

Aavishkar

1. Introduction

Understanding the new realm of knowledge is facilitated by the research. The research engages societies and scholars to think critically and make them capable to find solutions to various problems. The role of the education system is very crucial in inculcating the research values. The National Education Policy has placed priority on research in higher education institutions. Academic research is an integral part of the higher education system in most knowledge societies. To keep the research at the priority, the students in higher education should be enthused to engage themselves in the research. Through detailed research, students develop critical thinking expertise as well as effective analytical, research and communication skills that are globally sought-after and incredibly beneficial.

With the view of promoting research among the students, the then Hon'ble Governor of Maharashtra and the Chancellor of the Universities in the State of Maharashtra initiated Aavishkar: Maharashtra State Inter-University Research Convention in the academic year 2006-07. Since then, the convention has engaged thousands of research minds to unveil many unexplored areas of knowledge. The convention has helped in connecting like-minded researchers, created a spirit of exploring new ideas and brought solutions to many problems.

2. Objectives

- To identify the hidden innovative scientific talents and capacities of the students and provide them opportunities to inculcate research aptitude.
- To create competitiveness among the researchers to enhance the quality of the research.
- To appreciate the researchers and provide financial aid in the form of fellowship to promote the research.

3. Categories and Levels

Students of the University are allowed to participate in any of the following category irrespective of their own discipline / programme / course-

Categories

Category 1: Humanities, Languages and Fine Arts

Category 2: Commerce, Management and Law

Category 3: Pure Sciences

Category 4: Agriculture and Animal Husbandry

Category 5: Engineering and Technology

Category 6: Medicine and Pharmacy

The students can participate in any of the above categories in the following levels where fit eligible-

Levels

Level 1: Undergraduate Students (UG)

Level 2: Postgraduate Students (PG)

Level 3: Post PG Students (PPG)

4. Areas Covered under each Category

Category 1: Humanities, Languages and Fine Arts

It covers research areas like arts, languages, literature, social sciences, fine arts, journalism, mass media, education, physical education, performing arts, library sciences, humanities and other related fields which are of social interest like agricultural extension, preventive medicine and veterinary sciences, etc. However, technical innovations for the benefit of society cannot be a part of this category.

Category 2: Commerce, Management and Law

It covers research areas like commerce, accountancy, management, finance, banking and insurance, law and other fields where these disciplines are applicable.

Category 3: Pure Sciences

It covers areas like all basic sciences, soil sciences, home sciences and other fields like biotechnology, microbiology, environmental sciences, life sciences, biochemistry, biophysics, bioinformatics, bioanalytical, etc.

Category 4: Agriculture and Animal Husbandry

It covers areas like horticulture, agriculture, agronomy, entomology, fisheries, animal husbandry and other fields like biotechnology, microbiology, biophysics, biochemistry, bioanalytical chemistry, etc. where agricultural and animal husbandry aspects are covered.

Category 5: Engineering and Technology

It covers all branches of engineering and technology. It also includes computer science, information technology, data sciences, agricultural engineering, food technology, dairy technology, biophysics, biomedical and biosensor, etc. where engineering and technology aspects are covered.

Category 6: Medicine and Pharmacy

It covers all branches of medicine and pharmacy. It also includes veterinary medicine, preventive medicine, epidemiology, clinical studies, etc.

5. The General Eligibility Criteria for Participation

- (1) The full time bonafide student enrolled for UG / PG / M.Phil. / Ph.D. / D.Sc. / D.Lit. programme in the affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University is eligible for the participation.
- (2) The student enrolled in UG Diploma Programme of the affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University which is of a minimum duration of 1 academic year and whose examination is conducted by the affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University subsequent to passing of 12th Class / HSC Examination or equivalent Examination is also eligible to participate in the UG level.
- (3) The student enrolled in PG Diploma Programme of the affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University which is of a minimum duration of 1 academic year and whose examination is conducted by the affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University subsequent to passing of graduation is also eligible to participate in the PG level.

- (4) Student enrolled in correspondence course/programme of the affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University is NOT eligible for the participation.
- (5) Casual student, external student and student pursuing bridge course / programme in affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University are NOT eligible for the participation.
- (6) Student enrolled in distance education institute of the Representing University is NOT eligible for the participation.
- (7) Student representing Open University shall be considered to be bonafide student of the same University and shall be eligible to participate provided he/she fulfils the eligibility criteria for levels.
- (8) Student having provisional admission in affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University is NOT eligible for the participation.
- (9) Student can represent only that University where he/she is pursuing his/her degree / diploma.
- (10) The student shall NOT be allowed to represent more than 1 University during single academic year.
- (11) Student should have valid Identity Card and PRN No. / Registration No. of the Representing University from where he/she is pursuing his/her degree / diploma.
- (12) Student migrating from other University can participate only when his/her admission is regularized and he/she gets admitted as a bonafide student.
- (13) Student from any discipline can participate in any category to which his/her research project fits.**
- (14) Any disqualification of a participant on the ground of given criteria may result in removal of the participant from the 'Aavishkar: Maharashtra State Inter-University Research Convention' to be held in the following three years including current year of the participation.
- (15) Ethics of research must be delicately observed by the student and his/her mentor.

6. Eligibility Criteria for Levels

- (1) The eligibility criteria for each level are as follows-
 - (A) Undergraduate Students (UG)**
 - i) A full time bonafide student enrolled in UG programme of the affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University is eligible for the participation.
 - ii) A student enrolled in UG Diploma Programme of the affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University which is of a minimum duration of 1 academic year

and whose examination is conducted by the affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University subsequent to passing of 12th Class / HSC Examination or equivalent Examination is also eligible to participate in the UG level.

- iii) The age of the student should not be more than **25 years** as on 30st September of the academic year in which the convention is being held.

(B) Post-Graduate Students (PG)

- i) A full time bonafide student enrolled in PG programme of the affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University is eligible for the participation.
- ii) A student enrolled in PG Diploma Programme of the affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University which is of a minimum duration of 1 academic year and whose examination is conducted by the affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University subsequent to passing of graduation is also eligible to participate in the PG level.
- iii) The age of the student should not be more than **30 years** as on 30st September of the academic year in which the convention is being held.

(C) Post PG Students (PPG)

- i) A student who has post graduate degree and is duly registered for M.Phil. / Ph.D. / D.Sc. / D.Litt. degree in the affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University is eligible for the participation.
- ii) A student pursuing Post-doctoral Research in the affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University is not eligible for the participation.
- iii) A student who has submitted their synopsis / thesis for his/her M.Phil. / Ph.D. / D.Sc. / D.Litt. degree and his/her viva-voce examination is awaited, is also eligible for the participation.
- iv) A student who has successfully completed his/her viva-voce examination for his/her M.Phil. / Ph.D. / D.Sc. / D.Litt. degree is NOT eligible.
- v) There is **no age limit** for the PPG students.

(2) Rules for Computing Years for UG and PG levels

- a) Not more than 7 years have elapsed since a student passed the examination qualifying him/her for first admission to a UG degree or diploma course of the affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute / academic department of the Representing University.
- b) Further, students can participate for 1 year more than the normal length of the academic programme which he/she is following.

Explanation

The restriction of participation to a period of one year more than the length/duration of academic course means that students pursuing a three year degree programme (i.e. B.A, B.Sc., B.Com., etc.) can participate for four years, while a student pursuing four year programme (i.e. B.E., B.Tech., etc.) can participate for five years.

(3) Rules for Computing Years for PPG level

Not more than 5 years have elapsed since a student was admitted to the M.Phil. /Ph.D. programme of the affiliated college / constituent college / recognized institute
/ academic department of the Representing University.