

Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility Criteria for December 2020 Cycle (May 2021) of UGC NET

Qualifying Examination

1. General/Unreserved/General-EWS candidates who have secured at least 55% marks (without rounding off) in Master's Degree or equivalent examination from universities/institutions recognized by UGC (available on the website: www.ugc.ac.in in Humanities and Social Science (including languages), Computer Science and Applications, Electronic Science etc. are eligible for this Test. List of subjects at Post Graduation level is attached as Annexure-IV. The Other Backward Classes (OBC) belonging to Non Creamy Layer/Scheduled Caste (SC)/Scheduled Tribe (ST)/Persons with Disability (PwD)/Third gender category candidates who have secured at least 50% marks (without rounding off) in Master's degree or equivalent examination are eligible for this Test.
2. Candidates who are pursuing their Master's degree or equivalent course or candidates who have appeared for their qualifying Master's degree (final year) examination and whose result is still awaited or candidates whose qualifying examinations have been delayed may also apply for this test. However, such candidates will be admitted provisionally and shall be considered eligible for award of JRF/eligibility for Assistant Professor only after **they have passed their Master's Degree or equivalent examination with at least 55% marks (50% marks in case of OBC-NCL / SC / ST / PwD / Third gender category candidates)**. Such candidates must complete their Master's degree or equivalent examination within two years from the date of NET result with required percentage of marks, failing which they shall be treated as disqualified.
3. Candidates belonging to the **Third gender category** are eligible to draw the same relaxation in fee, age and Eligibility Criteria for NET (i.e. JRF and Assistant Professor) as are available to SC/ST/PwD categories. The subject-wise qualifying cut-offs for this category would be the lowest among those for SC / ST / PwD / OBC-NCL / General-EWS categories in the corresponding subject
4. The Ph.D. degree holders whose Master's level examination have been completed by **19 September 1991** (irrespective of date of declaration of result) shall be eligible for a **relaxation of 5% in aggregate marks (i.e. from 55% to 50%)** for appearing in NET. The list of Post-Graduation courses and their codes is given at Annexure-V.
5. Candidates are advised to appear in the subject of their Post Graduation only. The candidates, whose Post Graduation subject is not covered in the list of NET subjects attached as Annexure-IV, may appear in a related subject.
6. **Candidates are neither required to send any certificates/documents in support of their eligibility nor printout of their Application Form or Confirmation Page to NTA.** However, the candidates, in their own interest, must ensure themselves about their eligibility for the test. In the event of any ineligibility being detected by the UGC/NTA at any stage, their candidature will be cancelled and they shall be liable for legal action. NTA does not verify the information provided by the candidates during online registration and hence candidature will be purely provisional subject to the fulfillment of eligibility criteria.

7. Candidates with post-graduate diploma/certificate awarded by Indian University/ Institute or foreign degree/diploma/certificate awarded by the foreign University/ institute should in their own interest, ascertain the equivalence of their diploma/degree/ certificate with Master's degree of recognized Indian universities from Association of Indian Universities (AIU), New Delhi (www.aiu.ac.in).

Instructions

1. The eligibility for 'Assistant Professor' or for 'Junior Research Fellowship and Assistant Professor' will depend on the performance of the candidate in both the papers of UGC-NET in aggregate. However, **the candidates qualifying exclusively for Assistant Professor will not be considered for the award of JRF**. Candidates appearing in UGC-NET should thoughtfully select in the Application Form whether they are applying for 'Assistant Professor' or 'Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) and Assistant Professor'. Candidates who qualify the Test for eligibility for Assistant Professor will be governed by the rules and regulations for recruitment of Assistant Professor of the concerned Universities / Colleges / State governments, as the case may be.
2. The candidates who qualify for the award of **JRF** are eligible to pursue research in the subject of their post-graduation or in a related subject and are also eligible for Assistant Professor. The universities, institutions, IITs and other national organizations may select the JRF awardees for full time research work in accordance with the procedure prescribed by them.
3. **Junior Research Fellowship** : Candidates qualifying for the award of **JRF** will be eligible to receive fellowship of UGC under various schemes, subject to their finding placement in universities / IITs / Institutions. **The validity period of the offer will be three years w.e.f. the date of issue of JRF Award Letter**. However, for those candidates who have already joined M. Phil. / Ph.D., the date of commencement of Fellowship shall be from the date of declaration of NET result or date of their joining, whichever is later
4. The National Fellowship for Scheduled Caste Students (NFSC), National Fellowship for Other Backward Classes (NFOBC) and the Maulana Azad National Fellowship for Minority Students (MANF) shall be governed by the guidelines available on the official websites of the concerned Ministries and/or the UGC.

Exemption (Eligibility for Assistant Professor)

1. NET/SET/SLET shall remain the minimum eligibility condition for recruitment and appointment of Assistant Professors in Universities/Colleges/ Institutions. In this regard, exemption from NET/SET/SLET will be governed by UGC regulations and amendments notified in the Gazette of India from time to time.
2. The candidates who have passed the UGC/CSIR/ JRF examination prior to 1989 are also exempted from appearing in NET
3. For SET Candidates: The candidates who have cleared the States Eligibility Test (SET) accredited by UGC for Assistant Professor held prior to 1st June 2002, are exempted from appearing in NET, and are eligible to apply for Assistant Professor anywhere in India. For SET held from 1st June 2002 onward, the qualified candidates are eligible to apply for the post of Assistant Professor only in the universities/colleges situated in the State from where they have cleared their SET.

Age Limit and Relaxation

1. JRF: Not more than 31 years as on 1st day of the month in which the examination is concluded i.e. **01.03.2021** (This age limit is applicable for the current examination only).

A relaxation of upto 5 years is provided to the candidates belonging to OBC-NCL (as per the Central list of OBC available on website: www.ncbc.nic.in) /SC/ST/PwD/Third gender categories and to women applicants. **Relaxation will also be provided to the candidates with research experience, limited to the period spent on research in the relevant / related subject of post-graduation degree, subject to a maximum of 5 years, on production of a certificate from appropriate authority, which should be a recognized Indian university / Institute of National Importance / foreign university which is duly approved / recognized / accredited in its own Country / Public Sector Undertaking of Government of India / State Government in India. The research should not have been carried out towards completion of graduation or post-graduation degree(s).** Three years relaxation in age will be permissible to the candidates with L.L.M. degree. A relaxation of upto 5 years is provided to the candidates who have served in the armed forces subject to the length of service in the armed forces upto the first day of the month in which the concerned UGC-NET is concluded. **Total age relaxation on the above ground(s) shall not exceed five years under any circumstances.**

2. **Assistant Professor** : There is no upper age limit in applying for UGC-NET for Assistant Professor.