



**CMR UNIVERSITY**

Private University Established in Karnataka State by Act No. 45 of 2013

**PROMOTION OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY  
AND  
PREVENTION OF PLAGIARISM REGULATIONS, 2019**

(Applicable to All Schools of Studies, Directorates and Centers  
established under CMR University)

**CMR UNIVERSITY (PROMOTION OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PREVENTION OF PLAGIARISM ) REGULATIONS, 2019**

**Preamble:**

Whereas, assessment of academic and research work done leading to the partial fulfillment for the award of degrees at Masters and Research level, by a student or a faculty or a researcher or a staff, in the form of thesis, dissertation and publication of research papers, chapters in books, full-fledged books and any other similar work, reflects the extent to which elements of academic integrity and originality are observed in various relevant processes adopted by the University. The University shall establish a mechanism as prescribed in these Regulations, to enhance awareness about responsible conduct of research and academic activities, to promote academic integrity and to prevent plagiarism.

Therefore, in conformity with the CMR University Act, 2013 and the UGC (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2019, the University hereby makes the following regulations:-

**1. Short title, application and commencement**

- a) These regulations shall be called the CMR University (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism ) Regulations, 2019.
- b) They shall apply to all the students, faculty, researchers and staff of CMR University.
- c) These regulations shall come into force from the date of their notification on approval by the Board of Management of the University.

**2. Definitions**

In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires,

- a) **Academic Integrity** is the intellectual honesty in proposing, performing and reporting any activity, which leads to the creation of intellectual property;
- b) **Author** includes a student or a faculty or a researcher or staff of the University who claims to be the creator of the work under consideration;
- c) **Common Knowledge** means a well known fact, quote, figure or information that is known to most of the people;
- d) **Degree** means any such degree specified by the University Grants Commission, by notification in the Official Gazette, under section 22 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956;
- e) **Faculty** refers to a person who is teaching and/or guiding students enrolled in the University in any capacity whatsoever i.e. regular, ad-hoc, guest, temporary, visiting etc;
- f) **Information** includes data, message, text, images, sound, voice, codes, computer programs, software and databases or microfilm or computer generated microfiche;
- g) **Notification** means a notification published from the University by an Officer of the University and the expression “notify” with its cognate meanings and grammatical variation shall be construed accordingly;
- h) **Plagiarism** means the practice of taking someone else’s work or idea and passing them as one’s own;
- i) **Programme** means a programme of study leading to the award of a masters and research level degree;
- j) **Research Scholar** refers to a person conducting academic/ scientific research in the University;
- k) **School Academic Integrity Panel** shall mean the body constituted at the School of Studies level to investigate allegations of plagiarism;
- l) **Script** includes research paper, thesis, dissertation, chapters in books, full fledged books and any other similar work, submitted for assessment/ opinion leading to the award of master and research level degrees or publication in print or electronic media by students or faculty or researcher or staff of the University; however, this shall exclude assignments/ term papers/ project reports/ course work/ essays and answer scripts etc.;

- m) **Source** means the published primary and secondary material from any source whatsoever and includes written information and opinions gained directly from other people, including eminent scholars, public figures and practitioners in any form whatsoever as also data and information in the electronic form be it audio, video, image or text; Information being given the same meaning as defined under Section 2 (1) (v) of the Information Technology Act, 2000 and reproduced here in Regulation 2 (f);
- n) **Staff** refers to all non teaching staff working in the University in any capacity whatsoever i.e. regular, temporary, contractual, outsourced etc.;
- o) **Student** means a person duly admitted and pursuing a programme of study including a research programme in any mode of study (full time or part-time or distance mode);
- p) **University** means the CMR University;
- q) **University Academic Integrity Panel** shall mean the body constituted at Institutional level to consider recommendations of the departmental academic integrity panel and take appropriate decisions in respect of allegations of plagiarism and decide on penalties to be imposed. In exceptional cases, it shall investigate allegations of plagiarism at the University level;
- r) **Year** means the academic session in which a proven offence has been committed.

Words and expressions used and not defined in these regulations but defined in the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 and CMR University Act, 2013 shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in UGC Act, 1956 and CMRU Act 2013.

### 3. Objectives

- a) To create awareness about responsible conduct of research, thesis, dissertation, promotion of academic Integrity and prevention of misconduct including plagiarism in academic writing among student, faculty, Research Scholar and staff.
- b) To establish institutional mechanism through education and training to facilitate responsible conduct of research, thesis, dissertation, promotion of academic integrity and deterrence from plagiarism.
- c) To develop systems to detect plagiarism and to set up mechanisms to prevent plagiarism and punish a student, faculty, researcher or staff of the University committing the act of plagiarism.

