

# **CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF ODISHA KORAPUT**

(Established by the Central Universities Act 2009)



**Prospectus 2025-26**  
(PhD Admission Guidelines)

## APPLICATION GUIDELINES TO PhD PROGRAMME:2025-26

**As per University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedures for PhD Programme) Regulations, 2022 issued through THE GAZETTE OF INDIA: EXTRAORDINARY, NEWDELHI, 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022, followed by Notification No.F.4-1(UGC-NET Review Committee/2024(NET)/14068, dated 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024.**

**1. Eligibility criteria for admission to the PhD Programme:** The following are the criteria for admission to the PhD programme.

I. Candidates who have completed:-

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 the grading system is followed

Or

Equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognised or authorised 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 Able, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission 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 Able, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

II. Candidates who have completed the M.Phil. programme 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 educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to the PhD programme. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently Able, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of

candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

**2. Duration of the PhD Programme:**

- I. PhD Programme shall be for a minimum duration of three (3) years, including coursework, and a maximum duration of six (6) years from the date of admission to the PhD programme.
- II. A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re-registration as per the Statute / Ordinance of the Central University of Odisha; provided, however, that the total period for completion of a PhD programme should not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission in the PhD programme.

Provided further that, female PhD scholars and Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (having more than 40% disability) may be allowed an additional relaxation of two (2) years; however, the total period for completion of a PhD programme in such cases should not exceed ten (10) years from the date of admission in the PhD programme.

- III. Female PhD Scholars may be provided Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave for up to 240 days in the entire duration of the PhD programme.

**3. Procedure for PhD admission:**

The University Grants Commission (UGC), vide its notification dated 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024, has decided that from the Academic Session 2024-25 onwards, the score of the National Eligibility Test (NET) can be used for admission to PhD programmes in place of entrance tests conducted by different universities and higher education institutions (HEIs).

Accordingly, Central University of Odisha has decided to use National Eligibility Test (NET) or similar national level examinations scores for admission to PhD programmes from the academic session 2025-26, except for the cases mentioned in Sl. No. V

Based on the scores obtained in NET or similar national level examinations, the candidates will be eligible in three categories (As per the notification of UGC dated 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024):

Qualified for	Eligible for	
	JRF	PhD Admission
Category-1: Award of JRF	Yes	Yes
Category-2: Appointment as Assistant Professor and admission to PhD	No	Yes
Category-3: Admission to PhD only.	No	Yes

Table-1

- I. Candidates who have qualified for fellowship/scholarship in national-level examinations such as UGC-CSIR NET JRF (Category 1), ICAR-NET (JRF), or other equivalent national-level JRF/SRF, shall be considered for PhD admission strictly as per the provisions of the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of PhD Degree) Regulations, 2022. Under these provisions, 100% weightage shall be given to the performance in the said national-level examination, subject to the validity period specified in the JRF Award Letter.

- II. For candidates qualifying under *Category 2* and *Category 3* through examinations such as UGC-NET, CSIR-NET, ICAR-NET, or similar examinations, 70% weightage shall be assigned to the normalised examination score, and 30% weightage shall be assigned to the interview/viva voce. The combined merit for admission shall be determined accordingly. The calculation of scores for each category shall be as follows:

Qualified for	Score (70) A	Interview Score (30) B	Total (100) A+B
Category-1: Award of JRF (UGC-CSIR NET JRF / ICAR-NET (JRF))	70	Actual	Actual
Category-2: Appointment as Assistant Professor and admission to PhD.	$\frac{\text{Secured Score} *}{\text{Max Score}} \times 70$ *NET Score or Similar examination Score	Actual	Actual
Category-3: Admission to PhD only.	$\frac{\text{Secured Score} *}{\text{Max Score}} \times 70$ *NET Score or Similar examination Score	Actual	Actual

