

Guidelines for Students' Entitlement

These guidelines have been issued by the University Grants Commission (UGC) in order to help students, teachers, administrators and institutions understand what the minimum entitlements of the students are. These guidelines apply to all the colleges and universities in the country (this expression includes every institutions of higher education even if it is not called college/university) without any exception. It shall be mandatory for every college/university to publish the present Guidelines in full in its Prospectus and also post it on the homepage of its website.

Fulfillment of these entitlements imposes obligations on educational institutions, administrators, policy makers, teachers and students themselves. If these obligations are not met, a student can approach the Grievance Redressal Authority or the Ombudsman. Any serious or persistent violation of these Guidelines can be brought to the notice of the University Grants Commission and can be the basis of punitive action against the offender.

Some of the provisions stated here are already covered by existing laws or Rules and Regulations of the UGC. But the students shall continue to enjoy all the right under existing laws, rules and regulations which may not have been mentioned in these Guidelines.

1. Admission

- 1.1. An announcement or advertisement for any course of study must clearly specify whether the degree granted is notified by the UGC and other relevant statutory authorities [Under Section 22 c of the UGC Act, latest list available at the UGC website] and whether the university that awards the degree figures in the list of universities maintained by the UGC [available at the UGC website].
- 1.2. A student seeking admission is entitled to a document (usually called 'Prospectus') that specifies the curricula including syllabi, names and academic profile and status of the faculty, mode and frequency of evaluation, duration of the course, academic calendar, comprehensive information about fees or charges of any kind, and refund rules. The information given in the prospectus should not be changed to the disadvantage of the student during the course of study; any change if necessary must be communicated to each student individually spelling out reasons for such a change.
- 1.3. The Prospectus must spell out exactly the process and criteria for admissions. This includes weightage given to previous academic performance, entrance examination and interview. The syllabi and format of the entrance examination must be spelt out. The final scores of each candidate who appeared for entrance examination including all the components and the entire waiting list must be made public.
- 1.4. Information about any reservations or quota for any category, the eligibility criteria for these reservations/quotas, certificate required for seeking admission under these must be stated clearly in the Prospectus.

1.5. The student must not be asked to produce documents which have not been mentioned in the Prospectus. While the institution can ask the student to produce the original documents (such as School Leaving Certificate, Marksheet, Caste certificate) for verification, they cannot retain any original documents of any students. [As notified by UGC on 23rd April 2007, F. No. 1-3/2007 (CPP II)]