### 4. Awareness Programs and Trainings

- a) The University shall instruct students, faculty, researcher and staff about proper attribution, seeking permission of the author wherever necessary, acknowledgement of source compatible with the needs and specificities of disciplines and in accordance with rules, international conventions and regulations governing the source.
- b) The University shall conduct sensitization seminars/ awareness programs every semester on responsible conduct of research, thesis, dissertation, promotion of academic integrity and ethics in education for students, faculty, researcher and staff.
- c) The University shall:
  - (i) Include the cardinal principles of academic integrity in the curricula of Undergraduate (UG)/ Postgraduate (PG)/Master's degree etc. as a compulsory course work/module.
  - (ii) Include elements of responsible conduct of research and publication ethics as a compulsory course work/module for Masters and Research Scholars.
  - (iii) Include elements of responsible conduct of research and publication ethics in Orientation and Refresher Courses organized for faculty and staff members of the University.
  - (iv) Train student, faculty, Research Scholar and staff for using plagiarism detection tools and reference management tools.
  - (v) Establish facility equipped with modern technologies for detection of plagiarism.
  - (vi) Encourage student, faculty, researcher and staff to register on international researcher's Registry systems.

### 5. Curbing Plagiarism

- a) The University shall declare and implement the technology based mechanism using appropriate software so as to ensure that documents such as thesis, dissertation, publications or any other such documents are free of plagiarism at the time of their submission.

- b) The mechanism as defined at (a) above shall be made accessible to all engaged in research work including student, faculty, researcher and staff etc.
- c) Every student submitting a thesis, dissertation, or any other such documents to the University shall submit an undertaking indicating that the document has been prepared by him or her and that the document is his/her original work and free of any plagiarism.
- d) The undertaking shall include the fact that the document has been duly checked through a Plagiarism detection tool approved by the University.
- e) The University shall develop a policy on plagiarism and get it approved by its relevant statutory bodies/ authorities. The approved policy shall be placed on the homepage of the University website.
- f) Each supervisor shall submit a certificate indicating that the work done by the Research Scholar under him/her is plagiarism free.
- g) The University shall submit to INFLIBNET soft copies of all Masters, Research programme's dissertations and thesis within a month after the award of degrees for hosting in the digital repository under the "Shodh Ganga e-repository".
- h) The University shall create Institutional Repository on institute website which shall include dissertation/ thesis/ paper/ publication and other in-house publications.

**6. Similarity checks for exclusion from Plagiarism:**

The similarity checks for plagiarism shall exclude the following:

- a) All quoted work reproduced with all necessary permission and/or attribution.
- b) All references, bibliography, table of content, preface and acknowledgements.
- c) All generic terms, laws, standard symbols and standards equations

**Note:** The research work carried out by the Research Scholar shall be based on original ideas, which shall include abstract, summary, hypothesis, observations, results, conclusions and recommendations only and shall not have any similarities. It shall exclude a common knowledge or coincidental terms, up to fourteen (14) consecutive words.

**7. Levels of Plagiarism**

Plagiarism would be quantified as follows in ascending order of severity for the purpose of its definition:

- a) Level 0: Similarities upto 10% - Minor similarities, no penalty
- b) Level 1: Similarities above 10% to 40%
- c) Level 2: Similarities above 40% to 60%
- d) Level 3: Similarities above 60%

**8. Detection/Reporting/Handling of Plagiarism**

If any member of the academic community suspects with appropriate proof that a case of plagiarism has happened in any document, he or she shall report it to the School Academic Integrity Panel (SAIP). Upon receipt of such a complaint or allegation the SAIP shall investigate the matter and submit its recommendations to the University Academic Integrity Panel (UAIP).

The authorities of University can also take suo motu notice of an act of plagiarism and initiate proceedings under these regulations. Similarly, proceedings can also be initiated by the University on the basis of findings of an examiner. All such cases will be investigated by the UAIP.

**9. School Academic Integrity Panel (SAIP)**

- a) All Schools of Studies shall notify a SAIP whose composition shall be as given below:
  - (i) Chairman - Dean of the concerned School of Studies
  - (ii) Member - Senior academician from outside the School of Studies, to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor.
  - (iii) Member - A person well versed with anti plagiarism tools, to be nominated by the concerned Dean.

The tenure of the members in respect of points '(ii)' and '(iii)' shall be two years. The quorum for the meetings shall be 2 out of 3 members (including Chairman).

- b) The SAIP shall follow the principles of natural justice while deciding about the allegation of plagiarism against the student, faculty, researcher and staff.
- c) The SAIP shall have the power to assess the level of plagiarism and recommend penalty (ies) accordingly.
- d) The SAIP after investigation shall submit its report with the recommendation on penalties to be imposed to the UAIP within a period of 45 days from the date of receipt of complaint/ initiation of the proceedings.

**10. University Academic Integrity Panel (UAIP)**

The University shall notify constituting UAIP whose composition shall be as given below:

- a) Chairman - Pro Vice Chancellor or a Dean nominated by the Vice Chancellor
- b) Member - Senior Academician, to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor
- c) Member - One member nominated by the Vice Chancellor from outside the University
- d) Member - A person well versed with anti- plagiarism tools, to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor.

