

**K J Somaiya Institute of Dharma Studies**  
**Admission Manual**

**Ph.D.**  
**Programme**  
**Buddhist Studies**

**July 2025**

**Visit for Further Details:** <https://www.somaiya.edu/en/phd/>

## About Somaiya Vidyavihar University

On 26th August 2019, Somaiya Vidyavihar University has become a reality

A new milestone in a glorious ongoing journey established in 2019, Somaiya Vidyavihar University, Mumbai recognised by the University Grants Commission (UGC). Somaiya Vidyavihar, with over six decades of rich experience in building and managing educational institutes of great repute, is the sponsoring body. With over six decades of rich experience Somaiya Vidyavihar has become a self-finance Private University. Somaiya Vidyavihar University is the first private university in Mumbai vide the Maharashtra Self- Financed Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act 2013. With this status, we now have the academic, administrative, and financial freedom, to achieve the dreams as imagined by our founders. We have a dream to build and support a world class institution, one that is proudly Indian, and excels in education, research and service. Somaiya Vidyavihar University will be a place where knowledge is preserved, disseminated, and new knowledge is created. It will be global in the reach of its ideas and universal in its service. Operational from 26th August 2019, Somaiya Vidyavihar University is a place where you can explore new possibilities, pursue your passion and above all, find yourself.

### *Our History*

**An all-round education must integrate Indian culture, values & morality into the curriculum.**

In just five decades it has grown into a large educational complex with 34 institutions catering to diverse fields of education such as Humanities, Engineering, Education, Medicine, Management, Pure Sciences and Mass Communication, with more than 39000+ Candidates and 3000+ Faculties and staff on a throbbing 65 acre campus.

The Somaiya Vidyavihar Complex was founded in 1959 by late Shri K.J. Somaiya (1902- 1999). Endowed with a sharp business acumen, a balanced perspective and a social bent of mind, Karamshibhai set up the Somaiya Trust in 1953 for furthering his dream of shaping young minds through quality education. For this purpose, he bought a large area of land at Ghatkopar, then considered to be distant, meagrely populated.

### *Our Vision*

Our Founder, Padmabhushan Shri K. J. Somaiya founded Somaiya Vidyavihar on the 9th of September 1959. He later founded the Girivanvasi Pragati Mandal, The K J Somaiya Medical Trust, Girivanvasi Education Trust and sister institutions to make great citizens of India and the World. In the words of Swami Vivekananda, “We want that education by which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, and the intellect expanded, and by which one can stand on one’s own feet.” We have now grown into a multi-disciplinary and multi-campus education institution with over 1500 faculty, and 38, 000 candidates.

***The Somaiya Vidyavihar University admitted 3000+ candidates in 100+ UG/PG/PhD/PG Diploma/Diploma/Certificate programmes in the very first year of establishment.***

**About Research Center**

In Buddhist Studies research centre, innovative and research-oriented projects are being undertaken in Buddhist Studies. Research is conducted in the following thrust areas –

- Critical interpretation of Buddhist and Sanskrit inscriptions in South East Asia
- Translation of Books in English and Marathi

**Ph.D. Admission Eligibility for Somaiya Vidyavihar University (SVU):  
Minimum Qualifications for Admission**

Subject to the conditions stipulated in the Regulations, the following candidate are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. Programme

|      |   |
|------|---|
| i.   | Master's degree or a professional degree declared equivalent to the Master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, <b>with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent as per UGC regulations.</b>   |
| ii.  | A person whose Master's dissertation has been evaluated and the viva-voce is pending may be admitted to the Ph.D. Programme but subject to completion of Master's degree before provisional admission to SVU Ph.D. Programmes.  |
| iii. | Candidates possessing a Degree considered equivalent to Master's Degree of an Indian Institution, from a Foreign Educational Institution accredited by an Assessment and Accreditation Agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country for the purpose of assessing, accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to Ph.D. Programme.  |
| iv.  | Candidate not having Master's degree but having research / work / professional experience or possessing post graduate diploma <b>may appear for Ph.D. Entrance Examination of SVU</b> subject to such candidates need to apply separately to SVU for obtaining equivalence for Master's degree. The SVU will have final rights reserved to give such equivalence as per the regulations. Such candidates must possess undergraduate degree with <b>at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent as per UGC regulations.</b> The relaxation will be as per UGC norms from time to time. |
| v.   | <b>MUST</b> have qualified score of <b>Ph.D. Entrance Examination of SVU</b> – mandatory eligibility criteria for all candidates.   |
| vi.  | <b>Candidates exempted</b> from appearing for Ph.D. Entrance Examination of SVU <b>MUST fill the application form</b> as per the schedule displayed on website. The exempted candidates <b>need not pay the application processing fee.</b>   |
| vii. | A No Objection Certificate (NOC) in prescribed format from the employer in case of those who are applying to Ph.D. Programme as a sponsored candidate.  |

