

DETAILED ACTION PLAN ON FYUGP



KERALA STATE HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL
August | 2026

THE KERALA STATE HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL

Detailed Action Plan on FYUGP

Documentation Division
August 2026



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FYUGP**



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FOREWORD

The new team heading the Kerala State Higher Education Council has now completed the first round of interactions with Vice-Chancellors, Syndicate Members, University-level FYUGP Coordinators and College-level FYUGP Coordinators. These interactions have been extremely useful in understanding both the achievements and the difficulties associated with the implementation of FYUGP. More importantly, they have helped establish an organic and collaborative connect with the key academic functionaries who will together take forward the next phase of reforms.

This document is a detailed Action Plan intended to facilitate the next phase of FYUGP implementation. It is an integrated roadmap for ensuring a smooth transition to the fourth year of FYUGP, while simultaneously preparing for the introduction of appropriate two-year and one-year postgraduate programmes.

The Action Plan addresses a wide range of immediate and medium-term concerns.

This document is being released with the objective of bringing all stakeholders onto the same page with regard to the FYUGP activities planned for the coming months. I hope that all stakeholders will carefully note the items requiring action and attention on their part and take necessary follow-up action diligently and in a timely manner.

Prof. Achuthsankar

Vice Chairperson

Kerala State Higher Education Council

Thiruvananthapuram

1st August 2026

KERALA STATE HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL

COMMUNICATION TO ALL UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES ON DETAILED ACTION PLAN ON FYUGP

31 August 2026

LIST ORDERED BY DEADLINES

No	Item	By Whom	By When	Remarks
1	Taking Feedback from Stakeholders	KSHEC	Ongoing	"KSHEC Listens", an initiative through social media and also offline means, is ongoing. Online meeting with all FYUGP coordinators has been completed. The FYUGP review committee is also visiting selected colleges in each district to study issues.
2	Communicating FYUGP Review Committee's Interim Report	KSHEC	15 Sept 26	Subject to Reconstitution of KSHEC EB. Some points are included in this list.
3	(Re)Training of Master Trainers on FYUGP/OBE	KSHEC	30 Sept 2026	Already scheduled in Outbound Mode on 16-17 Sept 2026, at Ahalya Campus, Palakkad
4	Anonymous Survey among FYUGP 3rd Year Students (i) on their plans to continue to 4 th year (ii) on their plans to join a 2-year PG (iii) if they are proceeding on an N-1 option	Colleges	Immediate	Survey results may be communicated to Universities. A Google Form designed for the proposed survey will be circulated to all Universities and colleges by 5 September 2026. It is suggested that the survey be conducted among all FYUGP third-year students on 9 September 2026, during the third hour. If 9 September 2026 falls on a holiday, the survey may be conducted on the next working day, during the third hour.

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KERALA STATE HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL

No	Item	By Whom	By When	Remarks
5	Issuing UO on Implementation Framework for 4th Year. The following is the KSHEC document on Framework for 4th year:  https://kshec.kerala.gov.in/images/report/REPORTS%202026/Guidelines%20for%20Fourth%20year%20FYUGP.pdf	Universities	Immediate	UoK has already Issued a speaking order: https://kshec.kerala.gov.in/images/report/Fourth%20Year%20UoK%20Order.pdf 
6	Directing BoS to design 4th Year Syllabus	Universities	Immediate	UO mentioned above is a pre-requisite
7	Submit to University and KSHEC a programme-wise list of internship institutions where students of previous year did internship.	College level FYUGP Coordinator s	Immediate	This is to enable analysis of situation of last year.
8	Submit to KSHEC, list of "Signature Courses" if any, planned/designed or offered so far	University level FYUGP Coordinator s	As soon as a possible	This is to enable a stock-taking of the feature and take steps to promote the same further.
9	Submit to KSHEC, all University Exam Question papers for Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 of FYUGP, held in 2025-2026	Controller of Exams of Universities	Immediate	This is to enable analysis of assessment practices by an expert committee to be constituted by KSHEC. It would be appreciated if it can be on pen-drive/CD and couriered.

