

Regulations Governing

Master of Science by Research
[MS by Research] Programme
of
KLE Technological University
2025



**KLE Technological
University** | Creating Value
Leveraging Knowledge

(Established under Karnataka Act No.22, 2013)

MS BY RESEARCH REGULATIONS 2025

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section-37 of The KLE Technological University Act, 2012 (Karnataka Act 22 of 2013), the Board of Governors hereby approves the following " Regulations Governing **Master of Science by Research** [MS by Research] Programme of KLE Technological University 2025", submitted by the Academic Council, as per the resolution no. 20.6 of 20th Board of Governors Meeting held on 06-06-2025.

Preamble

The University being a center for Knowledge creation, it becomes very important that the Research activities becoming an integral part the institution. The research in the areas of core programmes and that of interdisciplinary nature are critical for growth and sustainability of any Higher Education Institute. The research which addresses the local needs with the quality of Global standards makes the university vibrant. This helps in uplifting society, and continuously inspiring the students to reach acceptable at international levels. Thus, a university being an institution of higher learning has to offer Research Programmes along with undergraduate, post-graduate programmes. Doctoral education will provide opportunities for multidisciplinary work, in academia, government and industry, leading to critical and interdisciplinary thinking and research. To encourage further, the research at Masters level is also important to consider research programmes like Master of Science by Research [MS (Research)].

In view of this to regulate, in an orderly manner, the process of admission, registration of students, assessment of research progress, enable students to conduct quality research with-in the specified period, and fairly adjudicate the thesis to award Research degree by KLE Technological University, in-line with UGC guidelines for PG Research and in exercise of the powers conferred under KLE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY ACT 2012 dated twenty fifth day of February, 2013 the regulations for Award of MS (Research) Degree Regulations 2025 and its amendments, including all other previous Regulations for awarding MS by Research Degree, the University hereby makes the following Regulations, namely:-

1.0 Preliminary

1.1 SHORT TITLE, APPLICATION, AND COMMENCEMENT

- (1) These Regulations may be called KLE Technological University Standards and Procedure for Award of MS by Research Degree Regulations – 2025.
- (2) These Regulations shall apply to all MS by Research Programmes conducted at the KLE Technological University, and its off campuses / constituent Colleges / approved Research Centers.
- (3) These Regulations shall also be applicable to the Candidates seeking registration and admitted for MS by Research in Engineering, Architecture, Management, Engineering Education, Law and Interdisciplinary Subject Areas.

They shall come into force from the date of their Notification by the University.

1.2 Definitions

In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires,

- (1) “Academic council (AC)” means the Academic Authority of the University.
- (2) “Academic Year” means two consecutive semesters (one odd followed by one even) that constitute one academic year.
- (3) “Act” means the KLE Technological University Act, 2013;
- (4) “AICTE” means the All-India Council for Technical Education established at New Delhi by an Act of Parliament in 1987.
- (5) “AIU” means Association of Indian Universities is an Organization and Association of major Universities in India. It evaluates the courses, syllabi, standards, and credits of foreign Universities pursued abroad and equates them in relation to various courses offered by Indian Universities.
- (6) “Course” means one of the specified units which go to comprise a programme of study;
- (7) “Course Work” means courses of study prescribed by the Research Centre/Department to be undertaken by a student registered for the MS (Research) programme as per University norms;
- (8) “Credit” means the number of hours of instruction required per week over the duration of a semester. A three credit course in a semester means three one hour lecture per week, with each one-hour lecture counted as one credit;