**Eligibility at UG/PG Degree**

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Branch of study at UG</b> | Buddhist Studies or any other subject      |
| <b>Branch of study at PG</b> | Buddhist Studies or Pali or allied subject |

**Exemption Criteria for SVU Ph.D. Entrance Examination**

Candidates who has qualified UGC-NET

**However, the candidates who fulfill the above criteria MUST fill the application form as per the schedule displayed on the website.**

**Pattern and syllabus of SVU Ph.D. Entrance Examination**

Paper-1 Qualitative Test – 40 marks

a) Essay Writing – 20 marks

a) Comprehension – 20 marks

(50% choice in selecting questions in paper I)

Paper – 2 Subject Specific Test – 60 marks

a) Multiple Choice Questions – 20 marks (Attempt 20 out of 30 questions)

a) Subjective Questions – 40 marks (with 50% Choice)

**Syllabus for Entrance Examination**

- Biography of Buddha: Literary sources: Pali and Sanskrit
- History of Buddhism: Councils, Origin and Development of Buddhist schools, Royal patrons.
- Buddhist Literature: Pali Canonical and Non canonical literature, Buddhist Sanskrit Literature
- Schools of Buddhism and their philosophy
- Socially Engaged Buddhism
- Revival of Buddhism
- Women in Buddhism
- Buddhist Education system
- Buddhism outside India: Sri Lanka, Burma, China, Japan, Korea.
- Buddhist Archaeology
- Buddhist Architecture: Structural and Rock-cut.
- Buddhist Art: Aniconism, schools of Buddhist Art (Gandhara, Mathura, Sarnath, Amaravati), Iconography, Paintings (Ajanta & Bagh)
- Epigraphy

### Documents Required

1. UG Degree or equivalent Mark List
2. UG Degree certificate
3. PG Degree or equivalent Mark List
4. PG Degree or equivalent certificate
5. AADHAR card
6. Degree equivalence / eligibility certificate – wherever is applicable
7. Transfer Certificate and /or Leaving Certificate
8. Migration certificate
9. Two colour passport size Photograph
10. If appearing the PG degree examination – bonafide certificate
11. If employed, then No Objection from the employer – at the time of provisional admission

Important Links UGC Notification 2022 ([Link](#))

### Overview of Steps involved in Ph.D. Programme

| Sr.No                                 | Steps   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Ph.D. Pre-selection Phase</b>      |   |
| 1.                                    | Advertisement / Call for SVU Ph.D. entrance exam on website /media handles  |
| 2.                                    | Acceptance of the applications for Ph.D. entrance examination along with the applications processing fee  |
| 3.                                    | Execution of Ph.D. entrance examination for all Ph.D. programmes  |
| 4.                                    | One- on -one Interviews of candidates before an expert panel  |
| 5.                                    | Display of selected candidates for provisional admission - Selection process complete   |
| <b>Provisional Admission Phase</b>    |   |
| 6.                                    | Provisional admission and payment of fees in accounts/admin office of the colleges.   |
| 7.                                    | Orientation and initiation of course work (1 year – 2 sem)  |
| 8.                                    | First semester encompasses research methodology & publication ethics along with subject specific topic. Second semester majorly focus on building research , technical & soft skills. It includes research activities, lab rotation and research proposal drafting & presentation and its evaluation. |
| 9.                                    | ATKT examination for the semester I and II for unsuccessful candidates or for grade improvement   |
| 10.                                   | Issue of mark sheets for course work of semester I and II   |
| <b>Allotments &amp; Registrations</b> |   |

### Somaiya Vidyavihar University

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| 11. | Allotment of the guide at individual college-level /department (within the first six months of provisional admission) |
| 12. | Topic approval of the thesis work within 2-3 months after Qualifying course work examination                          |
| 13. | Registration for Ph. D programme  |