Table-2

- III. The marks obtained in the National Level Qualified Examination (such as UGC-NET, CSIR-NET, ICAR-NET, or any other equivalent examination) by candidates under *Categories 2 and 3* shall be valid only for a period of one (1) year from the date of issuance of the certificate for admission to the PhD programme at Central University of Odisha.
- IV. The scores obtained in the NET or equivalent national-level examinations issued prior to one year from the date of notification shall not be considered valid for admission to the PhD programme at the Central University of Odisha for the academic session 2025–26 under *Categories 2 and 3*. However, in the case of *Category 1* candidates, the validity of the Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) shall be governed strictly by the terms and conditions specified in the respective JRF Award Letter, and such validity shall be deemed acceptable provided it remains in force as on the date of admission.
- V. Candidates who have qualified for fellowship/scholarship under any recognized national-level examination conducted by agencies such as UGC, CSIR, ICAR, DBT, ICMR, NBHM or any other equivalent national agency, including fellowships awarded by statutory bodies such as the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC), National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), National

Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC), National Commission for Women (NCW), and the National Commission for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD), shall be eligible for admission to the Ph.D. programme at the Central University of Odisha, provided that the fellowship remains valid as per the terms and conditions stipulated in the respective award letters.

- VI. The validity of JRF/SRF shall remain effective up to the date of admission. In the event the JRF/SRF expires prior to the admission date, the candidature shall be automatically cancelled, and the candidate shall not be eligible for admission under Category 1.
- VII. A horizontal reservation of 5% shall be provided to Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) for admission to the PhD programme. In the event the PwBD quota is not filled under open merit within different categories, the remaining PwBD candidates shall be shortlisted based on merit, calculated as per the total score described in Table 2. The merit list for PwBD candidates shall be prepared university as a unit, and selected candidates shall be placed in the respective departments accordingly.
- VIII. The Central University of Odisha reserves the right to determine the number of candidates to be called for the interview, based on the number of PhD seats available in each department or discipline.

**4. Date of Interview:**

The date, time, and venue of the interview shall be finalised by the University and communicated to the candidates exclusively through an official notification published on the University's website. No other mode of communication will be provided in this regard.

**5. Reservation Guidelines:**

- I. Reservation of seats for OBC, SC, ST, EWS and Differently abled candidates will be made as per the rules of the Government of India.
- II. In accordance with the policy of the Government of India and the guidelines of the University Grants Commission, the University has reserved 15% of seats for candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes and 7.5% for those belonging to the Scheduled Tribes, with a provision for inter-changeability between these categories, wherever necessary. Candidates seeking reservation under the SC/ST category shall upload/submit a copy of the certificate of their caste/tribe in the prescribed format issued by the Competent Authority, not below the rank of Tehsildar/ Mandal Revenue Officer.
- III. In accordance with the policy of the Government of India and the guidelines of the University Grants Commission, 27% of the seats are reserved for the OBC (NCL) candidates. Candidates claiming reservation under the OBC (NCL, Central List) category must possess the OBC (NCL) certificate issued by the competent authority in the format prescribed by the Government of India, issued on or after **1st April 2025**, without which their claim shall not be considered under the OBC (NCL) category

- IV. A reservation of 10% of seats is provided to EWS candidates. In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Act 2019, and the reference of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment vide OM No. 20013/01/2018-BC-II dated 17th January 2019, enabling provision of reservation for the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) who are not covered under the existing scheme of reservations for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes, it has been decided to provide reservation in admission to educational institutions subject to a maximum of 10% of total seats in each programme. The candidate belonging to EWS has to claim at the time of filling up the online application form specified. The benefit of reservation under EWS can be availed by producing an Income and Asset Certificate issued by any of the Competent Authorities in the prescribed format issued on or after **1st April 2025**.

“The admission is provisional and is subject to the Income and Asset certificate being verified through the proper channels and if the verification reveals that the claim to belong to EWS is fake/false the admission will be Cancelled forthwith without assigning any further reasons and without prejudice to such further action as may be taken under the provisions of the Indian Penal Code for production of fake/false certificate.”

