

**The ICFAI UNIVERSITY, HIMACHAL PRADESH (IUHP)**

**The ICFAI University, Himachal Pradesh Ph.D. Program Guidelines, 2024**



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## The ICFAI University, Himachal Pradesh (IUHP)

### The ICFAI University, Himachal Pradesh Ph.D. Program Guidelines, 2024

#### 1 Short Title, Application, and Commencement

*1.1* These guidelines may be called The ICFAI UNIVERSITY, Himachal Pradesh Ph.D. Program Guidelines 2024.

*1.2* They shall apply to the Ph.D Program offered by the departments of ICFAI University Himachal Pradesh..

*1.3* They shall come into force from the date of approval by the Governing Body.

#### 2 Management, Coordination and Organization

*2.1* The Research and Development Cell and the Research Committee shall coordinate and exercise general supervision over the execution of the Ph.D. Programs offered by the University..

#### 3 Categories

Two types of candidates are admitted to the Doctoral Program:

**3.1 Full Time Research Scholars:** Candidates interested in a career in teaching and/ or research may be admitted as full-time (FT) research scholars. The full-time Students would have to work on full time basis in the Campus.

**3.2 Part Time Research Scholars:** Professionals working in various fields including teaching, consultancy, business, and industry interested in pursuing academics or enhancing their ability and qualification may be admitted as part-time (PT) research scholars. They may work from their respective workplace but would have to attend contact sessions conducted by the University. Faculty Members in the different disciplines/ departments of the ICFAI system who do not have Ph.D. Degree are encouraged to pursue part time Ph.D. as a part of the faculty development program. For admission to part time program the candidates have to submit No Objection certificate from the appropriate authority in the organization where the candidate is employed, clearly stating that:

- The candidate is permitted to pursue studies on part time basis.
- His/her official duties permit him/her to devote sufficient time for research.
- If required, he/she will be relieved from the duty to complete the course work.

At any stage of his/ her research work, a scholar can change his/her category either from full time to part time or part time to full time. The request to change of category must be considered by the Scholar Research Committee (SRC) and the change recommended to the Research head through the respective Chairman of the Faculty Research Committee (FRC). The research head after due approval from the Vice-Chancellor will issue a letter regarding the change of category to the scholar with information to all the concerns.

#### **4 Eligibility criteria for admission to the Ph.D. Programme**

The following are eligible to seek admission to the Ph. D. Program for all the Faculty of IUHP (Faculty of Law, Faculty of Science and Technology, Faculty of Management Studies and Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences).

**4.1.** A 1-year/2-semester master's degree program in a relevant discipline after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree program.

OR

A 2-year/4-semester master's degree program in relevant discipline after a 4-year bachelor's degree program.

OR

A 2-year/4-semester master's degree program in relevant discipline after a 3-year bachelor's degree program or Qualifications declared equivalent to the master's degree in a relevant discipline by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed.

OR

A 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree program in relevant discipline with a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed.

OR

A M. Phil. Degree from any recognized University with at least 55% marks in aggregate or an equivalent grade in a point scale (wherever grading system is followed).

**4.2** Candidates in the final year of their Master's Program who expect to complete all their qualifying Degree requirements before a specified date indicated by the IUHP can apply for admissions. For shortlisting purposes, their performance till the preceding semesters/years would be considered but their admission would be provisional, subject to their meeting the minimum eligibility criteria after their final qualifying results are announced.

For any other National or International Degree, the scale will be interpolated accordingly. An equivalence Committee will be constituted by the Vice-Chancellor to consider applications other than covered under above Clause (**4.1 and 4.2**). The minimum eligibility criteria indicated above is only an emailing clause. Ph.D. Admissions Committee (PAC) Constituted by the Vice-Chancellor may fix higher criteria at the time of the shortlisting keeping in view the number of candidates, and minimum background to cope with the program.

#### **5 Duration of the Programme**

**5.1** Ph.D. Program shall be for a minimum duration of three years including course work, and a maximum of six years.

**5.2** Extension beyond the above limits will have to be approved by the Vice-Chancellor based on the recommendations of the Supervisor, concerned Dean/HoD, and Research head but not beyond two years. One-time extension can be of maximum six months only.

**5.3** Women candidates and persons with disability (more than 40% disability) may be allowed a relaxation of two years (i.e. four semesters) for the Ph.D. Program in the maximum duration.

**5.4** Upon approval of the extension from the concerned authority, candidate has to pay the semester fee for which the extension period is granted.

