



GAUHATI UNIVERSITY

Gopinath Bardoloi Nagar, Jalukbari, Guwahati – 781 014

Guidelines for Operationalisation of the 4th year of Four Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUGP) in the affiliated colleges under Gauhati University

Issued with approval of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Gauhati University under Section 8B (4) of The Gauhati University Act, 1947 (as amended up to date)

Section A

Preamble:

Considering that:

- i. The students enrolled in the FYUG programmes in academic session 2023-24 in the affiliated colleges under Gauhati University have completed the 3rd year of FYUGP and the fourth year of the programme is due to commence from August, 2026 and
- ii. the UGC Curriculum envisage the FYUGP as the “preferred option” for UG Programme,

in the larger interest of the students, all the autonomous and affiliated colleges under GU may strive to facilitate seamless migration of the students from the third year to the fourth year of the FYUGP from the academic session 2025-26, either in their own institution or in other institutions through lateral entry following the multiple entry and multiple exit system under NEP-2020.

Accordingly, the following guidelines may be taken note of by all the stakeholders

1. The FYUGP in Affiliated Colleges

1.1 The 4th year Honours Programme

- i. Students of the same college with or without backlog may be allowed to transition into the 4th year without any entrance procedure.
- ii. Students with backlog will have to clear all credit shortfalls to claim the Degree with Honours within a maximum of seven years.
- iii. Lateral entry may be allowed from other institutions in the 4th year as part of the multiple entry and exit system. Detailed procedures will be notified separately

1.2 The 4th year Honours with Research Programme

- Students without backlog and CGPA ≥ 7.5 till the 6th Semester may be allowed to opt for this programme (vide GU Exam Regulation Sec. 8.2).
- Students from other institutions (other than Gauhati University affiliated colleges) completing all credit requirements of the three years may be allowed lateral entry based on marks till 6th semester or based on an entrance test as decided by the College. However, in case of students migrating from institutions other than GU affiliated colleges, a committee may be constituted in the college to ascertain the prior learning

and establish the equivalence of the curriculum and credit poPage 2 of 9ints of both the institutions.

- Students from GU affiliated colleges may opt for the 4th year of FYUGP in other Higher Education Institutions. In such cases the student will receive the Degree from Gauhati University if the credit transfer from the other institution is $\leq 40\%$ of total credit of the programme.

1.3 Evaluation of Dissertation:

Evaluation and assessment of the Research Project/Dissertation will be carried out as outlined in the GU Examination Regulations, 2023 (Sec. 8.1-8.8)

1.4 Institutional Requirements:

- i. Any academic department in an affiliated college with or without a post graduate programme may continue to enrol student for the 4th year Honours and Honours with Research Programme.
- ii. Availability of minimum **one permanent faculty** (vide Higher Education Department Govt of Assam OM 225781/76 dtd 02/05/2023) recognised as a Ph D Research Guide as per GU Ph D Regulation in the department offering the Honours with Research Programme
- iii. There may be mutual inter-department and inter-institutional academic collaboration to supervise the research project in which case the supervisor from the parent institution, i.e., the College/Department where the student is enrolled, will play the primary role while the external supervisor will be considered as the Joint Supervisor. Both the Supervisors will have to endorse the final report of the project work.
- iv. The number of students to be allotted to research supervisors will be determined by the respective DAC/DRC depending upon the workload. However, the total number of students shall not exceed four except under unavoidable circumstances, the reason for which should be noted in the respective DAC/DRC proceedings.
- v. Availability of basic lab facility in the respective departments and/or arrangement through collaboration/MoU with other neighbouring knowledge institutions/Labs to provide lab facility

1.5 Permission and affiliation for affiliated colleges other than autonomous colleges

- i. Any affiliated college with existing Major programme(s) may introduce the fourth year of the Honours and Honours with Research Programme irrespective of an approved PG Programme.
- ii. The Colleges having permission from Gauhati University to run a PG Programme in a particular subject, **will not have to apply** for permission for the 4th year of FYUGP again. However, details of the departments may be communicated to the university as per the Annexure I&II of the notification GU/Regr(SF)/Affil/2026/48-A dtd 29/05/2026.
- iii. If the 4th year is proposed to be introduced in another subject other than the approved PG Programme, in such cases, separate permission for the respective subject will be required. However, as notified vide GU/Regr(SF)/Affil/2026/48-A dtd 29/05/2026, permission fee is applicable only per stream (**not per subject**).

