

University Grants Commission of Bangladesh

Plot# E-18/A, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

Phone: 8181499, Fax: 88-02-8181281, Web: www.ugc.gov.bd

Guidelines for UGC Fellowship for PhD Program in Bangladesh (Amended by the Committee for selecting PhD Fellows-2018)

And

Approved at the Full Commission meeting held on 27 June 2018.

Bangladesh with a population of over 160 million is gradually progressing to earn the status of Developed Nation by 2041. With this end in view, the Government of Bangladesh has given topmost priority to quality education and research at tertiary level, particularly in science and technology. However, with the establishment of a number of public universities of science and technologies as well as more than hundred universities in the Private Sector, there is a serious dearth of qualified teachers to cater the needs and demands of about 3.7 million students enrolled at the universities. The University Grants Commission of Bangladesh underscored the importance of higher education and research in overall socio-economic development of Bangladesh and initiated a PhD program to meet the growing demand for PhDs and encourage the young teachers, researchers and meritorious students to engage in cutting-edge research and innovation. In a meeting of the Committee for nominating PhD Fellowships, it was decided that the existing guidelines for awarding the PhD Fellowships would be reviewed and updated in consideration of the present scenario of tertiary education prevailing in Bangladesh. The updated guidelines have been prepared in the light of the above mentioned consideration.

- Name of the Fellowship: Full time Fellowship for PhD degree.
- Number of Fellowships : 50 (fifty) per year.
- Duration of the Fellowship: 3 (Three) Years subjected to satisfactory progress. Under special circumstances the tenure may be extended for another year or part thereof.
- Fellowship allowance:
 - (i) A PhD Fellow shall receive an allowance of Tk.30,000/- (Thirty thousand) per month (maximum 36 months from the date of joining);
 - (ii) Tk.10,000.00 (Ten thousand) may be paid for preparation and finalization of thesis upon recommendation of the supervisor;
 - (iii) For data collection/travel cost/secretarial works an amount of Tk.5,000.00 (Five thousand) may be paid in each of first, second and third year upon recommendation of the supervisor.
- Candidature for application: The following category of candidates will be eligible for this Fellowship:
 - (i) Teachers of public universities/Government Colleges;
 - (ii) Teachers of Private universities having permanent campus;
 - (iii) Meritorious students with requisite qualifications.

The Fellowships will be distributed as follows:

- (a) Public Universities (20)
- (b) Government Colleges (15)
- (c) MPO Colleges (5)
- (d) Private Universities (7)
- (e) Meritorious Students (3)

In case of insufficient number of applicants in any category, the Fellowships may be offered to another category if suitable candidates are available.

• Eligibility:

Teachers of public/private universities, colleges and meritorious students already admitted into full time PhD programs in any of the public universities will only be considered for this Fellowship.

• Supervisors/
Co-supervisors:

- (i) Public university teachers, not below the rank of Assistant Professor with PhD are only eligible for supervision. Teachers of Private Universities or Research Institutions approved by the Government may be accepted as Co-supervisors;
- (ii) University teachers already supervising more than 5(five) MPhil/PhD students will generally not be eligible to recommend an applicant to work under his/her supervision with this Fellowship;
- (iii) The supervisor will receive an honorarium of Tk.25,000.00 (Twenty five thousand) from respective universities after submission of the thesis by the candidate. If there are more than one supervisor/co-supervisor, the amount will be equally distributed among them.

• Mode of payment:

- (i) Unless otherwise stated, payment of the Fellowship allowances will be made every term through the relevant Registrar;
- (ii) The Registrar will release the Fellowship allowances monthly on receipt of a report from the Supervisor certifying that the Fellow is continuing his/her research work satisfactorily;
- (iii) Fellowship allowances will be paid in four installments from the date of joining. 1st installment will be paid after 6(six) months; 2nd installment will be paid after 12(twelve) months; 3rd installment will be paid after submission of satisfactory evaluation report of 1st year by the Evaluation Committee and final installment will be paid after the award of degree by the university;
- (iv) The payment for the preparation of thesis and the honorarium to his/her Supervisor/Co-supervisor shall be made as and when the Fellow produce a certificate from the Registrar of the university stating that he/she has been awarded PhD degree;
- (v) A copy of the thesis must be included with the certificate.

• Method of application:

- (i) University Grants Commission of Bangladesh will advertise the Fellowships through National dailies/ university/college authorities;
- (ii) Intending candidates will submit an application in a prescribed form available on UGC Website (www.ugc.gov.bd);
- (iii) The application must be submitted through Departmental Academic Committee and approved by the Vice-Chancellor of the respective university;

- (iv) All necessary papers: all academic certificates, transcripts, registration certificate of enrollment into PhD program in any discipline of any Public University, and evidence of acceptance by the university must be included;
- (v) A Synopsis highlighting the objectives, methodology, expected results and impact of this research on Bangladesh must be submitted;

• Method of selection:

- (i) The UGC Member in-charge of Research Support and Publication Division will be in charge of preliminary scrutiny. He/she may incorporate Members/any Member to assist him/her in the scrutiny;
- (ii) After preliminary selection, the candidates will be asked to present his/her research proposal before a Committee approved by the Chairman of UGC;
- (iii) The candidates will be offered an allowance of Tk. 500.00(Five hundred) for applicants from Dhaka city and Tk.1,000.00(One thousand) from outside Dhaka for his/her presentation of research proposal at UGC;
- (iv) The selected candidates will be notified afterwards.

• Progress Report:

- (i) 6(Six) monthly progress reports countersigned by the respective supervisor must be submitted by the Fellow;
- (ii) The Fellow must mention the period for which the report is submitted;
- (iii) The release of fund will be dependent on satisfactory progress report.
- (iv) Progress of research during first, second and third year shall be evaluated by a Committee consisting of the Supervisor (as convener) Co- Supervisor (if any) and one expert to be nominated by UGC. However, if extension beyond the third year is sought, progress must be evaluated by a Committee consisting of two experts nominated by UGC, besides the Supervisor and Co- Supervisor (if any).

• Acknowledgement:

- (i) The Fellow must acknowledge the assistance from UGC in any publication in the form of a research article or book.

• Termination of Fellowship:

- (i) Every fellow shall not accept any other award/fellowship during the tenure of this UGC Fellowship, otherwise the Fellowship will be terminated.
- (ii) Every fellow shall be liable to refund the total amount drawn from the UGC in case he/she prematurely discontinues his/her research work without valid reason acceptable to the UGC.
- (iii) The University Grants Commission of Bangladesh reserves the right to terminate the Fellowship for non-compliance/violation of the terms and conditions agreed by the candidate.