**5.5** For the candidates with exceptional performance, the minimum duration of Ph.D. program may be reduced after the approval of the Vice-Chancellor but not beyond more than six months.

## **6 Leave**

Keeping the maximum duration of Ph.D. program counted, leave of absence may be granted on the following basis:

- 6.1** Maximum leave for full time scholars will be 24 days in an academic year (not more than 2 in a month). The record of attendance will be maintained in the departments to which the scholar is attached. In case of serious illness, the necessary information will be immediately communicated by the scholar in writing through the supervisor (s) and Dean/HOD for approval of Research head as per rules.
- 6.2** One semester break may be provided (with prior request and approval, for valid reason) once in the entire duration of Ph.D. keeping the maximum duration of Ph.D. program counted.
- 6.3** Women candidates may be provided Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave for up to 240 days once in the entire duration of Ph.D.
- 6.4** For student exchanges, provided that they contribute significantly to the completion of the thesis, leave of absence may be granted from the second year onwards on the recommendation of supervisor (s) and Dean/HoD followed by approval of Research head and the Vice-Chancellor of IUHP.

## **7 Procedure for Admission**

- 7.1** Applications for admission to the Ph.D. program shall be invited through an open advertisement. The admissions shall be based on the criteria (including qualifying marks, entrance exam pattern, syllabus, mode of exam, no. of seats, etc.) notified at least once in each academic calendar by IUHP with the due approval from RC.
- 7.2** Research and Development Cell (RDC) shall execute and oversee the entire admission process.
- 7.3** M.Phil. Degree holders with 55% or JRF/NET/GATE/ Graduate Pharmacy Aptitude Test (GPAT)/Himachal Pradesh State Eligibility Test (HPSET) qualified candidates are exempted from the entrance test.
- 7.4** The University reserves the right to limit the number of scholars to be admitted into the Ph.D. program at any time. The resources and other facilities/fiscal constraints would guide this decision.
- 7.5** Non-Resident Indian (NRI), Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) and Foreign Nationals may be admitted to the program in accordance with the policy guidelines laid down by the Government of India.
- 7.6** Based on the performance of the candidates in the Academics, Entrance Test and Interview (or only interview in case of exempted from entrance test), PAC will shortlist the candidates and recommends them to the Vice-Chancellor for the admissions into the Ph.D. program. After the approval from the Vice-Chancellor, final list of selected candidates should be notified on IUHP website.

## 8 Registration and Monitoring

After submitting the admission fee, the Research head shall approve the registration of the candidate. The list of the registered candidates will be conveyed to the Dean/HoD of the respective Faculty/Department.

- 8.1 The date of regular registration of the candidate into the Ph.D. program shall be the date of first-time payment of the applicable fee(s) (Including admission fee, caution money, and others, if any).
- 8.2 Students will be required to renew their registration every semester by the specified date till the submission of their thesis. The renewal of registration by paying fee shall be subject to completion of specified number of credits/course work and/or satisfactory progress in his /her research work as recommended by the SRC.
- 8.3 If a student does not show any progress for a year and does not register also, then he/she will be considered as a non-performing student and his /her registration from Ph.D. program may be cancelled with due approval from the Vice-Chancellor.
- 8.4 If a student does not register for a semester without seeking an exemption, his/her name may be removed from the rolls of Ph.D. program. A student may seek an exemption from the Research head, giving reasons for not registering in a particular semester. During such a semester student is also expected to have regular interaction with SRC which is responsible for monitoring the student.
- 8.5 At the end of each semester, the candidate has to do the following: submit a progress report detailing the work done during the semester, give a seminar and also submit the evaluation form duly signed by the Convener of his/her SRC to the RDC.

## 9 Ph.D. Program Structure

After a student has been admitted into the Ph.D. Program, he/she will work for the Ph.D. Degree in three phases, viz. Course Work, Preparation and Defense of Thesis Proposal, and Thesis Work including Pre-Ph.D. Seminar and Thesis Submission.

### 9.1 Phase I: Course Work

The objective of the coursework is to equip the student with the latest developments in the relevant disciplines including the tools of research and latest software. In the first year, student takes two courses of 04 credits each and two course of 02 credits, spread across one semester as mentioned in Table 1.

**Table 1: Course Work Structure**

Course Title	Credit
Research Methodology (Core)	04
Research and Publication Ethics (Core)	02
Literature Review and Seminar (Core)	02
Subject Specific (Elective)	04
Total Credit	12

Attendance, examinations, evaluation scheme, grade sheet for the courses of both the semesters shall be as per the existing regulation of the University on examinations. With the due approval from the Vice-Chancellor, the IUHP can devise a mechanism for part-time Ph.D. candidates to schedule the course work classes in the flexible mode as per the requirements.