Example: *If a college is already running an approved PG Programme in Physics, and want to introduce the 4th year in Physics, Chemistry and Botany, application for permission is to be submitted only for Chemistry and Botany. But no fee is applicable because the proposed subjects are part of the Science Stream*

Application as per the proforma notified vide GU/Regr(SF)/Affil/2026/48-A dtd 29/05/2026 for granting of permission is to be submitted to GU. However, as notified, the relevant fee may be paid at a later stage.

- iv. Permission and affiliation requirements are mandatory statutory procedures for maintaining quality and credibility of the academic programmes, they will be strictly adhered to as per norms. However, the applications received within stipulated time, i.e., by 30th June 2026 will be expeditiously processed and will be resolved **within one week of the receipt of application.**

1.6 Recognition of Research Guide/Supervisor*

1.6.1 “Research Guides” who will be entitled to supervise the 4th year Research Project leading to a Dissertation in 4-year Honours with Research Programme

- A. All the teachers from affiliated colleges, including the autonomous colleges and the university who are already approved as a research guide vide Sec. 4.12(ii) GU Ph.D. Regulation 2023
- B. Teachers from the Autonomous Colleges having a Ph.D. Programme as per Sec. 10.3 of the UGC Notification F.No. 1-18/2021(CPP-II) dtd 03 April, 2023 which is approved by Gauhati University and having a duly constituted Research Council, who are granted research guideship by the respective Autonomous College adhering to UGC norms. They will not require separate recognition under GU.

However, additionally, they may also apply for recognition as Research Guide under GU following 1.6.2 i & ii given below:

1.6.2 Application by the prospective guides for recognition under GU

Category I. Teachers from affiliated colleges with a Ph.D. degree and research publications as per GU Ph.D. Regulations and associated with a recognised lab. may apply online for research guideship under GU through

<https://academic.gauhati.ac.in/research-guides>

Category II: Teachers from affiliated colleges with a Ph.D. degree and at least one publication with or without a recognised research lab. Application to be made online, through **<https://academic.gauhati.ac.in/research-guides>**.

Note: *Category II research supervisors’ role will be limited to supervising the dissertation for the 4th year Honours with Research Programme only. For conducting Ph.D. research subsequently, the mandatory procedure of the GU Ph D Regulation will be applicable.*

1.6.3 Approval of application for Research Guideship

Applications for both categories, as in 1.6.2 i & ii above, will be processed expeditiously irrespective of Lab recognition for those who apply within **30th June 2026**, as a one-time measure.

1.7 Recognition of research lab.

- i. For conducting Honours with Research, **recognition of research lab will not be mandatory** for the session 2025-26.
- ii. However, if a teacher is recognised as a Research guide without recognition of a lab with his association and, if s/he intends to supervise Ph D research subsequently, standard procedure for lab recognition is to be followed as per GU Ph D Regulation 2023.
- iii. Any pending applications or new applications for lab recognition, received online upto 30th June, 2026, will be expeditiously processed in a special drive, the details of which will be notified separately.

**Note: A detailed operational guideline for the Autonomous Colleges for Ph D programme will be notified separately*

2. The FYUGP in Autonomous Colleges:

2.1 Permission to introduce the 4th year of FYUGP

- i. No permission and affiliation required for introducing the 4th year of the FYUGP, if introduced after attaining UGC Autonomous status, as per Sec.10. of the UGC Regulation, 2023.
- ii. For those affiliated colleges which were granted Autonomous status after enrolment of any or all of the 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 batches of students under FYUGP, these students will continue to be governed by the GU regulations. This follows that permission and affiliation as a statutory requirement will be applicable to these colleges to introduce the 4th year of FYUGP with GU Curriculum. Please refer to the GU notification GU/Regr(SF)/Affi/2026/48-A dtd 29/05/2026.

2.2 Honours with Research Programme

All the colleges affiliated to Gauhati University which are granted autonomy by the UGC, may start their own Ph D Programme as per UGC Regulation (Section 10.3) 2023 with GU Approved Research Council. Therefore, these institutions may offer the Honours with Research Programme framing their own guidelines adhering to the extant UGC norms. However, for the batches as in 2.1(ii) above the prevailing statutory norms as applicable to the affiliated colleges, will be followed.

