

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) – Admission Policy and Process

Web : www.rntu.ac.in

About the University

Rabindranath Tagore University (RNTU), Bhopal, formerly known as AISECT University, was established in 2010 as Madhya Pradesh's first private university. It is a pioneer in skill-based education and a flagship initiative of the AISECT Group, one of India's most respected education and skill development organizations.

The university is NAAC accredited and has been consistently ranked among the top 200 universities by NIRF for Seven consecutive years (2019–2025). RNTU offers multidisciplinary academic programmes across the Faculties of Engineering, Education, Management, Law, Arts, Science, Commerce, Agriculture, and Medical Sciences, with a strong focus on employment, entrepreneurship, and real-world skills.

RNTU is recognized by the UGC and is a member of both the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) and the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU). The university's programmes are approved by national regulatory bodies including AICTE, NCTE, BCI, INC, ICAR and the Madhya Pradesh Paramedical Council.

Vision

To be valued as coveted center for nurturing talent, imparting skill-based quality education and promoting arts, research and innovation driven advancement of knowledge instrumental in building a progressive nation with sustainable approach.

Mission

- To Foster research-oriented culture in the university
- To support entrepreneurial ecosystem across nation
- To provide education through extensive and innovative use of technology
- To be recognized as a premium international university providing dedicated services for the social and economic development of the nation
- To forge collaborations with academic, social and corporate bodies across the world.
- To integrate various learning disciplines for the holistic development of the society
- To disseminate the heritage of Indian art and culture at global level

Values:

- Service calls us to use our caliber talent, abilities and capabilities for well-being of our countrymen.

- It makes one fully understand unique contribution that every person in the University makes and values all diverse perspective.
- It implies that both individuals and the University as whole will consistently strive for outcomes that are exemplary rather than simply satisfactory
- Personal and institutional integrity in Rabindranath Tagore University implies coherence between thoughts, words and action in the best interest of the nation.
- It connotes positive and virtuous attributes such as truthfulness, straight forwardness and absence of lying, cheating and theft that the Rabindranath Tagore University expects in every one in the University.
- Sparking the intellect of the youth in the Rabindranath Tagore University where ever possible to take unbeaten path and develop new methodology & process to empower the society.
- It draws everyone in the Rabindranath Tagore University to do daily work with a positive spirit and welcome new ideas and people with open arms and reassuring smile.
- The Rabindranath Tagore University permits everyone to think freely and express views within the framework of the Indian Constitution and in the best traditions of rich Indian culture.

Objective

- To Provide instructions, teaching and training in higher Education and make provisions for research, advancement and dissemination of knowledge.
- To create higher levels of intellectual abilities
- To establish state of the art facilities for education and training and examination including on –line training.
- To carry out teaching and research and offer continuing education programmers.
- To create centers of excellence for research and development and for sharing knowledge and its application.

To provide consultancy to the industry and public organization

Key-Feature of the University

1. Research and Innovation

Research is a core pillar at RNTU. The university hosts 21 Centres of Excellence in areas such

as:

Incubation & Startups

Science Communication

Advanced Materials

IoT & Innovation

Renewable Energy

Agriculture & Environmental Science

Indigenous Knowledge & Sanskrit Studies

Translation & Language Learning

Art, Literature & Cultural Studies

These centers have produced over 2000+ research papers and 410 published books, and continue to drive innovation and academic excellence through national and international projects funded by DRDO, IIT Delhi, NCTU Taiwan, and the M.P. Biodiversity Board, among others.

2. AIC-RNTU: Atal Incubation Centre

Launched in 2019, the Atal Incubation Centre–Rabindranath Tagore University (AIC-RNTU) is supported by NITI Aayog and aims to build a strong entrepreneurial ecosystem. AIC-RNTU supports startups with:

Mentorship & industry connections

Investor meetups

Access to modern labs

Co-working space & incubation support

To date, 139 startups have been successfully incubated, 500+ startups supported and accelerated under this initiative.

3. Tagore National School of Drama (TNSD)

The Tagore National School of Drama, established in 2021, is the first drama school in any private university in Central India. The curriculum includes training in acting, directing, playwriting, stage design, and encourages hands-on learning through live productions and theatre performances.

