



Prospectus for Ph.D. Programme



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I. Introduction

The All India Institute of Medical Sciences – Guwahati (AIIMS-G) is an autonomous Institute of National Importance under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare - Government of India. It was established under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSSY) in May 2017. AIIMS-G started its academic activities from 12th January, 2021 from a temporary campus adjacent to Gauhati Medical College, Guwahati, Assam. AIIMS-G has started functioning from the permanent campus of the Institute at Changsari, Guwahati from March, 2022. The Institute was inaugurated by the Honourable Prime Minister of India on 14th April 2023.

The aim of the Institute is to develop into a state-of-the-art facility that caters to the three-pronged approach adopted by the AIIMS institutions, namely, Quality Medical Education, Evidence based Patient Care, and Cutting-edge Research. The Institute envisages to establish a center of excellence in medical education, training, health care and research imbued with scientific culture, compassion for the sick and commitment to serve the underserved.

AIIMS-G is starting to offer a broad-based fulltime research program leading to award of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree with an idea that Research work may exemplify the development of new interventions, development of new biomarkers, testing of new scientific ideas or gaining insight into biological processes and health sciences. The Ph.D. degree would be awarded to a candidate, who will work full time as per the program regulations, and will submit a thesis on the basis of original research work done by him/her in any discipline-specific or multi-disciplinary area, contributing to the advancement of knowledge in Medical, Nursing, and Allied Health Sciences. The prospective candidates are also likely to innovate methods of application of existing knowledge in Medical, Nursing and allied Health Sciences. The basic objective of Ph.D. course is to enhance the scientific capacities of researchers and scientists in the field of Medical, Nursing, and Allied Health Sciences. The vision of the institute is to provide excellent opportunities for research work in the modern era of biomedical sciences with the developing state of art infrastructure and facilities.

II. Advertisement/Notification

Admission to the Ph.D. program shall commence in the month of January and July every year. All vacant seats shall be advertised in national dailies and on the website of AIIMS-G. The last date of joining shall preferably be 28th February and 31st August for the respective sessions.

III. Student Eligibility for Seats

A candidate seeking admission to the program of study leading to the award of Ph.D. degree must possess at least one of the following qualifications:

- 1. Medical qualification:** MBBS/BDS with minimum 55% aggregate marks or MD/MS/MDS/DM/MCh in the subject concerned or equivalent Diplomate of National Board of Examination degree. Candidates who have obtained any of these degrees from medical colleges which are not recognized or considered equivalent by the Medical Council of India/Dental Council of India/National Medical Commission shall not be eligible to apply.
- 2. Nursing qualification:** Candidates holding M.Sc. degree with minimum 55% aggregate marks in Nursing Specialty will also be eligible for Ph.D. admission in College of Nursing.

3. AYUSH qualification: Master's degree in any branch of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Homeopathy) recognized by Central Council of Indian Medicine (CCIM).

4. Non-Medical qualification: For nonmedical candidates, eligibility shall be Master's Degree awarded by UGC approved Indian Universities or equivalent in subjects pertaining to life sciences such as Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry, Biophysics, Human Biology, Molecular Biology, Microbiology, Biotechnology, Immunology, Botany, Zoology, Genetics, Molecular and Human Genetics, Human Genomics, Forensic Science, Cell Biology, Pharmacology, Pharmacy, Laboratory Technology, Speech and Hearing, and allied subjects. Candidates having BTech (Biotechnology) and MTech (Biotechnology) degree will also be eligible. For non-life science subjects, the eligibility shall be M.Sc. (Psychology/Clinical Psychology), M.A. (Psychology/Clinical Psychology), or M.Phil. (Clinical Psychology), Master's degree in Yoga, Radiography, Radiotherapy, any branch of Engineering, Applied Psychology, Counselling Psychology. Non-medical candidates should have at least 55% marks in the last eligibility examination qualified. Candidates possessing Master's Degree through distant learning course shall not be eligible.

IV. Requirements for admission of foreign nationals

1. Foreign Nationals shall be required to fill in the prescribed application form indicating the choice of subject for admission to course leading to award of Ph.D. degree.
2. Foreign nationals are required to send their applications through Diplomatic Channel. They shall also be required to appear in the Entrance Examination along with other candidates.
3. Seats shall not be reserved in any discipline for foreign nationals (except the bilateral agreement between the Government of India and any other nation).
4. No Institute fellowship will be provided to Sponsored/Foreign candidates.

