



National Law University Odisha, Cuttack
(Established by Odisha Act IV of 2008) Kathajodi Campus,
Sector 13, CDA Cuttack -753015, Odisha
Website: www.nluo.ac.in

Admission Notification for Ph.D. Programme 2026-2027

National Law University Odisha (NLUO) invites applications in the prescribed form for admission to the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Programme for the academic year 2026-27 in Law and Interdisciplinary subjects.

NUMBER OF SEATS

The total number of seats for the academic year 2026-2027 are:

Ph.D. Seats	Full-Time Seats (15)	Part-Time Seats (10)
Ph.D. in Law (20)	13	7
Ph.D. Interdisciplinary (5) with Law	2	3
Total Seats in Ph.D. Programme	25	

Reservation Category-wise Intake

Category	Number of Seats
Scheduled Cast (16.25%)	4 ¹ (1 Seats for OD)
Scheduled Tribe (22.5%)	6 ¹ (2 Seats for OD)
Socially and Educationally Backwards Classes (11.25%) – Odisha State Category	3
General	9 ¹ (2 Seats for OD)

Category	Number of Seats
NRI/NRIS/PIO/OCI	02
Foreign National (FN)	01

NOTE:

1. **25% seats** shall be reserved horizontally for Applicants under General, ST & SC Candidates under State Domicile Reservation*
2. **05% seats** shall be reserved horizontally for Specially Aabled Persons (SAP) at the all India level according to the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.
3. 1% seat is reserved for the Ex-Service Men candidates horizontally (across the category)
4. The number of seats under NRI Sponsored Candidates may vary based upon the decision of the Governing Body of the Institution.

***Eligibility Criteria for Domicile Reservation:** Candidates who have passed from any recognized University securing not less than 55% marks or its equivalent in grade from any recognized College/University in the State of Odisha. The candidates need to submit the Domicile Certificate issued by the State Authority.

NOTE:

- (i) Any unfilled seat(s) reserved for Scheduled Tribes (ST) will be converted to Scheduled Castes (SC) and vice-versa. In case sufficient number of eligible candidates of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes are not available in the respective category, the seats thus remaining vacant will be treated as General and will be offered to the General Category candidates in order of merit.
- (ii) The university reserves the right not to fill all the seats.
- (iii) The interdisciplinary areas may include (but not limited to) political-science, management, economics, and English.

The suitability of the topic and eligibility of the candidate will be determined by the availability of the supervisor, research facility, and appropriateness of the Research Synopsis to be accepted by the university.

Full Time Enrolment Details:

Candidates wishing to join Ph.D. Programme from NLUO may apply as a full-time candidate. The candidate enrolled for full time Ph.D. programme shall put in residence in the University for a minimum period of 28 months spread over 3 years. 3 years is the minimum period required for the completion of the research for the award of the degree.

1. Such candidates may be paid stipends as decided by the University from time to time. (Currently, the University shall pay **Rs.30,000/- per month as stipend with the annual increase of 10%** in the stipend amount subject to the condition that no stipend shall be paid to any Ph.D. Scholar after completion of 5 years from the date of their registration.
2. Full Time candidates shall mark their attendance with the Dean, Academics in a Register duly maintained by the Office.
3. Full time candidates are required to assist the University in the work which will be entrusted to them from time to time.
4. Full time candidates shall submit their Ph.D. thesis within a maximum period of 6 years.

ELIGIBILITY (MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR ADMISSION)

Ph.D. in Law

The following applicants are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. programme in Law:

1. An applicant seeking admission to Ph.D. programme must have a Master's Degree in Law from any recognized University securing not less than 55% marks or its equivalent in grade.
2. In case of candidates belonging to SC/ST and Specially-Abled-Persons (SAP) a relaxation of 5% or an equivalent relaxation of grade will be granted.
3. Applicants having NET /JRF are exempted from the Entrance Examination and others will have to appear for the written test.

Provided that candidates in their final year of study in the respective degrees be eligible to apply, subject to the candidate securing the minimum marks or equivalent grade prior to the date of admission of the Ph.D. when they have to submit their mark sheet.

Ph.D. (Interdisciplinary) with Law

The following candidates shall be eligible to apply for the Ph.D. (Interdisciplinary) with Law programme:

- (i) Bachelor's Degree in Law and a Master's Degree in Social Science or Humanities or Management Studies from any recognized University with not less than 55% marks or its equivalent grade.

