INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SPACE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

(Declared as Deemed to be University under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956)
Thiruvananthapuram – 695547

Notfication for Ph.D. admissons-Sponsored

January 2027 Admissions

Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST), Thiruvananthapuram, invites applications from eligible Indian citizens for admission to its Full-time Ph.D. programme for the January 2027 session. IIST is a Deemed to be University under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956, and functions as an autonomous body under the Department of Space, Government of India. The Institute offers doctoral research in basic and applied areas to meet the national R&D requirements of Science and Technology in general and the Indian Space Programme in particular. The Institute provides a vibrant research atmosphere and offers doctoral programmes in the following departments.

Sl. No.	Department
1	Aerospace Engineering
2	Avionics
3	Chemistry
4	Earth and Space Sciences
5	Humanities and Social Sciences
6	Mathematics
7	Physics

Table -1

IMPORTANT DATES		
Sl. No.	**Event**	**Date***
1	Opening of the IIST website for online submission of applications	23 November, 2026 - 1600 hrs (Monday)
2	Closing of the IIST website for online submission of applications	07 December, 2026 - 2359 hrs (Monday)
3	Last Date of Receipt of approved hard copy of application	09 December, 2026 - 1700 hrs (Wednesday)
4	Display of shortlisted candidates under (1) Direct Interview and (2) Screening test followed by shortlisting and interview	11 December, 2026 (Friday) - 1600hrs
5	Screening test at IIST Campus, Valiamala	21 December, 2026 (Monday)
6	Interview at IIST Campus, Valiamala	21-24 December, 2026
7	Display of provisionally selected candidates	29 December, 2026 (Tueday) - 1700hrs
8	Payment of Seat Acceptance fee & Rounds	29 December, 2026 – 15 January, 2027
9	Reporting date at the Institution	01 January, 2027 (Friday)
10	Commencement of Ph.D. coursework	04 January, 2027 (Monday)
11	Orientation Programme	06 January, 2027 (Wednesday)
12	Last date of Admission	15 January, 2027 (Friday)

Table-2

*Tentatively

1. About the Programme

In this programme, the research scholar conducts research on a part-time basis. Following are the categories:

(a) Internal IIST - This Programme is for permanent employees of IIST, who can be admitted as part-time research scholars as per the prescribed selection procedure.

(b) ISRO / DoS Sponsored - This Programme is for permanent employees of ISRO/DoS, who can be admitted as part-time research scholars as per the identified selection procedure.

2. Eligibility

2.1 General

Requirement	Details
Nationality	The applicant must be an Indian citizen.
Age limit	There is no maximum age limit for part-time scholars from IIST/ ISRO / DoS / Central Government Organizations.
No Objection Certificate (NOC)	Applicants are required to submit an NOC from the employer at the time of application

Table-3

2.2 Educational Qualifications

Category	Applicant's highest qualifying degree	Minimum academic qualification	Qualifying Test
A	Masters in Engineering/Technology/ Science/Arts/Management	Masters Degree with 60% marks or its equivalent grade on a point scale, if the grading system is followed. 55% marks or equivalent CGPA for OBC/EWS/SC/ST/PwD candidates.	GATE/CSIR/UGC-NET/NBHM/JEST/ IIST Screening Test.
B*	Four-year Bachelor's in Engineering/Technology/ Science/Arts/Management	Bachelor's Degree with 75% marks or its equivalent grade on a point scale, if the grading system is followed. 70% marks or equivalent CGPA for OBC/EWS/SC/ST/PwD candidates.	GATE/CSIR/UGC-NET / NBHM / JEST / GATE/ IIST Screening Test

Table-4

*Candidates whose Bachelor's degree is their highest qualification will be required to undergo additional coursework, as prescribed by the Institute.

2 Selection Procedure

No.	Information
1	The IIST Part-time Ph.D. programme is open to permanent employees working in any of the Centres/Units of ISRO/DoS, including those at IIST.
2	For Part-time Ph.D. Scholars from DoS Centres/Units, in addition to the Internal Ph.D. supervisor from IIST faculty, an External Supervisor from the relevant ISRO Centre shall also be identified.
3	Prospective candidates will fill out an online application, duly forwarded to IIST by their respective Units/Centres, giving details of their previous academic record, research experience, and publications, if any, along with a summary of the proposed research work.

