

## **Guidelines and Policies for Integrated Ph.D. Programme**

### **Integrated Ph.D. Programme:**

The programme is aimed to provide young motivated individuals with a rigorous training, desired level of understanding and scientific maturity and a solid base at an early state to enable them to pursue a research career.

### **Admission:**

Students with Bachelors Degree in the relevant discipline with a minimum of 60% marks or CGPA of 7.0 are eligible to apply for admission to Integrated Ph.D. programme.

Admissions to the Integrated Ph.D. programme will be through an oral/written exam held at IISER Bhopal.

### **Admission schedule:**

1. Admission to the Integrated Ph.D. programme will be made once a year during May and June.
2. Admission for Integrated Ph.D. programme will be advertised by the academic office, as advised by the heads of each Department, between March and April.

### **Eligibility for admission:**

1. Bachelors Degree in the relevant discipline with a minimum of 60% marks or CGPA (Cumulative Grade Point Average) of 7.0 are eligible to apply. Candidates who have passed their graduate examination in the preceding year or appearing in the final year examination of their Bachelors Degree and apply.
2. The number of seats available for admission to each department will be decided by the Senate from time to time.
3. Seats will be reserved according to the Central Government norms (i.e., 15% for SC, 7.5% for ST candidates and 27% for Other Backward Classes). In addition, 3% horizontal reservation would be provided for candidates belonging to PH category.

### **Fellowship:**

- 1 Every Integrated student will be provided with Institute assistantship on a semester-to-semester basis for a period of six years from the date of joining. The period of assistantship will be extendable for one more year on the recommendation of the DPGC and approval of the Chair, Senate.
- 2 The payment of fellowship is subject to maintaining a CPI of 7.0. The fellowship will be stopped if the CPI drops below 7.0. It will be resumed once the CPI improves to 7.0 or above, but without payment of arrears for the period it was stopped.
3. All admitted students will receive a fellowship of Rs. 10,000/- pm. Subsequently, upon successful completion of Ph.D. candidacy requirements, a revised fellowship will be provided as per MHRD norms/guidelines.

**Registration:**

1. Every student is required to register in each semester for the courses to be taken by him/her during that semester on the dates given in the academic calendar. IT is the duty of the student to ensure that he/she has completed all the pre-requisites, if any, required to register for a course.
2. Registration of the students will be carried out under the supervision of the Head of the Department.
3. The student is entirely responsible for registration of appropriate courses.

**Registration Procedure:**

New entrants to the Integrated Ph.D. programme who are awaiting the final results of their qualifying examination, will be allowed to register 'provisionally' on submission of a certificate from their Head of the Institution certifying that they have appeared in the final qualifying examination (including all papers in theory, practical, project and viva-voce). Candidates will have to submit the attested copies of the certificate of having passed the qualifying examination by the last date of submission as specified in the academic calendar, failing which their admission will be cancelled.

**Academic Advising**

1. The Convener, DPGC of the concerned department will be the faculty mentor for the first three semesters for students enrolled for Integrated Ph.D. programme. The DPGC will advise a student on the selection of course and will determine the preparedness of the students for completing the required coursework. Students registering for research credits/Integrated Ph.D. projects must have a dissertation/project guide assigned to them. At the end of the third semester DPGC will assign a faculty member to each student.
2. A student is allowed to repeat courses in which they have obtained 'F' grades either during regular semester(s) by taking overload with the permission of DPGC/Coordinator, Academic Affairs or by appearing in re-examination conducted in July every year. Students must clearly marks the courses for repeat during the registration of the course.
3. Students can repeat a course during regular semester by taking overload to improve his/her CPI. A total of four attempts would be permitted towards grade improvement. Clearing 'F' courses will not be counted towards grade improvement.

**Semester load requirement**

A semester load is defined as equivalent to 16 credits. It could be either course work or combination of course work and research work or research work only. One research workload carries 4 credits. Most courses carry 4 credits, while a few courses may carry less or more credits. Thus a student who has registered for a full semester load solely by course work is expected to attend 4 such four-credit courses. Under exceptional circumstances, the Senate may permit a student to register for a maximum of 20 credits or minimum of 12 credits. A

student registered for a full semester load solely by research work is expected to register for 4 units of research work.

### **Course Structure:**

The students are required to take core and elective courses. The core courses are intended to build a strong foundation in the core discipline. The elective course focuses on more diverse and advanced topics to develop and pursue an area of specialization.

Till the completion of the 4<sup>th</sup> semester, DPGC Convener will be the faculty member of the student. The mentor will determine the preparedness of the student for completing the required coursework. At the end of the third semester, DPGC will assign a faculty mentor to each student.

### **Minimum Residence, Maximum Duration and Academic requirements:**

The aim of the course work is to strengthen the fundamental understanding in the subject and to prepare them for their specific research area.

- Integrated Ph.D. student should register for a total minimum of 128 credits comprising of a minimum course credit of 48 minimum research credits of 40. The remaining credits can be as per the advice of the department.
- Minimum residency requirement for submission of dissertation is 4.0 years (out of which 1.5 years is for research work). The registration of a student will automatically be cancelled if he/she does not submit the dissertation within 9 years of joining the program.
- Besides the above-mentioned minimum requirements, a department may prescribe some additional credits of courses/dissertation approved by the Dean/Coordinator of Academic Affairs.
- Some courses can be reading courses/projects under the guidance of faculty members at IISER Bhopal.

### **Academic Performance Requirements**

1. A student must attain a minimum CPI of 7.0 in the first two years in order to continue his/her candidacy for Ph.D. Students having CPI less than 6.0 at the end of fourth semester may either exit the programme or continue to work towards obtaining an MS degree. Academic requirements during this period will be as mentioned in 'Exiting the programme with MS degree'.
2. More than 4F grades in the first two years will lead to termination of the programme.
3. If a student gets an 'F' grade in a core course in the first two years, he/she must take the same course as an overload/appear in re-examination and improve the grade.
4. If a student gets an 'F' grade in an elective course in the first two years, he/she can substitute it with another elective as an overload and improve the grade.

### **Exiting the programme with MS degree:**

All students admitted to the Integrated Ph.D. programme are expected to work towards obtaining a Ph.D. However, after completing six semesters a student may be permitted to exit the programme with a MS degree subject to fulfilment of the following:

1. He/she has earned a total minimum credit of 96 comprising of a minimum course credit of 48.
2. He/she has cleared all the courses registered for.
3. He/she has obtained a minimum CPI of 6.0

At the end of six semesters, if a student did not meet the academic requirements for Integrated Ph.D. programme or MS degree (exit option), he/she with the permission of DPGC/Coordinator Academic can register of additional year to meet the minimum requirements for obtaining a MS degree. However, if the student fails to meet the requirement specified for MS degree within 4 years, he/she will be terminated without award of any degree.

Fellowship will be paid for a maximum period of 3 years only.

For the detailed course structure please click the link below:

<http://acad.iiserb.ac.in>