V. Rules for admission for in-service candidates (applicable for AIIMS Faculty/Employees, and other govt institute sponsored candidates)

1. The faculty members of AIIMS-G can apply for registration to Ph.D. course as in-service candidate. Scientific and nursing staff of AIIMS-G are also eligible for registration to Ph.D. program.
2. The individual should be a regular employee of the institute and should have rendered a minimum of five years of continuous service at the institute. The guidelines of in-service candidates will not be applicable to other staff members employed under various research schemes which are of tenure basis.
3. The in-service candidates may be exempted from appearing in the entrance examination. They can be directly called for evaluation during the interview.
4. The candidates should fulfil all the eligibility criteria for the Ph.D. course.
5. The in-service candidates should have published at least 3 original research publications (excluding case reports, review articles, editorial comment, and letter to editor) during the last three years immediately preceding the date of his/her application in journals indexed in PubMed, SCOPUS, or Web of Science.
6. The candidate should have a proven track record of active involvement in research / academic activities of the department/Institute.
7. The candidate will be considered as in-service candidate provided that the Head of the Department should certify that the work of the department will not suffer and no additional staff will be asked for.

8. The candidate seeking admission under this category will have to identify a faculty member in the Institute who is willing to be the guide of the candidate. The candidate should submit a letter of acceptance/undertaking from the concerned faculty member in this regard.
9. Out of up to 5 faculty members in a particular department, one, can be registered as Ph.D. candidate and not more than 2 candidates, at a given time, should be registered as Ph.D. candidate in a particular department where there are more than 5 faculty members.
10. The in-service candidate who has registered himself/herself as Ph.D. candidate will not be eligible to be guide/co-guide of any other Ph.D. candidate in the Institute till he/she completes the Ph.D. degree. However, he/she will continue to be guide/co-guide for MD/MS/MDS/DM/MCh candidate.
11. If the faculty member registering for Ph.D. is already a Guide to other Ph.D. candidates, he/she should surrender the guidship to the co-guide/other eligible faculty before taking up the Ph.D. registration for himself/herself.
12. The candidate seeking admission under this category may be registered for Ph.D. in any department of the Institute. However, consent from HODs of departments involved will be required.
13. Senior residents/Senior Demonstrators/Tutors will be eligible for Ph.D. registration. They will have to appear as an open candidate in the entrance examination. However, they cannot draw salary/fellowship from two sources.
14. Candidates pursuing Ph.D. at AIIMS may be eligible for consideration as Senior residents/Senior Demonstrators/Tutors. However, they cannot draw salary/fellowship from two sources.
15. Each case may be examined by a constituted ad-hoc committee consisting of the following members before the candidate is permitted to be registered for the Ph.D.:
 - i. Dean (Academic): Chairperson
 - ii. Dean (Research)
 - iii. Head of the candidate's parent department
 - iv. HOD of the department where the candidate is planning for Ph.D. registration
 - v. The faculty member who has consented to be the guide of the candidate.

The said committee will also examine whether the candidate, other than the faculty member, belongs to the scientific cadre. The recommendation of the committee will be final.
16. The in-service faculty members and eligible staff from other Central Govt/Semi Govt/Autonomous organization will also be eligible for admission to Ph.D. program of AIIMS-G. These will be considered as sponsored candidates. They will have to fulfil all the eligibility criteria and should appear as an open candidate in the entrance examination. All such candidates will have to submit NOC from the competent authority of their parent organization. The parent organization needs to have a MoU with AIIMS-G for this purpose. In such cases, Guide would be from AIIMS-G and Co-Guide can be from the organization of the applicant. Data collection would be allowed at their own Institution, under the supervision of Co-Guide. There would be no extra financial implication on AIIMS-G. The project needs to be approved by the applicable committees of AIIMS-G.
17. For the sponsored candidates from other organization, it is mandatory for the candidate to be in AIIMS-G for a period of one year during the entire duration of the course by availing study or any other leave from their parent organization.

