

Thiagarajar School of Management

DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (Ph.D.) REGULATIONS

PhD GUIDELINES

INTRODUCTION

Established in the year 1962 by the great philanthropist and industrialist, Shri. Karumuttu Thiagarajan Chettiar, Thiagarajar School of Management (TSM) began with the aim to impart professional education to managers who dreamt of acquiring better managerial skills for a grand career growth. The institute began an 'Executive Development Program'(EDP) in 1962 with the purpose of enabling managers and entrepreneurs in Madurai and nearby areas. The program aimed to upskill individual talent and productivity. The EDP was a roaring success, with profuse accolades pouring in from the industry. It provided the requisite stimulus to launch the MBA course in 1972, as a part time program. The full time MBA program was introduced in 1986, and quickly became very popular among aspiring managers. The institute has an excellent ratio of faculty to students, and most faculty members hold degrees and doctorates from eminent institutions. They have the expertise to provide exceptional training in both theoretical and practical aspects. Our faculties guide students efficiently in their research and consultancy training as well.

TSM offers doctoral degree in Management for candidates seeking career in academia, consulting and research. A research career is valued, not only in academics but in the corporate world also. Industry researchers could expect faster growth than an average corporate career. TSM is a high-performance institute with faculties constantly driving themselves in research which are in tune with the changing business environment and management practices.

TSM conducts a lot of research development programs and executive development programs. It allows the researchers to understand the managerial problems and ways to solve them. .

Our PhD Degree programme is affiliated to the Alagappa University, Karaikudi, Tamilnadu. This Ph.D. programme is offered in the disciplines such as Accounts & Finance, General Management, Human Resources, Marketing & Strategy, Operations, Quantitative

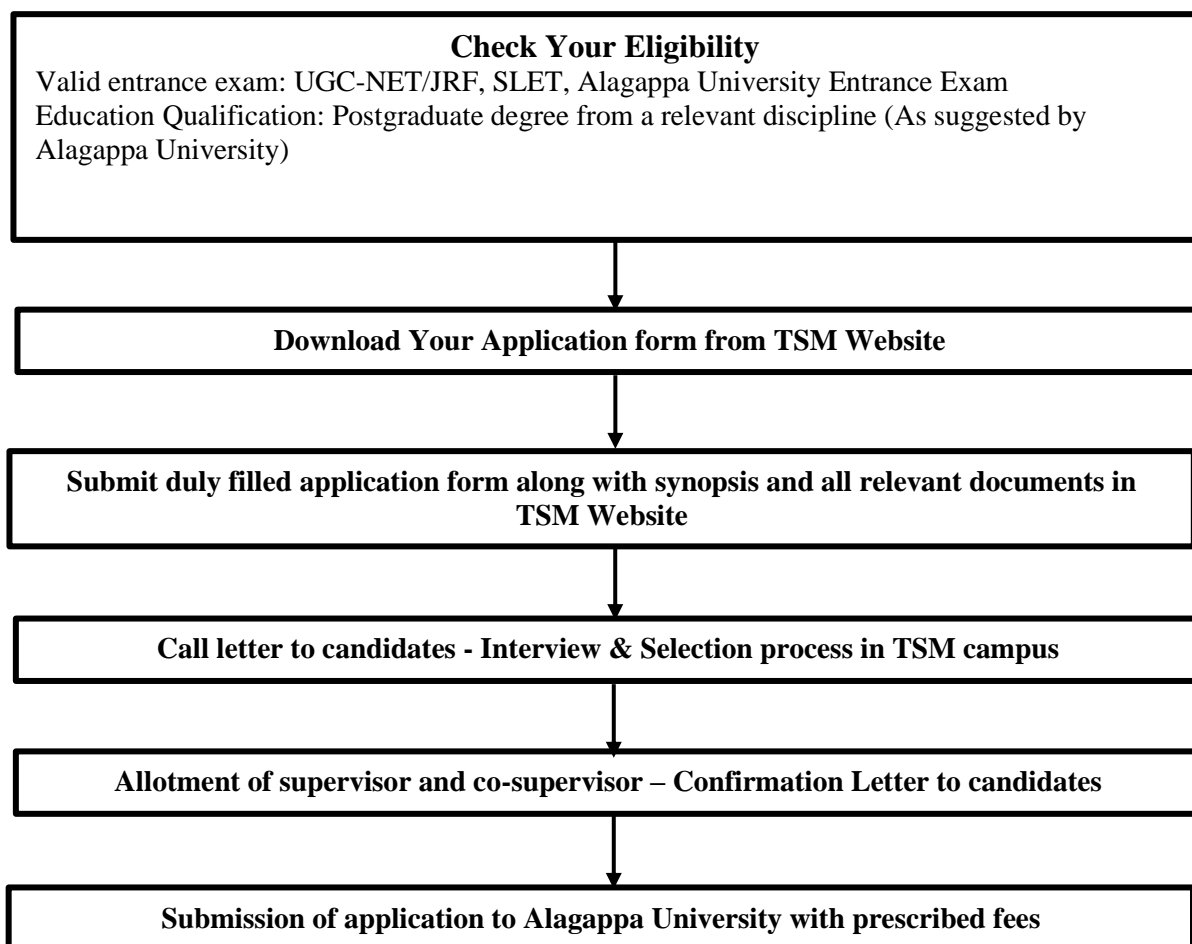
Methods, Supply Chain Management, System Management and other areas related to management and allied areas of research.

