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### **Regulations 2020 for Research Work in M. Phil/ MPH/ MSPH/ PhD Degree Programs in the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences made under statute 6(4) of the First Statutes of Isra University Act, 1997.**

- 1. Short Title:** These regulations shall be called, "The Isra University Regulations 2020, for Research Work in M. Phil/ MPH/ MSPH/ PhD Degree Programs in Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences".
- 2. Commencement:** These regulations shall come in to force with January 2020.
- 3. Scope:** These Regulations shall apply to M. Phil/ MPH/ MSPH/ PhD Degree programs offered in the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences duly approved by PM&DC/ PMC and approved by the University (Appendix-I), and any other Program of similar nature in future.
- 4. Research Load:**

<b>Degree Programs</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
M. Phil, MPH, and MSPH	12
PhD	36

- 5. Commencement and submission of Research Work for M. Phil, MPH, and MSPH:** Candidates will be encouraged to start work on a thesis/ dissertation proposal (synopsis) soon after completion of the second semester under the supervision of the head of department or senior teacher appointed for him/her by the HoD. He/ she shall submit the synopsis to the Director Research through the HoD for placing before the Research / Ethical Committee of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences.
- 6. Commencement and submission of Research Work for PhD:** Candidates will start work on a thesis proposal (synopsis) soon after passing Comprehensive Examination and shall submit to Director Research through HoD for placing before the Research / Ethical Committee of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences
- 7. Approval of Thesis Proposal (Synopsis) and appointment of Supervisors:** The Research/ Ethics committee, if satisfied will recommend the proposal (Synopsis) to the Director Research for submission to the Board of Advanced Studies & Research along with names of one supervisor and at least one co-supervisors for approval.
- 8. Work on Thesis:** After approval of the topic, the candidate will start work on his/ her thesis/ dissertation and prepare the document on the format as approved by the University.
- 9. Modification/ Change of Research Topic**

- a) **Time Limit for Modification/ Change:** If required, the candidate may within six months, after the approval of the topic by the Board of Advanced Studies & Research apply to the Director Research for modification/change of the topic of his/ her research, duly forwarded by the concerned supervisor(s) and recommended by the Dean.
- b) **Process of Modification/Change:** The Director Research will place the request of the candidate before the Research/ Ethics Committee. The committee may co-opt two other senior members of the teaching staff of the faculty. The final topic will be resubmitted to the Board of Advanced Studies & Research for approval.
- c) **Change of Supervisor**
  - (i) **Initiation of Change by candidate:** In case, a candidate desires to change his/her supervisor, he/she shall have to apply with sound justification to the Vice Chancellor duly forwarded and recommended by his/her Chairperson, the Dean, and the Director Research. The Vice Chancellor may appoint the co-supervisor as supervisor subject to the approval of the Board of Advanced Studies & Research.
  - (ii) **Initiation of Change by Supervisor:** If the supervisor is not satisfied with the progress of the candidate, he/she may send his/her report to the Vice Chancellor for further action. The Vice Chancellor, in consultation with the Director Research, may take necessary action as he deems fit, subject to the approval of the Board of Advanced Studies & Research.

## 10. Pre-requisites for the submission of the Thesis/ Dissertation

- a) **Seminars by the candidates**
  - i) The M. Phil/ MPH/ MSPH candidates shall give at least two seminars of their research work. The Director of Research will chair the first seminar, whereas the second seminar prior to submission of thesis will be presided over by the Vice Chancellor/ Pro-Vice Chancellor (Concerned).
  - ii) The PhD candidates shall give at least three seminars of their research work. First two seminars will be chaired by the Director of Research, whereas the final seminar, prior to submission of thesis, will be presided over by the Vice Chancellor/ Pro-Vice Chancellor (Concerned).
  - iii) The candidates will be required to incorporate necessary suggestions/ corrections, if any, in consultation with his/ her supervisor.
- b) **Submission of initial draft of Thesis/ Dissertation:** The candidates shall be eligible to submit dissertation to the Director Postgraduate Examination/ Controller of Examinations before the end of maximum tenure of the program.
- c) **First Similarity Index:** The text of dissertation will be submitted to anti-plagiarism software for report. Overall Similarly Index below or equal to 19% and in case of

single source, the similarity Index below 5% would be acceptable.

- d) **Copies of initial draft for Evaluation:** Four (04) copies of the thesis/ dissertation in case of M. Phil/ MPH/ MSPH degree, and two (02) copies in case of PhD degree would be required in spiral binding.

