

# Eligibility Criteria, Shortlisting and Selection Procedure for Admission into PhD Programme

(Revised, Effective from Autumn Semester Admission, 2024-25 & onwards)

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## 1. Minimum Eligibility Criteria for Application

An interested candidate meeting the below listed category wise minimum eligibility criteria may apply for the PhD programme. The minimum eligibility criteria do not guarantee either shortlisting or selection, for the admission. Applications not meeting minimum eligibility criteria will be rejected without any intimation and the application fee will not be refunded.

The minimum eligibility criteria refer to the minimum academic qualification to be met by the applicant at the time of applying for the admission. Relaxation up to 5% marks in all academic examinations is permitted only for SC/ST/PwD candidate categories, over General/OBC(NCL) categories, as per Govt. of India (GoI) guidelines. This is applicable to applicants under both Institute and Sponsored PhD Scholar categories.

Candidates possessing the minimum eligibility criteria are eligible to receive **Institute Research Assistantship** or **UGC/CSIR-NET Junior Research Fellowship (JRF)** or **any other doctoral fellowship offered by Govt. of India (GoI)**, as applicable, on joining the PhD programme.

### 1.1 Category 1 - Institute PhD Scholar

Institute PhD Scholar refers to the PhD student who receives **Institute Research Assistantship** sanctioned the Ministry of Education (MoE) and offered through the institute. Eligibility criteria for different schools are as follows.

#### 1.1.1 All Engineering Schools

(i) M. Tech./ME or equivalent degree in appropriate disciplines, with minimum 60% marks or 6.5 CGPA (in a 10-point scale).

OR

B Tech/BE or equivalent degree in appropriate disciplines with minimum 70% marks or 7.5 CGPA (in a 10-point scale). The candidate must be GATE qualified in an appropriate discipline.

(ii) Minimum 60% marks or 6.5 CGPA (in a 10-point scale) required in all other examinations from Class 10 onwards. A single relaxation up to 5% marks in secondary/higher secondary/equivalent is permitted.

#### 1.1.2 School of Humanities, Social Sciences and Management

(i) Minimum of 55% marks or 6.0 CGPA (in a 10-point scale) in Master's degree in appropriate Humanities and Social Sciences disciplines.

(ii) Minimum 55% marks or 6.0 CGPA (in a 10-point scale) required in all other examinations from Class 10 onwards. A single relaxation up to 5% marks in secondary/higher secondary/bachelor's degree/equivalent is permitted.

(iii) **The candidate must be GATE or CSIR-UGC NET (LS) qualified in an appropriate discipline.**

#### 1.1.3 School of Basic Sciences

(i) Minimum 60% marks or 6.5 CGPA (in a 10-point scale) in Master's or equivalent degree in appropriate disciplines.

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(ii) Minimum 60% marks or 6.5 CGPA (in a 10-point scale) required in all other examinations from Class 10 onwards. A single relaxation up to 5% marks in secondary/higher-secondary/bachelor's degree/equivalent is permitted.

(iii) **The candidate must be GATE or CSIR-UGC NET (LS) or JAM or JEST qualified in an appropriate discipline.**

### **1.1.4 School of Earth, Ocean and Climate Sciences**

(i) Minimum 60% marks or 6.5 CGPA (in a 10-point scale) in Master's or equivalent degree in appropriate disciplines.

**OR**

B Tech/BE or equivalent degree in appropriate disciplines with minimum 70% marks or 7.5 CGPA (in a 10-point scale).

(ii) Minimum 60% marks or 6.5 CGPA (in a 10-point scale) required in all other examinations from Class 10 onwards. A single relaxation up to 5% marks in secondary/higher-secondary/bachelor's degree/equivalent is permitted.

(iii) **The candidate with B.Tech/B.E./M.Sc. degree must be GATE or CSIR-UGC NET (LS) or JAM or JEST qualified in an appropriate discipline.**

## **1.2. Category 2 - Sponsored PhD Scholar**

There are three types of sponsored PhD scholars in the institute (Self-sponsored category are not to be considered). Eligibility criteria for each of these categories are as follows.

### **1.2.1 Sponsored by External Organization**

PhD scholars joining under this category do not receive any financial support from the institute. They must be in continuous service for at least three (3) years in any one of the following categories of organizations where appropriate R&D facilities exist:

- a. Departments and Ministries of the GoI or any other government organizations
- b. Established industrial research and developmental organizations
- c. Recognized autonomous bodies and public undertakings
- d. Recognized universities/colleges.
- e. Established industries

**Candidates under this category need not be GATE or CSIR-UGC NET (LS) qualified.** All other academic qualifications under Section 1.1 apply to these candidates. Candidates must submit Sponsorship Certificates as per the prescribed format at the time of application; otherwise their applications will not be considered.

### **1.2.2 Sponsored GoI Doctoral Fellowship (CSIR—UGC, DST-INSPIRE, DBT, ICMR etc.)**

Candidates having CSIR-UGC NET (JRF) or any other doctoral fellowship offered by GoI are eligible to apply under this category. PhD scholars joining under this category receive financial support from respective GoI doctoral fellowships. They must meet the same minimum academic qualification applicable for **Institute PhD Scholar** as under **Section 1.1**. These candidates need not be GATE qualified.

### **1.2.3 Sponsored Research Project under IIT Bhubaneswar**

Persons who possess the minimum prescribed qualifications as mentioned in **Section 1.1** and are already working in a sponsored project of the Institute as JRF/SRF/equivalent availing minimum

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fellowship as that of Institute PhD scholar shall be eligible for applying to the Ph.D. program under this category. **These candidates must be GATE or CSIR-UGC NET (LS) or JAM or JEST qualified.**

For this category of candidates, the followings also apply:

- A. They receive assistantship from the fund available in the project under the personnel/manpower budget head (to be referred as Project Fund now onwards) and the fellowship amount is at least equal to that of Institute PhD scholar.
- B. The remaining period of the project fund (in a single project) as well as the remaining tenure of the same project should be at least 2 years (duration of the project can be relaxed upto 6 months upon recommendation of the PI & Head) from the date of enrollment in the PhD program in the Autumn/Spring Semester as per the academic calendar (if selected).