Admission guidelines

Based on the academic record and the performance of the candidates during the interview, the Departmental Selection Committee will recommend the names of candidates found suitable for admission to the PhD program. No immediate or close relative shall act as Research Supervisor or Co-Supervisor for any selected candidate.

After the approval by the Director, the candidates will be admitted to the PhD programme subject to final approval by the Alagappa University

Application Process



Departmental Research Committee

The Departmental Research Committee of TSM shall be looking into all important activities pertaining to Ph.D. entrance examination, admission and registration of selected candidates,

guide allocation, title evaluation and course work coordination. This committee comprises of eligible guides of the Department under the chair of the Head of the Department, with adequate support from the office of Dean, Research.

Categories of Ph.D. Scholars

- Full-Time Research Scholars
- Part-Time Research Scholars
- Independent Research Scholars

Eligibility Requirements

- Common for Full-Time/Part-Time/Independent Research

Post Graduate Qualifying Degree Marks 50% of Marks for those who got P.G. degree prior to 1-1-1991.

50% of Marks for SC/ST/Physically or visually challenged candidates / OBC (non-creamy layer)

55% of Marks – For all others

- Clearing the Pre-registration Ph.D. Programme Eligibility Entrance Examination
 - UGC JRF/NET
 - TNSET
 - Alagappa University Ph.D. Programme Entrance Examination

Candidates who possess Masters degree in Management domain or any other approved managerial subject with a pass mark in the Ph.D. entrance examination are eligible to register for Ph.D. program at TSM. The PG degrees of the candidates must comply with the regulations of Alagappa University or any other University recognized by the UGC. A candidate is expected to take Pre-registration Ph.D. Programme Entrance Examination in the discipline in which the candidate has the PG Degree or a discipline closely related to that.

- **UGC JRF/NET/TN-SET** qualified candidates shall alone be exempted from clearing Ph.D. entrance examination, and they shall be eligible to register for Ph.D. Programme provided they fulfill the eligibility norms for qualifying degree examination (mentioned above). All other candidates including those who are working in the sponsored research projects must clear Ph.D., Entrance Examination.

- Admittance of Foreign students for full-time Ph.D., Programme shall be in accordance with the norms laid down by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India from time to time subject to the fulfillment of the academic requirements provided they meet the eligibility norms for qualifying degree examination.
- NRI candidates can register for full-time Ph.D. Programme provided they meet the eligibility norms for qualifying degree examination.

Management	1. Commerce 2. Corporate Secretaryship 3. Bank Management 4. Management 5. International Business* *(Thesis must be strictly related to international business)	Common to all disciplines 1 to 5 i. Post Graduate in Commerce/ International Business / Business Administration / Bank Management / Corporate Secretaryship/Banking and Insurance / Economics / Agriculture Economics /Cooperation /Foreign Trade / Any related discipline. ii. Any Degree with ACA/FCA. iii. Any Degree with Grad CWA/ AICWA / FICWA. iv. Any Degree with ACS/FCS. v. Any PG Degree with CAIIB
	6. Logistics Management	P.G. in Logistics Management / Logistics and Supply Chain Management / Management / Business Administration / Supply Chain Management / Shipping and Port Management / Transportation Management / International Business / Foreign Trade / Any related relevant discipline

Regulations Applicable Specially to Part-time Research

- Any Postgraduate who wishes to pursue Ph.D. Program is eligible to register under part-time research provided he/she fulfills the eligibility norms and is having two years of continuous Teaching / Research / Professional experience at the time of registration.
- The candidate should spend a minimum of 3 months in residential program. The candidate can undergo the residential program in one phase or in three phases (i.e., one

month per year) in consultation with the Research Supervisor. This is also applicable to part-time NRI or Overseas Research scholars.