- (ii) Candidates with a Master's degree in Social Sciences, Humanities or management Studies, from any recognized Indian University with 55% marks and having had at least two years of work experience or Ph.D. in any discipline.
- (iii) In case of candidates belonging to SC/ST and Specially-Abled-Persons (SAP) a relaxation of 5% or an equivalent relaxation of grade will be granted.
- (iv) Applicants having NET /JRF are exempted from the Entrance Examination and others will have to appear for the written test.

Provided that candidates in their final year of study in the respective degrees in (i), (ii) and (iii) shall be eligible to apply, subject to the candidate securing the minimum marks or equivalent grade prior to the date of admission of the Ph.D when they have to submit their mark sheet. However, all applicants, whether applying Ph.D. in Law or interdisciplinary, are required to submit a research proposal at the time for applying for admission to Ph.D. whether with admission test or otherwise.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND ADMISSION TEST

Selection Process:

The admission to NLUO for Ph.D. program shall be a three-pronged process, namely:

Step 1: The University shall conduct a Ph.D. Entrance Examination for the candidates who have applied for the admission in Ph.D. program in NLUO and not having NET/JRF/M.Phil. certificates

Step 2: Submission and Evaluation of a Research Synopsis

Step 3: Oral Presentation of the Research Synopsis

Explanation: Candidates securing 50% marks or above in the entrance examination will qualify for the process of Step 2 and Step 3- as mentioned above- for evaluation of their Research Synopsis and making an oral presentation before the Panel of Experts (Doctoral Committee) on the date specified by the University.

In case of candidates belonging to SC/ST and Specially-Abled-Persons (SAP) a relaxation of 5% will be granted in the qualifying marks and the evaluation components as mentioned above.

Ph.D. Entrance Examination Scheme:

The University shall conduct a written test of 100 marks along the following scheme:

1. 50 marks Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)-
 - a. 30-Marks-15 questions of 2 marks each on Research Methodology
 - b. 20-Marks-10 questions of 2 Marks each from law subjects like jurisprudence and constitution.
 - c. **NO Negative marking in MCQs**
2. 50 marks for two (2) Long Subjective questions of 25 marks each –
 - a. **For Ph.D. in Law**-2 questions on law subjects like jurisprudence and constitution.
 - b. **For Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary with Law** – 1 question on above mentioned law subjects and 1 question on management/Social Science/Humanities subject

Total Marks- 100 Marks

Time- 2 hours

NOTE: The method of conducting the Admission Test for NRI/NRIs/PIO/OCI candidates will be notified separately later.

Research Synopsis and Presentation:

The presentation of the Research Synopsis of the candidate must contain the following elements;

1. Statement of Problem
2. Relevance of Research
3. Literature Survey
4. Research Questions
5. Research Hypothesis
6. Research Methodology
7. Tentative Chapterization

The final selection of the candidates for the Ph.D. degree programme shall be made on the basis of the evaluation of the Research synopsis and the oral presentation.

NOTE:

1. *A candidate who has passed NET/JRF exam conducted by the UGC or has a Ph.D. or M. Phil degree or in any discipline mentioned need not appear for the Ph.D. Admission Test of 100 marks. Such candidate may directly submit a Research Synopsis for presentation.*
2. *Persons working at senior level such as a Judge in High Court / Supreme Court, a senior Advocate designated by the Supreme Court of India or any of the High Courts of India and Judicial Officers of the rank of Additional District Judge and above ranks at the District Judiciary level (with LL.M. degree) or industry working professionals other than in the field of law (only in case of interdisciplinary Ph.D.) with more than 15 (fifteen) years of work experience in India or abroad, may also be exempted from appear for the NLUO-Ph.D. admission test of 100 marks. Such candidate may directly submit a Research Synopsis for presentation. And such category of persons may also confirm to all other requirements of admission to the Ph.D. program as would be applicable in case of a candidate who has passed NET/JRF exam conducted by the UGC or has a Ph.D. (Refer to detailed NLU Odisha's Ph.D. Regulations 2021, available on the website).*

ADMISSION PROCEDURE:

