



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SPACE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

(Declared as Deemed to be University under section 3 of the UGC act 1956)

Thiruvananthapuram – 695547

IIST Ph.D. Programme – January 2026

(For All DOS/ ISRO-Sponsored Employees)

The Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology envisions the integration of Space Technology and Space Science educational programs with basic and applied research to meet the national R&D requirements of science and technology in general, and of the Indian Space Programme in particular. The institute provides a vibrant research atmosphere and offers doctoral and postdoctoral programmes.

Online Applications are invited from highly motivated applicants for admission to the Ph.D. Programme starting in January 2026, in the following departments.

- (i) Aerospace Engineering
- (ii) Avionics
- (iii) Chemistry
- (iv) Earth & Space Sciences
- (v) Humanities and Social Sciences
- (vi) Mathematics
- (vii) Physics

Interested candidates are encouraged to go through the department and faculty profiles for details of research areas pursued at IIST.

Educational Qualification & Eligibility:

Master's Degree in Engineering/Technology/Science/Arts/Management as their highest qualifying degree

Master's Degree in Engineering/Technology/Science/Arts/Management/with 60% marks or its equivalent grade in a point scale, if the grading system is followed (55% marks or equivalent CGPA for OBC/EWS/SC/ST/PwD) in the qualifying master's degree

or

Bachelor's Degree in Engineering/Technology or Bachelor's Degree in Science/ Arts/Management with a four-year duration as their highest qualifying degree

Bachelor's Degree in Engineering/Technology/Science/Arts/Management (4-year duration) with 75% marks or its equivalent CGPA if the grading system is followed (70% marks or equivalent CGPA for OBC/EWS/SC/ST/PwD) in the Qualifying Bachelor's degree.

Nationality: The applicant must be an Indian citizen.

Fellowship

Part-time Ph.D. Scholars are not eligible for any Research Fellowship in addition to their applicable emoluments as Central Government employees.

FEE STRUCTURE:

(To be paid at the beginning of every semester)

Description of Fees	Amount (₹)
Tuition Fees(*)/ Semester	₹2500(*)
Other Fees/Semester	₹4950
Total Fee(A)	₹7450
Hostel Fee/ Semester	₹10250
Admission Fee (Non-Refundable) One-time	₹1500
Caution Deposit (Refundable)(One-time)	₹5000
Total Fee (B)	₹16750(**)
Grand Total 1st Semester (A+B)	₹24200
2 nd Semester onwards	₹17700

Note:

- **A candidate who confirms the seat must remit the Seat Acceptance fee of ₹4950/- within the stipulated time.**
- (*) SC/ST/PwD students are exempt from paying tuition fees.
- **(**) Will be collected at the time of physical reporting at the Institution.**
- **Mess facility will be available on a payment basis.**
- Additional fees: Supplementary Examination fees - ₹100/- per paper, Thesis Submission - ₹1000/-, and Convocation fees - ₹2000/- & Alumni Registration fees - ₹500/-, which will be collected with the final semester fee.

Selection Procedure

- The IIST Part-time Ph.D. Programme is open to permanent employees working in any of the Centres/Units of ISRO/DoS, including employees of IIST.
- Prospective candidates will fill online application, duly forwarded to IIST by their respective Unit/Centres, giving details of their previous academic record, research experience, and publications, if any, along with a brief summary of the proposed research work.
- After a preliminary review, the application will be evaluated by the respective department to assess the overall relevance of the proposed research topic and the applicant's ability to pursue the programme.
- The selection process for all eligible candidates will be conducted through a Screening Test (objective type) and an Interview, or an interview alone. Candidates who qualify for the screening test will be called for an interview. The final selection will be based on performance in the interview. A candidate must secure a total of 60% marks to be eligible for admission.
- DOS-sponsored candidates seeking admission based on a **Master's Degree in Engineering/Technology/Science/Arts/Management with a four-year duration as their highest qualifying degree** are exempted from the Ph.D. admission test conducted by the institute if they have qualified any national-level eligibility test, such as GATE/CSIR/UGC-NET/NBHM/JEST or similar National-level tests.
- DOS-sponsored candidates seeking admission based on a **Bachelor's Degree in Engineering/Technology /Science/Arts/Management with a four-year duration as their highest qualifying degree** are exempted from the PhD admission test conducted by the institute if they have qualified any national-level eligibility test, such as GATE/CSIR/UGC-NET/NBHM/JEST, and similar National-level tests.
- **Screening test will be conducted at the IIST campus on 15th December 2025 (Monday), and the interview will be held from 16th to 19th December 2025 (tentatively) for the candidates who qualify the screening test.**
- Candidates shall contact their respective supervisor/department for the screening test syllabus and may refer to the following link: [Please click this link to access the Syllabus for the Screening Test.](#)

