HEC Minimum Quality Criteria for M. Phil/PhD Level Studies in Pakistani Universities/Degree Awarding Institutions

1) Sixteen years of schooling or 4 year education after F.A./F.Sc. (130 credit hours) will be compulsory for admission in MPhil/MS Programme leading to PhD.

2) A test equivalent to GRE test will be necessary for admission to MPhil/MS leading to PhD.

3) Before moving into the PhD program, candidates will need to complete 30 credit hours out of which 24 credit hours will be reserved for course work, which may lead to the award of MPhil/MS/Equivalent Degree.

4) The minimum CGPA should be 3.00 or First Division in MS/MPhil/Equivalent Degree for admission into PhD.¹

5) In addition, the candidates must pass subject GRE (International) test for admission in PhD. In disciplines where this test is not available, the test will be developed locally.

6) Additional PhD level course work of at least 18 credit hours followed by a Comprehensive Examination along with thesis defense will be essential for the award of PhD degree.

7) PhD dissertation must be evaluated by at least two experts from technologically advanced countries.

8) Acceptance/publication of at least one research paper in an HEC approved journal is essential for the award of PhD degree.

9) The Maximum number of PhD students under the supervision of one PhD supervisor will be eight at a time.

The process for the award of PhD degree is presented diagrammatically in the Flow Chart given below.

¹ For those subjects in which First Division is not very common e.g. Linguistics and Literatures; the selection will be made on the basis of top 25% of the coaching class in consultation with respective University.
**Minimum 16 years of schooling / 130 credit hours**

- **GRE Type Test (NTS)**

**30 Credit Hours Minimum 24 credit hours course work**

- *** GPA > 3.00 / 1st Division**

- **NO**

- **YES**

- **Subject Comprehension Test**
- **Subject GRE (Int.)**

- **Additional coursework of PhD level**
- **Min. 18 Credit Hours**

- **Comprehensive Exam**

- **Success**

- **YES**

- **Research Proposal**

- **PhD Candidacy**

- ****** Paper accepted in HEC approved journals**

- ****** Dissertation for Evaluation (By Two Foreign Experts)**

- **Dissertation Defense**

- **PhD**

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**TERMINAL DEGREE**

M.Sc. / M. Phil Equivalent subject to fulfillment of other requirements of the degree.

- **Allowed to improve GPA as per university policy**

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* Top 25 % of the coaching class for those subjects in which 1st division is not common like literature etc., final decision will be taken by the university.

** Subject GRE test if not available will be developed

*** Will apply to PhD students in the pipeline as well.

**** Students already admitted in a PhD. Program, will require acceptance of one paper in HEC approved journals.

NOTE: These are Minimum Requirements.