## **9.2 Ph.D. Supervisor(s) /Co-Supervisor(s)**

- 9.2.1** The Supervisors shall be a regular/full-time faculty member of the IUHP with an earned Ph.D. Degree. External supervisors are not allowed. In case of research topics which are interdisciplinary in nature apart from the supervisor, a co-supervisor may also be appointed from outside the Department / Faculty/ College/Institution/Industry, on such terms and conditions as may be specified and agreed upon by the consenting Institutions/Colleges/Industry.
- 9.2.2** At any given time, a Professor shall not have more than 08, an Associate Professor not more than 06 and an Assistant Professor not more than 04 Ph.D. candidate registered under him/her.
- 9.2.3** Supervisor will be allotted to each student within first semester and the supervisor will be the convener of the Scholar Research Committee (SRC). For allocation of the supervisor, student will interact with faculty of his/her department and will submit his/her preference to the RDC. RDC after consulting from concerned Dean/HoD, will recommend the allocation of supervisor/co-supervisor to the Vice-Chancellor. The Vice-Chancellor shall approve the appointment of Supervisor(s) /Co-Supervisor(s) on the basis of recommendations of the RDC.
- 9.2.4** In case the Supervisor proceeds on leave for twelve months or more, resigns or expires, an arrangement shall be made by the RDC who with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor will appoint a new Supervisor.
- 9.2.5** RDC with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor may appoint more than one Supervisor/Co-Supervisor but not exceeding a total of three to guide a candidate.

## **9.3 Phase II: Preparation and Defense of Thesis Proposal**

- 9.3.1** After the successful completion of the Course work, the student would work for preparation of the research proposal.
- 9.3.2** The student would prepare thesis proposal under the guidance of his/her SRC. The student is required to submit the first draft of the thesis proposal for review within two semesters after completion of course work. If student fails to submit the first draft within stipulated period of time without any valid reasons of delay, his/her registration may be cancelled.
- 9.3.3** To ensure that all the relevant aspects of a Ph.D. Thesis Proposal are covered, students are expected to prepare the draft proposal based on the following aspects: Introduction and motivation (importance) for the proposed research, Literature survey (critical review of research papers related to the thesis topic) and Identification of research gaps, Proposed research objectives, Model and proposed research hypothesis, Research methodology and the sources of data, Expected contribution to the literature/society, List of references, Timeline (plan) of research.
- 9.3.4** After satisfying itself, SRC will forward the draft proposal in the prescribed form (see Form: Ph.D./04) to the RDC along with the recommended name and resume of the 03 external examiners.
- 9.3.5** RDC after screening the draft proposal will schedule a Thesis Proposal Seminar (TPS) which will be delivered by the candidate to the Thesis Proposal Screening Committee (Comprising of one external expert and 3-4 faculty members of respective Faculty/Department of the concerned area).

### **9.3.6 Submission of Synopsis**

Upon satisfactory completion of the research, scholar must publish at least one research paper in a referred journal, approved by the RC and make two paper presentations in external national conferences/seminars organized by reputed institutions. Before the submission of thesis for adjudication, candidates are supposed to produce evidence for the same in the form of presentation certificates and/or reprints. After that research scholar is permitted to submit the synopsis of the Ph.D. work to the Controller of Examinations with the recommendation of the Faculty Research Committee for consideration.

Prior to submission of the synopsis, the student shall make a pre-Ph.D. presentation in the Department that may be open to all faculty members and research students, for getting feedback and comments, which may be suitably incorporated into the synopsis and thesis under the advice of the supervisor.

After the recommendation of the research work reported in the synopsis by the Faculty Research Committee, the Supervisor shall forward six hard copies of the synopsis of the proposed thesis, with a soft copy on CD to the Controller of Examinations along with a panel of at least six names of external examiners, who are not in employment of the University and should be outside the State of the University campus for adjudication of the Ph.D. thesis.

The screening committee would check the quality of the Ph.D. thesis proposal of the student. Specifically, it will focus on the clarity of the objectives, thoroughness of the review of literature, proposed methodology and data analysis, and whether the thesis work would make a significant contribution to the existing body of knowledge. The screening committee, after deliberations, may decide on the approval of the thesis proposal or may suggest to revise the proposal as per the comments.