Section B

The progression trajectory of the FYUGP

1. During the 3-year UG Programme

1.1 At the end of first year of FYUGP:

- i. **Option I:** Continue with the programme even with backlog/arrear and without claiming UG Certificate at the end of Year 1
- ii. **Option II: Take an exit with a UG Certificate**
Take an exit at the end of first year (2 Semester) for which a UG 'Certificate' will be issued by the University/Autonomous College provided,
 - a. No backlog/arrear remains uncleared till the 2nd semester.
 - b. Successfully completed a mandatory 4-credit vocational training over and above the 40-credit required for the year, i.e., total credit to be earned to claim the UG Certificate: 40 (Regular Courses) + 4 (Vocational training) = 44 credits

Note: *As a future option under multiple entry and exit system as per NEP2020, the student can Rejoin the UG Programme at entry point 1 in the second year of UG and continue the FYUGP, provided the re-entry is within three years of the exit*

- iii. **Option III:** Leave the formal higher education altogether taking only the UG Certificate (1.1(ii)) above will be applicable.

Note: *in case a student discontinues the study without the 4-credit vocational training, and want to claim the UG Certificate after a gap time, s/he may do so by completing such a training even after the time gap*

1.2 At the second year of FYUGP

- i. **Option I:** Continue with the programme even with backlog/arrear and without claiming UG Diploma at the end of Year 2
- ii. **Option II: Take an exit with UG Diploma**
Take an exit at the end of second year (4 Semester) for which a UG 'Diploma' will be issued by the University/Autonomous College.
 - a. No backlog/arrear remains uncleared till the 4th semester.
 - b. Successfully completed a mandatory 4-credit vocational training over and above the 80-credit required for the year, i.e., total credit to be earned to claim the UG Diploma: 80 (Regular Courses) + 4 (Vocational training) = 84 credits

Note: *As a future option under multiple entry and exit system as per NEP2020, the student can rejoin the UG Programme at entry point 2 in the third year of UG and continue the FYUGP, provided the re-entry is within three years of the exit.*

- iii. **Option III:** Leave the formal higher education altogether taking only the UG Diploma (1.2(ii) a,b as above will be applicable).

Note: In case a student discontinues the study without the 4-credit vocational training, and want to claim the UG Diploma at a later date, s/he may do so by completing such a training even after the time gap

1.3 At the end of third year of FYUGP

1.3.1 No backlog/arrear till 6th semester.

i. Option A. Opt out from further higher studies and claim the 3-year UG Degree*

Condition 1: Completed all the credit requirements i.e., completed 120 credits, as per the Curriculum structure.

Condition 2: Must have completed the mandatory 'Internship' with credit transfer in his/her name to claim the UG Degree

Condition 3: to get the UG Degree with Major, minimum 50% of total credit of the 3-year period i.e., 60 credit of total 120 credit is to be earned in a particular discipline (subject)

Condition 4: if in neither of the 'Major' or 'Minor' discipline (subject) the student fail to get 50% of total credits out of 120 credits, a "UG Degree without Major" will be granted

***Note:** Internship is a mandatory requirement to avail the UG Degree, with or without Major.

The student may return to pursue the remaining one year of FYUGP through lateral entry at entry point 3 in the same institute subject availability of seats provided:

1. All mandatory requirements for granting UG Degree are completed
2. The re-entry is within three years of completing the 3-year UG
3. Entire four-year programme to be completed within maximum of seven years

ii. Option B. Continue with the FYUGP and transition into the 4th year in the same college/ university. **No entrance procedure required.**

Condition 1: CGPA ≤ 7.5 till the 6th semester: Opt for Honours programme-without research project.

Condition 2: CGPA ≥ 7.5 till the 6th semester (GU Exam Regulations Sec. 15.5): Opt for Honours with research programme, with a "**rigorous research project**" of 12 credits in the Major discipline provided the respective academic department fulfil the mandatory requirements, namely recognized research supervisor and lab facility (either in the institution or through collaboration)

iii. Option C. Continue with the FYUGP but taking an exit and get admitted in any other College/ University* for the 4th year **through lateral entry at entry point 2 of the multiple entry multiple exit system.**

Condition:

- i. Lateral entry norms will be decided by the respective College/University. It may either be based on i. performance leading to the 3-year UG Degree or ii. based on an entrance examination.
- ii. College/University may set up a committee to establish equivalence and prior learning to evaluate suitability of the student to the curriculum offered in the respective College.
- iii. Remedial measures like a 'Bridge Course' may be required if the curriculum of the institution demands so, as a prior learning.