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No	Item	By Whom	By When	Remarks
10	Submit to KSHEC, all Continuous assessment Question papers (test/assignments/fieldwork etc) for Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 of FYUGP, held in 2025-2026	FYUGP Coordinator s of Colleges	As soon as possible	This is to enable analysis of assessment practices by an expert committee to be constituted by KSHEC. It would be appreciated if it can be sent as Hard copy, or on pen-drive/CD. Please ensure that each QP is labeled with course and programme name and also college name.
11	Submit UOs on all equivalences and recognitions of degrees issued in last 3 years	Registrars of Universities	As soon as possible	This is to place before an expert committee on Recognition and equivalence to be constituted by KSHEC.
12	Issuing Framework for One-year & Two-Year PG Curriculum:	KSHEC	Immediate	Detailed Report already Published by KSHEC. https://kshec.kerala.gov.in/images/pdf/PG%20Framework.pdf 
13	Establishing “FYUGP Facilitation and Resolution Committee (FFRC): Amend the FYUGP Regulations to establish an FYUGP Facilitation and Resolution Committee, with powers to resolve problems, remove difficulties and address contingencies arising from the complexity and scale of the transformation involved in implementing FYUGP.	Universities	Immediate	The Committee may, by a speaking decisions, suggest steps, marginal exemptions in credit requirements without violating UGC norms, permitting self-minor in justifiable cases, special arrangements for differently abled students for internship/project etc, interim arrangements to resolve matters of a special nature. Such decisions may be implemented with the approval of the VC and shall be reported to the next meeting of the Academic Council.

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KERALA STATE HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL

No	Item	By Whom	By When	Remarks
14	Addressing ALL college teachers online on FYUGP reform continuation plans	KSHEC	Immediate	Zone-wise
15	Status Report of Academic Bank of Credits (ABC/NAD) of students in 3 rd year of FYUGP	FYUGP College Coordinators	Immediate	
16	Uploading of syllabus of all 3-year FYUGP programmes in a standard format along with a standard summary sheet in a common portal to be set up by KSHEC	KSHEC/ University	To be announced	This is to enable recognition and equivalence.
17	Providing copies of all UOs in the last 5 years giving recognition and equivalence to various degrees	Universities	1 Oct 2026	This is to enable analysis and policy formulation.
18	Expression of Interest for Offering Online MOOCs (using K-Learn facility in K-REAP) useful for 4th Year FYUGP: Invite expressions of interest from teachers of universities and colleges who are willing to offer online courses through K-Learn, and initiate the process for identifying and onboarding interested faculty.	KSHEC	15 Sept 2026	Invitation already issued on 20.2.2026 by KSHEC. https://kshec.kerala.gov.in/images/Notifications/Notification%20Inviting%20Expression%20of%20Interest%20k%20learn.pdf  Will be reissued. KSHEC is also requesting SNOU if they can assist in realizing online courses on demand.

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No	Item	By Whom	By When	Remarks
19	Training on Internship , internship credit split, special provisions for students with disabilities, and the selection of appropriate internship institutions, for FYUGP Coordinators	Universities	15 Oct 2026	Internship Portal of MG University may be adopted. KSHEC shall issue a common advisory. KSHEC will consider releasing videos. A detailed Guidelines on Internship is available on KSHEC website. https://www.kshec.kerala.gov.in/images/report/REPORT%202026/INTERNSHIP%20Guidelines.pdf 
20	4th Year Infrastructure and Human Resource Requirements: Prepare a document of minimal requirements, to be submitted to the Government/Management, with a copy to KSHEC.	College Principals	1 Oct 2026	KSHEC will be addressing the Govt about the need to plan for financial resources for this.
21	Mapping of B.Ed. Colleges for ITEP: Compile a comprehensive list of B.Ed. colleges for initiating discussions on ITEP	Universities	1 Oct 2026	Data needed: Name of the B.Ed. college, the nearest Arts and Science college(s), the type of management of each institution, and the distance between the institutions.
22	University-Level Discussions on ITEP: Conduct the first level of discussions on ITEP at the university level and communicate to KSHEC a report outlining the possibilities, institutional arrangements, challenges and concerns.	Universities	1 Oct 2026	