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| PhD Phase            |   |
| 14.                  | Appointment of Examiners and chairman from Research Committee   |
| 15.                  | Annual Progress Seminars (APS) and Intermediate Progress Seminar (IPS) for the academic year by Doctoral Advisory Committee (DAC)             |
| Submission & defence |   |
| 16.                  | Approval of examiners to present pre-synopsis in one of the APS and IPS   |
| 17.                  | Presentation of pre-synopsis and its approval by the examiners  |
| 18.                  | Submission of thesis to COE office  |
| 19.                  | Sending the thesis to reviewers   |
| 20.                  | Receipt of reviews about thesis from the reviewers  |
| 21.                  | The final defence of the thesis   |
| 22.                  | Submission of the final corrected thesis after defence  |
| 23.                  | Issue of provisional Ph.D. certificate  |
| 24.                  | Issue of Ph.D. certificate  |
|                      | The steps and the progress evaluation of Ph.D. students by the committee/examiners/experts will be as per the provisions of Ph.D. regulations |



### Categories of Ph.D. Students

- Candidates with externally funded scholarships/Fellowships; (a full tuition fee waiver will be provided to candidates who join as JRF/SRF under government of INDIA research funded scheme )
- Candidates who work in funded projects within the University or in approved research centres which are collaborating with the University;
- Jointly guided PhD or Co-supervised PhD with International Universities;
- Teaching/work integrated research candidates who are the faculty/employees in pursuit of advancing their academic qualification, recommended by the Head of the Institution and the Academic Advisory Committee. This provision is for those candidates who shall take an undertaking that their routine responsibilities would be duly attended and under no circumstances compromised. The university shall reserve the rights to consider the registration of candidates who do not adhere to these guidelines;
- Research and Teaching Associates of the Somaiya Vidyavihar University.
- “Somaiya Vidyavihar University Research fellow under Chancellor’s Scholarships Programme”.
- “Any candidates having 5 year of teaching/research experience and have publish research paper in SCOPUS; Web of science journal/published patents/grant received from government agencies will be excepted from appearing for the SVU PhD entrance exam but will be required to appear for an interview at the respective departments”
- Candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis provided all the conditions stipulated in UGC 2022 regulations are fulfilled.

### About Course Work

The course work will be of one academic year (two semesters) and out of which first semester will be full time. It is expected that during the first semester, the student will report the college/department/section/laboratory for attending the sessions as per Timetable. The student will have to complete total of 14 credits (semester I) + 5 credits (semester II) = total 19 credits with CGPI as per the Ph.D. regulations to become eligible for the registration to Ph.D. programme.

## Somaiya Vidyavihar

| <b>Fee Structure of Ph.D. Program</b><br><b>(This is common across disciplines, all categories of students)</b>  |   |                     |
|--|---|---------------------|
| Particulars  | @Total Fees per annum (₹)   |                     |
|  | First Year  | Second Year Onwards |
| Tuition Fee  | 30,000/-  | 30,000/-            |
| Development Fee  | 10,000/-  | 10,000/-            |
| Examination Fee  | 10,000/-  | 10,000/-            |
| Caution money Deposit (Refundable)   | 1,000/-   | -----               |
| Library Deposit (Refundable)   | 2,000/-   | -----               |
| <b>Total (₹)</b>   | <b>53,000/-</b>   | <b>50,000/-</b>     |
| <b>@ If paid provisional admission fee then should be deducted from total fee</b>  |   |                     |
| Link for fees payment<br>(Fees will be accepted via online payment gateway only and in no case, it can be paid using any other type of mode of payment and to any office/person) | <a href="https://myaccount.somaiya.edu/#/login">https://myaccount.somaiya.edu/#/login</a> |                     |

| <b>7. Registration, Synopsis &amp; Ph.D. Thesis Submission Fees</b>   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Particulars   | Amount          |
| Registration fees   | 5000/-          |
| Approval of Synopsis of Ph.D. Thesis Topic  | 5000/-          |
| Ph.D. Thesis Submission   | 10000/-         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>20,000/-</b> |
| <b>Note:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Registration fees to be paid by the Ph.D. scholars before submitting the application for Registration for Ph.D.</li> <li>2. Synopsis &amp; Ph.D. Thesis Submission fees to be paid by the Ph.D. scholars before submission of synopsis.</li> </ol> |                 |

