Chinmaya Vishwa Vidyapeeth
Deemed to be University

Guidelines for

Ph.D. Admission 2026–27

January Intake

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

Chinmaya Vishwa Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University)

Adi Sankara Nilayam, Adi Sankara Marg, Veliyanad

Ernakulam – 682313, Kerala, India

1. Preamble

Chinmaya Vishwa Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University) is committed to advancing research and higher education through the integration of Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) with contemporary academic disciplines. The Ph.D. programme represents the highest level of academic engagement, aimed at encouraging original research, interdisciplinary inquiry, and socially relevant scholarship. In alignment with the latest regulations of the University Grants Commission, these guidelines provide a structured framework ensuring academic excellence, ethical research practices, and quality standards while promoting a supportive research environment.

2. Admission

Admission is open for the following streams and disciplines:

S.No.	Major Streams	CATEGORY 1	CATEGORY 2
		Disciplines	Interdisciplinary Research [Indian Knowledge Systems and Discipline]
1	**Engineering and Technology**	1. Computer Science and Technology 2. Electronics and Communication Engineering 3. Mechanical Engineering	1. Interdisciplinary Research [IKS and Computer Science] 2. Interdisciplinary Research [IKS and Electronics Communication] 3. Interdisciplinary Research [IKS and Mechanical Engineering]
2	**Engineering Sciences**	1. Life sciences 2. Material Science	1. Interdisciplinary Research [IKS and Life sciences] 2. Interdisciplinary Research [IKS and Material Science]
3	**Sciences**	1. Physics 2. Chemistry 3. Mathematics	1. Interdisciplinary Research [IKS and Physics] 2. Interdisciplinary Research [IKS and Chemistry] 3. Interdisciplinary Research [IKS and Mathematics]
4	**Commerce & Management**	1. Commerce 2. Management	1. Interdisciplinary Research [IKS and Commerce] 2. Interdisciplinary Research [IKS and Management]
5	**Psychology**	1. Psychology	1. Interdisciplinary Research [IKS and Psychology]

S.No.	Major Streams	CATEGORY 1	CATEGORY 2
		Disciplines	Interdisciplinary Research [Indian Knowledge Systems and Discipline]
6	**Languages**	1. English 2. Hindi	1. Interdisciplinary Research [IKS and English] 2. Interdisciplinary Research [IKS and Hindi]
7	**Education**	1. Education	1. Interdisciplinary Research [IKS and Education]
8	**Music**	1. Music	1. Interdisciplinary Research [IKS and Music]

Candidates can choose any one category from the above-mentioned list.

3. Eligibility for Admission

The Ph.D. Programme shall be offered under the following categories, subject to the availability of approved Research Centres, recognised Research Supervisors, and requisite infrastructure in the concerned discipline:

1. Full-time Research Scholar

A Full-time Research Scholar is a candidate who:

- Is registered for the Ph.D. programme on a full-time basis; and
- Carries out research work primarily at the University campus or its approved Research Centres.

2. Part-time Research Scholar

A Part-time Research Scholar is a candidate who:

- Is employed in an organisation such as a Research Institution, Educational Institution, Industry, or other organisation recognised by the University; and
- Is permitted to pursue the Ph.D. programme on a part-time basis, subject to the approval of the University.

Part-time Research Scholars shall:

- Fulfil the minimum residency requirements as prescribed by the University;
- Submit a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the employer at the time of application and prior to admission;
- Ensure availability of adequate time and facilities for pursuing research.

The following are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. programme:

(i) Candidates who have completed a 1-year/2-semester master's degree programme after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme, or a 2-year/4-semester master's degree programme after a 3-year bachelor's degree programme, or qualifications declared equivalent to the master's degree 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.

(ii) Candidates who have completed a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. These candidates shall be considered as Direct Admission to Ph.D. programmes after their UG degree.

(iii) Candidates who have completed the M.Phil. programme with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed.

(iv) For international students, the candidate must submit well-documented proof that the qualifying master's degree earned by him/her in the international university is equivalent to that of an Indian master's degree from the Association of Indian Universities and/or an Internal Committee constituted by the University for this purpose. International students from non-English speaking countries need to undergo a 3-month bridge programme in English Language before they start their research work in the university.