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23	Computation of Existing UG to PG Seat Ratio, discipline wise and also overall.	Universities	1 Oct 2026	This will enable determination of the 1-year and 2-year PG seats comparable with existing opportunities. 2022 admission data is as follows <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">Student Distribution in UG and PG programmes in Arts & Science Colleges in Kerala (2022 Admissions) In rounded figures</th></tr> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th><th colspan="2">UG</th><th colspan="2">PG</th></tr> <tr> <th>Seats</th><th>Students</th><th>Seats</th><th>Students</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Govt</td><td>18000</td><td>(83%) 15000</td><td>4500</td><td>(77%) 3500</td></tr> <tr> <td>Aided</td><td>57000</td><td>(73%) 42000</td><td>10500</td><td>(72%) 7600</td></tr> <tr> <td>Self Fin</td><td>150000</td><td>(50%) 76000</td><td>20700</td><td>(42%) 8700</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total</td><td>225000</td><td>(60%) 133000</td><td>35700</td><td>(55%) 19600</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="5">Ratio of PG to UG Students: 16%</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Student Distribution in UG and PG programmes in Arts & Science Colleges in Kerala (2022 Admissions) In rounded figures						UG		PG		Seats	Students	Seats	Students	Govt	18000	(83%) 15000	4500	(77%) 3500	Aided	57000	(73%) 42000	10500	(72%) 7600	Self Fin	150000	(50%) 76000	20700	(42%) 8700	Total	225000	(60%) 133000	35700	(55%) 19600	Ratio of PG to UG Students: 16%				
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24	Reckoning of Workload for Project Guidance: Finalize the methodology for reckoning workload assigned for project guidance.	Universities	1 Nov 2026	For example, the workload may be calculated as (the number of students multiplied by the prescribed project credits, divided by eight) hours, suggested by teachers of CUSAT.																																							
25	Advance Notification/approval of Online Courses: Notify the recommended online courses for Semester VI, enabling students to make informed choices, early enough. Alternatively, provide a system for recognition of courses proposed by students.	Universities/ BoS	1 Nov 2026	External Course Recognition Portal of MG University for recognition of courses proposed by students seems to be a good model to adopt.																																							

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No	Item	By Whom	By When	Remarks
26	Identification and Notification of Colleges for Honours and Honours with Research: Compile and Notify a list of colleges eligible and prepared to offer Honours and Honours with Research programmes, discipline-wise (ensuring that each discipline has at least two teachers holding Ph.D. qualifications, for Honours with Research)	Universities	1 Nov 2026	The survey among students will give us an early indication of students who may exit (In University of Delhi, it was around 55%). We must have an idea of how this matches the PG seats for 2-year programme. It is suggested that project guides need only have PhD (not necessary to be recognized guides), can guide upto 8 students, and non-permanent teachers can also be project guides. In case of multi-disciplinary projects/ pathways, PhD holders from allied Depts can be guides.
27	Completion of Design of 4th Year Syllabus	Universities	1 Dec 26	
28	Workshop for Third-Year Students: to help third-year students make informed choices regarding their academic/career pathways after the three-year exit option.	Universities & Colleges (FYUGP Coordinators)	1 Dec 2026	KSHEC shall issue an advisory. KSHEC shall also consider issuing videos by influencers.
29	Design of PG Curriculum: Design (i) two-year and (ii) one-year postgraduate curriculum aimed at students exiting FYUGP after three years and four years respectively.	Universities/ Bos	1 Dec 2026	Priority for 2-year design, as it will have to be in place in 2027-28 and 1-year will be needed to be in place by 2028-29. However, the design has to be done simultaneously.
30	State-Level Discussions on ITEP: to recommend implementing ITEP in selected institutions by 2028-29. (Phase 1: Pairing BEd colleges and Arts & Science Colleges which are nearby and also of the same management (like Govt Training College and Govt Arts College in Tvpm). If they are of different managements, an MoU may also be considered. Phase 2: 2029-30: Decide on remaining (isolated) BEd colleges)	KSHEC	1 Dec 2026	When two colleges associate/merge, one possibility is that the training college could transform to a School of Education of the Arts & Science College, with the Principal becoming Director of the school. In case of isolated colleges, a possibility is that they could run 2-year BEd programme (for traditional degree holders and also FYUGP holders) as long as there are takers and

