

REGIONAL CENTRE FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY

Admission to MS-PhD Programme in Biotechnology 2026

THE PROGRAMME

Research-based learning is the hallmark of RCB academic programme. The MS-PhD Programme is offered to students with graduate degree in any discipline of Science, Engineering or Medicine. The programme in its first year (1st and 2nd semester) provides extensive learning opportunities in the broad field of life sciences and biotechnology through rigorous classroom teaching and hands-on laboratory experiments. In the second year, the student is mostly required to work in a research laboratory under the supervision of a research guide in an area of mutual scientific interest, and submits a Master's dissertation at the end of the 4th semester. Based on the performance review of the student, he/she may be permitted to continue in the programme for pursuing the PhD thesis research in the same laboratory. At this stage, the student can also exercise his/her choice to exit the programme with a Master's degree on satisfactory completion of the course and dissertation requirements.

The overall course curriculum provides an inter-disciplinary perspective of modern biotechnology with high emphasis on laboratory training. On completion of the coursework, the student is required to work on his/her Master's dissertation followed by PhD thesis. The MS-PhD Programme is governed by the RCB ordinances and regulations.

ADMISSION

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Indian Students

Students with 60% aggregate marks (or an equivalent grade point average) in Bachelor's degree in any branch of Science, Engineering, or Medicine are eligible to apply for admission. Students from the SC, ST, OBC (non-creamy layer), and PwD categories shall be given a relaxation of 5% aggregate marks. Students in the final year of their qualifying degree programme are also eligible to apply provided that they produce a proof of having secured the required marks in their undergraduate degree programme at the time of admission to the MS-PhD Programme.

Eligible students are required to appear for the Graduate Aptitude Test-Biotechnology (GAT-B). Shortlisted students based on their performance in the GAT-B, shall be invited for an interview and their subsequent selection to the MS-PhD Programme will be based on the performance in the interview. The interview is meant to assess the student for his/her aptitude and interest in a career in scientific research and development.

Up to 20 students, who meet the desired criteria for selection, may be admitted. There shall be reservation of seats as per statutory norms.

Foreign Students

Students with 60% aggregate marks (or an equivalent grade point average) in Bachelor's degree in any branch of Science, Engineering, or Medicine are eligible to apply for admission. Students in the final year of their qualifying degree programme are also eligible provided they produce a proof of having secured the required marks in their undergraduate degree programme at the time of admission to the MS-PhD Programme.

Eligible students are required to apply online for admission and fellowship to the programme. Shortlisted students shall be invited to appear for an online interview through video conferencing for their selection to the MS-PhD Programme. The interview is meant to assess the student for his/her aptitude and interest in scientific research and development.

Up to 5 students, who meet the desired criteria for selection, may be admitted. Admission of foreign students is subject to getting student visa from the Government of India for the duration of the programme and valid medical insurance.

FELLOWSHIPS

The Indian and Foreign students admitted to the programme shall receive the RCB- Ramachandran fellowship of Rs. 16000 per month for the first 2 years of the programme, after which an Indian student is required to qualify for the junior/senior research fellowships offered by CSIR, ICMR, DBT, or such other funding agencies.

The performance of the foreign students, after completion of their MSc component of the programme, shall be evaluated by the Student Advisory Committee, and based on its positive recommendation the student shall be awarded the RCB-DBT International Doctoral Fellowship equivalent to the fellowship offered to an Indian student by other funding agencies as per the relevant DST guidelines. Currently, the amount is Rs. 37,000/- per month for Junior Research Fellowship and Rs. 42,000/- per month for the Senior Research Fellowship.

DURATION OF THE PROGRAMME

The duration of the MS-PhD Programme is 5 years to a maximum of 7 years.

HOSTEL FACILITIES

On campus shared boarding and lodging facilities are available for admitted students on payment of prescribed fee.

FEES

The following fees are payable at the beginning of each semester.

	<u>Semester I-III</u>	<u>Semester IV onwards</u>
Academic Administration Fee	Rs. 5000	Rs. 5000
Tuition Fee	Rs. 6000	-
Laboratory Fee	Rs. 6000	Rs. 6000
Medical Fee	Rs. 3000	Rs. 3000
Student Amenities Fee	Rs. 1000	Rs. 1000
Hostel Fee	Rs. 1200	Rs. 1200

Caution money (Rs. 5000; refundable) is payable at the time of admission. Hostel Security Deposit of Rs. 5000 (if applicable).

PhD thesis examination fee (Rs. 10,000) is payable at the time of PhD thesis submission. Hostel electricity charges are as per the installed meter, and the cooperative mess charges are to be paid as per actual.

The fee may be revised during the course as per the provisions in the RCB Ordinance.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Eligible candidates may [apply online](#) for admission to the MS-PhD Programme of the Regional Centre for Biotechnology. The application fee is Rs. 500. The SC, ST, PwD, EWS, and foreign candidates are exempted from payment of application fee.

The last date of registration for MS-PhD Programme at RCB is 04.05.2026.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR QUERIES

Admission Related Queries:

Phone: +91-129-2848817

Email: rcbadmissions@rcb.res.in

Application Portal Queries:

Email: webmaster@rcb.res.in