- Any teacher employed in a Government recognized school fulfilling the eligibility norms of this University / any other University / Institution / recognized by the Syndicate as equivalent thereto and with at least two years of continuous teaching experience is eligible to register for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy
- NRI candidates can register for part-time Ph.D. Programme provided they meet the eligibility norms and have two years of Teaching /Research / Professional experience.

Admission for Foreign Nationals / NRIs

- The process will be similar to that of full-time/part-time candidates. However, some relaxation will be provided for entrance exam score requirements.
- Provisional admission will be given to the foreign candidates / NRIs throughout the academic year.
- The provisionally selected foreign / NRI candidates should appear for the Entrance Test and Interview related to their Ph.D. Programme to be conducted by Alagappa University.
- Admission will be confirmed, after completing entrance test and interview.
- This procedure will be adopted both for Full-time and Part-time candidates.
- US\$10 or its equivalent Indian rupee will be charged by Alagappa University for entrance test and interview

Duration (Full-Time/Part-Time)

Period of research	Registration 01.01.2021 onwards	
Minimum period of Research under Full-time / Part-time	M.Phil. Degree holders	PG Degree holders
	FT – 2 Years	FT – 3 Years
	PT – 3 Years	PT – 4 Years
Maximum period of research	6 years	
Extension	7 th & 8 th year (four extensions of six months each)	
Re-registration	9 th & 10 th year	

Conversion of Full-Time Registration into Part-Time and Vice-Versa

The University may permit scholar to convert from Full-time research to Part-time research

and vice-versa for valid reasons subject to satisfying the regulations, rules and conditions in force, on payment of the prescribed fee (refer Appendix 1).

Re-Registration

The Scholars who could not complete the Ph.D. within the prescribed maximum time limit (including 4 extensions) will be given a chance to re-register for Ph.D. provided they continue on the same topic under the same Research Supervisor or Doctoral Committee as the case may be. These re-registered scholars are permitted to submit the thesis not later than 2 years after the re-registration. The re-registered scholars will be governed by regulations in force.

Registration for Ph.D. Degree (Full-time/Part-time)

Those who are eligible as per the norms given above shall apply to the Dean Research – Alagappa University for registration in the prescribed application form through the Research Supervisor and the Institute.

The application must be forwarded through proper channel as stated below.

The prescribed fee will have to be paid by the candidate through DEMAND DRAFT drawn on any nationalized / scheduled Commercial Bank payable at KARAIKUDI in favour of THE REGISTRAR, ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY.

The candidate shall furnish the following information and certificates with the prescribed application.

- a) The design of the proposed research work with the signed approval of the Research Supervisor and Co-Supervisor, if any, and with the signature of the candidate. This shall be accompanied by the recommendation of the Departmental Research Committee (DRC).
- b) Original Post Graduate degree and Mark / Grade statements.
- c) Original M.Phil. degree and marks statements, if applicable.
- d) Original Service-cum-No Objection Certificate, if employed. (for part-time)
- e) Attested photocopies of TC for Age proof, 10th standard mark sheet, 12th standard marksheet (or diploma certificate) and Community Certificate for record.
- f) Certificate of eligibility for those who have qualified Pre-Registration Ph.D. Programme Entrance Examination of Alagappa University / Copy of NET/SET/GATE Certificate / Proof of Foreign Nationality / Proof of NRI status.

Doctoral Committee

- For every candidate (full-time / part-time) registered for the Ph.D. degree, a Doctoral Committee of not less than three members of the faculty/discipline who are recognized supervisors shall be constituted by the Institute as follows:
- In respect of candidates registered for the degree under a Research Supervisor, the Doctoral committee shall consist of (i) the Research Supervisor - Convener (ii) the Head of the Department concerned (or) Principal of the Constituent College, or Head of the Institution of the Approved Research Centre / one Internal Expert when HOD/Principal/Head of the Research Centre is the Research Supervisor (iii) an External Expert from neighbouring accredited University nominated by the Vice-Chancellor from a panel of three members recommended by the Research Supervisor. The services of the same person can be utilized for more than one candidate. Co-supervisor, if any, will be the fourth member of the Committee.
- The half yearly progress reports shall be submitted by the Research Scholars to the Dean-Research, with endorsement and remarks of the Research Supervisors.
- The research supervisor shall be the convener of the doctoral committee, unless otherwise stated.