VI. Types of Ph.D. Seats

1. Category A (Fellowship Available in Funded project)

- i. The candidates already working or interested to work under funded projects will apply under this category.
- ii. If selected for Ph.D. admission, they will be allowed to apply for JRF/SRF/equivalent position (depending upon experience) after joining the Ph.D. program. However, the candidates can not avail fellowship/salary from two different sources.
- iii. The number of seats available under this category will be provided to the academic section by the concerned department in the following format:

S. No.	Department	Project Title	Broad subject area proposed research for Ph.D.	Duration and amount of Fellowship/ Stipend per month (in Rs)	Any special requirement for the eligibility of candidates

- iv. Candidates selected under this category will be automatically appointed to the fellowship posts within those projects for which they have been selected and no additional interviews will be held for selection on these posts within the project. (If the fellowship has some restrictions on eligibility of candidates, this must be stated as shown in the above table).

2. Category B (sponsored candidates from other organization)

- i. The in-service faculty members and scientific staff from other Govt Institutes as elaborated under para V will apply under this category.
- ii. Applications from foreign nationals will also be accepted under this category.

3. Category C (candidates with own fellowship/in service candidates from AIIMS-G)

- i. The candidates with their own fellowships from recognized Government agencies such as CSIR, UGC, ICMR, DBT, NBHM, GATE, INSPIRE, or similar government agencies will apply under this category. The certificate of such candidate should be valid for the purpose of availing fellowship as on the date of joining the Ph.D. program, if selected.
- ii. The fellowship of such candidates who have qualified national examinations as elaborated under para 3.i should be tenable at AIIMS-G.
- iii. The in-service candidates from AIIMS-G can also apply under this category.

4. Category D (AIIMS Fellowship): Under this category, AIIMS-G will provide 40 fellowships each year (20 in each session) based on the performance of candidates in the entrance examination.

- a. The candidates availing Institute fellowship will have to be rated as VERY GOOD every 6 months for the continuation of the fellowship.
- b. The fellowship will initially be for 3 years, extendable by 2 years if approved by a committee constituted by Executive Director, AIIMS-G. The committee will evaluate the DC comments, progress of research work, comments of the guide and general conduct of the student to arrive at the decision to extend the fellowship. The candidate will be expected to apply for grants/fellowships during the first 3 years so as to end dependence on AIIMS fellowship.

- c. Additionally, a maximum of Rs. 5 Lakhs per annum for 3 years will be allowed as research grant (for consumables only) to such fellows on approval of their project by the ethics committee and submission of thesis protocol.
- d. If the awardees accept any other fellowship (including positions within projects), the Institute fellowship will be ceased from the candidate.

VII. Method of Selection

Selection for Ph.D. registration will be through a two-stage performance evaluation as described below. Candidates applying under category A, category B, and category D will have to appear in both stages of examination. However, the candidates applying under category C will be exempted from stage 1 of examination; the merit list of such candidates will be prepared based on their performance in stage 2 (interview).

1. **Stage 1 (written examination, 80 marks):** Stage 1 will comprise of a MCQ based written examination of 1.5 hours duration which will be divided into 2 parts:

Part 1 (30 marks): MCQ based Aptitude test covering English (written and verbal skills), Biostatistics, Research Methodology, Cell Biology, Laboratory Technology, etc.

Part 2 (50 marks): Subject related test comprising of MCQ questions of MD/MS/MDS/MSc entrance level.

- i. The marking scheme for stage 1 examination will be as follows:
 - a. Each correct answer will be awarded one mark.
 - b. More than one answers will be treated as a wrong answer and awarded zero mark.
 - c. Zero mark will be given to question(s) not answered/unattempted.
 - d. Overlapping answer/marking extending to another answer will also be awarded zero mark.
 - e. There will not be any negative marking.
- ii. The candidates who secure $\geq 50\%$ in stage I (40 marks) will be eligible for stage II (Interview). However, the number of candidates called for stage II (interview) shall not exceed three times the number of seats advertised under each guide.

2. **Stage 2 (Interview):** Candidates will undergo a departmental viva/assessment for a maximum of 20 marks (category A, category B, and category D). For candidates appearing under category C, the interview will be comprised of 100 marks.