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No	Item	By Whom	By When	Remarks
31	Procedure for Three-Year Exit: Publish a clear procedure for students opting for the three-year exit from FYUGP, including a provision enabling students to cancel or withdraw their exit option within 30 days of exercising the option.	Universities	1 Dec 2026	
32	Policy on Credit Top-up after Programme Completion: Students may, after programme completion, face hurdles on minimum credit requirements specified for higher studies (especially Minor). They may be permitted top up within an year. Those who choose so, may be given provisional certificate till top-up.	Universities/ KSHEC	1 Dec 2026	Students may be permitted to top-up credits through approved online courses or by enrolling for selected courses in any college, paying prescribed fees. A policy needs to be evolved.
33	Certificate Format: Universities may propose draft format (how major, minor etc need to be specified) of 3-year and 4-year UG Certificates to KSHEC. Inclusion of APAR ID and also a Unique ID for the Programme	Universities	1 Dec 2026	KSHEC shall consider all draft formats and suggest a common format.
34	Continuing traditional PG programmes in selected colleges in each district to cater to traditional (Non-FYUGP) degree holders.	Universities	1 Dec 2026	
35	Deciding Eligibility conditions for admission to new PG and traditional BEd programmes.	Universities (through provisions in new regulations)	1 Dec 2026	According to UGC guidelines 11.0: Switching Subjects in Postgraduate Programme: b) Irrespective of the major or minor disciplines taken by a student in a UG programme, a student is eligible for admission in any discipline of PG programmes if the student qualifies the National level or University level entrance examination in the discipline of PG programme. For BEd also we can follow this policy or use an entrance test.

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No	Item	By Whom	By When	Remarks
36	Giving Early Introduction to +2 students on FYUGP: Through (i) leaflets (ii) influencer video (iii) mandatory training for all + 2 students immediately after their exams		1 July 2026	The new act on Anti Ragging is considering providing for a mandatory training to all +2 students, and FYUGP intro can also be made a part of it).
37	Recognition of FYUGP degrees for jobs via PSC		Ongoing	
38	Retraining of (i) BoS Members (ii) All teachers on FYUGP, OBE and PG syllabus design, through trained master trainers.		Sept 2026 Onwards	
39	Improvement of K-REAP: Undertake measures to strengthen and improve K-REAP, including a review of its existing processes, quality parameters and implementation mechanisms, so as to enhance its effectiveness and utility.		Ongoing	
40	Designing Academic Calendar for 2027-2031		Ongoing	

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	Miscellaneous Issues raised when a draft of this note was circulated among syndicate members and FYUGP Coordinators. Respective stakeholders may take up these issues or make proposals to KSHCEC, as the case may be:
41	• Comprehensive FYUGP Syllabus Revisions for 2028-29 admission onwards • Addressing Special issues of BVoc and also professional degrees like BCA (under AICTE) • College Transfer to be limited to 3rd Sem only, to be completed within 2 weeks after the start of the semester. • Skill courses, assessment to be through skill test. • In case of double major, how to split credits between the two majors. • Three online courses permitted in most universities. Other universities may also consider. • The internship hours prescribed for the mandatory two-credit internship may be standardised as 60 hours of on-site engagement and 20 hours of off-site engagement, with each institution determining the same in consultation with the internship provider and according to the nature of the internship. • Skill courses must have practical components (to address in 2028 syllabus revision). Training must be given to teachers. • Providing projects in fifth/sixth semester as an option for those who plan to exit in year 3, in professional disciplines such as computer science or IT or computer application or biotech. • In case of campuses with both aided and self-financing programmes, procedure for a self-financing student for taking elective in aided section (may be permitted with a course fee?). • Study clash of regulations of FYUGP with AICTE, for programs such as BCA. B.Voc also has different credit requirements. • Addressing case of remote areas like Nilambur where online access is not possible (Colleges could think of providing downloaded videos. Online test and assignments may be managed at other venues. • Pass criteria should be specified using credit or marks? • Clarification regarding difference project versus research project (in Year 4). Guidelines to be issued. Projects can be done in external R&D institutions also? How many students can be guided by a guide in the fourth year (8?). • Study Special issues for colleges with four to five departments only (Become a part of a cluster of colleges?)

