



Fellowship / Scholarship Policy for Ph.D. Programme

1. Preamble

This Scholarship Policy is formulated to promote quality research, support meritorious scholars, and encourage faculty and research personnel to pursue doctoral studies at Vels Institute of Science, Technology and Advanced Studies (VISTAS). The policy aligns with the University's Ph.D. Admission Policy and UGC Regulations (2022) and aims to provide structured financial support to eligible Full-Time and Internal Part-Time research scholars.

2. Objectives

- To encourage high-quality research and innovation
- To support full-time research scholars financially
- To promote faculty development through doctoral research
- To strengthen the University's research ecosystem

3. Categories of Scholarship Support

3.1 Full-Time Research Scholars – Research Fellowship

Eligible full-time research scholars admitted to the Ph.D. programme shall be supported through a VISTAS Research Fellowship (VRF).

Fellowship Terms and Conditions

- Monthly Stipend of ₹20,000 per month (revised by competent authority from time to time)
- Tenure is Up to 3 years or until thesis submission, whichever is earlier
- Continuation of fellowship is subject to:
 - Satisfactory academic and research progress, attendance compliance, positive annual research progress review and adherence to University Ph.D. regulations
- Scholars availing any external fellowship / scholarship (UGC/ CSIR/ ICMR/ ICSSR/ Industry/ Other agencies) shall not be eligible for VRF.



- Acceptance of any external fellowship during the tenure shall lead to automatic discontinuation of VRF.

3.2 Part-Time Research Scholars (VISTAS faculties) – Fee Concession Scheme

Part-Time research scholars (faculty members, non-teaching staff, and research personnel of VISTAS) shall be eligible for a scholarship of upto 50% in the fees for the entire duration of the programme

Continuation is subject to annual evaluation by:

- Research Supervisor
- Research Advisory Committee
- School Research Committee

4. Monitoring and Compliance

- Scholars must submit periodic progress reports as prescribed.
- Failure to maintain satisfactory progress may result in:
 - Suspension of stipend
 - Cancellation of scholarship support
- Scholarship support may be discontinued if the scholar:
 - Violates University regulations
 - Discontinues the Ph.D. programme
 - Shows unsatisfactory research progress
 - Receives external fellowship (for full-time scholars)
- The University reserves the right to recover the stipend amount as per institutional regulations in cases of non-compliance or premature discontinuation
- The Board of Research Studies (BORS) of VISTAS shall be the competent authority for:
 - Approval of scholarship awards
 - Monitoring implementation
 - Resolving disputes
 - Interpreting provisions of this policy



- VISTAS reserves the right to modify, amend, or revise this Fellowship / Scholarship Policy at least once every three years, or as and when required, in accordance with:
 - UGC Regulations
 - Statutory requirements
 - Institutional research priorities

Date: 24.06.2025

Place: Chennai



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