VIII. Preparation of final list of selected candidates and counselling

1. The sum total of marks awarded in stages 1, and 2 will be used to determine the final merit list of candidates (category A, category B, and category D). A minimum of 50% marks in Stages 1, and 2 combined shall be eligible for admission (category A, category B, and category D). For candidates appearing under category C, merit list will be prepared based on the performance in stage 2. A minimum of 50% marks in Stage 2 shall be eligible for admission (category C)
2. The exam section will determine the method of creation of the question paper, conduct of the exam, counselling, display of result and all other matters related to the selection process.
3. Candidates who fail to attend any of the stages of examinations as mentioned above will not be eligible for admission.
4. After entrance examination result is declared, the selection letters will be issued to the selected candidates.
5. The selected candidates will produce originals of certificates along with one set of xerox copy at the time of counselling.

IX. Duration of Course

1. The duration of the course shall be the time period from registration to submission of thesis. The minimum period of registration in respect of all the candidates who are registered for Ph.D. shall be three years. The maximum period of registration shall not exceed five years. Extension beyond the period of 5 years can be given for a maximum period of 6 months on the recommendation of Doctoral Committee and final approval by Executive Director. Further extension beyond 5 years & 6 months can also be given by the Executive Director for a maximum period of 6 months in highly exceptional circumstances (like medical exigencies, natural calamities etc), subject to subsequent approval of the Academic Committee and such extension may not be given retrospectively. If thesis is not submitted within these timelines, the registration of the candidate may be summarily cancelled.
2. The guide of Ph.D. student shall give clear reason for the delay to the Executive Director.
3. In case of extension beyond 5½ years without justifiable reasons and circumstances as mentioned above, the Ph.D. registration of the candidate may be cancelled.
4. Failure to submit thesis within stipulated time period of maximum 5 years with extension after approval upto 5½ years (6 years in exceptional circumstances by prior approval of Executive Director) may lead to cancellation of Ph.D. registration of the candidate.

X. Eligibility Criteria for Recognition as a Ph.D. Guide and Co-Guide

1. Must have completed minimum 2 years as a regular faculty in the Institute. The last date for the calculation of two years will be 31 July for July session and 31 January for January session of respective year. For those with less than 2 years as faculty, exception on case-to-case basis, based on previous research experience of the faculty may be granted by the Executive Director.
2. The faculty member must have a medical postgraduate qualification or doctoral degree (MD/MS/MDS/DNB/DM/MCh/ Ph.D.).
3. The faculty member should have published minimum five original research articles to be a guide, and minimum three original research articles to be a co-guide (excluding case reports, review articles, editorial comment, and letter to editor) in PubMed, SCOPUS, or Web of Science indexed journals.
4. The faculty member shall possess experience as elaborated below after obtaining postgraduate qualification:
 - i. Five (05) years of teaching/research experience after obtaining medical postgraduate or doctoral degree, out of which at least three (03) years should be as Assistant Professor or above at AIIMS/Institute of national importance/autonomous medical colleges established by the Govt of India (where three years residency is required for appointment as Assistant Professor), **or**
 - ii. Five (05) years teaching/research experience as Assistant Professor or above in a MCI/NMC recognized medical colleges (where three years residency is not required for appointment as Assistant Professor), **or**
 - iii. Five (05) years of teaching/research experience in a reputed national/foreign Institutes/UGC recognised Universities/Institute of national importance/DSIR recognized institute, **or**
 - iv. Nursing faculty shall possess minimum five years of experience after obtaining Ph.D.

