

## About NET

### *Introduction*

The National Educational Testing Bureau of University Grants Commission (UGC) conducts National Eligibility Test (NET) to determine eligibility for lectureship and for award of Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) for Indian nationals in order to ensure minimum standards for the entrants in the teaching profession and research. The Test is conducted in Humanities (including languages), Social Sciences, Forensic Science, Environmental Sciences, Computer Science and Applications and Electronic Science.

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) conducts the UGC-CSIR NET for Science subjects, namely, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Mathematical Sciences and Earth Atmospheric Ocean & Planetary Sciences jointly with the UGC. The tests are conducted twice in a year generally in the months of June and December. For candidates who desire to pursue research, the Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) is available for five years subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. UGC has allocated a number of fellowships to the universities for the candidates who qualify the test for JRF. The JRFs are awarded to the meritorious candidates from among the candidates qualifying for eligibility for lectureship in the NET. JRFs are available only to the candidates who opt for it in their application forms.

The test for Junior Research Fellowship is being conducted since 1984. The Government of India, through its notification dated 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 1988 entrusted the task of conducting the eligibility test for lectureship to UGC. Consequently, UGC conducted the first National Eligibility Test, common to both eligibility for Lectureship and Junior Research Fellowship in two parts, that is, in December 1989 and in March, 1990.

### **CBSE to conduct NET from Dec. 2014 onwards**

On behalf of UGC, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) will be holding the National Eligibility Test (NET) from Dec. 2014 onwards. The CBSE will be conducting National Eligibility Test (NET) on 28th Dec. 2014 in 79 subjects at 89 selected NET Coordinating Institutions spread across the country.

## *Eligibility Criteria*

i) Candidates who have secured at least 55% marks (without rounding off) in Master's Degree OR equivalent examination from universities/institutions recognized by UGC in Humanities (including languages) and Social Science, Computer Science & Applications, Electronic Science etc. are eligible for this Test. The Other Backward Classes (OBC) belonging to non-creamy layer / Scheduled Caste (SC) / Scheduled Tribe (ST) / Persons with disability (PWD) category candidates who have secured at least 50% marks (without rounding off) in Master's degree or equivalent examination are eligible for this Test.

ii) Candidates who have appeared OR will be appearing at the qualifying Master's degree (final year) examination and whose result is still awaited OR candidates whose qualifying examinations have been delayed may also apply for this Test. However, such candidates will be admitted provisionally and shall be considered eligible for award of Junior Research Fellowship/eligibility for Assistant Professor only after they have passed their Master's degree examination or equivalent with at least 55% marks (50% marks in case of OBC (Non-creamy layer)/ SC/ ST/ PWD (Persons with disability) category candidates). Such candidates must complete their P.G. degree examination within two years from the date of NET result with required percentage of marks, failing which they shall be treated as disqualified.

iii) The Ph.D. degree holders whose Master's level examination had been completed by 19th September, 1991 (irrespective of date of declaration of result) shall be eligible for a relaxation of 5% in aggregate marks (i.e., from 55% to 50%) for appearing in NET.

## *Age limit and relaxation*

(i) Junior Research Fellowship: Not more than 28 years as on 01.12.2014. A relaxation upto 5 years is provided to the candidates belonging to OBC (Non-creamy layer)/SC/ST/PWD categories and to women applicants. Relaxation will also be provided to the candidates having research experience, limited to the period spent on research in the relevant/related subject of post-graduation degree, subject to a maximum of 5 years, on production of a certificate from appropriate authority. Three years' relaxation in age will be permissible to the candidates

possessing L.L.M. Degree. Total age relaxation on the above ground(s) shall not exceed five years under any circumstances.

(ii) Assistant Professor: There is no upper age limit for applying for eligibility for Assistant Professor.

