



Assigning Research Fellows (RFs) to Professor & Associate Professors

Kathmandu University
Dhulikhel, Kavre,
Nepal

➤ **Background**

Kathmandu University (KU) recognizes "Research" as a strategy that leads to capacity building of its faculty members, researchers, and strengthens the central research administration in making KU capable of attracting research funding through competitive proposals. In order to achieve this goal, there should be sustainable mechanism to have a pool of faculties who are focused on research with fair responsibility of teaching. In our present system, the research staffs/faculties and research scholar in the positions like Research Assistant /Research Associate/Research Fellows are funded entirely through projects and these human resources are available in the university only so long as the projects run. Therefore, in order to maintain an optimum number of these human resources even in the absence of funded projects, a new policy to fund them internally by associating them to Professors and Associate Professors in different Department/Schools has been developed.

This provision will boost the research activities even in those Departments which are less likely to obtain externally funded projects due to the nature of the subject.

In order to avoid the financial liability to the University for the recruitment of these positions, the research scholars can be enrolled as MS by research/M.Phil/ Ph.D. students and their fees waived for the service they provide to the Department in the capacity of Research Fellow under the Professors and Associate Professors.

This scheme will not only maintain a threshold number of research fellows in the Department but also strengthen the post-graduate programs in Departments and Schools.

Considering the above aspects, the Executive Council of the University (EC meeting 2078/02/28) has recently decided to assign one RF to Professors and Associate Professors. The fellow must be among Master by research /M. Phil/ Ph.D. student and assigned under fee waiver scheme.

➤ **Research Fellow**

The "Research Fellow" is a person registered for Academic Research and obtaining fellowship from the Department/School. There may be several grades of Research Fellowship depending on the level to which the candidate is registered.

Foreign students enrolled in the above mentioned program can also have an opportunity to work as RF and get the benefit of fee waiver. Those Professors and Associate Professors who could recruit foreign students as their RF can request the university to allocate additional funding to offer free local accommodation for RFs at KU Guest House or at International Hostel.

➤ **Main Objective**

Maintain threshold number of research fellows in the Departments/Schools irrespective of the availability of project funds.

➤ **Expected Outcomes**

- Creation of a sustainable research environment.
- Improvement in the strength of postgraduate programs.
- Research grant applications, academic degree, publications, service to university, increment and sustainability of Research activities

➤ **Modality of implementation**

Program: Researcher to Prof/Assoc Prof

Number: One researcher at a time

Condition: Master by Research/MPhil/PhD student

Additional Responsibility: 10 hours/week service to Dept/School/University related activities under supervision of the Supervisor.

Support: Fee waiver for Master by Research/M.Phil./PhD student

Selection/Appointment: Selection by Supervisor and approval by Dean under the recommendation of HOD

Monitoring agency: Directorate of Research, Development and Innovation



➤ **Contact:**

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