



## KERALA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

KAU - Edu - Modifying existing eligibility criteria for Major Advisors (Research Supervisors) for Doctoral programmes at KAU - Approved - Orders issued

---

### DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION

No. KAUEDU/2376/2024-EDU B2

Dated. Vellanikkara, 04-02-2025

---

Read:- Minutes of Special Academic Council held on 07.12.204 (Agenda Item I (1))

### ORDER

Kerala Agricultural University have formulated its own criteria for appointing Major Advisors for Ph.D. scholars. In order to align the existing University criteria with that of the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations 2022, an official resolution has been moved before the Academic Council.

The Academic Council, as per paper read above has resolved to accord sanction for modifying the existing criteria for appointing Major Advisors for PhD scholars in accordance with the recommendations and by incorporating congenial changes.

In the circumstances, in consonance with the decision of the Academic Council, the following orders are issued.

The Eligibility Criteria for allotting Major Advisors (Research Supervisors) for Doctoral programmes at KAU is hereby modified and approved as follows.

1. Professors/Associate Professors with Ph.D. : Must have at least five research publications in peer - reviewed or refereed journals to qualify as a Research Supervisor.
2. Assistant Professors with Ph.D. : Must have at least three research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals to qualify as a Research Supervisor.

### Additional clauses

- A. An eligible Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor can guide up to eight (8)/six (6)/four (4) PhD scholars respectively, at any given time.

- B. In cases where disciplines have limited peer-reviewed or refereed journals, the Academic Council of KAU may relax the above publication requirements, provided reasons are documented in writing.
- C. Such recognized research supervisors cannot supervise research scholars in other institutions, where they can only act as co-supervisors. Ph.D. awarded by a university under the supervision of a faculty member who is not an employee of the university or its constituent Colleges/ research stations would be in violation of these Regulations.
- D. Co-Supervisors from within the same department or other departments/units of KAU or other institutions may be permitted with the approval of the concerned Dean.
- E. In case of interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research work, if required, a Co-Supervisor from outside the University may be appointed with the approval of the concerned Dean.
- F. Adjunct Faculty members shall not act as Research Supervisors and can only act as co- supervisors.
- G. Faculty members with less than three years of service before superannuation shall not be allowed to take new research scholars under their supervision. However, such faculty members can continue to supervise Ph.D. scholars who are already registered until superannuation and as a co-supervisor after superannuation.

This Order is issued in supersession of all existing orders issued in this regard and will come into force with immediate effect.

By Order of the Academic Council

**Dr. S. Gopakumar**  
**DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**

To

1. The Deans of Faculty/Deans of all Colleges under KAU
2. The Academic Officers of all Colleges under KAU
3. The ADE (UG), KAU
4. The ADE (PG), KAU
5. The Professor (Academic), KAU
6. The Controller of Examinations, KAU
7. The Director of Information Systems, KAU
8. The Programmer (Academic), KAU

Copy to:

PS to VC/PA to Registrar/Steno to Director of Education/Deputy Registrar (Edu)/SO Edu

A/B/C

Forwarded/By Order

Signed by

Anjali R. Section Officer

Date: 05-02-2025 13:15:57