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	Miscellaneous Issues raised when a draft of this note was circulated among syndicate members and FYUGP Coordinators. Respective stakeholders may take up these issues or make proposals to KSHEC, as the case may be:
	• Identify venues other than colleges for valuation camps, as it disrupts academic calendar. • Re-look at credits specified by Universities which are above the figures in UGC recommendations. • Develop standard operating procedure for transfer of students between colleges within the state and also outside the state. • Can certificate and diploma be given for those who have earned credits for one year and two year and passed the courses, if they have completed the program unsuccessfully? • To ensure that all students in Honours with Research get to present papers in a peer-reviewed conference three zonal research conferences may be organized by KSHEC in association with Universities. • Vacation unification: In SSUS and CUSAT, vacations are split into two (in November and May), whereas other universities have it during May-June. This needs to be unified. • Refixing Teacher Qualifications to include FYUGP. • Refixing SET Exam Eligibility to include FYUGP. • Amending PhD Regulations to include FYUGP. • Possibility of a Unified Software for OBE. • Status of Inter-University Transfer and Major Change. Status of Question bank Preparation.

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APPENDIX

FEEDBACK FROM **PROF. DR. A. BIJU KUMAR**, VICE-CHANCELLOR, KERALA UNIVERSITY OF FISHERIES AND OCEAN STUDIES (KUFOS)

Directing BoS to design 4th Year Syllabus: Require curriculum mapping to prevent repetition of third-year content and to align fourth-year courses with NCrf Level 6 outcomes and subsequent one-year PG entry.

Issuing framework for one-year and two-year PG curricula: The one-year PG must be an advanced 40-credit programme, not a compressed version of the existing two-year PG.

Status report on Academic Bank of Credits (ABC/NAD) records of third-year FYUGP students: Replace a self-reported status note with a verifiable audit of student identity linkage, semester-wise uploads, course codes, NCrf levels, major/minor tagging and correction workflows. At present no serious attempts to put this in practice in Kerala.

Important clarification on ODL and online programmes: The UGC circular dated 28 July 2026 applies specifically to one-year PG programmes offered through ODL and/or online mode. It permits such a program

me only when (i) the institution is already recognised or entitled by UGC to offer the corresponding two-year PG programme in ODL/online mode, (ii) the one-year programme is in the same discipline, (iii) eligible students possess a four-year bachelor's degree with Honours, (iv) statutory bodies approve the programme, and (v) all ODL/online regulations are satisfied.

Therefore, the circular should not be interpreted as blanket approval for every university to launch any new one-year online master's programme. UGC circular on one-year PG through ODL/online mode. Regular face-to-face one-year PG programmes should be developed under the applicable UGC regulations and the university's statutory approval process.

Identification and Notification of Colleges for Honours and Honours with Research: Two PhD-qualified teachers alone is insufficient. Apply the readiness rubric under the earlier item given below and permit cluster delivery with university departments, research institutions or eligible neighbouring colleges. Thus, the colleges may to some extent, overcome the limitations.

The one-year PG must be qualitatively different

It should not repeat content already completed during the fourth year. Each Board of Studies should undertake curriculum mapping to identify (i) competencies already achieved in FYUGP, (ii) genuine PG-level learning outcomes, (iii) advanced theory and methods, (iv) emerging interdisciplinary domains, (v) research, professional and entrepreneurial applications, and (vi) duplication between fourth-year courses and present PG courses.

A suitable 40-credit model could be:

Component	Indicative credits
Advanced disciplinary core	12-16
Specialisation/interdisciplinary electives	8-12
Advanced research or professional methods	4
Dissertation/capstone/industry or policy project	8-12
Seminar, communication or research-integrity component	Integrated/2-4

The exact distribution should remain discipline-sensitive. Laboratory sciences, field sciences, performing arts, professional programmes and humanities should not be forced into an identical pattern.

Forty credits over two semesters is intensive. Universities should avoid (i) excessive numbers of fragmented courses, (ii) Five-day lecture-heavy timetables (In five days, it would be difficult to achieve this credit load), (iii) duplication of FYUGP content, (iv) treating a dissertation as an additional burden outside the credit structure, and (v) scheduling all examinations only at semester-end.

Assessment should emphasise seminars, projects, portfolios, research proposals, problem-solving and continuous feedback.



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