Research Programs (MS & PhD) at Department of Management Studies (DoMS), IIT Madras

Frequently Asked Questions

This page addresses the frequently asked questions related to the admission process for the research programs (MS and PhD) at Department of Management Studies, IIT-Madras. For the complete set of guidelines regarding the admission process, procedures, eligibility and deadlines kindly refer to http://research.iitm.ac.in/

The **information brochure** (RESEARCH ADMISSION BROCHURE) of research programs of IIT Madras can be found at https://research.iitm.ac.in/downloadbrochure Please go through this document first as this may answer most of your questions.

RESEARCH AT DOMS

1. What are the research areas in DoMS?

The broad areas of research at DoMS are given below. Your interview will be based on your choice from the given areas. More specific research fields may be viewed in the department research profile and/or the homepage of individual faculty members.

- Finance
- Human Resource Management (HR) and Organisational Behavior (OB)
- Information Systems
- Integrative Management
- Marketing
- Operations

To get a better picture of the on-going research and the area of research interest of faculty members, kindly take a look at the

· **Faculty profiles** (https://doms.iitm.ac.in/index.php/faculty-research/faculty-members)
· **Student profiles:**
o Current MS Scholars: https://doms.iitm.ac.in/index.php/students/profiles/ms-scholars
o Current PhD Scholars: https://doms.iitm.ac.in/index.php/students/profiles/phd-scholars

2. What are the different categories of admission at DoMS?

The different categories of admission are:
· Full Time MS – HTRA (Half Time Research Assistance) / Non – HTRA
· Full Time PhD – HTRA / UGC – JRF / Non – HTRA
· Direct PhD
· Part-Time PhD
· External PhD

For detailed information on each category, refer to Section 4 (Categories of Admission) of the Information Brochure
https://research.iitm.ac.in/brochure/2020/AdmissionBrochure.pdf#page=10&zoom=100,92,33)

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. **When does the admission happen for research programs?**

   You can apply any time of the year but admissions happen twice a year: Once for semester starting July (odd semester) and a second time for another starting January (even semester). **Application deadlines are typically sometime in March and October for odd and even semesters respectively. Please visit IITM website for exact deadlines for any given year.** The interview dates for candidates are tentatively sometime in April for odd semester and sometime in November for even semester at DoMS. Candidates should refer to their call letters for the exact date and time of the interview. The application deadlines and important dates will be announced on: http://research.iitm.ac.in/

2. **What are the eligibility criteria for MS and PhD programs?**

   Please refer to Section 5 (Minimum Educational Qualifications) (https://research.iitm.ac.in/brochure/2020/AdmissionBrochure.pdf#page=14&zoom=100,92,30) and Section 6 (Eligible Degrees for Admission) (https://research.iitm.ac.in/brochure/2020/AdmissionBrochure.pdf#page=18&zoom=100,92,58) of the Information Brochure.

3. **What are the eligibility criteria for part-time/external PhD programs?**

   Please refer to Section 5 (Minimum Educational Qualifications) (https://research.iitm.ac.in/brochure/2020/AdmissionBrochure.pdf#page=14&zoom=100,92,30) and Section 6 (Eligible Degrees for Admission) (https://research.iitm.ac.in/brochure/2020/AdmissionBrochure.pdf#page=18&zoom=100,92,58) of the Information Brochure.

4. **What is the selection process for admission at DOMS?**

   The candidate's application along with the SOP (Statement of Purpose) and Research Proposal are scrutinized. Eligible candidates are called to the institute for document verification followed by a written test (in some cases) and personal interview. Details of the selection process will be shared with the shortlisted candidates via email.

5. **Can executives/working professionals pursue part-time PhD at DoMS?**

   Yes. DoMS offers part-time PhD programme for executives/working professionals. However, they have to complete the mandatory course work by attending classes in the campus which may take somewhere between 6 months to 1 year.

6. **I am applying for a part time scholar category. Am I allowed to stay in a different city while pursuing research?**

   You can. However, you have to complete the mandatory course work by attending classes in the campus which may take somewhere between 6 months to 1 year.

7. **I have completed my post-graduation in a discipline that is unrelated to the area of specialization that I am applying for. Am I still eligible to apply for a PhD program in that area?**

   You may apply. However, the decision to shortlist or select the application rests entirely at the discretion of the respective functional area.

8. **I have done a one-year MBA programme. Am I eligible to apply for an MS or PhD program?**

   No, candidates with a one-year MBA programme are NOT eligible to apply for a research program.

9. **I am working in a private firm in a foreign country. Am I eligible for a part time PhD category?**

   No, Foreign nationals can only register as full-time scholars.

QUALIFYING EXAMS

1. **What are the qualifying exams that are accepted for the HTRA category in the PhD program?**

   To be eligible for the HTRA fellowship, candidates are required to have a valid CAT / GATE / UGC-NET / CSIR- NET score.

   Candidates with valid GMAT / GRE scores or with relevant work experience can apply under the Non-HTRA category and they will not be eligible for the fellowship.

   For other details on eligibility, please refer to the admission Brochure: https://research.iitm.ac.in/brochure/2020/AdmissionBrochure.pdf

2. **What are the qualifying exams that are accepted for the HTRA category in MS program?**

   To be eligible for the HTRA fellowship, candidates are required to have a valid GATE score.