- (9) "Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA)" means a measure of the overall cumulative performance of a student over all semesters. The CGPA is the ratio of total credit points secured by a student in various courses in all the semesters and the sum of the total credits of all courses in all semesters. It is expressed up to two decimal places;
- (10) "Dean (Academics)" means the Dean of Academics at the University.
- (11) "Dean (R&D)" means Dean of Research and Development at the University.
- (12) "Degree" means a degree awarded by the University in accordance with the provisions of the UGC Act;
- (13) "Discipline" means a Domain area of Programme, for example, Engineering, Management, Science, Commerce, Law etc.
- (14) "External examiner" means an academician/researcher with published research work who is not part of the Higher Educational Institution where the Research scholar has registered for the MS by (Research).
- (15) "Foreign National (FN)" means a candidate who is from a foreign country and includes Non-Resident Indians (NRI) and Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) status.
- (16) "Grade Point" means a numerical weightage allotted to each letter grade on a 10-point scale;
- (17) "Higher Educational Institution (HEI)" means a University or an institution specified under Section (2) of UGC Regulations;
- (18) "Interdisciplinary Research" means research conducted by a Research Scholar in two or more academic disciplines;
- (19) "**PhD Admission & Monitoring Committee (PAMC)**" is the same as that defined in the PhD regulation and will supervise the admission process and monitor the progress of MS by Research students at the institution level.
- (20) "Online Mode" shall have the same meaning as defined under the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programme and Online Programme) Regulations 2020;
- (21) "Open and Distance Learning Mode" shall have the same meaning as defined under the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programme and Online Programme) Regulations 2020;
- (22) "ORCID", means Open Researcher and Contributor ID, issued to identify a person particularly who is an academic author. The ORCID ID is a 16-digit number that is compatible with the ISO Standard (ISO 27729), e.g., <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-2345-6789>.

- (23) "Plagiarism" means the practice of taking someone else's work or idea and passing the same as one's own;
- (24) "Programme" means a planned series of events/activities comprising of a combination of courses and activities leading to the award of MS by Research Degree.
- (25) "Prospectus" means any document, whether in print or otherwise, issued for providing fair and transparent information relating to a HEI and programme, to the general public (including to those seeking admission in such HEI) by the HEIs;
- (26) "Registrar" and "Controller of Examination" mean respectively the Registrar and "Controller of Examination" of the University.
- (27) "Research Review Committee (RRC)" means a committee constituted to review the progress of each Research Scholar.
- (28) "Research Scholar" means a Research Student registered under Full Time/Part Time MS by (Research) category.
- (29) "Research Center (RC)" means an officially recognized Center by the University for the Scholars to pursue MS by Research in an approved discipline.
- (30) "Research Supervisor" means a Faculty of the University or other institutions or individual Scholar found to be eligible for guiding the Research Scholars as per UGC norms and approved by the University.
- (31) "Research Proposal" means a brief write – up giving an outline of the proposed research work which the Research Scholar shall submit along with the application for registration for MS by Research;
- (32) "Specialization" means a sub-discipline or branch of any Degree Programme like Business Management, Marketing Management, Supply Chain Management in Master of Business Administration or Computer Science and Engineering, Electronics and Communication Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, etc in Engineering and Technology.
- (33) "SCOPUS/SCI/WOS Indexed Journals" refers to journals of higher scientific quality as compared to non-indexed journals. These are reputed professional journals or literary journals or publications in which the research articles or papers are selected for publication by panel of expert referees in the field.
- (34) "Transcript and Grade Card" means certificates issued to the successful candidates after completion of their Course work. Based on the grades earned, a grade card shall be issued to all the registered

students after every semester. Transcript is a consolidated certificate issued at the end of completing the coursework. The grade card will display the programme details (Course code, title, number of credits, grade secured) along with SGPA of that semester.

- (35) “Trans-Disciplinary Research” means the research carried out in a area involving more than one discipline.
- (36) “UGC” means the University Grants Commission established at New Delhi, by an Act of Parliament in 1956.
- (37) “University” means the KLE Technological University established under Karnataka Act No. 22, 2013 of the Act.
- (38) “Vice-Chancellor (VC)” means the Vice Chancellor of the University.
- (39) “Viva-Voce” means presentation of the research work by the Research Scholar followed by question – answer session, in front of subject experts/examiners and invited audience for assessment and examination.
- (40) “Website” means the University website at www.kletech.ac.in

Words and expressions used and not defined in these Regulations but defined in Act and not consistent with these Regulations shall have the meanings assigned to them in that Act or will have their usual accepted meaning.

