

**Guidelines for UGC PhD Fellowship Program**  
(Amended by the Guideline Committee  
and

Approved at the Full Commission meeting held on 27 February 2022)

Bangladesh with a population of near to 170 million is gradually progressing and has already being graduated from least developed country to lower middle income developing country and aim to earn the status of a Developed Nation by 2041. With this end in view, the Government of Bangladesh has given topmost priority to quality education and research at the tertiary level, particularly in science and technology. However, with the establishment of a number of public universities of science and technologies as well as more than hundred universities in the Private Sector, there is a serious dearth of qualified teachers to cater to the needs and demands of about 3.7 million students enrolled at the universities. The University Grants Commission of Bangladesh underscored the importance of higher education and research in overall socio-economic development of Bangladesh and initiated a PhD program to meet the growing demand for PhDs and encourage the young teachers, researchers and meritorious students to engage in cutting-edge research and innovation. In a meeting of the Committee for selecting UGC PhD Fellows, it was decided that the existing guidelines for awarding the PhD fellowships would be reviewed and updated in consideration of the present scenario of tertiary education prevailing in Bangladesh. The updated guidelines have been prepared in the light of the above mentioned consideration.

1. **Name of the Fellowship :** UGC PhD Fellowship
2. **Number of Fellowships :** 55(Fifty five) per year
3. **Duration of the Fellowship:** Three years subject to satisfactory progress. Under special circumstances the tenure may be extended for another year or part thereof.
4. **Fellowship allowance :**
  - (i) A UGC PhD Fellow shall receive an allowance of Tk.30,000.00 (Thirty thousand) per month (maximum 36 months from the date of joining);
  - (ii) Tk.10,000.00 (Ten thousand) may be paid for preparation and finalization of thesis;
  - (iii) For data collection/travel cost/secretarial works an amount of Tk.10,000.00 (Ten thousand) may be paid in each of first, second and third year.
5. **Candidature for application :**

The following category of candidates will be eligible for this Fellowship:

  - (i) Teachers of public universities;
  - (ii) Teachers of government colleges;
  - (iii) Teachers of MPO colleges;
  - (iv) Teachers of private universities having an approved permanent campus;
  - (v) Meritorious students with requisite qualifications.

The Fellowships will be distributed as follows:

- (i) Public Universities (25)
- (ii) Government Colleges (15)
- (iii) MPO Colleges (5)
- (iv) Private Universities (7)
- (v) Meritorious Students (3)

If required number of applicants in any category is not found suitable, then the remaining fellowship of that category may be offered to another category if suitable candidates are available.

- 6. Eligibility :** Candidates enrolled into full time PhD programs in a public university will only be considered for this Fellowship.
- 7. Supervisors/  
Co-supervisors :**
- (i) Public university teachers, not below the rank of Assistant Professor with PhD are only eligible to be Supervisor. Teachers of private universities or research institutions approved by the government may be accepted as Co-supervisors;
  - (ii) University teachers already supervising not more than 5(Five) MPhil/PhD students will generally be eligible to recommend an applicant to work under her/his supervision with this fellowship;
  - (iii) The supervisor will receive an honorarium of Tk. 25,000.00 (Twenty five thousand) from respective universities after submission of the thesis by the candidate. If there are more than one supervisor/co-supervisor, the amount will be equally distributed among them.
- 8. Mode of payment :**
- (i) Unless otherwise stated, payment of the Fellowship allowances will be made every term through the relevant Registrar;
  - (ii) The Registrar will release the Fellowship allowances monthly on receipt of a payment request from the fellow certified by the supervisor and Head/Director of the Department/Institute;
  - (iii) Fellowship allowances will be sent to the designated account in 4(Four) installments from the date of joining. 1<sup>st</sup> installment (Six months) allowance will be paid after Two months; 2<sup>nd</sup> installment (One year) allowance will be paid after twelve months; 3<sup>rd</sup> installment (One year) allowance will be paid after Eighteen months & submission of satisfactory evaluation report of 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> year by the Evaluation Committee and 4<sup>th</sup> or final installment for rest of the months will be paid after the award of degree by the university and submission of certificate/documents to UGC;
  - (iv) The data collection/travel cost/secretarial cost will be paid after Six, Eighteen and Thirty months respectively after receiving the request from the fellow recommended by the Supervisor and Head/Director of the Department/Institute;
  - (v) The payment for the preparation of thesis and the honorarium to his/her Supervisor/Co-supervisor shall be made as and when the Fellow produce a certificate from the Registrar of the concerned university stating that s/he has been awarded PhD degree;
  - (vi) A copy of the thesis both the soft (.pdf file) and hard copy must be enclosed with the certificate.