Note: *The student may claim for the Three Year UG Degree with or without major based on number of credits earned under the following conditions:*

Condition 1: *Must have completed the mandatory 'Internship' with credit transfer in his/her name to claim the UG Degree*

Condition 2: *to get the UG Degree with Major, minimum 50% of total credit of the 3-year period i.e., 60 credit of total 120 credit is to be earned in a particular discipline (subject)*

Condition 3: *if in neither of the 'Major' or 'Minor' discipline (subject) the student fails to get 50% of total credit, a "UG Degree without Major" will be granted*

**The Final Degree Certificate at the end of the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme will be in the name of the college where at least 60% of the total credits earned by the students.*

1.3.2 With backlog/arrear till 6th semester*

- i. **Option A:** Continue with the FYUGP and transition into the 4th year in the same college/university. **No entrance procedure required.** This is a one-time measure, to be applicable only to the Academic Session 2026-27.

The following conditions will be applicable:

- a. Such students will be admitted in the Honours Programme only
 - b. The 4-year Degree with Honours will be granted when the entire credit requirements are completed, and all backlogs cleared within a period of **maximum seven years (vide GU Exam. Regulations Sec. 18.6, 18.7).**
 - c. The UG Degree with/without Major, along with the Degree with Honours will also be granted simultaneously only when the student completes the requirement for the 3-year UG Degree including the mandatory internship.
- ii. **Option B.** Take an exit after clearing all the remaining backlogs and return to complete the 4th year under FYUGP after a break, through the entry point at 4th year i.e., level 6.

Condition 1: All mandatory requirement for granting UG Degree to be completed

Condition 2: The re-entry is within three years of completing the 3-year UG

Condition 3: Entire four-year programme to be completed within maximum of seven years

2. Options after successful completion of the 4th year

- 2.1 Appear for CSIR/UGC NET/JRF/GATE and similar examinations and opt for a research and/or teaching career
- 2.2 Pursue Ph D Research directly without the intervening 1 year of PG

2.3 Options to pursue PG Programmes

Three options are available to pursue the PG Programme as per NEP 2020

2.3.1 Option I: Following the traditional 3+2 pattern Entry at NHEQF Level 6

(A three-year UG Programme followed by a two year PG Programme)

- i Claim the 3-Year UG Degree Certificate if all credit requirements are met
- ii Pursue the two-year PG Programme if available in the same institute
- iii Take an exit from the present College/university and pursue the 2-year PG Programme (admission procedures are different for different institutions) at Gauhati University or any other Higher Education Institutions

Note:

For the session 2025-2026 Gauhati University has offered the full range of courses under 3+2 pattern. Admission will be through the entrance test PGET-2026, details of which is available at <https://admissions.gauhati.ac.in/pg/>

For eligibility and other criteria of admission in the PG Programme in GU Campus and in its affiliated colleges having PG Programme please refer to Sec. 7.1 of Gauhati University Regulations for PG Programme

The PG Regulation (Sec. 7.1, 7.2, 7.3) provides the following options:

Case I:

Students can take admission in PG Programme either in the major or minor discipline (subject), either based on marks in the UG Programme or through entrance examination.

Case II:

Students can take admission in PG Programme irrespective of major or minor, i.e., in a new discipline (subject) of interest, provided the candidate qualifies a National Level Test (for example CUET) or University Level Entrance Examination (for Example GU conducted PGET) in the discipline

2.3.2 Option II: PG Programme in 4+1 pattern (Entry at NHEQF Level 6.5)

Students may complete the FYUGP in the College/university where they are enrolled presently and migrate to the GU or any other College/university offering PG to pursue the 5th year.

i. Admission through lateral entry in FYIMP

To facilitate inter-institutional mobility and facilitate admission at the GU Campus programme for the students from its affiliated colleges and other institutions, provision will be made for seats, details of which will be notified separately. However, number of seats will be subject to vacancy at the end of the academic session 2026-27 and expected to be limited in numbers.

ii. Admission in a separate 4+1 PG programme

Possibility to introduce a separate PG programme at GU Campus in the 4+1 pattern is being explored and a decision based on evaluation of in-house capacity building will be taken in due course of time

2.3 Option III: Five-year integrated master's programme at GU

- 2.3.1 Provision is made for lateral entry in the Five-Year Integrated Programme at Gauhati University at the end of the 3rd and 4th year.

2.3.2 For the session 2026-27, lateral entry at the 4th year, i.e., at NHEQF Level 6, will be provisioned for those departments which started admission under NEP 2020 in the academic session 2023-24 details of which will be notified separately. However, such admission will be subject to the following:

- i. Conformity of curriculum and course content if the student is from an Autonomous College or other universities
- ii. Availability of seats in the respective department
- iii. Admission either to be performance based or the entrance tests (to be notified)