### **9.4 Phase III: Ph.D. Thesis Preparation, Pre-Ph.D. Seminar and Thesis Submission**

In the third year onwards, the student is expected to complete his/her Ph.D. thesis work and submit the thesis for evaluation after completion of three years from the date of registration.

**9.4.1** Any change in the approved title of the thesis (see Form: Ph.D./08) can be made only with the prior approval of the Vice-Chancellor.

**9.4.2** Ph.D. Supervisor has to verify, confirm and certify that the thesis data collected by his/her student is genuine.

**9.4.3** Prior to the submission of the thesis, the student shall make a pre-Ph.D. presentation in the department that shall be open to all the faculty members and research students for getting feedback and comments which can be suitably incorporated into the draft thesis under the advice of the Supervisor(s) /SRC.

**9.4.4** The format of the final thesis should be as follows:

- \* Thesis Title page (outer cover) as per format given in Form: Ph.D./08.
- \* Certificate from the Candidate as per format given in Form: Ph.D./10.
- \* Certificate from the Supervisor as per format given in Form: Ph.D./11.
- \* Certificate of PLAGIARISM CHECK as per format given in Form: Ph.D./12.
- \* Certificate from the THESIS EVALUATION as per format given in Form: Ph.D./13.
- \* Acknowledgements
- \* Table of contents
- \* List of tables/figures, if any
- \* Abstract



- \* Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, etc.
- \* Appendices
- \* References
- \* Abbreviations

- 9.4.5** Six hard copies of the thesis, thesis proposal and abstract written in English unless otherwise approved by the RC (each bearing original signature of the candidate and the Supervisor(s)), incorporating the same title as approved by the RDC along with duly completed Ph.D. thesis submission form (see Form: Ph.D./07) should be submitted to the office of RDC. No part of the thesis shall have been submitted for the award of any other Degree or diploma. Formats of the Certificate and thesis title page should be in line with the approved formats.
- 9.4.6** Plagiarism percentage should be in accordance to the plagiarism policy of the IUHP. The supervisor (and co-supervisor, if there is any) shall receive an originality report on the whole text of the thesis and shall take this report into account in the evaluation on the submission. An originality report is not to be considered as sufficient proof that the submitted thesis does not contain plagiarized text. Avoiding plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct in the authorship of the thesis remains the sole responsibility of the researcher. If Research Supervisor (or Co-Supervisor) suspects plagiarism, he or she may ask for an investigation.
- 9.4.7** While submitting for evaluation, the thesis shall have an undertaking from the research scholar and a certificate from the Research Supervisor attesting to the originality of the work, vouching that there is no plagiarism and that the work has not been submitted for the award of any other Degree/Diploma of the same Institution where the work was carried out, or to any other Institution. RDC will detect plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty of submitted thesis. The thesis may be cancelled in case of proved plagiarism and that he/she would be liable for disciplinary action as per the norms of the IUHP.
- 9.4.8** Each Ph.D. student is recommended to publish at least two research papers in ABDC/SCOPUS/UGC care list or equivalent high-quality Journals in his/her chosen area before submission of the thesis for adjudication, and produce evidence for the same in the form of acceptance letter or the reprint. To maintain the quality of publications, RDC may blacklist any journal which marginalizes quality at a point of time. Publications in such journals will not fulfill the prerequisite for publication. Additionally, student shall present at least two research papers based on the thesis work at a conference/seminar, and produce evidence of the same.

## **10 Ph.D. Thesis Evaluation**

The appointment of competent examiners to evaluate the thesis, the conduct of the viva-voce examination-cum-defense of the thesis by the candidate and the final declaration of the evaluation outcome have to be done in the highest traditions of the academic standards set worldwide. The guidelines given below are with this intent:

### **10.1 Appointment of the Examiners**

The Supervisor will submit a list of proposed examiners to the Research head. Names and addresses along with the curriculum vitae of at least six eminent persons in the concerned field of research, should be proposed in the list. The Vice-Chancellor will select at least two examiners (at least one from outside the State) from the proposed list and form a panel of examiners consisting of the supervisor(s) and the two external examiners for evaluating the thesis. The examiners may be from India or abroad. Vice-Chancellor may ask the supervisor or the Research head to submit more names in the panel of proposed examiners if he so desire.