Change of Title

The Research Scholars shall be permitted to seek Change of Title prior to the submission of the Synopsis of the Thesis. A request has to be submitted along with the last half yearly report or along with the Ph.D. pre-thesis submission presentation report. All such changes should have been approved by the Doctoral Committee.

Change of Research Supervisor

On request from a candidate, the University may permit the change of Research Supervisor only in deserving cases, subject to the approval of the original Research Supervisor and consent from the proposed Research Supervisor.

In case, the Research Supervisor is on long leave (6months or more) or has ceased to be a faculty in the Institute, change of Research Supervisor will be considered on the written request from the candidate based on the recommendation of the Head of the Collaborating Institution.

Co-Guide

When the Research Supervisor is retiring from service, the Ph.D. Scholars shall be permitted to opt co-guide to complete their research work without delay. If the Research Supervisor visits foreign country for a period of six months or more, the Ph.D. Scholar shall be permitted to opt co-guide.

EXAMINATION

PART – I

Course Work

All the Research Scholars (Full-time and Part-time) shall undergo the Course work for Ph.D. Programme after provisional registration as detailed below:

P.G. qualified candidates	a. Research Methodology b. Two more Courses in the relevant discipline. c. Research and Publication Ethics (RPE)*
M.Phil. qualified candidates	a. Two Courses in the relevant discipline. b. Research and Publication Ethics (RPE)

* Note: This course is mandatory for all the candidates registered on or after 1 June 2020, as per the UGC regulations.

The Registration shall be confirmed only upon the completion of Course Work. Each Course Work shall have 4 credits. The Course Work shall be decided by the Departmental Research Committee based on the knowledge of the Scholar in the area of research. Depending upon the level of the Research Scholar, the Committee can recommend for waiving one or more Courses or add one or more courses over and above the minimum number of Courses prescribed. The Course shall be evaluated with an Internal Assessment and Final Examination with a weightage of 25:75.

The Course Work shall be completed normally within one and half years and the registration shall be confirmed only after the completion of Course Work. Failure to complete the Course Work within the stipulated period shall entail automatic cancellation of the registration.

The final examination for the Course Work is centralized and conducted by the Controller of

Examinations of Alagappa University along with the end-semester Examinations. A Comprehensive Viva will be conducted at TSM, following the clearance of Course Work Examination, by convening the Doctoral Committee.

PART-II

Synopsis and Thesis Submission

- The research scholar who has completed his/her research work and is sure of compiling the results into the thesis within six months prior to the completion of the minimum required duration of research, may submit SIX copies of the Synopsis of the thesis to the University through the Research Supervisor, forwarded by the Head of the Research Centre/Head of the Institution.
- Synopsis should be accompanied by a panel of examiners as per the norms.
- Prior to submission of the synopsis/thesis, the Research Scholar shall make a Pre-Thesis Submission Presentation before the Doctoral Committee in the Department that may be allowed to all faculty members and research students, for getting feedback and comments, which may be suitably incorporated into the draft thesis under the advice of the Supervisor.
- The Research Supervisor must intimate to the Office of the Dean-Research about the details of conducting the meeting of Doctoral Committee for Pre-Thesis Submission Presentation, well in advance. In case of non-receipt of required documents, the submission of Thesis shall not be entertained.
- The Research Supervisor concerned shall verify the Ph.D. Thesis of the scholars, by using the URKUND – anti plagiarism service and give a certificate regarding anti-plagiarism, to ensure the originality of their documents, at the time of submission of thesis.
- The similarity with the published literature shall not exceed 20% (revised from existing 30% to 20%). The references cited in the Theses shall be excluded for the purpose of similarity search. The similarity shown with the candidate's own publication(s) shall not be counted for similarity.
- Ph.D. scholars must publish at least One research paper as first author in Scopus/Social Science Indexed journals for submission of thesis and make two paper presentations in conferences / seminars before the submission of the thesis for adjudication and produce

evidence for the same in the form of presentation certificates and / or reprints.[For registering Ph.D. Programme on or after 01.01.2017, under the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations 2016.]

- Not later than six months after submission of the synopsis but after the expiry of the minimum period of research, the candidate shall submit FIVE copies of the Thesis embodying the results of the research carried out by the candidate through the Research Supervisor.
- The thesis must be forwarded by the Head of the Research Centre / Head of the Institute in the prescribed form together with prescribed fee. The research scholar must also submit his / her Thesis and Synopsis in separate virus –free CDs in MS Word and PDF formats.
- Refer to the Alagappa University Guidelines for Synopsis/Thesis format.
- The candidate will have to bear the postal and incidental expenses, if any connected with the sending of the thesis to the foreign examiner, for evaluation.

