



**DELHI TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY**  
(Formerly Delhi College of Engineering)  
Shahbad Daulatpur, Main Bawana Road, Delhi-42  
**Academic PG**

F. No. DTU/ECE/2024-25/149/5185-90

Dated: 17/06/2025

**NOTIFICATION**

The Board of Management, DTU in its 55<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 27.05.2025 vide Agenda Item no. 55.05, has approved the guidelines regarding the Posthumous Award of Ph.d Degree in DTU. The guidelines are as under:

**Policy on posthumous award of a Ph.D. degree**

A posthumous award of a Ph.D. degree refers to the conferral of an academic doctorate to an individual who has passed away before the degree could be officially granted. Posthumous Ph.D. awards are a way for universities to acknowledge the intellectual contributions and scholarly achievements of individuals who have passed away.

**Guidelines on Posthumous Award of Ph.D. Degree**

The guidelines ensure that the candidate's work is fairly evaluated and recognized if they were close to completing their Ph.D. program at the time of death for the posthumous award of the Ph.D.

**1. Eligibility for Posthumous Award:**

- The candidate must have enrolled in a Ph.D. program and was making significant progress towards completing the degree as per the six-month progress reports submitted by the student.
- The candidate must have completed the minimum criteria for the submission of Ph.D. thesis as per the DTU Ph.D. ordinance at the time of death.
- The candidate's death must not be due to any academic misconduct or unethical practices.

**2. Application for Posthumous Award:**

- A request for the posthumous award of the Ph.D. must be made by the **supervisor(s)** and recommended by the Departmental Research Committee.
- The supervisor must provide the evidence that the candidate has fulfilled the minimum criteria for the submission of Ph.D. thesis as per the DTU Ph.D. ordinance at the time of death. And would have likely completed the degree had the candidate not passed away.

**3. Evaluation of Research Work:**

Recommendations for the posthumous award of a research degree can be made under following conditions:

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(a) The student has submitted the thesis for examination, but a viva has not been held.

- (i) DRC will recommend the two external examiners outside the university to assess the candidate's work and confirm that it meets the academic standards required for the award of a Ph.D. degree.
- (ii) Prior information will be given to the external examiners regarding the posthumous award and there will not be subsequent revision and oral examination.

(b) The student has not submitted the thesis for examination.

- (i) In such cases, there must be available evidence of the research work. This evidence should include progress reports from the supervisor on the student's work, and written material produced by the student in the form of draft chapters/published work.
- (iii) The work produced by the student shall be of sufficient standard to indicate that the thesis conditions specified in the Ph.D. ordinance would have been met by the student. The progress reports produced by the supervisor during the student's period of study shall also demonstrate that the student would have been able to meet the thesis conditions.
- (iv) In addition to the written evidence described above, a report supporting the recommendation of award shall be provided by the supervisor.
- (v) The supervisor may be required to submit the thesis on behalf of the student.

OR

The supervisor may be required to provide supplementary or explanatory material to facilitate the Examiners' understanding of the student's research contribution.

- (vi) The supervisor shall also provide a statement indicating the work which they have undertaken on the student's behalf.
- (vii) DRC will recommend the two external examiners to assess the candidate's work and confirm that it meets the academic standards required for the award of a Ph.D. degree.
- (viii) Prior information will be given to the external examiners regarding the posthumous award and there will not be subsequent revision and oral examination

#### 4. Viva Voce:

- Typically, a viva voce (oral defense) is a mandatory requirement for the award of a Ph.D. degree. However, in the case of a posthumous award, there shall be no oral defence of the thesis.

#### 5. Final Decision:

- After the evaluation of the candidate's research work and the approval of external examiners, the university will take the final decision regarding the posthumous award.
- The university's Academic Council or equivalent governing body must approve the posthumous award of the Ph.D. degree.

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- Once approved, the degree is formally awarded and the degree certificate is issued in the candidate's name.

#### 6. Issuance of Degree:

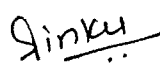
- The Ph.D. degree is awarded posthumously to the deceased candidate's family (usually a parent, spouse, or child), following the university's protocol.
- The certificate will typically indicate that it is a posthumous award to acknowledge the candidate's passing before the formal completion of the degree.

#### 7. Honorary Nature:

- The posthumous Ph.D. award is seen as an honorary recognition of the deceased candidate's academic contributions and research potential.
- It is awarded based on the candidate's significant progress in the program and the likelihood that he/she would have completed the Ph.D. degree if he/she had lived.

#### 8. Conclusion:

The process involves careful evaluation of the candidate's research progress and contributions, with a focus on fairness and academic rigor. The guidelines ensure that the posthumous degree reflects the candidate's achievements while also respecting the academic standards of the Ph.D. program

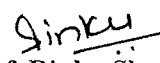
  
(Prof. Rinku Sharma)  
Dean (Academic-PG)

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1. P.A. to the VC for kind information of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, DTU.
2. P.A. to the Registrar for kind information of the Registrar, DTU.
3. All Deans/HoDs/Branch Incharge(s), DTU.
4. COE, DTU.
5. Head, Computer Centre with the request to upload the same on University website.
6. Guard File.

  
(Prof. Rinku Sharma)  
Dean (Academic-PG)