

# Policy for International Students

## **PREAMBLE**

The university aspires for innovation and excellence and producing finest human beings for nurturing global societies by shaping highest quality scientific minds engaged in eternal quest for infinite knowledge and solving problems of mankind. Therefore, the policy emphasises on attracting international students. The university has vibrant culture to integrate world class higher education to create knowledge and develop skills relevant to global needs.

## **Objectives**

- To develop and implement various programs that support international student's academic, social, cultural, emotional, and spiritual success.
- To coordinate different activities such as students and faculty exchange programs, visits abroad, and academic collaborations with international organizations.
- To promote relationships between foreign universities, institutions with CUP.
- To invite outstanding scientists/academicians for interactions, exchange of ideas and creation of knowledge.
- To partner with globally well-known universities and research institutes to enhance collaborative research.
- To promote exchange programs for students through Student Exchange Agreements with partner institutions for development of friendship and exchange of cultures.
- To develop interface with embassies and consulates of various countries to increase educational and cultural linkages between organizations of foreign countries and the University.
- To facilitate the international students for a smooth tenure during their stay in the university.

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### **International Students**

International Students will include the following:

Foreign Nationals: Candidates holding citizenship of any foreign country.

**Persons of Indian Origin (PIO)/Overseas Citizen of India (OCI):** A person who or whose any of ancestors was an Indian national and who is presently holding another country's citizenship/nationality i.e. he /she is holding foreign passport.

**Non Resident Indians (NRI):** An Indian citizen who is residing outside India and holds an Indian Passport.

Only those Non-Resident Indian students who have studied and passed the qualifying examinations from schools or colleges in foreign countries will be included as international students.

## **Admission Procedure**

International students will be admitted directly against the 10% supernumerary seats, without appearing in the Entrance Test. This will not be applicable to the programs under the statutory bodies. These students shall be admitted to various Degree Programmes under the following categories:

**Direct Applicants (Full Time Programme):** International students, who wish to join under Self-financed category, are required to submit their application to International Students Division (ISD) of the university. The ISD after document verification, eligibility check from respective departments, interview (online) and degree equivalency by AIU will communicate to the respective embassies for further process.

- ICCR Cultural Exchange Fellowship Programmes (Govt. of India): Candidates desirous of admission under this Fellowship Programme are required to apply through the Indian High Commission/Embassy as the case may be, in their respective countries. Application received in ISD through ICCR will be screened for document verification, eligibility check from respective departments, interview (online) and degree equivalency by AIU and the admission offer letter will be sent to the candidate through Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), New Delhi.
- Study in India (SII): The Study in India program is a flagship project of Ministry of Education (MoE) to encourage international students to explore educational opportunities at top Indian universities. The SII program is a seamless system for students to register for the program and explore courses across prestigious Indian institutes. The admission through SII will be as per the guidelines of MoE.
- **Embassy sponsored candidates:** Candidates sponsored by the High Commissions/ Embassies of Foreign countries.

International students seeking admission in CUP in any one of the aforesaid categories will have to satisfy the minimum eligibility criteria for admission to the programmes as prescribed by the University.

## Other Requirements for Admission of International Students

- All international students will require a 'Student VISA' endorsed to this institution for joining CUP programmes excepting OCI and PIO card holders.
- Any statutory clearances from MoE, Govt. of India, if required, shall be applicable.

# **Equivalence of Foreign Degrees for Eligibility Qualifications in CUP**

The qualifications required for admission to different programmes in CUP will be included in admission brochure. Only those students who have qualified from foreign universities recognized as equivalent by the 'Association of Indian Universities' (AIU) are eligible for admission. When required, a reference will be made to AIU to check the equivalence. Degrees obtained from Universities approved by the Department of Education/ other statutory bodies of concerned country will also be acceptable.

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

#### **For Masters Programmes**

Eligibility qualification for admission to any Master programme will be the same as for Indian nationals seeking admission to CUP in that programme.

#### For Ph.D. Programmes

Master's degree in concerned/relevant/allied discipline with proven academic/research aptitude. Detailed programme- wise requirements are same as for Indian nationals.

# Requirements common for both Master and Ph.D. programme:

- The medium of instruction at CUP is English excepting language programmes.
- The applicants, who's medium of instruction is not English in the qualifying degree shall have to mandatorily pass CUP English Proficiency Test (CEPT) after joining the University. However, those deficient in English will be given opportunity to study Language course offered by the university so as to enable them to clear CEPT.
- A valid GRE/GMAT (for candidate applying to Food Business Management and Entrepreneurship Development department) score is not mandatory for admission. However, students with a valid GRE/GMAT score/grade will get preference.
- Applicants have to submit a brief personal statement of 300 words (approximately) stating the reason/s why she/he seeks admission to CUP and the purpose of study.

### **FEES**

International students will pay fees as applicable and announced in the admission brochure. For the current year fees for international students shall be as below:

Masters programmes in Humanities: US\$ 1000 per annum Masters programmes in Sciences: US\$ 1200 per annum

Ph.D. programmes in Humanities

Ph.D programmes in Sciences US\$ 1400 per annum

- Hostel accommodation is not included in the above fees, but it will be same as for ICSSR sponsored students.
- There will be 10% cumulative increase in fee every year.
- Students from SAARC countries will be charged tuition and other fees same as for Indian students.

