



# UGC Norms for Dual & Joint Degrees

## Why in News?

Recently, the [University Grants Commission](#) has released **Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign Higher Education Institutions to offer Joint Degree, Dual Degree, and Twinning Programmes Regulations, 2022**.

- Under these regulations collaborating institutes will be allowed to offer three kinds of programmes — **twinning, joint degrees and dual degrees**.

## What are the Key Points of the New Regulations?

- **Dual Degree Programmes:** The approved amendments include a provision for “**dual degree programmes**” — both the Indian and foreign institutions will give separate and simultaneous degrees for a course of the same discipline, and at the same level.
- **Easing Regulation:** Indian universities that meet a **minimum academic standard** will not need UGC’s permission to offer such programmes.
- **Joint Degrees:** Students enrolling for these programmes will have to go **abroad to earn credits**, but they will not have to seek admission separately while doing so.
  - In the draft amendments, foreign partner institutions were required to be among the **world’s top 1,000 in global rankings**.
- **Dual Degrees:** For dual degrees, students will have to **complete at least 30%** of their course credit at the foreign institution.
  - The degrees awarded by both the **Indian and foreign institutions** will indicate the credits earned at the respective institutions.
  - At the end of the course, the student will be **awarded two degrees**, separately and simultaneously, by the Indian and foreign institution.
- **Twinning Arrangement:** A student can study a programme partly in India and partly in a foreign university, but the diploma or degree will be awarded just by the Indian university.
  - Students will have to **complete up to 30% of the course’s credits** at the foreign institution by means of an exchange programme.
- **Exception:** The new regulations are not applicable to programmes offered online and in the open and distance learning mode.
- **Significance:** The new regulation will prompt the Indian students to get a foreign degree and enhance their employability in international market.

## What is University Grants Commission?

- It came into existence on **28<sup>th</sup> December, 1953** and became a **statutory body by an Act of Parliament in 1956**, for the coordination, determination and maintenance of standards of **teaching, examination and research in university education**.
- The head office of the **UGC is located in New Delhi**.

**Source: IE**

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