2.0 Eligibility for admission to MS by Research Programme

The qualification and experience criteria for admission of the MS by Research programme in different programme shall be:

- All candidates seeking admission for MS by research programme must have minimum one year of working experience in their respective field/profession at the time of application.

Shall have a minimum CGPA of 6.75 out of 10 or 60% aggregate marks in the UG Degree.

The University at its discretion may or may not offer any of the following disciplines. **The disciplines in which the University offers during any academic year will be displayed on its Website.**

2.1 Engineering

Candidates with a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering/Technology, from a recognized University, with valid GATE score and/or good academic record are eligible.

2.2 Management

The Candidates with a Bachelor's Degree in Management or equivalent degree from a recognized University with good academic record are eligible.

2.3 Architecture

The Candidates with a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture or equivalent recognized by the University, and approved by the Council of Architecture, from time to time, with good academic record are eligible.

2.4 Law

The Candidates with a Bachelor's Degree in Law or an equivalent professional degree from a recognized University, and approved by the Bar Council of India or the UGC, from time to time, with good academic record are eligible.

2.5 Computer Applications

The Candidates with a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Applications from a recognized University with good academic record are eligible.

2.6 Relaxation of Percentage of Marks for Admission

A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade maybe 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 UGC from time to time.

Withstanding what is not listed above if the University introduces any other discipline the appropriate eligibility may be taken into account.

3.0 Categories of Research Students

There shall be provision for the following categories of students for admission to MS by Research

3.1 Categories of Research Scholars:

(a) Full-Time Research Scholars: Such scholars shall pursue MS by Research on a full-time basis.

(b) Part-Time Research Scholars: In-service candidates working in any University (recognized/accredited by appropriate bodies in India) or research staff of public/private organizations, and Industry, are eligible to pursue MS by Research on a part-time basis. All part-time research scholars need to spend a minimum of 60 days on the University Campus every year

until the Submission of their Thesis. This mandatory requirement of 60 days' stay on campus may be completed with multiple visits.

The students who work for research on their research topic in an Institute of higher learning/research center/ Industry with whom, an official MoU exists or permitted to do so by a written order will be considered for attendance.

Notwithstanding anything contained in these Regulations or any other law, for the time being in force, the University shall not permit conduct of MS by Research programme through distance and/or online mode.

4.0 Minimum Period for Submission of Thesis

(1) For Full-Time research scholars:

Full-Time research scholar for the MS by Research Degree shall normally be eligible for submission of the thesis after a minimum period of *TWO* years from the date of provisional registration, subject to fulfilment of all the prescribed requirements.

(2) For Part-time research scholars:

Part-Time research scholar for the MS by Research Degree shall normally be eligible for submission of the thesis after a minimum period of *THREE* years from the date of provisional registration, subject to fulfilment of all the prescribed requirements

Maximum Period for Submission of Thesis

(3) For Full-Time research scholars:

The maximum period for Submission of the Thesis by Full-Time research scholar shall be *THREE* years from the date of provisional registration with provision for a one-year extension with the recommendations of PAMC.

(4) For Part-time research scholars:

The maximum period for Submission of the Thesis for Part-Time research scholar shall be *FOUR* years from the date of provisional registration with provision for a one-year extension with the recommendations of PAMC.

5.0 Admission Procedure

The admission process to the MS by Research Programme shall be as follows: The Admission process involves a call for admissions, processing of applications, the conduct of Interview, preparation of the selection list for registration.

The PAMC will supervise and guide the process of admission, and scrutiny of applications. The committee shall meet at least *TWO* times during the process of

MS by Research Admission, However the committee shall meet as often as required.