4. Vishwarang – A Global Cultural Festival

RNTU proudly hosts Vishwarang, an annual international festival of art and culture that spans:

50+ countries

1,000 artists

300,000+ participants

20 million global viewers

This event celebrates creativity, inclusion, and student expression, making RNTU a center of global cultural dialogue and youth engagement.

Awards & Recognitions

Rabindranath Tagore University (RNTU) has been recognized nationally and internationally for its excellence in education, research, innovation, and institutional development.

Major Awards:

7th BW Education Award 2024 – University of the Year

India Education Award 2024 – University of the Year

Excellence in Education Award 2023 – CSR

Leading University of the Year 2023 – Business World Education

ZEE MP & CG Education Excellence Award 2020 – Excellence in Placement & Infrastructure

M.P. Gaurav Samman Award 2019

World Education Awards (Dubai) – 2015, 2016, 2017

ASSOCHAM National Education Excellence Award 2017 – Best Innovation & Skill Development

Shiksha Ratna Award 2012

Recognized by Financial Express for significant contributions to higher education

Ranking Highlights:

#1 Private University in Madhya Pradesh – The Week

#1 in M.P. – Outlook India

AAAA Rating University in 2024 – Careers360

#2 University in M.P. in 2024 – India Today

Facilities available at RNTU

1. Infrastructure Facilities

student-centric campus spread across over 52 acres. The campus is thoughtfully developed to support academic excellence, research, innovation, and a vibrant student life. It features state-of-the-art infrastructure, sustainable facilities, and a nurturing environment for holistic development.

- 2. Smart Classrooms & ICT-enabled Learning:** Classrooms at RNTU are equipped with advanced teaching aids, projectors, and digital tools to enable interactive and blended learning.
- 3. Central Library & e-Resources:** A rich collection of books, journals, digital resources, and access to NDL, NPTEL, DELNET, and other online repositories. RFID-enabled services and KOHA system ensure smooth library operations.
- 4. Research Labs & Centres:** Well-equipped labs in Science, Engineering, Pharmacy, Agriculture, and Humanities. Dedicated Research & Development Cell and Centres of Excellence promote innovation and interdisciplinary studies.
- 5. Hostels & Dining:** Separate hostels for boys and girls with hygienic food, common rooms, and recreational facilities ensure a safe and comfortable stay.
- 6. Sports Facilities:** Extensive grounds for cricket, football, volleyball, basketball, athletics, kho-kho, kabaddi, indoor games, and a modern gym. A yoga centre and multipurpose sports hall are also available.
- 7. Canteen:** RNTU houses a well-maintained canteen, a cafeteria, and a full-fledged dining hall to cater to students and staff. The cafeteria offers snacks and beverages, while the dining hall serves healthy vegetarian meals. All food is prepared under hygienic conditions, ensuring quality and nutrition.

8. Transport Facilities

The university operates a fleet of 14 buses to facilitate the daily commute of students and staff from various regions around the city. The bus service covers a radius of up to 35 km from the campus. A nominal annual fee is charged for availing this facility. Details of the routes and their respective timings are readily available. This service aims to provide safe and hassle-free transportation. Parents are encouraged to advise their wards to use the college buses, considering the safety concerns on highways. Additionally, special pre-arranged transportation is provided for field trips and sporting events within the state.

Research Programme (Ph.D.)

Rabindranath Tagore University (RNTU) offers a Ph.D. degree programme in various disciplines as per guidelines given by UGC regulations Ordinance No. 16 of Rabindranath Tagore University. The award of the Ph.D. degree is in recognition of high academic achievements, independent research, and application of knowledge to the solution of technical, scientific, economic, social, environmental, etc. problems in various disciplines. The University also offers interdisciplinary areas linked and allied through a system of co-supervision and provides excellent opportunities for such programme. The research work shall be an original work characterized either by the discovery of facts or by a fresh approach toward the interpretation and application of facts. It shall demonstrate the candidate's capacity for critical examination and sound judgment and shall represent an original contribution to the existing knowledge. The degree of Doctor of Philosophy is granted for research work in areas recognized by the academic departments of the University and awarded in the discipline of the department in which the candidate is registered.

