

Guidelines regarding extension of M.Phil./Ph.D. registration due to COVID-19 pandemic

Following are the detailed guidelines regarding extension of M.Phil./Ph.D. registration due to COVID-19 pandemic in view of UGC Guidelines on Examinations and Academic Calendar dated 29-04-2020.

UGC Guidelines on Examinations and Academic Calendar dated 29-04-2020 (Point no. 13):

“The M.Phil. or Ph.D. students, whose maximum period for submission of M. Phil./ Ph.D. Dissertation/ Thesis prescribed under relevant rules/ regulations/ ordinances of the concerned universities is expired/ expiring during the Corona pandemic period, may be allowed to submit their Dissertation/ Thesis, including completion of pending formalities, within six months from the date of expiry of regular prescribed period. The extension of six months may also be considered for those students who are yet to submit their Dissertation/ Thesis.”

In the light of the above UGC Guidelines, it is hereby clarified that as per the said UGC Guidelines on Examinations and Academic Calendar dated 29-04-2020, M.Phil./Ph.D. students, whose span period for submission of M.Phil./Ph.D. Dissertation/Thesis has expired/ is expiring during the lockdown related to the COVID-19 pandemic, are allowed to submit their Dissertation/Thesis, including completion of pending formalities, within six months from the date of expiry of span period. The extension of six months is also applicable for those currently registered M. Phil./Ph.D. students who are yet to submit their Dissertation/Thesis. The extension of six months is applicable w.e.f. 20 March 2020, i.e., the day from which the University was closed due to COVID-19 pandemic (Office order No. Estab. II(i) /330/COVID-19/M/2020 dated 19 March 2020).

This implies that any Research Scholar whose M.Phil./Ph.D. registration was active on 20 March, 2020 (within span period) under the applicable M.Phil./Ph.D. Ordinance is eligible for six months extension. After the adjustment of the prescribed six months extension, the period of registration in M.Phil./Ph.D. is shifted forward by six months for calculating the expiry date of the regular prescribed period (span period) in M.Phil./Ph.D as well as for determining the dates from which extension is required. In the case of M.Phil., as per Ordinance VI dated 09 August 2017, the date from which extension is required after two years will move forward by six months. For Ph.D., the extension dates would move forward by six months each for extension from five to five and a half years, five and a half to six years and six to six and a half years. In other words, the entire time profile of the M.Phil/Ph.D. registration is moved forward by six months.

For instance, if a Ph.D. research scholar is completing five years of registration on 31 March 2020 then the Research Scholar is now due for extension beyond five years from 01 October 2020 (01 April plus six months) instead of 01 April 2020 after the adjustment of prescribed six months extension. This formula is also applied for determining the date from which extension is required from five and a half to six years and six to six and a half years as well as for determining the end of the span period.

Please note that this notice supersedes the earlier notice dated 06-04-2020 regarding the extension of the Ph.D. registration period.