Composition of PhD Admission & Monitoring Committee (PAMC)

1. Registrar - Chair person
2. Dean Academics - Member
3. Dean R&D – Member
4. Dean of Faculty (concerned) - Member
5. Controller of Examination- Member

PAMC Coordinator

6.0 MS by Research Supervisor /Co-Supervisor

1. Supervisor

- (1) Persons seeking recognition as a Supervisor shall apply in the prescribed format to PAMC for their recognition as a Supervisor through the Dean/Head of the School.
- (2) A Supervisor seeking to supervise research scholars in Engineering shall possess BE/B. Tech as a basic Degree and PhD in the relevant field to supervise MS by Research scholar.
- (3) A Supervisor seeking to supervise research scholars in Architecture, Management, Law and Computer Applications shall possess PhD in the relevant field of Faculty awarded by recognized Universities.
- (4) The following acts of research Supervisor may lead to disqualification of Supervisor from guiding any research scholars:
 - i. Influencing the external examiner to write a favourable report on the thesis.
 - ii. Making effort to intervene in external examiners evaluation work.
 - iii. Writing thesis valuation reports on behalf of external examiners and making arrangements to send such reports from External Examiners.

2. Co-Supervisor: A supervisor as mentioned above or a relevant Master's degree with 10 years of Industrial experience in the relevant field.

Remedial Clause: Notwithstanding any of the clauses in the regulations the Vice-Chancellor shall be empowered to make suitable decisions based on the merit of the individual cases.

3. Research Supervisor:

- (1) Every MS by Research Student admitted in the university shall be allotted a supervisor and if needed a co-supervisor by the respective Dean of Faculty.

- (2) Supervisor(s), maybe assigned from a School/Department/Center other than that where the research scholar has registered for MS by Research.
- (3) No person shall function as Supervisor for his/her blood relative or spouse for MS by Research, as defined by the University.

4. Number of Research scholars

The following norms/procedures shall be strictly adhered to while assigning the Research Supervisor/s to the Research scholar admitted with the recommendations of PAMC and forwarded through the School/Department/Center:

- (1) Each Research Supervisor shall supervise not more than 08 (EIGHT) research scholars, (including reservation category) at a time including the research scholars who have registered for Ph.D./MS by Research degree.
- (2) The research scholars of a Research Supervisor who have completed the final Viva-Voce shall not be considered while counting the number of research scholars assigned to a Research Supervisor.
- (3) A Research Supervisor shall not be assigned more than *TWO* newly admitted research scholars during an academic year.

Under special circumstances, the admission committee may recommend for assigning up to FOUR research scholars to a supervisor with proper justification. This extraordinary case shall be exercised carefully by the PAMC with approval by the Vice-Chancellor.

7.0 Course Work

MS by Research program:

- (a) After registration to the MS by Research program, the candidate is required to do the following:
 - 1) Part-I: Coursework – Research scholars need to successfully complete the course work recommended by the supervisor/s and RRC.
 - 2) Part-II: Thesis submission- Research scholars need to submit final thesis for the award of MS by Research degree.

A research scholar shall be free to apply for a change in the Research topic/coursework for the consideration to the RRC.

Course Work (Part-I):

- (1) Research scholar shall choose courses from the list of courses announced by the University and successfully complete the course work with at least minimum pass marks prescribed by the University.
- (2) A research scholar is required to select a minimum of **six courses** from the

list of courses published by the university, related to the proposed area of research. If necessary, the Research Review Committee (RRC) may recommend additional courses for a particular scholar.

- (3) All research scholars shall submit their examination applications, along with the prescribed fees for the individual coursework subjects, in response to the notifications issued.

Research scholars may register for MOOC courses as a part of their course work, as may be suggested by the RRC from the list of courses recommended by the PAMC as per the University rules.

8.0 Research Review Committee (RRC)

The RRC shall be formed for each of the provisionally registered MS by Research student. The RRC shall be responsible for reviewing and monitoring the progress of the research scholar and send recommendations to PAMC.