1. Eligible candidates may apply in the Full Time/Part Time category by using the admission portal in the University website after payment of the prescribed application fees.
2. Submitted application forms will be screened, and candidates found eligible will be intimated for appearing in Entrance Examination.
3. Along with the application the candidate shall submit (a) Synopsis with an outline of the scheme of research intended for the thesis and chapter wise synopsis of the proposed work in not more than 2000 words; (b) A certificate from the institution concerned testifying leave from service for 28 months, wherever required; (c) a self-attested photocopy of LL.M., M.Phil., M.A., M.Sc., M.Com., M.B.A. / equivalent Degrees whichever is applicable, along with mark sheet.
4. Upon qualifying in the Entrance Examination, successful candidates and NET/JRF/M.Phil. Candidates will be called for the Research Synopsis Presentation.
5. If the Doctoral Committee finds a candidate suitable after presentation for pursuing Ph.D. Degree Programme, the candidate shall be allowed to take admission and register for the Ph.D. program on payment of prescribed fee.
6. NLUO Ph.D. course work and Ph.D. thesis shall be in English language only.

The admission test will be conducted in the following twelve (12) test centres-

1. Bangalore
2. Delhi
3. Hyderabad
4. Gandhinagar
5. Bhopal
6. Cuttack
7. Lucknow
8. Guwahati
9. Tricherapalli
10. Kolkata
11. Raipur
12. Jodhpur

NOTE: The University reserves the right to cancel a center and shift the candidates to the centers of their next preference.

APPLICATION FEES

The candidates seeking admission to the Ph.D. programme in NLUO shall fill the online form available on the university website and pay the following fees:

For Candidates appearing in admission test

- a) INR 6,000/- (For Non-NET/JRF/M.Phil. General Candidates)
- b) INR 5,000/- (For Non-NET/JRF/M.Phil. SC/ST/PWD/SEBC candidates).
- c) INR 7,000/- (For NRI/NRIs/ OCI/PIO/FN candidates)

For NET/JRF Candidates-

- d) INR 2,800/- (For NET/JRF/M.Phil. General Candidates)
- e) INR 2,300/- (For NET/JRF/M.Phil. SC/ST/PWD/SEBC candidates).

Instructions for Applicants

Applicants are required to submit the following:

1. Completed application form
2. Three copies of the proposed research synopsis (not more than 2000 words) of any issue with the broad frame work of Law & related subjects.
3. Receipt of payment made online through NLUO payment Gateway.
4. Attested photocopies of eligibility qualification certificates and mark sheets;
5. Certificate from the Institution concerned testifying the grant of leave from the employer (if required);
6. A passport size photograph.
7. NET/JRF/M.Phil. certificates (if applicable)

A copy of the duly filled Application form downloaded from the admission portal along with the enclosures listed above is to be sent via registered post/courier or delivered by hand at the

following address. The envelope must be Superscripted with “Ph.D. (Law)/ Ph.D. (Interdisciplinary) with Law) Application Form” and the Name & Address of the sender must be mentioned legibly on the envelope.

Admission Cell, NLUO
Kathajodi Campus,
Sector 13 CDA,
Cuttack-753015 Odisha

LAST DATE TO APPLY

All candidates seeking admission to Ph.D.at NLUO, are required to fill the Online Application Form on the admission portal (<https://admissions.nluo.ac.in/>) available in the university website.

NOTE: National Law University Odisha’s Regulations governing the Award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) 2021 are available on the university website. The candidates interested in seeking admission to the Ph.D. programme in NLU Odisha are advised to read the regulations carefully before applying.

No direct application will be entertained from NET/JRF candidates without applying through the admission portal by the prescribed date.

IMPORTANT DATES

<i>Ph.D. Admission Notification</i>	<i>14th March 2026</i>
<i>Date of commencement for Online Application</i>	<i>14th March 2026</i>
<i>Last Date for Receiving Online ApplicationForms</i>	<i>20th April, 2026</i>
<i>Last Date for Receiving hard copy ApplicationForms</i>	<i>28th April. 2026</i>
<i>Entrance Examination (Ph.D. Admission test)</i>	<i>10th May, 2026</i>
<i>Declaration of Result of Ph.D. Admission test</i>	<i>23rd May, 2026</i>
<i>Presentation of Research Proposals</i>	<i>6th and 7th July, 2026</i>
<i>Declaration of Candidates Selected for NLUOPh.D. Programme</i>	<i>10th July, 2026</i>
<i>Last Date to Take Admission to the Ph.D. programme by paying applicable fees</i>	<i>20th July, 2026</i>

NOTE: Applicants are requested to visit University website regularly for any update on the admission process.

Sd/-
Registrar