- v. The date for calculating the teaching/research experience to be guide/co-guide will be 31 July for July session and 31 January for January session of respective year’.
5. The guide or co-guide *must not* be related to the candidate pursuing Ph.D. (parent, sibling, spouse, relative of spouse, cousin or their spouses / siblings or children).
 6. Faculty members due to superannuate in next 3 years will not be eligible as guide from the date of the request.
 7. There must be at least one co-guide from the department where the candidate is registered. If there is only one eligible guide in a department, a co-guide may be taken from another allied discipline/department of the Institute.
 8. The Guide and the Co-guide should be prepared to take over each-others responsibilities in the event of protracted absence of any one of them from the Institute.
 9. The HoD must certify that student work will not suffer during the protracted absence of the Guide/Co-guide.
 10. In the event of guide proceeding on protracted leave, the co-guide will be re-designated as guide and another co-guide will be appointed from the department.
 11. In any exceptional situation that may arise when both Guide and Co-guide are not available, then the student may be transferred to another faculty member in the department with the consent of Head of the Department/Dean provided that the faculty is eligible to be a Ph.D. guide. In such event, another co-guide will be appointed from the department. However, such situations must be avoided.
 12. Each faculty member may guide a maximum of 8 MD/MS/MDS/DM/MCh/ Ph.D. students at any time. This will include a maximum of 5 Ph.D. students. However, if a faculty member is guiding more than 6 MD/MS/MDS/DM/MCh students, they will still be eligible to guide upto 2 Ph.D. students, provided that they have fulfilled their UG and MD/MS/MDS/DM/MCh responsibilities regularly. (A current student will be the one who has not submitted the thesis by the last date of application for seats)
 13. A faculty member of AIIMS-G with research experience can be a Co-Guide for a maximum of 5 Ph.D. theses of the Institute. In the event if a Faculty member is required to be a Co-Guide for more than 5 Ph.D. theses of the Institute, a special permission from the Executive Director, AIIMS-G will be required. The Faculty member can also be a co-guide in the Ph.D. thesis of other Institutes/organization with the approval of the Executive Director, AIIMS-G.

XI. Eligibility of Scientists as Guide for Ph.D. Students

Scientists shall be eligible to be the guide for Ph.D. students subject to fulfilment of the following requirements:

1. They should hold a Ph.D. Degree.
2. They should be the regular employee of AIIMS-G and must have completed 2 years of service in the Institute.
3. They should have published minimum five original research articles (excluding case reports, review articles, editorial comment, and letter to editor) in PubMed, SCOPUS, or Web of Science indexed journals.
4. They should have at least five years of teaching/research experience in a reputed national/foreign Institutes/UGC recognised Universities/Institute of national importance/DSIR recognized institute or combinations thereof to be considered eligible to be Guide for the purpose of guiding a Ph.D. student at AIIMS-G.

XII. Foreign co-guides and rotation

1. Co-guides will be permitted from Institutions outside India with whom AIIMS-G has specific MoUs.
2. Rotation/external training for a maximum period of 1 year during the 5-year registration period will be permitted at institutions of foreign co-guides. All expenses for such rotation will be borne by the candidate/foreign Institute unless specifically approved by the Executive Director, AIIMS-G.

XIII. Formation of Doctoral Committee

1. The guide should submit a panel of experts to the Executive Director through proper channel for the constitution of Doctoral Committee (DC) for the candidate, within six months of the candidate's registration.
2. During this initial period of six months after registration, the candidate is expected to familiarize himself/herself with the research projects being conducted in the Department/Lab of the guide. The candidate is required to attend classes conducted by Research Cell as part of basic induction into research.
3. After registration, candidate must complete course in research methodology conducted by Research Section within 6 months of registration & should pass the exit exam.
4. He/she shall be invited to submit the proposed work plan of the Ph.D. thesis to the DC.
5. The DC shall consist of the following members. It is preferable to include a Biostatistician in the DC.
 - a. Guide
 - b. Minimum one expert from reputed organizations (External expert)
 - c. Up to 3 experts from AIIMS-G (Internal expert)
 - d. Co-guide(s)
 - e. HoD of the department where candidate is registered
6. The change of research project/Supervisor(s) of the Department may be permitted to a candidate provided it is recommended by the DC of the candidate concerned and approved by the Dean/Executive Director. Such changes shall be allowed only within the first six months of registration but under no circumstances later than one year after the date of registration. However, no change of department shall be permissible at any point of time.

XIV. Submission of thesis protocol

1. After the constitution of DC, the candidate shall prepare a detailed protocol underlining his proposed research plan clearly stating the objectives and methodology to be employed. The protocol should also contain a brief formulation of the experimental designs & the advice of a biostatistician should invariably be obtained.
2. Protocol shall be submitted to the DC within 3 months of the formation of DC (but no later than 9 months from the date of registration). The DC will recommend the feasibility of the proposed research plan recommending such modification as the committee seems fit. The candidate will incorporate the suggestions of the DC and submit the final protocol for the approval of Dean through Guide.
3. After the approval of Dean, the research protocol will be submitted for the approval of ethics committee.
4. The approval from ethics committee must be obtained preferably within 3 months of submission of research protocol.
5. The meetings of DC must be held every 6 months.

