prevailing rules of the College may be remitted as directed by the Principal of the place of research.

18) What are the eligibility conditions for a faculty to be a Supervisor?

A regular faculty in an affiliated College/University Department under this University, having 2 year's post PhD teaching experience and one research publication in Science Citation Index (SCI) / Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) [or SocialSciences Citation Index (SSCI) for Management] journal or in a SCOPUS indexed journal or having granted patents, is eligible for Supervisor ship. Publication in journals with page/processing or publication charges will be accepted only if they are indexed in SCI/SCIE (or SSCI for Management).

19) What are the eligibility conditions for a faculty to be a Co-supervisor?

A regular faculty in an affiliated College/University Department under this University, with PhD having total 2 years teaching experience and one Research Publication in SCI/SCIE (or SSCI for Management) journal or in a SCOPUS indexed journal or having granted patents is eligible for Co-Supervisor ship. Publication in journals with page/processing or publication charges will be accepted only if they are indexed in SCI/SCIE (or SSCI for Management). Reputed Scientists/academicians with the required academic qualification and publication profile as stipulated by KTU, but without affiliation are also allowed to Co-supervise PhD research.

20) What are the steps involved in enabling a faculty as research Supervisor/Co-supervisor?

A tutorial illustrating the steps involved in enabling a faculty as a research supervisor is available in the faculty login of the KTU portal.

21) What are the leave rules of Research scholars?

Research Scholars are entitled for a maximum period of 30 days of leave in a year in addition to public holidays. Women candidates are eligible for maternity leave for a duration of 240 days once in the tenure of research. The maximum period of PhD study is 8 years including maternity leave period. KTU fellowship period of these scholars, if applicable, remains as 3 years. Research Scholars are not entitled to any other vacation. If a research scholar receives any funding/fellowship from an external agency, the leave rules of that agency will be treated as the leave rules.

22) What is Research proposal ?

It is the first seminar of the scholar, conducted in the subsequent DC meeting falling after the successful completion of comprehensive viva. The meeting is open to all and in the meeting, along with the research proposal, title of the thesis is also approved. The scholar will get another chance for finalizing the title before submission of the thesis, if required. The meeting is expected to be convened within two years from the date of registration.

23) What are the eligibility conditions of place of research?

Academic departments of the constituent colleges of the University and affiliated colleges, where at least two post graduate programs in Engineering are successfully carried out for at least two batches are eligible to offer doctoral programs. Academic departments of the constituent colleges of the University and affiliated colleges having PG programmes, but with no student admitted in the academic year, shall not be considered as a place of research for registering fresh scholars. Scholars already allocated to the College will be allowed to continue their research.

24) What is the minimum CGPA at PG level for securing PhD admission?

Minimum CGPA at PG level for general candidates is 6.5 (60% marks) and that for SC/ST/Non Creamy Layer - OBC and differently-abled persons is 5.5 (50% marks) in 10 point scale.

FAQ on KTU-CERD funding schemes

1) When was Centre for Engineering Research and Development (CERD) established?

CERD was established in January 2010 by Government of Kerala. As per the APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University Act 2015 of the Government of Kerala, CERD was dissolved and brought under the University. Since then, the centre is acting as the research arm of APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University.

2) What are the activities of CERD?

- Provide research seed money to faculty
- Provide financial support to innovative student projects
- Assist innovators to obtain patents for their intellectual property
- Organize technical training, conferences, seminars, symposia etc. in thrust areas
- Provide incentives to faculty for technical journal publications
- Provide assistance for technical paper presentations
- Conduct programmes to impart training in the emerging areas of Science and Technology
- Establish Centres of Excellence in thrust areas
- Organize annual Technical Festival – KTU TECHFEST
- Give away attractive awards to best researchers

3) Where are CERD Centres situated?

The hub centre of CERD is situated in KTU Headquarters and Satellite centres are functioning in all Government/ Government-Aided/ Government-Controlled/ NBA accredited Private Self Financing Engineering Colleges affiliated to KTU.

