

No. 2-1/2025-HPU (Acad)
Himachal Pradesh University, Summer-Hill, Shimla-5.
(NAAC Accredited 'A' Grade University)
Academic Branch


Dated; **18 APR 2026**

ADDENDUM

In continuation to this office notification of even No. dated 18-12-2025 regarding to start the Part-time Ph.D program at Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla as per the UGC regulations, the Vice-Chancellor is pleased to approve the recommendations of the Deans Committee vide item No. 3 in its meeting held on 06-04-2025 (ADDENDUM/AMENDMENT TO PhD ORDINANCE regarding Part-Time PhD Programme, 2026) as per attached Annexure-I.

Yours Faithfully,

Encls. As above.


Registrar
HPU, Shimla-5.
18 APR 2026

Endst. No.Even.

Copy for information and further necessary action to:

1. The Dean of Studies, HPU, Shimla-5.
2. All the Deans of the Faculties, H.P.University, Shimla-5.
3. All the Chairmen/Chairperson/Director of the Teaching Departments, HPU, Shimla-5.
4. The Director,HPUBS/UILS, Ava-Lodge, Shimla-4/Regional Centre, Dharamshala, Distt. Kangra (HP)/Department of HPU, Evening Studies, The mall,Shimla-1.
5. The Controller of Examination, HPU, Shimla-5.
6. The DR./A.R.Exam-II (PG)/Secrecy/Admn./Teaching O/o Dean of Studies, HPU, Shimla-5.
7. The Web-Admin, HPU, Shimla-5 with the direction to upload the addendum on the University website.
8. The SPS to Vice-Chancellor/Pro-Vice-Chnacellor/Registrar, HPU, Shimla-5.
9. Guard file.


Registrar

HIMACHAL PRADESH UNIVERSITY, SHIMLA
ADDENDUM / AMENDMENT TO PhD ORDINANCE regarding Part-Time PhD Programme, 2026
(In continuation of the HPU PhD Regulations-2025 [Revised] already notified)

1. Short Title and Commencement

- (a) This shall be called the "Addendum to the PhD Ordinance regarding Part-Time PhD Programme, 2026".
(b) It shall be read as an integral part of the existing PhD ordinance/Regulations of the HPU.
(c) It shall come into force from the date of approval by the Competent Authority.

2. Statutory Basis

- (a) This Addendum is issued in pursuance of clause 13 of the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of PhD Degree) Regulations, 2022, and the Academic Council decision notified vide No.2-1/2025-HPU (Acad) dated 18th December 2025.
(b) All other provisions of the existing HPU PhD Ordinance shall, mutatis mutandis, apply to Part-Time PhD scholars unless defined herein.

3. Insertion of New Category

- (a) A new category titled "Part-Time PhD Programme", besides offering full-time PhD, is hereby introduced under the existing PhD Ordinance for working professionals, educators, or researchers who want to enhance their qualifications without giving up their jobs or other responsibilities.
(b) The degree awarded shall be Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), and no distinction shall be made between full-time and part-time modes on the degree certificate.

4. Provision of Seats

All part-time PhD candidates shall be considered SUPERNUMERARY and will not be counted for the overall limit of candidates enrolled under the supervisor. Every supervisor will be required to supervise at least one part-time PhD candidate beyond the prescribed limits, in addition to the existing supernumerary seats, if any.

5. Fee Structure

- (a) The fee payable by Part-Time PhD scholars shall be equivalent to the fee prescribed for Supernumerary PhD seats, as notified by the University from time to time.
(b) Notwithstanding anything contained therein, scholars enrolled in Science and Engineering disciplines shall be required to pay a monthly research fee of ₹6,000/- (six thousand only), or such amount as may be revised by the University from time to time.

6. Eligibility (Additional Provision)

Candidates seeking admission under the Part-Time mode must:

- (a) Fulfil all eligibility conditions prescribed under the existing HPU PhD Regulations, and
(b) Be presently working teachers/professionals/ researchers/academic enthusiasts in a recognised institution/department/organisation/industry of repute:
- (i) Have 3 years of teaching or research experience in a regular post in Higher Education Institutions approved by UGC/AICTE, or/
 - (ii) Have 5 years of teaching or research experience in a guest/contract post in Higher Education Institutions approved by UGC/AICTE, or/
 - (iii) Have 5 years of research and development experience in a regular post in Organizations having MoUs with HPU/PSUs/R&D organisations/Gobally reputed corporate organisations, or/
 - (iv) Have 7 years of experience, for other working professionals, educators, or researchers

(c) The candidates under clause (i) & (ii) (Assistant Professor or Associate Professor of the HPU or its affiliated Colleges only who have already passed UGC (NET/SET/SLET/M.Phil.), and (iii) are exempted from the test conducted by NTA for admission to PhD and shall be assessed at the Department/Centre/Institute level in the manner specified under:

The maximum marks for the interview shall be 30 (thirty). The split-up of marks awarded in the interview shall be as follows:

- (i) Regular -1 mark for each year; Guest/Contract- 0.5 mark for each year: Maximum 12 marks
- (ii) JRF- 3 Marks; NET- 2 Marks; SLET/SET/M.Phil- 1 Mark: Maximum 3 marks
- (iii) Research proposal: Maximum 5 marks
- (iv) Presentation of Research proposal: Maximum 5 marks
- (v) Defence of the proposal: Maximum 5 marks

At the time of the interview, the candidates are required to discuss their research interest/area before the interview panel (Department Council). The final minutes of the Department Council deliberations and the outcome of the interview shall be submitted to the Standing Committee. The following aspects shall be considered during the interview:

- Candidate's competence for the proposed research
- Whether the research work can be suitably undertaken at the University
- Whether the proposal area of research can contribute new/additional knowledge.

