BLOGS

# UGC Approves Use of National Eligibility Test (NET) Score for PhD Admissions from 2024-25 Session

Ruchika Mohapatra · 09 May 2024

***UGC NET scores can be used to seek admission into PhD programmes across universities from 2024-2025 session!***

UGC NET is conducted twice a year by the National Testing Agency to award Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) and determine eligibility for the position of Assistant Professors. The exam is conducted in June and December and covers various subjects across disciplines such as Humanities, Social Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Computer Science among others.

The examination consists of two papers: Paper 1 (General Paper on Teaching and Research Aptitude) and Paper 2 (Subject-specific paper). Paper 1 assesses candidates' teaching and research aptitude, reasoning ability, comprehension, and general awareness. Paper 2 focuses on the specific subject chosen by the candidate.

Most universities in India conduct entrance examinations for admission to their PhD programmes. These tests are often followed by interviews and proposal presentation. In order to streamline the admission process under the National Education Policy as well as do away with the need of conducting multiple entrance examinations, the UGC has decided to use UGC NET scores from 2024-2025 onwards.

The announcement to use NET scores for admission to PhD programmes was made after considering an expert committees report at the 578th UGC meeting held on March 13.

**From June 2024, NET candidates will be declared eligible in 3 categories:**

1. Eligible for admission to PhD with JRF and appointment as an Assistant Professor
2. Eligible for admission to PhD without JRF and appointment as an Assistant Professor
3. Eligible only for the PhD programme

In the case of Ph.D. admissions via NET, candidates falling under categories 2 and 3 will have their UGC NET scores accounting for 70% of their merit, while the remaining 30% will be based on interview performance. The combined merit-based approach extends to both categories 2 and 3, wherein the NET scores retain their validity for a duration of one year.

## Click here for the official notification.