XV. Assessment of the work of the candidates

1. The progress of the candidate work shall be periodically assessed by the DC and a report regarding the same shall be submitted to the Dean through the guide at the end of every 6 months. The grading of the candidate shall be done as Excellent/ good/ satisfactory/ poor. Any grading less than good is not acceptable. In case report of DC is below the accepted standard of good for two consecutive times, the candidate will be given a warning and in case further DC reports mentions the same grading, the registration of such candidates may be cancelled.
2. The Dean shall convey the candidate about the assessment report in writing (Excellent/Good/Satisfactory/Poor), and should also advise the candidate about his/her short-comings.

XVI. Thesis and Examination

1. No candidate will be allowed to submit thesis without the approval of the DC. The final DC meeting should be held at least 6 months before the end of the maximum registration period. After the recommendation of DC, the candidate will start writing the thesis. The same will be informed to the Dean in the DC report which should include a brief resume of the work done.
2. Candidate must submit thesis within 6 months of grant of permission by the DC. However, extension for maximum upto 3 months can be given by the Dean on the recommendation of guide mentioning justifiable reasons.
3. Candidate shall be required to have 2 publications in peer reviewed journals with an Impact Factor > 1.5 or one publication in journals with Impact Factor more than 3 before the submission of the thesis. Reprints of these publications shall be included in the thesis.
4. For the evaluation of Ph.D. thesis, the candidate shall submit four copies of his/her thesis along-with soft copy in CD/DVD not earlier than prescribed minimum period of 3 years and no later than the maximum period of registration (5 years or as the case may be). The thesis shall be certified by both the Guide and by the Co-Guide(s) before its submission.
5. The guide in consultation with the DC shall submit a panel of examiners at the time of submission of the final DC report that is at least six months before the expected date of submission of the thesis (end of registration period). The panel shall include six external examiners (of whom up to two may be from abroad) with their designation, complete postal address with PIN Code, e- mail, and telephone/mobile no. The examiners, on the basis of their published work, should be acknowledged leaders in the field of study undertaken by the candidate.
6. From the panel of examiners approved by DC, four external examiners shall be selected by the Dean Examination (in the order of preference) for the approval of Executive Director, AIIMS-G. If the panel includes experts from abroad, one of the four selected examiners can be from abroad. However, appointment of examiners from abroad may not be necessary. Dean (examination) shall obtain consent from the first two examiners for evaluation of the thesis. If any of the first two examiners do not provide consent, then third examiner will be contacted. If the third examiner also do not provide consent, then fourth examiner will be contacted. A synopsis submitted by the student along with the consent letter will be sent to the examiners for seeking their permission to evaluate the thesis. After obtaining consent, the soft copy of the thesis will be sent to the examiners. In any case, evaluation report from

- only two external examiners will be required. The examiners shall be requested to submit their evaluation reports preferably within a month time.
7. If both the examiners recommend acceptance of the thesis for the award of the Ph.D. degree, a public defence-cum-*viva voce* examination (here in after referred as *viva voce* examination) will be conducted to adjudge the general proficiency of the candidate in the subject allied to the candidate field of work of the thesis.
 8. If the thesis is rejected by both examiners, it will stand rejected and shall not be referred to any other examiner.
 9. In the event that the thesis is rejected by only one examiner, it will be referred to another examiner from among the approved panel. In case the thesis is approved by this examiner, it will be considered as unanimously approved.
 10. If one or more examiner recommends re-submission of the thesis after modifications, it shall be done within a maximum period of 3 months (6 months in case some new experiment is recommended) from the date on which the candidate is so informed.
 11. The *Viva-Voce* examination shall be conducted in offline/online mode before a duly constituted committee hereinafter referred to as Viva-Voce Committee (VVC). The date, time and venue of the *Viva-Voce* with other necessary details shall be adequately notified by the examination cell so as to enable other faculty members and students to attend it.
 12. The examination cell shall arrange for the *Viva-Voce* of the candidate as early as possible and normally within a month from the date of receipt of evaluation report from the examiners.
 13. The VVC shall consist of (i) Guide, (ii) Co-Guide(s), (iii) one external examiner (preferably from India) who has evaluated the thesis, and (iv) HoD of the department where candidate was registered for Ph.D.
 14. The external examiner to be called for VVC will be selected from one of the two examiners who had evaluated the thesis by Dean (examination) with approval from Executive Director, AIIMS-G.
 15. In the event of non-availability of selected examiner before the *viva-voce* examination, the second external examiner who examined the thesis will be invited for the examination.
 16. The VVC shall be provided with the reports of both the examiners before the *Viva-Voce*. If the examiner(s) raise some queries/seek clarifications, the candidate shall be required to give satisfactory answers to the queries at the time of *Viva-Voce*.
 17. At the *viva voce* examination, the candidate's general proficiency in the subjects allied to the field of his study shall also be evaluated. Those attending the public defence who are not members of the VVC, can also participate by asking relevant questions. The VVC shall take into consideration the views and criticism if any, of the Faculty members and others participating in the public defence of thesis. However, the result of the examination shall be decided solely by the VVC.
 18. The VVC shall submit a comprehensive report on the performance of the candidate at the *Viva-Voce*, including the discussions over various points raised.
 19. The candidate shall be declared eligible for the award of the degree of Ph.D. only on the unanimous recommendations of the VVC for the award of the degree.
 20. In case, the VVC is not satisfied with the performance of the candidate in the above examination, the candidate shall be required to reappear for another *viva voce* examination after a period of two months provided such specific recommendations is made by the VVC.