(d) The exemption will not apply to the employee & ward of any serving or retired employee of the HPU or its affiliated colleges, or to any other guest/contract, or to candidates under clause (iv). They must appear and qualify for the award of JRF, for appointment as Assistant Professor (NET)/ Admission to PhD. Such candidates will be considered for admission in the manner specified in the proviso to clause 5 of the HPU PhD Regulations (2025) Revised.

(e) The candidate may do their research in the HPU or in their parent institution/organisation. In the event of the latter, the applicant should prove to the satisfaction of the Standing Committee that facilities for pursuing research are available at his/her place of work in the chosen field of research, wherever required, and that his official duties permit him to devote sufficient time to research.

7. Mandatory No Objection Certificate (NOC)

(a) In addition to existing admission requirements, the candidate shall submit a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the employer at the time of admission (As per Annexure).

(b) The NOC shall clearly state that:

- The candidate is permitted to pursue a part-time PhD.
- Leave/relaxation shall be granted for coursework and research requirements.
- The candidate shall be allowed to fulfil academic obligations.

8. Admission Procedure

(a) Admission under the Part-Time mode shall be conducted along with regular PhD admissions.

(b) Selection shall be made through the (UGC-NET/Entrance Test/Interview, if not otherwise exempted as per Clause 6 (c) above

9. Coursework

(a) All Part-Time PhD scholars shall be required to complete mandatory coursework as prescribed under the existing PhD Ordinance either through a fractal/regular/online- offline or blended mode/or through accredited online platforms to be decided by the concerned Standing Committee.

(b) No exemption from coursework shall be granted on account of employment or experience.

10. Duration

The minimum duration of Part-Time PhD shall be 42 months.

11. Residency / Contact Requirement

(a) Part-Time scholars shall be required to:

- Attend coursework online/offline or hybrid mode;
- Maintain periodic contact with the supervisor.
- Participate in seminars, presentations, including the six-monthly reviews, as prescribed.

(b) The mandatory minimum on-campus presence/contact period is one month for each academic session, unless exempted by the RDC with full justification on a session-by-session basis.

12. Equivalence

The PhD degree awarded under Part-Time mode shall be equivalent in all respects to that awarded under Full-Time mode.

13. Conversion from full-time to part-time PhD

(a) If a full-time PhD scholar secures regular employment in the government, public sector, or private sector during the first 2 years of the PhD programme, the scholar shall, with effect from the date of such employment, be deemed to have been converted to the Part-Time PhD category, subject to the approval of the Standing Committee. Thereafter, all provisions, conditions, fees and requirements as prescribed for the Part-Time PhD programme under the applicable regulations, as amended from time to time, shall mutatis mutandis apply.

(b) The scholar shall be required to submit a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the employer in accordance with applicable regulations.

(c) Failure to intimate such employment shall be treated as a violation of PhD regulations and may invite disciplinary action, including cancellation of PhD registration/enrollment.

14. Removal of Difficulties

(a) In case of any ambiguity, the interpretation of the Vice-Chancellor shall be final.

(b) Notwithstanding anything contained in these PhD regulations, the Vice Chancellor may take such measures as may be necessary to remove difficulties.

(c) Matters not covered herein shall be governed by:

- Existing HPU PhD. Ordinance

15. Power to Relax

The Vice-Chancellor may relax any provision of this Addendum in exceptional cases, subject to conformity with UGC and HPU PhD Regulations.

ANNEXURE

Format of No Objection Certificate (NOC)

(This certificate should be typed on the letterhead of the Institution/Organisation)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This is to certify that Mr./Ms. _____ (Employee ID _____) is a regular/part-time employee of this institution/organisation. He/she has been working in this institution/organisation since _____ to date.

In response to his/her request for No Objection Certificate (NOC) regarding pursuing a part-time PhD at Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla, the applicant is certified as under:

- (i) The candidate is permitted to pursue PhD on a part-time basis.
- (ii) He/she has completed _____ years of service in our Institution/Organisation as a regular /part-time/ guest/ contract teacher/employee.
- (iii) His/her official duties permit him/her to devote sufficient time to research.
- (iv) Facilities for research in the candidate's field of research are available at the candidate's place of work.
- (v) He/she will be permitted to attend coursework, discussion with the supervisor, conduct experiments, and participation in seminars and presentations, including the six-monthly reviews, as prescribed.

Signature & Seal of Head of the Organisation/ Institute