UGC Guidelines – Establishment of Rajiv Gandhi Chairs in Universities

Norms and procedures for the operation of Rajiv Gandhi Chairs in contemporary studies in Universities.

1. Designation of the Chair Professor : Rajiv Gandhi Professor
2. Appointment of the Rajiv Gandhi Professor
   (i) Qualification/ Experience: An academic of outstanding track record who has made scholarship in the designated areas of studies
   (ii) Age: 50-65 years
   (iii) Scale of pay: Rs. 18400-22400
   (iv) Period of Appointment: 5 years
   (v) Mode of appointment: Through Search Committee or by invitation on the recommendation of the Search Committee (to be decided by the University). (A 3-Members Search Committee constituted by the Vice-Chancellor with one nominee of the Chairman, UGC)
3. Areas of Studies of the Chair

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<td>Allahabad</td>
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Bombay
1. Impact of Panchayati Raj Systems and Local Governance
2. Impact of Technology on Society
3. Secularism & Nation Building

Calcutta
1. Eco Systems and Sustainable Development

Cochin
1. Eco Systems and Sustainable Development

4. Organizational Set up

• 1 Professor in the grade of Professor in National Institutes
• 1 Post-doctoral Research Associate (UGC norms)
• 3 Junior Research Fellowships with provisions for up-gradation to SRF as per UGC norms
• 2 Technical Assistant level positions/support for field works

5. Academic Functions

• To coordinate and to provide a think tank in the area of studies drawing expertise and inputs from academic experts from other sectors like Government and other National/International NGO’s
• To provide a forum for inter-university/inter-collegiate PG and research level dialogues, discussion meetings, summer/winter institutes, involving other universities/autonomous institutions/PG centres.
• To design and execute capacity-building programmes for teachers in Higher Education focused towards the designated discipline of the Chair.
• To strengthen the role of Universities/ Academics in Public Policy making
• To conduct short-term courses in the concerned disciplines
• Publications of proceedings
• There will not be any full-time regular course leading to under-graduate or post-graduate degree except for the Ph.D programme and related course works.

6. Universities’ Facilitation of the Chairs

• Providing autonomy with definite provisions for the University administration to coordinate the activities ensuring accountability
• Recognition as a research centre for Ph.D
• Making the Centre/Chair eligible for availing grant for National/International Govt./Non-Govt. agencies
• Providing opportunities for the Chair to give courses in other departments suiting their discipline and suiting the requirements of the University.
• University can consider granting autonomy to this department as envisaged for SAP and also as envisaged in the CABE Committee report on Autonomy
• A University level advisory body for the Chair involving experts from other sectors as well.
7. UGC’s Role

- Funding as a nodal agency or implementation of the M/HRD initiative
- Guidelines for funding and academic coordination
- Periodic review of the scheme
- National Coordination of the Chairs with the help of a National Advisory Committee

8. Funding

- 100% funding for the positions of Professor, Post-doctoral Research Associate and 3 Junior Research Fellow for 5 years as per UGC norms
- Consolidated assistance toward employing two technical assistant level positions/support for fieldwork
- Library Grant Rs. 1.00 lakh p.a.
- Contingencies and office expenses: Rs. 1.00 lakh p.a.
- Conduct of Seminar/Conference/Workshops as per UGC norms
- Travel: Rs. 50,000/- p.a.
- In addition, the Chair is eligible for all the academic schemes of the UGC.