### **11. Appointment of Examiners/ Experts**

- a) In case of MPhil/MPH/ MSPH, the Vice Chancellor/ Pro-Vice Chancellor shall appoint four examiners out of which at least three shall be external examiners from the list of approved examiners by the Board of Advanced Studies & Research.
- b) In case of PhD degree program, the Vice Chancellor/ Pro-Vice Chancellor shall appoint two (02) PhD experts from technologically/ academically advanced foreign countries and two (02) local examiners from the list approved by the Board of Advanced Studies & Research. However, on receipt of satisfactory report from foreign experts, and after the final seminar conducted by the candidate, the thesis will be sent to local examiners for evaluation.

**12. Processing of documents for Evaluation:** After Completion of all the formalities, Director Postgraduate Examinations/ Controller of examinations will send thesis/ dissertation to the appointed examiners/ foreign experts for evaluation.

**13. Work by the candidate Falling Short of Requirements:** Where the work of the candidate falls short of the requirements, the following recommendations are open to the examiners/ foreign experts and the candidate has to fulfill all the requirements within the permissible timeframe.

- a. Accept the thesis as it is.
- b. Accept the thesis subject to minor changes, as per comments given in the report.
- c. Accept the thesis subject to major changes as per comments given in the report(s); subject to resubmission of the dissertation that incorporates the suggestions given by the examiners. It is the supervisor's responsibility to ensure that the candidate has incorporated, in letter and spirit, all the corrections and suggestions made by the examiners. The supervisor will inform the Director Postgraduate Examinations/ Controller of Examinations in writing that the candidate has satisfactorily taken care of all the suggestions, corrections and recommendations of the examiners.
- d. In case rejection, the thesis will be returned to the candidate for further research or rewriting and resubmission for another examination, within a period of not less than two months and not more than six months.

### **14. Open Defence of thesis and oral examination:**

- a. The candidate will be required to make a presentation on thesis in an open lecture to be held in the University, and respond to the questions relating to his/her work.

- b. Candidates should be aware that the oral examination forms an important part of the examination for the award of the degree. The purpose of the oral examination is to allow the examiners an opportunity to explore and satisfy themselves regarding the knowledge, accuracy and authenticity of the subject matter presented in the thesis.

#### **15. Resolution of Conflict**

- a. After the completion of the oral (viva-voce) examination, the examiners will normally prepare a joint report and may recommend that the thesis be accepted as submitted.
- b. But, where the examiners fail to agree between themselves whether or not the candidate has satisfied the requirements for a particular degree, and they are unable to resolve the issue, they may prepare individual reports for the consideration of the Board of Advanced Studies & Research.

**16. Certificate of the Originality:** The dissertation must bear a certificate from the supervisor(s) to the effect that the thesis embodies an original research and is worthy of presentation to the University for further necessary action.

**17. Receipt of Reports:** On the receipt of the evaluation reports of the examiners, the Director Postgraduate Examinations/Controller of Examinations shall submit the same to the Board of Advanced Studies & Research, who shall decide whether the degree be awarded to the candidate.

#### **18. Submission of Final Draft:**

- a. Subject to the decision of the Board of Advanced Studies & Research, the candidate will be required to submit seven copies of the thesis according to the Isra University guidelines for the preparation of the thesis document to the Director Postgraduate Examinations/ Controller of Examinations, after incorporating all the suggestions, if any, given by the Board.
- b. The thesis supervisor will certify in writing that all the suggestions and corrections have been incorporated, and that the candidate qualifies for the award of the degree. The cases of award of Degree will be submitted to the Board of Advanced Studies & Research by the Director Postgraduate Examinations/ Controller of Examination

## Appendix-I

### List of Degree Programs approved by PMDC/ PMC and Isra University for Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences

Doctor of Philosophy	Anatomy	PhD in Basic Medical Sciences (Anatomy)
	Biochemistry	PhD in Basic Medical Sciences (Biochemistry)
	Hematology	PhD in Basic Medical Sciences (Hematology)
	Histopathology	PhD in Basic Medical Sciences (Histopathology)
	Pharmacology	PhD in Basic Medical Sciences (Pharmacology)
	Physiology	PhD in Basic Medical Sciences (Physiology)
Master of Philosophy	Anatomy	M. Phil in Basic Medical Sciences (Anatomy)
	Biochemistry	M. Phil in Basic Medical Sciences (Biochemistry)
	Chemical Pathology	M. Phil in Basic Medical Sciences (Chemical Pathology)
	Community Medicine	M. Phil in Basic Medical Sciences (Community Medicine)
	Hematology	M. Phil in Basic Medical Sciences (Hematology)
	Histopathology	M. Phil in Basic Medical Sciences (Histopathology)
	Microbiology	M. Phil in Basic Medical Sciences (Microbiology)
	Pharmacology	M. Phil in Basic Medical Sciences (Pharmacology)
	Physiology	M. Phil in Basic Medical Sciences (Physiology)
MPH	Public Health	Master of Public Health
MSPH	Public Health	Master of Science in Public Health