## **10.2 Examiner's Report on the Thesis:**

- 10.2.1** Each examiner shall be requested to send a detailed evaluation report and his/her recommendations on the prescribed proforma within six weeks of the date of receiving the thesis.
- 10.2.2** If the thesis report is not received from an examiner in six weeks, a reminder will be sent to the examiner. If no response is received from the examiner in two weeks thereafter, another examiner shall be appointed from the approved panel.
- 10.2.3** In case one of the reports recommends revision of the thesis, candidate will have an option to revise the thesis within six months. The revised version of the thesis would be sent to the concerned examiners for their recommendations.
- 10.2.4** If one of the reports recommends rejection, the comments and queries in the report, shall be communicated to the candidate, and the candidate shall be given an opportunity to give replies to the comments made in the report. Such reply of the candidate along with the thesis shall be sent to the next examiner on the panel for evaluation. If the report of the next examiner also recommends rejection, the thesis shall be rejected. If the next examiner accepts thesis, the Ph.D. viva-voce defense will be conducted.
- 10.2.5** If two reports recommend rejection, the thesis shall be rejected. The candidate may, however, be allowed to re-submit the thesis normally after one year, provided the title of the thesis remains unchanged. Normal procedure will be followed for the evaluation of the resubmitted thesis.
- 10.2.6** The examiner's reports shall be forwarded to the Supervisor(s) who will inform the candidate eligible for viva-voce defense only those comments and queries in the reports which require explanation and answers without disclosing the identities of the examiners.

## **10.3 Ph.D. Viva-Voce Defense**

- 10.3.1** If the thesis is recommended for the award of Degree, the candidate shall be required to defend his work/thesis orally (viva-voce defense) before a duly constituted committee by Vice-Chancellor. The composition of viva-voce defense committee should include at least one external examiner. The date and time of the viva-voce shall be duly notified by RDC to enable the interested faculty members, staff members and the students to attend it.
- 10.3.2** In the viva-voce defense, the candidate shall be required to give his response to comments and questions arising out of the examiners reports apart from the queries and questions raised by members of viva-voce defense committee and, with permission of chairperson, questions asked by others who are present.

## **10.4 Final Grade and Award of Ph.D. Degree**

- 10.4.1** The recommendations of the viva-voce defense committee shall be submitted to Vice-Chancellor by the Research head for final decision, which shall be reported to RC and the Academic Council.
- 10.4.2** Upon successful completion of viva-voce defense, RDC shall issue a Course Completion Certificate (CCC) after due permission from Vice-Chancellor, certifying that the candidate has successfully completed all the requirement for the award of the Degree.

- 10.4.3** After approval of Degree from RC and the academic council of the University, RDC will notify the award of the Degree. However, Ph.D. Degree should be awarded to the candidate in the forthcoming convocation of IUHP after the approval of Vice-Chancellor.
- 10.4.4** Award of Degrees to candidates registered for the Ph.D. Program on or after July 11, 2009, till the date of notification of these Regulations shall be governed by the provisions of the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2009 and 2016 and their amendments.
- 10.4.5** In the case of research scholars who have copied or plagiarised as confirmed by a committee, his/her Ph.D thesis shall be rejected and his/her research registration shall be terminated and also he/she shall be debarred from registering for any other programme in the ICFAI University, Himachal Pradesh. Research scholar will submit a declaration vouching that there is no plagiarism as stipulated in the plagiarism rules as specified by the UGC and that the work has not been submitted for the award of any other degree/diploma of any University.

### **11 Depository with INFLIBNET/Institutional Electronic Archive**

Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and before the announcement of the award of the Ph.D. Degree(s), RDC shall submit an electronic copy of the Ph.D. thesis to the INFLIBNET/Institutional Electronic Archive, for hosting the same so as to make it accessible to all Institutions.

### **12 Cancellation of Registration**

Registration of a candidate shall be cancelled on the recommendation of SRC/FRC/RDC and due approval of the Vice-Chancellor, in any one of the following cases:

- 12.1** If the academic progress of a scholar is found unsatisfactory in two consecutive monitoring reports from SRC.
- 12.2** If he/she absents himself/herself for a continuous period of six weeks without sanction of leave.
- 12.3** If he/she withdraws from the Ph.D. program and his request is duly forwarded by the office of the RDC.
- 12.4** If he/she fails to submit his/her thesis/revised thesis within the time prescribed for such submission.
- 12.5** Any proven indiscipline.

### **13 Transfer of Ph.D. Student**

In case of relocation of Ph.D. scholar, request from the candidate will be considered by RDC and after due approval from Vice-Chancellor, transfer may be allowed. Such case, the research data will be transferred to the University/College to which the scholar intends to relocate, provided all the other conditions in these regulations are followed in letter and spirit and the research work does not pertain to the project secured by the parent Institution/ Supervisor from any funding agency. The scholar will, however, give due credit to the parent guide and the institution for the part of research already done.