**9. Method of application :**

- (i) University Grants Commission of Bangladesh will advertise the Fellowships through well-circulated national dailies/university/college authorities/UGC website/online platform etc.;
- (ii) Intending candidates will submit an application in the prescribed form available at the UGC website ([www.ugc.gov.bd](http://www.ugc.gov.bd));
- (iii) The application must be submitted following the rules of the respective university;
- (iv) All necessary papers: all academic certificates, transcripts, registration certificate of enrollment into PhD program in any discipline of any public university, evidence of acceptance by the university and a copy of a detailed research proposal must be included;
- (v) A brief research proposal highlighting the objectives, methodology, expected results and impact of this research on Bangladesh must be submitted.

**10. Method of selection :**

- (i) The UGC Member, in-charge of Research Support and Publication Division, will be in charge of preliminary scrutiny. He/she may incorporate Members/any Member to assist him/her in the scrutiny;
- (ii) After preliminary selection, the candidates will be asked to present his/her research proposal before a Selection Committee/s approved by the Chairman of UGC;
- (iii) An allowance of Tk.1,000.00 (One thousand) and Tk.2,000.00 (Two thousand) will be given to the candidates from the Dhaka city and from the outside of Dhaka city respectively for his/her appearance to the Selection Committee;
- (iv) The selected candidates will be notified afterwards.

**11. Progress Report :**

- (i) 06(six) monthly progress reports countersigned by the respective supervisor must be submitted by the fellow;
- (ii) The fellow must mention the period for which the report is submitted;
- (iii) The release of fund will be dependent on satisfactory progress report;
- (iv) Progress of research during first, second and third year shall be evaluated by a committee consisting of the Supervisor (as convener) Co- Supervisor (if any) and one expert to be nominated by UGC. However, if extension beyond the third year is sought, progress must be evaluated by a committee consisting of two experts nominated by UGC, other than the Supervisor and Co-Supervisor (if any).

**12. Acknowledgement :**

The fellow must acknowledge the assistance from UGC in any publication in the form of a research article or book.



**13. Termination of Fellowship :**

- (i) A fellow shall not accept any other award/fellowship during the tenure of this UGC PhD fellowship; otherwise the fellowship will be terminated;
- (ii) A fellow shall be liable to refund the total amount drawn from the UGC in case he/she prematurely discontinues his/her research work without valid reason acceptable to the UGC;
- (iii) A fellow will be liable to refund the total amount drawn from UGC if he/she fails to get the PhD program within the 05(five) years of the commencement of the course;
- (iv) On being awarded PhD program and on submission of necessary certificate/document to UGC, the scholar will be paid an additional amount of Tk.25,000.00 (Twenty five thousand) for successful completion.
- (v) If any Scopus Indexed (SCI) journal paper is published from their research work based on PhD dissertation during or within 02 (Two) years of the completion of degree, the scholar will be paid an additional amount of Tk.20,000.00 (Twenty thousand) as an incentive;
- (vi) The University Grants Commission of Bangladesh reserves the right to terminate the fellowship for plagiarism and non-compliance/violation of the terms and conditions agreed by the candidate.



Md. Kamal Hossain  
Director (RSP)

University Grants Commission of Bangladesh



Prof. Dr. Kazi Shahidullah  
Chairman

University Grants Commission of Bangladesh