Faculties & Subjects offering Ph.D. Programme are:

Faculties	Subjects
Engineering & Technology	Electronics & Communication Engg., Electrical & Electronics Engg., Computer Science & Engg. Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering
Science	Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Microbiology, Zoology, Environmental Science, Botany, Biotechnology
Commerce	Commerce
Management	Management
Education & Physical Education	Education, Physical Education

Humanities and Liberal Arts	English, Economics, History, Sanskrit, Hindi, Library & Information Science, Sociology, Social Work, Theatre, Political Science, Psychology
CS&IT	Information Technology, Computer Science, Computer Application
Law	Law
Medical Science	Nursing, Public Health, Yoga
Agriculture	Soil Science & Agril Chemistry, Agronomy, Horticulture (Vegetable & Fruit Science), Genetics & Plant Breeding, Agricultural Economics, Plant Pathology, Agricultural Extension and Education,

Eligibility criteria for admission to the Ph.D. Programme – The following are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. programme:

Candidates who have completed: (1) A 1-year/2-semester master's degree programme after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme or a 2-year/4-semester master's degree programme after a 3-year bachelor's degree programme or qualifications declared equivalent to the master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed.

A relaxation of 5% marks, or its equivalent grade, may be 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 Commission from time to time.

Provided that a candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be 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 Commission from time to time.

Duration of the Programme –

(1) Ph.D. Programme shall be for a minimum duration of three (3) years, including course work, and a maximum duration of six (6) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme.

(2) A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re-registration as per the Statute/Ordinance of the Higher Educational Institution concerned; provided, however, that the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme should not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme.

Provided further that, female Ph.D. scholars and Persons with Disabilities (having more than 40%

disability) may be allowed an additional relaxation of two (2) years; however, the total period for admission and completion of Ph.D. programme in such cases should not exceed ten (10) years.

(3) Female Ph.D. Scholars may be provided Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave for up to 240 days in the entire duration of the Ph.D. programme.

Procedure for admission –

(1) The admission shall be based on the criteria notified by the institution, keeping in view the guidelines/norms in this regard issued by the UGC and other statutory/regulatory bodies concerned, and taking into account the reservation policy of the Central/State Government from time to time.

(2) Admission to the Ph.D. programme shall be made using the following methods:

- I. HEIs may admit students who qualify for fellowship/scholarship in UGC-NET/UGC–CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National-level tests based on an interview.

And/or

- II. HEIs may admit students through an Entrance Test conducted at the level of the individual HEI. The Entrance Test syllabus shall consist of 50% of research methodology, and 50% shall be subject-specific.
- III. Students who have secured 50% marks in the entrance test are eligible to be called for the interview.
- IV. A relaxation of 5% of marks will be allowed in the entrance examination for the candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-abled category, Economically Weaker Section (EWS), and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.
- V. HEIs may decide the number of candidates to be admitted to the Ph.D. programme based on the available research supervisors and other academic/research facilities.
- VI. Provided that for the selection of candidates based on the entrance test conducted by the HEI, a weightage of 70% for the entrance test and 30% for the performance in the interview/viva-voce shall be given.

Structure of Entrance Examination:

The entrance exam for admission to Ph.D. Programme consists of one theory paper of 100 marks having two sections. The duration of examination will be of 2 hours.

- Section I- Contains 40 questions (multiple choices) to assess the candidate's, quantitative ability, data interpretation, analysis, synthesis, reasoning, basics of computing and research aptitude (40 marks)
- Section II consisting of 30 questions (multiple choices) to assess the candidates capability of defining certain concepts & knowledge from the relevant discipline in which he/she seeks registration as indicated in application form(60 marks).

Instruction for filling the application form

- Online application form will be available on the website of the university and can be filled by visiting the link: <https://rntu.ac.in/admissions/entrance-form>. (When entrance exam notification publishes on website this link will start work.)
- A candidate is required to fill the complete details given in the application form.
- The duly filled application form will be processed only if accompanied by the receipt of payment of application fees.
- After completion of the application process, the candidate is required to take a print out of the form and produce it for document verification at the time of entrance examination.
- In case of any query in this regard, you may call / email to- 0755-2700407/phdcell@rntu.ac.in

Fee Details of Entrance Exam

❖ Ph.D – 3000/-