Composition of the Research Review Committee: To be constituted by the Dean Academics for each research scholar and shall consist of:

- (1) Dean of Faculty - Chair person
- (2) Head of the Department
- (3) One internal domain experts may be identified by the Head of the school/department/center on the recommendations of the Research Supervisor from time to time.
- (4) One external expert -Member (Optional)
- (5) Supervisor(s)
- (6) Senior Research Supervisor – Member Secretary

The RRC may be re-constituted by the respective Dean Academics in the case of non- availability of existing member(s) or for any other valid reason, in consultation with the Research Supervisor (s).

Scope/Functions/Responsibilities of the Research Review Committee shall be:

- (1) To review and finalize list of courses (Part-I) for the research scholar and recommend the same to PAMC.

To review/monitor periodically (at least once in six months) the research progress of each research scholar until his/her submission of the MS by Research Thesis.

9.0 Evaluation and Assessment of thesis

Selection and appointment of Adjudicators for evaluation of the thesis:

Selection of Adjudicators:

- (1) The School/Department/Research Centre shall arrange to send *FOUR* hard

copies and ONE soft copy of the Synopsis along with a proposed panel of FOUR experts. The complete postal address, e-mail ID, Telephone and fax numbers, and the broad area of specialization of each proposed Adjudicator shall be provided along with the panel submitted. The Vice-Chancellor shall choose *ONE Adjudicator* from the suggested panel for adjudication of the thesis and send an invitation letter to him/her along with a copy of the thesis.

- (2) The University shall arrange for the thesis to be evaluated by the Research Supervisor(s) and *ONE* more Adjudicator identified within *three* months from the date of Submission of Thesis, before taking further steps.

Receipt of Thesis Reports:

All the Adjudicators shall evaluate the thesis and send their Reports. The Adjudicators shall make any one of the following recommendations with the report:

- (1) That the thesis is accepted in the present form and recommended for the award of MS by Research Degree, OR
- (2) That the thesis needs minor clarifications indicated in the report which need to be clarified by the candidate at final Viva-Voce and it is recommended for the award of MS by Research Degree, OR
- (3) That the thesis needs major revision and recommend for resubmission, OR
- (4) That the thesis is rejected.

Consideration of Thesis Reports:

- (1) **Acceptance of Thesis:** Upon receiving favourable recommendations from all adjudicators, including the Research Supervisor(s), the Controller of Examinations (CoE) shall inform the Research Supervisor(s) and the PAMC, sharing copies of the adjudicators' reports and requesting the conduct of the final Viva Voce for the research scholar as scheduled.

Conduct of final Viva-voce and preparation of Consolidated Reports

After the successful completion of the Viva Voce, the Viva Voce Committee shall prepare and forward the Consolidated Report, along with the duly corrected hard and soft copies of the thesis, through the School to the Controller of Examinations (CoE). The CoE shall then present the Consolidated Report to the Academic Council.

10.0 Award of MS by Research degree:

- (1) **Degree Certificates:** Upon the approval by the Academic Council, the University shall issue a Provisional MS by Research Degree Certificate in respective discipline to the research scholar certifying that the Degree has been awarded in accordance with the **Regulations Governing the MS by Research Program**. The University shall confer the MS by Research Degree to the successful scholars during the forthcoming Convocation.

Copy right: University shall hold the copyright of the thesis submitted to it.

11.0 Power to Revise, Modify and Amend

Notwithstanding anything contained in the above regulations:

- (1) The Academic Council has the right to revise, amend or modify any of the above regulations from time to time with the approval of the Board of Governors, and shall be binding on all parties concerned, including the Students, Faculty, Staff, Schools and University Authorities.
- (2) In case of a dispute, the decision of the Academic Council will be final and binding.

In case of difficulty in application of any of the clauses of the regulations specified above, the Vice Chancellor shall have all powers to amend/modify and remove the difficulty in the application of the relevant regulation.