XVII. Leaves and other Rules

1. Ph.D. students are entitled for 30 days leave every year and leaves of multiple years cannot be clubbed together. If leave availed exceed 30 days within a year, then the period beyond 30 days is treated as Extra Ordinary Leave (EOL) and the minimum registration will be extended for the same duration as EOL. However, EOL cannot be more than 3 months in the entire registration period of 5 years. Any such period of leave beyond 3 months shall lead to the registration being cancelled.
2. Maternity and paternity leaves and other such statutory leaves shall be permitted as per existing rules but shall result in extension of registration period.
3. In case the Guide recommends a candidate for specific training or project related work outside AIIMS-G (within India or abroad), the leaves shall be treated as on duty/Study leave. This study leave shall not be more than 6 months in the entire registration period. The proof of acceptance of the candidate for such training/work outside the Institute should be submitted and on return, the report of such training/work done shall be required to be submitted to the Dean, by the candidate through the guide and HoD.

XVIII. Structure of the Fees for admission to Ph.D. program

1. Each candidate selected for admission will have to pay the following fees during the course duration:

Sl. No.	Head	Fees (in Rs)	Duration
1	Registration Fee	25/-	3 Years
2	Tuition fee	720/-	3 Years
3	Laboratory fee	120/-	3 Years
4	Pot fund	720/-	3 Years
5	Hostel rent	1,080/-	3 Years
6	Electricity	240/-	3 Years
7	Gymkhana fee	120/-	3 Years
8	Caution money	100/-	3 Years
9	Hostel security	1,000/- (Refundable)	
Total (Rs)		4,125/-	

2. The above is the current fee structure and is subject to periodic revision.
3. All fees are payable at the time of admission. The fee shall be valid for a period of 3 years. In case the candidate is unable to complete his/her Ph.D. work in three years, the same amount shall have to be deposited for another period of 3 years.
4. Fees and other charges including hostel rent once paid shall not be refunded in any case and no correspondence will be entertained in this connection. However, the caution money and hostel security will be refunded to those candidates who do not join the course. The caution money must be claimed within one year after completion of the course failing which it will be forfeited.

XIX. Fees at the time of submission of application for the Ph.D. program

- i. **General/OBC Category:** Rs.1500/- + Transaction Charges as applicable
- ii. **SC/ST/EWS Category:** Rs.1200/- + Transaction Charges as applicable
- iii. **PWBD Candidates are exempted from any Fee**

XX. Hostel Accommodation

As per availability and rules of the Institute.

XXI. Additional Points on Conduct of Ph.D. Course

1. A number of mandatory courses will be defined and developed for all Ph.D. students where attendance and evaluation will be compulsory. A certificate will be issued for courses attended by the candidates.
2. Failure to fulfil any of the above clauses will lead to issue of caution memorandum on first default, warning on second default and the registration of the candidate will be summarily cancelled on third default.
3. All powers relating to discipline and disciplinary action are vested with the Executive Director, AIIMS-G.