4) What is KTU - TECHFEST?

The annual Technical Festival (KTU - TECHFEST) is an avenue for all engineering students and researchers under the University to converge and share their knowledge through various events. The major events are paper presentation, technical exhibition and idea competition. Other smaller events are also conducted as part of the TECHFEST. The TECHFEST is hosted in one of the affiliated colleges under KTU.

5) Is there any web portal for CERD?

Details of CERD are available in the web site <https://ktu.edu.in/> under the title "Research"

6) Is there any programme for supporting Student Projects by CERD?

Yes, students can take up student projects through CERD. Financial assistance is provided to under graduate students of Government/ Government-Aided/ Government-Controlled/ NBA accredited Private Self Financing Engineering Colleges affiliated to KTU for under taking innovative projects. A maximum assistance of Rs.50,000/- is provided for a project.

7) How can one apply for financial assistance for a Student Project?

The guidelines for applying for financial assistance for a Student Project are:

- The application for financial assistance in the prescribed format should be submitted to the Dean (Research), APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University, College of Engineering Trivandrum Campus, Thiruvananthapuram - Pin 695 016.
- Final year undergraduate students can apply.
- The applications should be forwarded by the guide through the Head of the institution.
- The proposals are scrutinized and recommended by an expert committee, for funding.

8) What is Research Seed Money Scheme?

The objective of this scheme is to provide financial assistance to initiate research in frontier areas of Engineering and Technology. Faculty members in Government/ Government-Aided/ Government-Controlled/ NBA accredited Private Self Financing Engineering Colleges affiliated to KTU can apply for financial assistance under this scheme. The investigators may submit a detailed proposal in the prescribed format. The proposals are scrutinized and recommended for funding by a screening committee consisting of experts from institutions of national repute. Maximum support of Rs. 2 Lakhs will be provided for one project. This fund can be availed only once during the career of a faculty.

9) Is there any financial support scheme to attend international conferences abroad?

Yes. Financial assistance is given to faculty in Government/ Government-Aided/ Government-Controlled/ NBA accredited Private Self Financing Engineering Colleges affiliated to KTU with two SCI/SSCI journal papers published within the last five years, for technical paper presentations in International Conferences abroad. The maximum assistance is limited to Rs. 1.5 Lakhs per person.

10) Is there any financial support scheme to attend conferences in India?

Yes. Financial assistance is given to faculty in Government/ Government-Aided/ Government-Controlled/ NBA accredited Private Self Financing Engineering Colleges affiliated to KTU with one SCI/SSCI journal paper published within the last five years, for technical paper presentations in International/National conferences in India. The maximum assistance is limited to Rs. 40,000 per person.

11) Are there any incentives for researchers?

Yes. Annual KTU Researcher of the Year Award and incentive for research publications aim to motivate researchers in Government/ Government-Aided/ Government-Controlled/ NBA accredited Private Self Financing Engineering Colleges affiliated to KTU.

The KTU Researcher of the Year award consists of citation, gold medallion (worth Rs.25,000/-), and cash award of Rs. 25,000/-. The recipient of the award will be considered for financial assistance of Rs. 15 lakhs to continue research. Contributions of the researcher during the last five years are considered for deciding KTU researcher of the year.

In order to promote research publications, an incentive of Rs. 10000/- is given to faculty who publish their work in Science Citation Indexed (SCI) expanded/Social Science Citation Indexed (SSCI) journals depending on the branch/area to which the faculty belongs to. Maximum one incentive is sanctioned to the corresponding author of the paper in a calendar year.

12) Is there any financial support scheme to students for presenting paper in international conferences abroad?

Yes. This scheme envisages promotion of research activity by providing financial support to full time students in KTU affiliated engineering colleges to present technical papers in International conferences of repute. The assistance is meant for travel expenses as per government rules. The maximum assistance under this scheme is limited to Rs. 50,000/-for meeting expense towards travel, VISA, registration and insurance. Accommodation charges will not be paid.

Dean (Research), APJAKTU.