## Somaiya Vidyavihar

| Payment of fees schedule for Provisional admission and subsequent years of Ph.D. programme  |             |   |  |
|---|-------------|---|--|
| Program Academic Year   | Particulars | Amount in Rupees (₹)  | Payment Schedule   |
| First Year  | Total fee   | 53,000/-  | Within eight days from the date of receiving the offer letter    |
| Second Year and Onwards   | Total fee   | 50,000/-  | Within first week from the commencement of the new Academic Year |
| Link for fees payment<br>(Fees will be accepted via online payment only and in no case it can be paid using any other mode of payment and to any office/person) |             | <a href="https://myaccount.somaiya.edu/#/login">https://myaccount.somaiya.edu/#/login</a> |  |
| Note: Students have to pay the full fees of the program per year till the submission of the thesis  |             |   |  |

| Guidelines to make fee payment in Online Mode  |
|--|
| <p>There is a provision of ONLINE PAYMENT of college fees for student's convenience 24x7 on or before the scheduled due date. Student will get notification from the institute in three ways.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) SMS</li> <li>2) Email</li> <li>3) Notification on <a href="https://myaccount.somaiya.edu">myaccount.somaiya.edu</a> portal</li> </ol> <p>In the notification there will be a link to make the payment. You just need to click on the link and follow below simple steps to make the payment.</p> <p>STEP 1: Link will take you to <a href="https://myaccount.somaiya.edu">myaccount.somaiya.edu</a> portal. Use Somaiya SVV Net ID and password to login. Want to know more about myaccount.somaiya.edu click on <a href="https://somaiya.edu/media/pdf/SVVNetID_and_Email%20id.pdf">https://somaiya.edu/media/pdf/SVVNetID_and_Email%20id.pdf</a></p> <p>STEP 2: Login, select 'instalments' and click on "Pay Now".</p> <p>STEP 3: System will redirect to Online Payment Gateway. Fill in the required information and follow payment options to complete the payment cycle.</p> <p>STEP 4: After the successful payment, the payment receipt will be available at student's MyAccount portal</p> |

## Somaiya Vidyavihar

### Admission Cancellation policy of Ph.D. programme (All Categories of Ph.D. Students)

If the candidate has accepted the allotted seat by paying the fees and later chooses/decides to withdraw from the programme of study, then cancellation option is available at his/her MyAccount login.

The college shall follow the below system for deduction of fees against the cancellation request for the candidate.

| Sr. No. | Point of time when the application for admission cancellation is received by the college          | Applicable Deduction |
|---------|---|----------------------|
| 1       | 15 days or more before the date of commencement of academic term                                  | Rs 5,000/-           |
| 2       | Less than 15 days before the date of commencement of the academic term                            | 10% of total fees    |
| 3       | Less than 15 days from the date of commencement of the academic term                              | 20% of total fees    |
| 4       | On or beyond the 15th day but within six weeks from the date of commencement of the academic term | 50% of total fees    |
| 5       | More than six weeks from the date of commencement of the academic term                            | 100% of total fees   |

Note:

- Total Fees for the program per year is Rs. 50,000/- for All Categories of Ph.D. Students
- Tentative date of commencement of every academic term will be announced on website.

### Typical Sample example for further illustration to know about cancellation charges with reference to the date of commencement of term

Refer the **below example** for clarification of Ph.D. admission cancellation policy

Assume that the academic term commences from **15th July** of a particular academic year. Based on this assumption, following table illustrates important dates of cancellation policy:

Illustration:

| Sr. No. | Point of time when an application for admission cancellation is received by college | Applicable Deduction |
|---------|---|----------------------|
| 1       | Cancellation on or before 30th June (up to 11.59pm)                                 | Rs 5,000/-           |
| 2       | Any time from 1st July to 14th July (up to 11.59pm)                                 | 10% of total fees    |
| 3       | Any time from 15th July to 28th July (up to 11.59pm)                                | 20% of total fees    |
| 4       | Any time from 29th July to 25th August (up to 11.59pm)                              | 50% of total fees    |
| 5       | After 25th August   | 100% of total fees   |

## Somaiya Vidyavihar

### Process of getting documents submitted return

After verifications of documents, within 7 days, documents will be returned to students.

### Contact

E-mail - [dharmastudies@somaiya.edu](mailto:dharmastudies@somaiya.edu)