   Candidates with relevant work experience can apply under the Non-HTRA category and will not be eligible for the fellowship.

   For other details on eligibility, please refer to the admission Brochure: https://research.iitm.ac.in/brochure/2020/AdmissionBrochure.pdf

3. **I am planning to apply for the part-time / external scholar category. Do I need to have a qualifying exam score?**

   PhD applicants with **at least 5 years of Managerial Experience** and MS applicants having **at least 3 years of Managerial Experience** are exempted from these examinations.

SHORTLISTING FOR INTERVIEW

1. What will be the procedure for shortlisting the applications?

The applications will be shortlisted based on:

- Academic credentials,
- Qualifying Exam Scores,
- Research Proposals and Statement of Purpose

❏   MS Candidates are required to submit a Statement of Purpose with a broad outline of the research topic/area/ questions. Research Proposal is **not mandatory for MS candidates**, but is encouraged and will add value to your application.

❏   PhD candidates are **mandatorily required** to submit a Research Proposal.

2. What is expected out of my Statement of Purpose?

The statement of purpose should include the *purpose* for which the candidate is applying to the research program of Department of Management studies, IIT-Madras. Broadly, it should convey *why the candidate has chosen the area of specialization* and *what she/he intends to do during their tenure* at **DoMS**, if selected for the program. It should also provide a *broad outline of the research topic/ area/ research questions* the candidate is interested to pursue. It can also include any *relevant experience* that the candidate has, their understanding about the nature of the program and what they would be able to contribute to the department and institute, if selected.

3. What is a Research Proposal and what is expected out of my research proposal?

The research proposal (1500 words) should be the original work of the candidate and will be checked for plagiarism. It should convey what the candidate intends to do, if selected for the program. The proposal should be related to the area of specialization that the candidate is applying to. The following is the basic layout of the research proposal. However, it is not a strict design and the candidate is free to enhance it.

- Introduction – Problem Identification / Problem Statement
- Brief Review of Literature – May include Research Gaps, Research Questions, Objectives, Hypotheses
- Proposed Methodology – May include samples, tools and techniques etc. if available
- Proposed Implications – How the proposed study will further knowledge in the research   area and management practice
- References/Bibliography

4. .**Where can I check the Shortlist for the interview?**

The Shortlist for interview along with the dates of interview be displayed on
https://doms.iitm.ac.in. The shortlisted candidates will also be informed by email.

INTERVIEW & WRITTEN TEST

1. **What are the documents that I need to bring on the day of the interview?**

Please refer the section 3.8 of the RESEARCH ADMISSION BROCHURE
https://research.iitm.ac.in/brochure/2020/AdmissionBrochure.pdf

2. **What can I expect on the day of the interview?**

The broad set of procedures may include document verification, a written test (which
may be conducted for some functional areas and for those who have got their
qualifying degrees before 10 years) and an interview. The procedure is subject to
change at the discretion of the department.

3. **When can I expect the results of the process?**

The final results can be expected in around a month's time following the interview.
The selected candidates will be informed by e-mail and the list will be put up on the
department website.

4. **Can I reapply for MS / PhD, if not shortlisted?**

Yes, you can re-apply to the program in the next intakes/ semesters.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

1. **What is the fee structure of the program?**

Please refer to section 3.5 (Fees and Deposits) of the Information Brochure
(https://research.iitm.ac.in/brochure/2020/AdmissionBrochure.pdf#page=8&zoom=10
0,92,34)

2. **Is there a stipend/ scholarship provided for the MS / PhD program?**

Stipend will be provided to students who are selected under the HTRA / UGC-JRF
categories, subject to the performance of Half Time Research Assistantship duties.
For more details and the stipend amount please refer to the following link
(https://research.iitm.ac.in/brochure/2020/AdmissionBrochure.pdf#page=8&zoom=10
0,92,34).

3. **I have been selected under the part-time / external categories – Will I get a
    stipend?**

No, Part-time and external category candidates will not receive a stipend.

4. How long will it take to complete the course work?

Since the department norm requires candidates to do rigorous coursework, scholars are expected to complete the course work requirements. Though, technically, the course work could be completed in 6 months, due to the compulsory courses, which are not offered in all the quarters, it is safe to assume that it may take 1 year to complete all the course requirements.

5. What is the minimum requirement for submission of thesis?

Before a candidate submits the MS / PhD thesis, it is expected that (s)he has at least two publications – one in good quality peer reviewed international journal and one in conference proceedings. This is only indicative. Scholars in the past have published more publications than the minimum required.

6. Can I stay on campus during my MS / PhD program?

Yes. Accommodation in hostels is provided for full-time HTRA research scholars. Quarters are provided to married scholars, subject to availability.

7. What is the duration of an MS/PhD program?

After the mandatory course work, the PhD scholars in the full-time category have taken nearly 3-4 years and MS scholars have taken 1 and half- 2 years on an average to submit the thesis. Candidates in other categories have taken a little longer.

FURTHER DETAILS

1. My question is not listed above

Please see the FAQs IIT Madras Research program at https://research.iitm.ac.in/faq for questions related to the application process, procedures etc.

For any other queries, please contact the DoMS Office at (044) 2257 4550 between 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM during Monday – Friday (working days only).

You can also email to **doms@iitm.ac.in**

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