EVALUATION NORMS AND PANEL OF EXAMINERS

Evaluation Norms

The examiner of a Ph.D. Thesis shall be requested to keep in view a few parameters for evaluation such as (i) Appropriateness and relevance of the title; (ii) Up-to-date review; (iii) Scientific methodology in data collection (iv) Adoption of appropriate technique of analysis; (v) Critical discussion of research findings and conclusions with policy / practical relevance;(vi) Significant contribution to the inventory of knowledge in the discipline concerned; and (vii) Adherence to standard rules with regard to mechanics of thesis writing and format of the thesis.

PANEL OF EXAMINERS

The Research Supervisor or the Doctoral committee as the case may be, shall submit a panel of TWELVE experts (8 for evaluation and 4 for Viva-Voce).

Thesis Evaluation

4 Indian & 4 Foreign Examiners

- Four Indian Examiners be drawn from reputed Universities / Institutions, other than Tamil Nadu. (Not more than two examiners from the same state and not more than one

examiner from the same University / Institute).

- Four Foreign Examiners be drawn from reputed Universities / Institutions. (Not more than two examiners from the same country and not more than one examiner from the same University/Institute).

Viva-Voce Examination

- A separate panel of examiners consisting of Four experts be given from the Universities/ Institutions of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry (for Tamil Nadu, outside Alagappa University jurisdiction). Indian Examiner (other than Tamil Nadu & Puducherry) shall also be permitted to be the Viva-Voce examiner, if there is a specific request from Supervisor/ Convener.
- All the examiners shall be specialists, in the subject in which the candidates have submitted their thesis for constituting Board of Examiners. The Vice-Chancellor has the discretion to add more names to the panel.
- Research Supervisors shall get consent letter / e-mail of all Experts before submitting panel to the University. The consent letters should be submitted along with the panel. The Research Supervisor shall submit the e-mail ID, website address and Telephone & Fax numbers of the examiners.
- Board of Examiners shall consist of three examiners comprising of Research Supervisor, Indian Examiner & Foreign Examiner, in which the Research Supervisor shall be the Convener of the Board, who shall consolidate the reports for further action.

Note:

1. Refer to the Alagappa University Guidelines for Adjudication of the Thesis and Public Viva-Voce examination guidelines.
2. This document is prepared based on the guidelines provided by Alagappa University. Institute will update this document time to time based on the change in guidelines provided by Alagappa University.
3. Alagappa University has right to change any provision governing any aspect of the Ph.D. Programme Regulations without any prior notice as it may deem necessary as exigencies emerge which may be made applicable to all candidates on roll. Hence, we recommend the scholars to verify the information with Alagappa University.

Appendix 1

S.No.	Description	Approved Fee	
		Indian Candidates Rs.	NRI / Foreign Candidates US \$
1.	Cost of Application	1000	100
2.	Registration Fee	3000	200
3.	Annual Fee payable per annum up to a maximum of Seven (5+2) years		
	a) i. For Full-Time Scholars in the Faculty of Science	6000	500
	ii. For Full-Time Scholars in other Faculties	4000	500
	b) i. For Part-Time Scholars in the Faculty of Science	10000	500
	ii. For Part -Time Scholars in other Faculties	8000	500
4.	Course Work & Comprehensive Viva-Voce	6000	400
5.	Extension Fee (For six months)	1000	100
6.	Change of Guide/Centre Fee	2000	200
7.	Conversion Fee (Part-Time to Full-Time or vice-versa)	2000	100
8.	Submission of Thesis	12000	1000
9.	Postage	3000	200
10.	Re-registration fee	10000	400
11.	Video Conferencing for Public Viva-Voce	5000	200
12.	Special Extension Penalty Fee	10000	400
13.	Computer / Internet charges (only for Scholars in University Departments and Constituent Colleges) per annum	1000	100
14.	Library fee (Only for Scholars in the University Departments and Constituent Colleges) per annum	500	50

Note:

All Ph.D. Scholars shall pay the research fee within the due date. In case, the tuition fee is not paid within 30 days after the due date, the registration shall stand cancelled. Such candidates may seek renewal of registration within a period of three months from the due date, by paying the prescribed fee and penalty of Rs.1000/- / \$100.