(v) For part-time research scholars, an NOC from the employing organisation regarding the candidate's registration for Ph.D. programme at CVV is required to be submitted at the time of application and certainly before the admission to the said programme in the university.

(vi) A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

4. Admission Process

The candidate must apply online for admission to the Ph.D. programme using the link available on the CVV website. **The fee for submitting an application is ₹ 1000/-**. Refer: https://www.cvv.ac.in/phd/

(i) The selection of candidates for the Ph.D. programme is carried out through a two-stage admission process:

- In the first stage, an entrance test will be conducted. The test could be descriptive or MCQ or a combination of both as mandated by the school/department/centre. 50% weightage will be given to research methodology and the rest 50% to core/discipline-specific subjects. For a candidate with inter-disciplinary background, the subject-specific portion will be decided by the school/department/centre accordingly. Candidates must secure at least 50% marks in the entrance test to become eligible for the interview.

Entrance test structure

Category	Paper 1	Paper 2A	Paper 2B	Weightage
Discipline-specific	**Paper 1:** Research Methodology	**Paper 2A:** Discipline-specific	—	**50% + 50%**
Interdisciplinary Research (Indian Knowledge Systems and Discipline)	**Paper 1:** Research Methodology	**Paper 2A:** Discipline-specific	**Paper 2B:** Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS)	

Note: *Candidates who have qualified UGC-NET (Lectureship)/CSIR-NET, or hold valid GATE scores, are exempted from the entrance test.*

- In the second stage, candidates will be called for a personal interview. The Selection Committee will decide on the number of eligible candidates to be called for an interview as follows:
  a) An interview will be conducted where the candidates are required to discuss their research interests/areas through a presentation before the committee.
  b) The interview will also consider the following aspects, viz. whether:
     – The candidate possesses competence for the proposed research;
     – The research work can be suitably undertaken;
     – The candidate has basic knowledge related to the proposed area of research; and
     – The candidate's motivation for research.
  c) Entrance examination and Interview will be conducted in person at the LP Onakkoor campus (Ernakulam, Kerala).
  d) The merit list for the selection will be prepared based on the candidate's marks in previous degrees, performance in the entrance test and interview. The weightage may vary from school to school or department to department or centre to centre. Wherever the entrance test is exempted, its weightage will be added to the weightage of the interview component.
  e) The list of selected candidates will be published.

5. Duration of the Programme

(i) Ph.D. programme shall be for a minimum duration of three (3) years, including course work, and a maximum duration of six (6) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme.

(ii) A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re-registration as per the rules and regulations of the Higher Educational Institution concerned; provided, however, that the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme should not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.

(iii) Provided further that female Ph.D. scholars and Persons with Disabilities (having more than 40% disability) may be allowed an additional relaxation of two (2) years; however, the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme in such cases should not exceed ten (10) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.

(iv) Female Ph.D. scholars may be provided Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave for up to 240 days in the entire duration of the Ph.D. programme.

6. Course Work

Each student admitted to the Ph.D. programme shall be required to undertake coursework in their first year at CVV. The guidelines regarding the minimum credit requirements are given below.

Table 1: Minimum Credit Requirements for the Ph.D. Programme Coursework

Sl. No.	Qualification	Minimum Credit Requirement	Remarks
1	2-year master's degree programme after a 3-year bachelor's degree programme for Science, Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Management Studies.	**16 credits**	The course work is expected to be completed during the first two semesters and in any case, not more than 18 months from the date of joining.
2	2-year master's degree programme after a 4-year bachelor's degree programme for all the programmes	**16 credits**	The course work is expected to be completed during the first two semesters and in any case, not more than 18 months from the date of joining.
3	1-year master's degree programme after a 4-year bachelor's degree programme for Engineering	**18 credits**	The course work is expected to be completed during the first three semesters and in any case, not more than 24 months from the date of joining.
4	4-year bachelor's degree programme (Direct Admissions)	**24 credits**	

(i) The coursework should include three mandatory courses, namely, IKS – The Art of Man Making (2 credits), Research Methodology (4 credits) and Research and Publication Ethics (2 credits). The Research Advisory Committee can also recommend UGC-recognised online courses (pertinent to the thesis theme) as part of the credit requirements for the Ph.D. programme.

(ii) A Ph.D. scholar must obtain a minimum of 55% marks or its equivalent grade in the UGC 10-point scale in the coursework to be eligible to continue in the programme and submit his/her thesis.