## **14 Residency Period**

**14.1** A full-time Ph.D. candidate is expected to devote his time in the University during his entire period of study. However, this period in exceptional circumstances, can be reduced by the Vice-Chancellor on the recommendations of SRC and RDC.

**14.2** The minimum residency period for part-time Ph.D. candidates after successful completion of the course work shall ordinarily be at least six weeks in each semester. However, during the course work, part-time candidate has to maintain the minimum attendance percentage as prescribed by IUHP.

## **15 Composition of SRC and Its Functions**

The Scholar Research Committee (SRC) shall comprise Supervisor(s) and two other faculty members in the related field (nominated by the supervisor). A faculty member from a different department of IUHP may also be a member. Supervisor will be the chairman of SRC. Each member of SRC must possess an earned Ph.D. Degree.

The SRC will look after the progress and issues related to the scholar and will recommend its suggestions to FRC/RDC.

## **16 Composition of FRC and Its Functions**

The Faculty Research Committee (FRC) shall comprise the supervisor(s), the concerned Dean/HoD, and two other faculty members in the related field (nominated by the Dean/HoD of the concerned department). A faculty member from a different department of IUHP may also be a member. The Dean/HoD of the concerned department will be the chairman of FRC. Each member of FRC must possess an earned Ph.D. Degree.

FRC shall perform the following functions:

- Ascertain the availability of existing facilities required for the proposed research.
- Make decision on the recommendation of SRC and forward the same to RDC
- Periodically monitor the performance of the work of the candidate and provide advice to candidate, wherever necessary.

## **17 Composition of RC and Its Functions**

The Research Committee (RC) shall comprise the Vice-Chancellor, Dean/HoD of all departments, Controller of Examinations, two external members (outside campus) from industry/academics and Research head. Vice-Chancellor will be the chairman of RC and Research head will be member secretary of RC. Subject to the general guidance of the Academic Council (AC), Research Committee (RC) shall coordinate and exercise general supervision over the academic policies for the program leading to award of Ph.D., subject to the provisions of the Act, Statutes and UGC regulations. However, Faculty Research Committee (FRC), Scholar Research committee (SRC) and any other committee(s) constituted in this behalf by the competent authority shall organize and manage the program.

## 18 Residual Conditions

- 18.1** Any person who himself or any of his relatives, as defined below, is a candidate under consideration shall not participate at any level of the decision-making process: Spouse, son, daughter, brother, sister, spouses brother/sister, brother's son/daughter, sister's son/ daughter, first cousin, grandson, granddaughter.
- 18.2** The Vice-Chancellor may grant exemption in exceptional cases, from the operation of any of the regulations, where necessary in special cases with valid reasons and without diluting academic standards.
- 18.3** Notwithstanding anything stated in these regulations, for any unforeseen issues arising, and not covered by these regulations or in the event of differences of interpretation, the Vice-Chancellor may take a decision. After obtaining, if necessary, the opinion/advice of a committee consisting of any or all the Research head /Dean/other officers of the University. The decision of the Vice-Chancellor shall be final.

## 19 Definitions

- "IUHP" means The ICFAI University, Himachal Pradesh.
- "Ph.D." means the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy.
- "SRC" means Scholar Research Committee.
- "FRC" means Faculty Research Committee.
- "RC" means Research Committee of the University.
- "AC" means Academic Council.
- "VC" means The Vice-Chancellor of The ICFAI University, Himachal Pradesh.
- "RDC" means Research and Development Cell of The ICFAI University, Himachal Pradesh.
- "PAC" means Ph.D. Admission Committee of The ICFAI University, Himachal Pradesh.
- "FT" means Full-Time.
- "PT" means Part-Time.
- "HoD" means Head of the Department.
- "TPS" means Thesis Proposal Seminar.

-Sd-  
(Dr. R.K. Bhardwaj)  
Member, RC

-Sd-  
(Dr. Nisha)  
Member, RC

-Sd-  
(Dr. Suresh Kumar)  
Member, RC

-Sd-  
(Dr. Ashok Kumar)  
Member, RC

-Sd-  
(Dr. Bharat Bhushan)  
Member, RC

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(Dr. Manish Saraswat)  
COE, Member, RC

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(Dr. Pankaj)  
Member Sec., RC

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(Dr. Ajay Sharma)  
Registrar, IUHP

-Sd-  
(Prof. Keshav Sharma)  
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