### *Exemption*

i) NET/SLET/SET shall remain the minimum eligibility condition for recruitment and appointment of Assistant Professors in Universities/Colleges/Institutions. Provided however, that candidates, who are or have been awarded a Ph. D. Degree in accordance with the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2009, shall be exempted from the requirement of the minimum eligibility condition of NET/SLET/SET for recruitment and appointment of Assistant Professor or equivalent positions in Universities/ Colleges/ Institutions.

ii) The candidates who have passed the UGC/CSIR JRF examination prior to 1989 are also exempted from appearing in NET.

iii) For SET Candidates: The candidates who have cleared the State Eligibility Test (SET) accredited by UGC for eligibility for Assistant Professor held prior to 1st Dec 2002, are exempted from appearing in NET, being eligible to apply for Assistant Professor anywhere in India. For SET held from 1st Dec 2002 onwards, the qualified candidates are eligible to apply for the post of Assistant Professor only in the universities/ colleges situated in the state from where they have cleared their SET.

### *Schedule*

UGC conducts NET twice a year, i.e., in the months of June and December. The notifications announcing the June and December examinations are usually published in the months of March and September respectively through various channels.

## *Examination Pattern*

The examination consists of three papers. All the three question papers consist of multiple choice questions (MCQs). The examination for all the three papers is held on the same day, in two separate sessions.

Paper I and II are conducted in First session.

Paper I is of general nature, intended to assess the teaching/research aptitude of the candidate. It is primarily designed to test reasoning ability, comprehension, divergent thinking and general awareness of the candidate. It consist of sixty (60) MCQs of two marks each, out of which the candidate is required to answer any fifty (50). In the event of the candidate attempting more than fifty questions, the first fifty questions attempted by the candidate are evaluated. The time duration is one hour 15 minutes (09.30 am to 10.45 am).

Paper II consists of fifty (50) objective type compulsory questions based on the subject selected by the candidate. Each question will carry two marks. The time duration is one hour 15 minutes (10.45 am to 12.00 noon).

Paper III is conducted in Second session.

Paper III will consist of 75 objective type compulsory questions from the subject selected by the candidate. Each question will carry two marks. All questions of Paper- II and Paper- III will be compulsory, covering entire syllabus (INCLUDING ALL ELECTIVES, WITHOUT OPTIONS).

The syllabus of Paper-I and syllabi of Paper-II and Paper-III for all subjects are available on website <http://www.ugc.ac.in/net/syllabus.aspx>

The Candidate is required to mark the responses for questions of Paper-I, Paper-II & Paper-III on the Optical Mark Reader (OMR) Sheet provided along with the Test Booklet. The candidate must return the original OMR sheet of Paper-I and II together and Paper-III to the invigilator before leaving the examination hall. However, candidates are allowed to carry the Test Booklet of Paper-I, II and III along with duplicate copy (carbonless copy) of OMR sheet on conclusion of examination.

**The most important thing about UGC-NET is that there is no negative marking.**

## Passing system

The procedure and criteria for declaration of result comprise of following steps:

Step I: Minimum marks to be obtained in Paper-I, Paper-II and Paper-III of NET for considering a candidate for the eligibility for lectureship is given below:

CATEGORY	MINIMUM MARKS (%) TO BE OBTAINED		
	PAPER-I	PAPER-II	PAPER-III
GENERAL	40 (40%)	40 (40%)	75 (50%)
(OBC/DT/NT/SBC)(Non Creamy Layer)	35 (35%)	35 (35%)	67.5 (45%) rounded off to 68
(OBC/DT/NT/SBC)(Creamy Layer)	As per GENERAL Category		
PH/VS/SC/ST	35 (35%)	35 (35%)	60 (40%)

Step II: Amongst those candidates who have cleared step I, a merit list will be prepared subject-wise and category-wise using the aggregate marks of all the three papers secured by such candidates.

Step III: Top 15% candidates (for each subject and category), from the merit list mentioned under step II, will be declared SET qualified for eligibility for lectureship.

**QUALIFYING CRITERIA AND CUT-OFF PERCENTAGES FOR JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP AND ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN JUNE 2014 UGC-NET CAN BE FOUND AT WEBSITE: <http://www.ugcnetonline.in/June%202014%20CUT-OFF%20%20LEC%20&%20JRF.pdf>**

*The complete details can be found at website:  
<http://cbsenet.nic.in/cbsenet/PDF/InformationBulletin.pdf>*

*www.gajananrashinkar.com*