**Criteria of Income & Assets:**

Persons not covered under the scheme of reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs and whose family has a gross annual income below Rs. 8.00 lakh (Rupees eight lakh only) are to be identified as EWSs for the benefit of reservation. Income shall also include income from all sources, i.e. salary, agriculture, business, profession, etc., for the financial year prior to the year of application. Also, persons whose family owns or possesses any of the following assets shall be excluded from being identified as EWS, irrespective of the family income:

- i. 5 acres of agricultural land and above,
- ii. Residential flat of 1000 sq. ft. and above,
- iii. Residential plots of 100 sq. yards and above in notified municipalities.
- iv. Residential plots of 200 sq. yards and above in areas other than the notified municipalities.

The property held by a “Family” in different locations or places/ cities would be clubbed while applying the land or property holding test to determine EWS status. The term “Family” for this purpose will include the person who seeks the benefit of reservation, his/her parents, and siblings below the age of 18 years, as also his/ her spouse and children below the age of 18 years.

- V. 5% of seats (horizontal in nature) are provided for the PwBD candidates having a minimum degree of disability to 40% provided that their disability does not get in the way of pursuing the programme. The minimum eligibility requirements prescribed are relaxed in their cases as in the cases of the SC/ST candidates. i. PwBD candidates are required to submit a certificate from a Medical Board /Civil Surgeon of a Govt. Hospital indicating the extent of disability and the extent to which the disability hampers the candidate in pursuing her/his studies. ii. The candidates under this category may have to undergo a fresh medical examination,

if prescribed by the University, before being admitted.

6. Incomplete applications shall be liable to summary rejection without further notice. The University reserves the sole and absolute right to accept or cancel any application or admission at its discretion.
7. Applicants are advised to regularly visit the University website for updates, including any changes, inclusions, or omissions related to the interview or admission process. No separate communication will be provided.
8. **Application Fee:** Rs. 1000/- for all (Non-Refundable)
9. **Online Application Procedure:** Candidates must apply through our online application system and it will be available in the University Website.
10. **It is mandatory to submit the Scorecard of the tests mentioned in point no. 3 of the prospectus while filling out the application form.**
11. Tentative dates for PhD admission are as follows:

Release of Admission Announcement	:	25.09.2025
Commencement of Online Application Submission	:	30.09.2025 (11.00 AM)
Last Date for Submitting Online Application	:	20.10.2025 (11.59 PM)
Notification for the List of Shortlisted Candidates Called for Interview	:	27.10.2025
Date of Interview	:	03.11.2025 – 07.11.2025
Notification for the List of Shortlisted candidates for admission	:	12.11.2025
Date of Admission	:	19.11.2025 -21.11.2025
Commencement of class for Coursework	:	24.11.2025

**Sd/-**  
**Controller of Examinations**  
**Central University of Odisha**

## INTAKE CAPACITY FOR ADMISSION TO PhD PROGRAMME

Sl. No.	Name of the Department	Area of Specialization If Any)	Total Intake						NET EXAM TO BE CONSIDERED
			UR	OBC	EWS	SC	ST	TOTAL	
01	Department of Odia Language and Literature	Ancient/Medieval and Modern Literature	2	1	0	1	0	4	UGC NET (ODIA)
02	Dept. of English Language and Literature	Indian literature and translation studies Post colonial/decolonial literature, Drama/Theatre and performance studies, African literature in English, Afro American literature, Asian American Studies, Caribbean literature, English Language Teaching and Learning, Translation Studies, Linguistics, Communicative English, Pedagogy of English and Indian English Writing, Comparative Literature and Translation Studies, American Literature, Environmental Literature, Indian English Literature and Postcolonial Literature, Dalit and Tribal Literature	2	1	1	1	1	6	UGC – NET (ENGLISH)
03	Dept. of Hindi	Madhyakalin Hindi- Odia Ramkavya, Sakshatakar Sahitya, Tulnatmak Sahitya, Comparative study, Odia - Hindi folk literature, Translation from Odia, Hindi, Bengali, Nepali, Indian Poetic, Katha Sahitya, Jainendra Aur Yashpal ke Upanyason Mein Abhivyakt Stri Chetna : Ek Tulnatmak Adhyayan, Women discourse in Modern Hindi Literature, Comparative Study, Literary Criticism, Translation Bengali to Hindi , Hindi Bengali Katha Sahitya, Tulnatmak Sahitya. Comparative Study Hindi Bengali Literature, Rabindra Sahitya.	3	2	1	1	0	7	UGC – NET (HINDI)



