

Admission to Ph.D. in Economics 2026

Notification

Eligibility

- Candidates having Master's degree in Economics or equivalent with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 7-point scale are eligible to apply for admission to the Ph.D. programme
- A relaxation of 5% of marks, may be applicable for candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/differently-abled and other reserved categories as per the UGC norm

Procedure for Admission

- Candidates with NET/SET/M.Phil (from any recognized university with 2-semester/1-year course work) or qualifying the research entrance test (RET) conducted by the Department of Economics, University of Calcutta
- Candidates with NET/SET/M.Phil and final year M.Phil candidates in Economics (or related discipline like Development Studies, Foreign Policy Management, etc. with Masters degree in Economics) completing pre-submission seminar and viva-voce process by December 31, 2025 from any UGC recognized university and awaiting for final results are exempted from RET. They are eligible to appear directly in the interview.
- Final year M.Phil candidates waiting for final results as mentioned above are required to submit their enrolment certificate and a letter from the Head of their respective Departments or higher authority of the University stating the fulfillment of conditions mentioned above. They have to submit their final result by February 9, 2026, if selected in the viva, failing which their admission would stand cancelled.
- Candidates with at least 55% marks in Economics at the Master's level from any UGC recognized university are eligible to appear in RET. Candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/differently-abled and other reserved categories as per the UGC norm need to have at least 50% to sit in the written test.
- Candidates with NET/ SET/ M.Phil or any other equivalent examination recognized by UGC, or getting at least 50 % marks in RET are eligible for appearing viva for final selection
- Candidates appearing viva have to submit statement of purpose (SoP) indicating the area of research interest (not exceeding 1000 words) on the basis of which a final interview will be conducted.
- Final selection of candidates for enrolment in Ph.D. programme 2026 will be made purely on the basis of performance in interview following the criteria mentioned in the University of Calcutta (Regulation for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Ph.D.), Regulations 2016.
- The cut off qualifying marks for admission is 50% in interview.
- At most 10 candidates [with full concurrence with the reservation policy Rules 2013 [Sub-rule 1(e) of Rule 6]] will be enrolled this year (2026)
- The list of finally selected candidates would be posted in the Departmental Notice Board and in the University website.

Important Dates

Events	Date
Notification for admission	15/12/2025
Last date of submission of application	31/12/2025
RET Examination	15/01/2026
Publication of result of RET	21/01/2026
Submission of Statement of Purpose (SOP)	30/01/2026
Interview	09/02/2026 and 10/02/2026
Publication of list of selected candidates	TBA

Application Forms can be downloaded using the following link:
https://www.caluniv.ac.in/admission/CU_RET_Form.pdf

Structure of the RET

- The RET is a written examination of two hours duration.
- The test contains 35 multiple choice questions (MCQ) for 70 marks and one essay type question for 30 marks.
- Syllabus of the test covers Economic Theory (40 marks), Mathematical Economics and Econometrics (30 marks), Development Economics and Indian Economics (30 marks).
- Questions from Economic Theory, Mathematical Economics and Econometrics are MCQ, questions from Development Economics and Indian Economics are research based essay type.

Syllabus for RET

- **Microeconomic Theory:** Theory of Consumer Behavior, Theory of Firm, Analysis of Market Structure, Theory of Distribution, General Equilibrium, Welfare Economics, Asymmetric Information, Public Goods and Externalities;
- **Macroeconomic Theory:** National Income Accounting, Aggregate Demand-Simple Keynesian Model, IS-LM Model, Interaction Between Aggregate Demand & Aggregate Supply- Short-run & Long-run Equilibrium, Rational Expectation, Classical Full Employment Model- Determination of Real Wage, Interest Rate & Price Level, Real Business Cycle, Demand for Money, Supply of Money, Consumption Function, Investment Function, Inflation, Growth, Open-economy Macroeconomics;
- **Econometrics:** Classical Linear Regression Model (both 2-variable & k-variable cases)- Estimation, Hypothesis Testing, Problems of Heteroskedasticity, Autocorrelation and Multicollinearity, Time Series Econometric Model, Panel Data Econometric Model;
- **Mathematical Economics:** Optimization in Economics (Static & Dynamic), System of Simultaneous Equations and Cramer's Rule, Input-Output Analysis, Linear Programming, Elements of Game Theory;
- **Development Economics:** Problems of transitional developing economies under globalisation
- **Indian Economics:** Indian economic problems during pre- and post-reform period.

Instructions for submission of application form

1. **Download the Application Form by using link: https://www.caluniv.ac.in/admission/CU_RET_Form.pdf and submit the filled in Application Form online, self-attested copy of relevant mark sheets, along with the receipt of deposition of Application Fee of Rs 100 (Rupees one hundred only) paid through State Bank Collect.**
2. **For online payment go to <https://www.onlinesbi.com/sbicollect> and then proceed to state (West Bengal), type corporate-educational institution-Calcutta university online payment-payment for MISC fees-category: application for admission to Ph.D.**
3. **Fill the remark box and write application for admission to Ph.D. Ignore registration no**
4. **Submit the hard copy of your application form along with two copies of recent passport size photos (color), bank receipt and other relevant documents to the Office of the Department of Economics, University of Calcutta, 56 A, B.T. Road, Kolkata 700050 during 10 AM to 3 PM within the due date.**

**By
Order of the Head of the Department of Economics,
University of Calcutta**