- The selection of the applicant for the Part-time Ph.D. Programme of the IIST is based on the recommendation of the Ph.D. Programme Committee and the approval of the Vice Chancellor, IIST.
- Applicants whose selection is approved by the Vice Chancellor of IIST will be admitted to the Ph.D. Programme by duly undergoing the process of Admission and Registration in the respective Academic Departments on the dates specified in the communication to the selected candidates.

Requirements

- For Part-time Ph.D. Scholars from DoS Centres/Units, in addition to the Internal Ph.D. Supervisor from the IIST faculty, an External Supervisor from the relevant ISRO Centre shall also be identified.
- Part-time Research Scholars are required to complete coursework recommended by their Doctoral Committee. They can fulfil the required coursework by taking courses offered by IIST and/or online courses from Swayam/MOOCs, as recommended by the Doctoral Committee, related to their planned research area.
- Ph.D. scholars with a B.Tech./4-year B.S. as their highest qualification must undergo additional coursework as prescribed by the institute, which may exceed one semester. Ph.D. scholars will undergo courses offered by IIST and/or online through Swayam/NPTEL, subject to approval by the Doctoral Committee and the Institute.
- If the Ph.D. scholar from ISRO/DoS opts to undergo the coursework offered by IIST by residing on the campus or as a day scholar, stay of Part-time Ph.D. Scholars at IIST during the period will be governed by the Rules and Regulations of IIST Ph.D. Programme. ([IIST PhD Guideline Book.](#))
- The general conditions of the Ph.D. Programme of the sponsored scholars from ISRO/DoS will be regulated in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of IIST Ph.D. Programme.

HOW TO APPLY:

- 1) Applications shall be submitted **online** at the IIST website: <https://admission.iist.ac.in> and duly forwarded to IIST by their respective Unit/Centres.
- 2) The applicants will not be allowed to make any changes to their profile registration once it has been submitted. Hence, utmost care should be taken by the applicant while filling out the profile.

Note:- The list of shortlisted candidates for admission will be intimated to the concerned authorities of DOS/ISRO Units/Centres. Application forms received after the last date will not be considered under any circumstances.

The filled-in online application form, through the proper channel, must be sent to Deputy Registrar (Academics), Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology, Valiamala PO, Thiruvananthapuram- 695 547, along with self-attested copies of certificates/testimonials on or before December 04, 2025.

IMPORTANT DATES		
Sl. No.	Event	Date*
1	Opening of IIST website for online submission of applications	November 12, 2025 - 1700 hrs. (Wednesday)
2	Closing of IIST website for online submission of applications	November 27, 2025 - 2359 hrs. (Thursday)
3	Last Date of Receipt of approved hard copy of application	December 04, 2025 - 1700 hrs. (Thursday)
4	Display of shortlisted candidates for Screening Test & Direct Interview	December 08, 2025 (Monday) - 1600hrs
5	Date of screening test (Venue : IIST Campus, Valiamala) Note: Orientation and lab visit will be arranged in the afternoon	December 15, 2025 (Monday)
6	Interview Dates (Venue: IIST Campus, Valiamala)	December 16-19, 2025
7	Display of provisionally selected candidates	December 26, 2025 (Friday) - 1700hrs
8	Payment of Seat Acceptance fee & Rounds	December 29, 2025 – 16 January, 2026
9	Reporting date at the Institution	January 02, 2026 (Friday)
10	Classes begin for Ph.D Programme	January 05, 2026 (Monday)
11	Last date of Admission	January 16, 2026 (Friday)

***Tentatively**