### **1.2.4 Sponsored under “Professor R. H. Tupkary Fellowship” program (the programme will be offered subject to the requirements and as per the advertisement notification)**

This programme is applicable for bright and motivated students who are interested in carrying out research in the field of **Complex Dynamical Systems’ Analysis and Control**. Applications are invited primarily, but not restricted to the broad areas of **Industrial and Systems Engineering** and **Neural Engineering Systems**. This is an interdisciplinary program wherein a scholar can take a supervisor from any relevant School of the Institute. An additional amount over and above the Institute Fellowship amount will be awarded to the scholars under this category. So, the scholar will receive ₹35,000/- per month from the date of enrolment till the completion of the Enhancement Seminar. On completion of the Enhancement Seminar, the fellowship will be enhanced to ₹40,000/- per month. The maximum period of the fellowship for any scholar will be for a period of FIVE years only. The Ph.D. student under this category may do an internship in a related industry for six months. **The applicant will have to apply with a detailed research proposal.** He should also propose the supervisor (possibly after discussion with the concerned faculty) for the research work during the application process. The candidate, if selected, shall join the parent school of the proposed supervisor and under the same **supervisor** only. All academic qualifications under Section 1.1 apply to these candidates. The **requirement of GATE qualification may be waived off for candidates** with at least three years of experience in relevant fields.

### **1.3 Category 3 - Joint MSc-PhD Students of IIT Bhubaneswar (to be offered only for Autumn Semesters admission)** (Refer to MSc regulation – Modalities for Enrolment in PhD Programme for more detail)

(Refer to **MSc regulation – Modalities for Enrolment in PhD Programme** for more detail)

This programme is applicable for bright and motivated students pursuing MSc programmes at IIT Bhubaneswar. Applicants must have completed third semester. Students securing CGPA  $\geq 8.5$  after their third semester are automatically shortlisted for appearing the selection test for joining the PhD programme in the following Autumn semester. They are required to submit a declaration towards joining the PhD program within two weeks of declaration of the third semester result. Students who have not submitted the said declaration in time will not be considered for selection test.

Their selection test will be conducted along with the Autumn semester PhD admission of the institute. There will be a discipline wise cap of 10% of the sanctioned strength (rounded upward) on the number of students who can avail this option. They will be enrolled for the PhD programme in the Autumn semester, if selected after the selection tests.

### 1.4 Category 4 – Institute Staff Category (IIT Bhubaneswar)

(Refer to Ph.D regulation – Appendix-V Rules relating to enrolment of members of Non-Teaching staff)

Members of non-teaching staff (working in permanent capacity, including technical and non-technical) may be permitted to join the Ph.D. programme of the Institute provided, that prior permission i.e, No Objection Certificate (NOC) has been obtained from the Competent Authority before admission to the program.

For admission to the program, a member of staff must fulfill the prescribed norms and in the qualifying examination, he/she must have obtained at least the percentage of marks/grade/CGPA as prescribed under section-1. The prescribed minimum qualification for admission to the Ph.D. program and other details are given under section-1. **The candidate need not be a GATE/UGC-NET/CSIR-NET qualified.**

## 2. Fixing of Cutoff Scores

The fixing of cut-off scores for candidates in different categories shall be as per the norm defined in Table 1 below.

**Table 1: Assignment and calculation of cut-off marks for various categories**

Category	Cut-off Score
Unreserved/General	X
EWS	X
OBC (NCL)	0.9 X
SC/ST/PwD	0.67 X
X = Cut-off score for unreserved category (to be decided by the school)	

In the following, the **cut-off marks/score** (in GATE or CSIR-UGC NET (LS) or JAM or JEST, written test and interview) wherever necessary, have been specified for the general/unreserved category only. The assignment and calculation of cut-off marks for reserved categories of candidates as given in Table 1 above will be used in all cases described hereinafter, wherever applicable.

## 3. Shortlisting Criteria

The candidate must fulfill the minimum eligibility criterion as specified in Section-1. School may fix additional criterion in terms of marks / score. Moreover, school may put additional criterion in terms of discipline/branch of the candidate at undergraduate and postgraduate level.

In addition, the following categories of candidates will be **automatically shortlisted (they need not be GATE/CSIR-UGC NET (LS) qualified)** to appear for the written test:

- i. B.Tech. and Dual Degree /Equivalent students of IIT Bhubaneswar and other IITs having **CGPA >= 8.0**
- ii. IISc M.Tech/M.Sc. degree holders with **CGPA>=8.5**

**N.B.: Mere fulfillment of minimum eligibility criteria does not entitle a candidate to be shortlisted.**

## 4. Selection Procedure

**All shortlisted Ph.D applicants including sponsored and Institute staff category (IIT Bhubaneswar) candidates will have to appear the written test and interview. The Ph.D. selection to be based on 40% weightage in a written test and 60% weightage in an interview. The Schools can fix cut-offs for written test and interview based upon the requirements. The final selection will be based on combined performances in the written test and interview.**

For shortlisted candidates under section 1.2.4, the following Committee shall conduct interview for the final selection:

- i. Dean (PGRP)
- ii. Head of the School for which the candidate has applied
- iii. An expert faculty member of the same school nominated by the HoS
- iv. An expert faculty member from another school nominated by the Dean (PGRP)

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