

ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS

PHD ORDINANCES

- 53 PhD-O.1 A candidate who has qualified for the award of the Master's degree from a recognized
54 institute or university in a discipline as prescribed in the regulations of the Senate is
55 eligible to apply for the PhD programme of this Institute.
- 56 PhD-O.2 A candidate who has qualified for the award of Bachelor's degree, and with a good
57 academic record in the discipline as prescribed in the regulations of the Senate, is
58 eligible to apply for the direct MS + PhD program in engineering/management of this
59 Institute.
- 60 PhD-O.3 The award of the PhD degree shall be in accordance with the regulations of the Senate
61 of this Institute.

PHD REGULATIONS

62 PhD-R.1 CATEGORIES OF ADMISSION

- 63 Candidates will be admitted to the Ph.D programme of the Indian Institute of Technology Madras
64 (IITM) under one of the following categories, with requirements as given below.

Category	Remarks
Regular-HTRA	Half-Time Research Assistantship (HTRA) from IITM.
Regular-Fellowship	Funding from outside agencies such as UGC, CSIR, industry etc.
Regular-Project-HTRA	Funding through a project administered by IC&SR at IITM.
Regular-Project-NHTRA	Funding through a project administered by IC&SR at IITM without eligibility for conversion to HTRA.
65 External	Sponsored by and employed in an industry, organization, or institution having R&D facilities and recognized by DST(DSIR) or IITM. Candidates should have at least 2 years of relevant work experience.
Part-time	Should be employed in a reputed industry, organization, or institution located within commutable distance of IITM. Candidates should have at least 2 years of relevant work experience.
Staff	Should be employed as a permanent staff member of IITM with at least 2 years of experience.
QIP	Should be sponsored by AICTE under the Quality Improvement Program (QIP) through the Centre for Continuing Education (CCE) at IITM.

- 66 (a) Scholars registered for any of the Regular categories are considered full-time scholars.
- 67 (b) For admission under **Regular-HTRA**, **Regular-Fellowship** and the **Regular-Project-HTRA**
68 category, departments will adopt common shortlisting criteria and have a common merit list.
- 69 (c) **Project-NHTRA** admissions can happen in two ways:
- 70 (i) Project staff of IC&SR, who have successfully completed two approved courses at IITM
71 (total credits ≥ 18) with CGPA ≥ 7.5 , and have obtained at least a 'C' grade in each
72 course, can be selected through an interview, without having to take a written test. They
73 can join the programme after gaining at least 12 months experience in a project.
- 74 (ii) Project staff of IC&SR, who have gained at least 12 months experience in a project, can be
75 selected through a written test and interview. This selection will be for project-NHTRA
76 applicants who do not meet the course requirement criteria.
- 77 The provisions above are also applicable to project staff working in the IITM research park.
78 **286th Senate Res. No 96/2019** **291st Senate Res. No 5/2021**
- 79 (d) A research scholar under the **External** category will carry out his/her research work in his/her
80 organization under the supervision of a guide at IITM, and a co-guide employed in the orga-
81 nization. An external scholar employed in the IITM Research Park need not have a co-guide
82 from his/her organization.
- 83 (e) **External and part-time** scholars have a minimum residential requirement of one semester.
84 Part-time scholars will be permitted to undergo course work without the residential requirement,
85 with the permission of their employer.
- 86 (f) Scholars admitted under the Regular-HTRA category can move to the Regular-Project-HTRA
87 category and revert to the Regular-HTRA category, if necessary.
- 88 (g) Scholars admitted under the Regular-Project-HTRA category can move to the Regular-HTRA
89 category, provided they have been funded by a project for a duration of at least one year.
- 90 (h) Scholars admitted under the Project-NHTRA/Part-time/External categories cannot move to the
91 Regular-HTRA category at any time. **286th Senate Res. No 96/2019**
- 92 (i) Interdisciplinary (ID) Ph.D programme: Admission of scholars to the ID programme will
93 be based on an interdisciplinary research proposal, needed as part of the selection procedure
94 formulated by the IDRPs committee. (Please refer to the admission brochure for details of the
95 areas of research.)
- 96 (j) The medium of instruction and communication for academic research shall be English (eg.
97 DC Reports, synopsis, title of the thesis in the degree certificate, seminar presentation etc.)
98 Research publications arising out of the Ph.D work can be in any appropriate language. For
99 Ph.D theses, the language to be used will be English. However, if the subject matter so requires,
100 the thesis can be written in any language with the approval of the doctoral committee. The
101 thesis and its English-translated version, certified by the guide(s), must be submitted together
102 for evaluation. **278th Senate Res. No 88/2017**