04	Dept. of Sanskrit	Vedic Literature, Indian Philosophy, Buddhism, Art & Architecture, Literature, comparative religion and philosophy	7	5	1	2	2	17	UGC – NET (SANSKRIT) UGC – NET (SANSKRIT TRADITIONAL SUBJECTS (INCLUDING JYOTISHA/SIDHANTA JYOTISHA/ NAVYA VYAKARNA/ VYAKARNA/ MIMAMSA/ NAVYA NYAYA/ SANKHYA YOGA/ TULANATMAKA DARSANA/ SHUKLA YAJURVEDA/ MADHVA VEDANTA/ DHARMA SASTRA/ SAHITYA/ PURANA- ITIHASA/AGAMA/ADVAITA VEDANTA))
05	Dept. of Sociology	Gender and Society, Economy and Society, Social change and Development, Technology and Society, Rural Society, Indian Sociology, Sociological Theories, Tribal Sociology, Social Movements, Environmental Sociology, Sociology and crime Deviance, Urban Sociology, Politics and Sociology, Cultural Studies, Social Psychology, Civil society	3	2	1	1	0	7	UGC – NET (SOCIOLOGY)
06	Dept. of Anthropology	Socio-Cultural Anthropology, Biological Anthropology	1	1	0	1	0	3	UGC – NET (ANTHROPOLOGY)
07	Dept. of Economics	Agricultural Economics, Development Economics, Economics of Social Sector, Labour Economics, Rural Development, and Sanatan Economics, Environmental Economics, Tribal Economics, Industrial Economics	3	2	1	1	1	8	UGC – NET (ECONOMICS)
08	Dept. of Journalism & Mass Communication	Health Communication, New Media & AI, Marketing Communication, Development Communication/ CfD, Film and Theatre Studies, Indigenous Media & Communication, Anthropology and Communication Research	1	1	0	0	0	2	UGC – NET (JOURNALISM & MASS COMMUNICATION)
09	Dept. of Education	Education	3	2	1	1	1	8	UGC – NET (EDUCATION)

10	Dept. of Mathematics	Geometric Function Theory, Bio Mathematics, Nonlinear Dynamics, Population Dynamics	2	1	1	1	0	5	CSIR UGC – NET (MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES)
11	Dept. of Computer Science	Blockchain Technology, IoT, Cloud/ Fog/ Mist Computing, Model Checking, Decentralized AI, GIS, Federated Learning	1	0	0	0	0	1	UGC – NET (COMPUTER SCIENCE AND APPLICATIONS)
12	Dept. of Biodiversity and Conservation of Natural Resources	Marine & Coastal Biodiversity, Coastal Zone Management, Climate Change, Carbon Sequestration, Aquaculture and Remote Sensing and GIS, Molecular mechanism of abiotic stress tolerance in plants., Agrobiodiversity, Biodiversity assessment of floral groups., Phytochemical analysis of Medicinal plants.	2	2	1	1	1	7	CSIR UGC - NET (EARTH, ATMOSPHERIC, OCEAN AND PLANETARY SCIENCES) CSIR NET (LIFE SCIENCES) UGC-NET (ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES) ICAR-NET (ALL SUBJECT UNDER PLANT & CROP SCIENCES) ICAR-NET (ALL SUBJECT UNDER FISHERIES SCIENCE) DBT - NET
13	Dept. of Business Management	Mining Management, General Management, Hospitality Management, Supply Chain Management, Financial Management, Human Resource Management; Organizational Behaviour; Marketing Management	5	3	1	2	0	11	UGC – NET (MANAGEMENT) UGC – NET (LABOUR WELFARE/PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT/INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS/ LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE/HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT) UGC – NET (TOURISM ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT)
14	Dept. of Statistics	Statistics	1	1	0	0	1	3	CSIR UGC – NET (MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES) UGC – NET (POPULATION STUDIES)

Prospectus Committee 2025-2026		
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