## **Stepwise Procedure for Admission of International Students**

The procedure for admission to a programme at CUP will be as given below. Students may submit their curriculum vitae directly to the ISD or through ICCR or through the embassy as the case may be:

#### STEP I

- Interested International students must read the admission brochure carefully to check the eligibility and visit CUP website.
- International students should submit their curriculum vitae on the prescribed format clearly indicating their academic achievements along with self-signed copies of the documents to the Director, ISD, CUP via online/email.
- A brief statement of 300 words (approximately) stating the reason/s why she/he seeks admission to CUP and the purpose of study should form a part of CV.

- Photocopies of the following documents are required along with the application on a prescribed format:
- a. Proof of date of birth.
- b. Certificate and Mark-sheet of qualifying examination. If the Mark- Sheet/Degrees are in a language other than English, then a copy of English version is to be submitted duly verified by the concerned degree awarding university/Ministry of Education /Embassy.
- c. Copy of passport for foreign citizens or Dual citizenship card for OCI or PIO or NRI status certificate
- d. Softcopies of passport size photograph (JPG format).
- e. Two letters of Recommendation
- f. Proof of scholarship/sponsorship
- g. Proof of financial support corresponding to the prescribed fee for the programme in case of Selffinanced category of applicants
- **Application Timeline:** Applications of foreign students for the academic year beginning July/August will be accepted beginning January 1 every year, so that the student is able to obtain VISA and NOC (in case of serving candidates) before the start of the academic session.

#### **STEP II**

The eligibility criteria will be verified by admission committee of the concerned department and candidates will be provisionally admitted on the basis of equivalency certificate issued by CUP committee. However, admission of such candidates will be regularised after obtaining equivalency certificate by Association of Indian Universities. The applicant will be informed through email, if found eligible.

The self - sponsored applicant has to make a payment of non-refundable advance amount equivalent to US\$ 100. The application will then be reviewed and if found suitable a 'Provisional Admission Offer Letter' will be issued to enable the student to obtain the VISA.

#### STEP III

The 'Provisional Admission Offer Letter' will be submitted to the Indian Embassy of the respective country for obtaining the 'VISA' with a copy marked to the applicant and/or to the concerned sponsoring agency/ institution as the case may be.

#### **STEP IV**

The candidate shall report at ISD, CUP on the notified date for orientation and shall bring all above mentioned documents in original for verification by the ISD. The original certificates will be returned to the students immediately after making an endorsement to this effect.

#### **STEP V**

Students are required to undergo the medical fitness test at CUP and get the medical fitness certificate. Government of India rules for international students entering India on 'Student VISA' for testing for HIV/or any other medical test as applicable, shall apply. They are also required to produce such test reports to the University Medical Officer. All international students will be required to obtain medical insurance.

#### **STEP VI**

Admission of International/PIO/OCI/NRI students will be confirmed after verification of original certificates, medical fitness test, payment of prescribed fees and equivalency certificate by AIU. Even after the confirmation of admission, if it is detected at any stage, that the qualifying Degree/Certificate is not recognized by AIU, the admission of the candidate will be cancelled. Withdrawal of admissions/refund of fee cases will be dealt as per the guidelines of CUP.

#### **STEP VII**

Within a week of arrival in India, students are required to register their names with the police in the 'Foreigner Regional Registration Office (FRRO) and submit a proof of such registration to the ISD. Security office of CUP shall help the students for online registration on the portal.

## **Discipline**

The International Students will abide by all the rules of the University and code of conduct as applicable to Indian students undergoing the same course. Anti-social, anti- national activities, political and religious activities, misconduct, violence and unethical activities involving international students will be dealt with as per extant State and Central laws. CUP will not take any responsibility for any criminal or non-criminal offence(s) committed inside or outside the campus by the international students.

## **Scholarship**

Foreign Students admitted under direct applicant category (refer description at Admission Procedure under this section) are eligible to get 'merit' scholarship/'earn-while-learn' assistantship as per the norms.

## **Safety and Security**

- 1. The university provides a range of safety and security services to ensure that the students are able to have a safe time while studying on campus. Security staff is available 24x7 in the university campus.
- 2. It's important that all incidents and crimes be reported quickly to enable the University to take action. Reported incidents are formally recorded and investigated, and any information is treated with utmost confidentiality.

## **International Student Mentoring Program**

ISD assists international students in overcoming life changing experiences of living and learning in India and facing other cultural/academic challenges.

The International Students Division (ISD) is single point of contact for the international students for their convenience and quick access.

## **Advisory Committee for International Admission**

The advisory committee for international admissions is:

- Dean Academic Affairs
- Registrar
- Dean Student Welfare
- Dean Research
- Controller of Examinations
- Director, International Students' Division

For any query, please contact: Internal Quality Assurance Cell आतंरिक गुणवत्ता सुनिश्चयन प्रकोष्ठ Central University of Punjab पंजाब केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालय Bathinda - 151 401 भटिंडा - 151 401 Email: iqacoffice@cup.edu.in