The Chairman of SAIP and UAIP shall not be the same. The tenure of the Committee members including Chairman shall be three years. The quorum for the meetings shall be 3 out of 4 members (including Chairman).

- (i) The UAIP shall consider the recommendations of SAIP.
- (ii) The UAIP shall also investigate cases of plagiarism as per the provisions mentioned in these regulations.
- (iii) The UAIP shall follow the principles of natural justice while deciding about the allegation of plagiarism against the Research Scholar of the University.
- (iv) The UAIP shall have the power to review the recommendations of SAIP including penalties with due justification.
- (v) The UAIP shall send the report to the Vice Chancellor after investigation and the recommendation on penalties to be imposed within a period of 45 days from the date of receipt of recommendation of SAIP/ complaint/ initiation of the proceedings.
- (vi) The UAIP shall provide a copy of the report to the person(s) against whom inquiry report is submitted.

**11. Penalties**

Penalties in the cases of plagiarism shall be imposed on students pursuing studies at the level of Masters and Research programs and on researcher, faculty & staff of the HEI only after academic misconduct on the part of the individual has been established without doubt, when all avenues of appeal have been exhausted and individual in question has been provided enough opportunity to defend himself or herself in a fair or transparent manner.

**11.1 Penalties in case of plagiarism in submission of thesis and dissertations**

University Academic Integrity Panel shall impose penalty considering the severity of the Plagiarism.

- a) Level 0: Similarities upto 10% - Minor Similarities, no penalty.
- b) Level 1: Similarities above 10% to 40% - Such student shall be asked to submit a revised script with in a stipulated time period not exceeding 6 months.
- c) Level 2: Similarities above 40% to 60% - Such student shall be debarred from submitting a revised script for a period of one year.
- d) Level 3: Similarities above 60% Such student registration for that programme shall be cancelled.

**Note 1:** Penalty on repeated plagiarism- Such student shall be punished for the plagiarism of one level higher than the previous level committed by him/her. In case where plagiarism of highest level is committed then the punishment for the same shall be operative.

**Note 2:** Penalty in case where the degree/credit has already been obtained - If plagiarism is proved on a date later than the date of award of degree or credit as the case may be then his/her degree or credit shall be put in abeyance for a period recommended by the UAIP and approved by the Vice Chancellor.

**11.2 Penalties in case of plagiarism in academic and research publications**

- a) Level 0: Similarities up to 10% - Minor similarities, no penalty.
- b) Level 1: Similarities above 10% to 40% - Shall be asked to withdraw manuscript.

- c) Level 2: Similarities above 40% to 60%
  - (i) Shall be asked to withdraw manuscript.
  - (ii) Shall be denied a right to one annual increment.
  - (iii) Shall not be allowed to be a supervisor to any new Master's, M.Phil., Ph.D. Student/ scholar for a period of two years.
- d) Level 3: Similarities above 60%
  - (i) Shall be asked to withdraw manuscript.
  - (ii) Shall be denied a right to two successive annual increments.
  - (iii) Shall not be allowed to be a supervisor to any new Master's, M.Phil., Ph.D. Student/ scholar for a period of three years.

**Note 1: Penalty on repeated plagiarism** - Shall be asked to withdraw manuscript and shall be punished for the plagiarism of one level higher than the lower level committed by him/her. In case where plagiarism of highest level is committed then the punishment for the same shall be operative. In case level 3 offence is repeated then the disciplinary action including suspension/ termination as per service rules shall be taken by the University.

**Note 2: Penalty in case where the benefit or credit has already been obtained** - If plagiarism is proved on a date later than the date of benefit or credit obtained as the case may be then his/her benefit or credit shall be put in abeyance for a period recommended by UAIP and approved by the Vice Chancellor.

**Note 3:** The University shall create a mechanism so as to ensure that each of the paper publication/ thesis/ dissertation by the student, faculty, researcher or staff of the University is checked for plagiarism at the time of forwarding/ submission.

**Note 4:** If there is any complaint of plagiarism against the Vice Chancellor, a suitable action, in line with these regulations, shall be taken by the Chancellor.

**Note 5:** If there is any complaint of plagiarism against the Dean/ Authorities at the University level, a suitable action, in line with these regulations, shall be recommended by the UAIP and approved by the Vice Chancellor.

**Note 6:** If there is any complaint of plagiarism against any member of SAIP or UAIP, then such member shall excuse himself/ herself from the meeting(s) where his/her case is being discussed/ investigated.

## **12. Removal of Difficulty**

The University reserves the right to remove difficulty/s in the course of implementations of these Regulations in consultation with the University Grants Commission/ Ministry of Human Resource Development.

**&&&&&**