(iii) All courses shall be of post-graduation or equivalent level and will largely be related to Ph.D. research to advance his/her knowledge in the area of research chosen.

(iv) The Research Advisory Committee may also recommend additional courses over and above the minimum requirements.

(v) The Ph.D. course work may be offered as a Regular/Self-study course.

- **Regular Course:** A regular course is a course offered by the university in its PG/Ph.D. curriculum, and evaluation of the course is followed as per the curriculum.
- **Self-study Course:** If the proposed course is not offered by the university across the programmes, then the Self-Study course is done under the guidance of the supervisor or other faculty from the university. The syllabus of the self-study course shall be duly approved by the BOS of School/Department/Centre and the Academic Council.

(vi) All Ph.D. scholars, irrespective of any discipline, shall be required to be trained in teaching/education/pedagogy/writing related to their chosen Ph.D. subject during their doctoral period.

(vii) Ph.D. scholars may also be assigned 4–6 hours per week of teaching/research assistantship for conducting tutorials or laboratory work and evaluations of UG and PG programmes.

(viii) Based on the performance in each course, at the end of the semester, a student is awarded a final letter grade point.

7. Research Advisory Committee and its Functions

(i) There shall be a Research Advisory Committee (RAC) for each Ph.D. scholar. For each registered Ph.D. research scholar (both full-time and part-time), the constitution of a Research Advisory Committee duly approved by the Dean of Academic Affairs (DAA) on the recommendation of the Head of the School/Department/Centre shall be as follows:

- An internal expert recommended by the Supervisor from the same department;
- An external expert in the allied areas of research from another department or other School of CVV or other institutions outside CVV;
- The Co-supervisor, if any; and
- The Supervisor – Convener.

(ii) Both internal and external experts would be selected by the DAA from a panel of three experts against each category submitted by the supervisor.

(iii) In the case of inter-disciplinary research, the internal experts may be drawn from synergy schools/departments/centres.

(iv) The functions of the RAC will be as follows:

- To review the research proposal and finalise the topic of research;
- To guide the research scholar in developing the study design and methodology of research and identify the course(s) that he/she may have to do;
- To periodically review and assist in the progress of the research work of the research scholar;
- To recommend change of status from full-time to part-time to SRC/DRC/CRC;
- To recommend change of supervisor to SRC/DRC/CRC;
- To recommend any leave for field work/laboratory work outside CVV; and
- Any other academic activity related to Ph.D. research.

(v) Each semester, a research scholar shall appear before the RAC to make a presentation and submit a brief report on the progress of his/her work for evaluation and further guidance.

The RAC shall submit its recommendations along with a copy of the research scholar's progress report to the Associate Dean/Assistant Dean – Doctoral Programme. A copy of such recommendations shall also be provided to the research scholar. The first RAC meeting must be conducted within one month from the date of registration of the scholar.

(vi) In case the progress of research scholars is not satisfactory, the RAC shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective actions. If the research scholar fails to implement these corrective measures, the RAC may recommend, for specific reasons, the cancellation of the registration of the research scholar from the Ph.D. programme.

(vii) The minutes of meetings of all the RAC will be submitted to the Office of DAA by the Supervisor for records in the personal files of the research scholar.

8. Annual Ph.D. Programme Fee Structure 2026–27*

Category	Amount
Ph.D. (Full-time)	**₹ 60,000 / Annum**
Ph.D. (Part-time)	**₹ 1,20,000 / Annum**

**All Ph.D. scholars are eligible for a 50% CVV Research Scholarship.*

9. University Doctoral Fellowship 2026–27

Eligible Category	1. Should have opted for Ph.D. Full-time 2. Application has to be in the category 2 of Interdisciplinary Research (Indian Knowledge Systems and Discipline)
Number of Vacancies	09
Amount	₹ 35,000 per month and a professional allowance grant of ₹ 30,000 per year

10. CVV Ph.D. Regulations 2026

For more information, please refer to the Ph.D. Regulations 2026.

Doctoral Programmes, Office of the Dean – Academic Affairs

Chinmaya Vishwa Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University)

Adi Sankara Nilayam, Adi Sankara Marg, Veliyanad

Ernakulam – 682313, Kerala, India

Email: doctoral.office@cvv.ac.in