4	After preliminary scrutiny, the application shall be reviewed by the relevant department to assess the overall relevance of the proposed research topic and the applicant's ability to pursue the programme.
5	The selection process for all eligible candidates is outlined in the table below.

Selection Process	Who may be considered	Remarks
Direct Interview	Applicants who meet the minimum eligibility criteria and hold a valid CSIR/UGC-NET/NBHM/JEST/GATE score will be shortlisted and invited for an interview.	Candidates are required to appear for an interview if shortlisted.
Screening Test + interview	Applicants who satisfy the minimum eligibility criteria but do not have a valid CSIR/UGC-NET/NBHM/JEST/GATE score can be shortlisted for the Ph.D. through a one-hour screening test, followed by an interview.	Based on candidates' performance in the screening test, the departments will set the minimum qualifying marks. Only candidates who qualify for the screening test will be shortlisted to appear for the interview.

Table-5

3.1 Final Selection: 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.

4 Fee Structure

Institute Fees and Services: Applicable fees for services such as boarding, lodging, and medical facilities shall be payable in accordance with the rules of IIST. Every selected candidate seeking admission to IIST shall remit the applicable fees either online or at the Institute, as per the provisions given below.

Fee component	**Amount**	
	1st Semester	**Subsiquent Semesters**
Seat Acceptance Fees	₹4,950	-
Semester Fees	-	₹4,950
Tuition Fee*	₹2,500	₹2,500
Hostel Fee**	₹10,250	₹10,250
Admission Fee (Non-refundable)	₹1,500	-
Caution Deposit (Refundable)	₹5,000	-
Grand Total	**₹24,200**	**₹17700**

* SC/ST/PwD students are exempted from payment of tuition fees

**If residing in hostel

Table-6

- A candidate who confirms the seat must remit the Seat Acceptance Fee of **₹4,950** online before the deadline as prescribed in the table above. He/She has to remit the balance amount of **₹24,200-₹4,950=₹19,250** to IIST through online at the time of reporting to the Institute for admission in person.

- Mess facility will be available on a payment basis.
- Fees are liable to change at the discretion of the Institute.
- Ph.D. students must pay semester fees until submission of his/her thesis. If the thesis is submitted without delay within one month of the semester (before 31 July or 31 January), the tuition fee will be waived.

4.1 Refund of Fees paid

Notice of withdrawal (Applicable to a candidate applying for the withdrawal of admission in the prescribed format online)	**Refund of aggregate fees***
15 days before the formally notified last date of admission	90%
Not more than 15 days after the formally notified last date	80%
More than 15 days but less than 30 days after last date	50%
More than 30 days after last date	0%

Table-7

4.2 Additional Fees to be paid

Item	**Fee**
Supplementary Examination Fees	₹100 for a course
Ph.D. Re-registration Fees at the time of re-registration	₹1,500
Thesis Fees at the time of thesis submission	₹1,000
Convocation Fees at the time of thesis submission	₹2,000
Alumni Registration Fees at the time of thesis submission	₹500

Table-8

5 How to Apply and General Information

No.	**Information**
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. **The filled-in online application form, through the proper channel, must be sent to the 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 9th December, 2026
2	Complete the registration profile carefully. No changes can be made to the registration profile after submission.
3	The list of shortlisted candidates for the Screening Test and/or Direct Interview will be communicated to the concerned authorities of the DOS/ISRO Units/Centres.
4	Candidates may contact the respective supervisor/department for the screening test syllabus.
5	The Screening test will be conducted at the IIST campus on 21st December 2026 (Monday), and the interview will be held from 21st December 2026 to 24th December 2026 (tentatively) for candidates who qualify for the screening test.
6	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.
7	For Part-time Ph.D. Scholars from DoS Centres/Units, in addition to the Internal Ph.D. supervisor from IIST faculty, an External Supervisor from the relevant ISRO Centre shall also be identified.

8	Part-time Research Scholars will have to undertake coursework identified by the proposed Supervisors in consultation with the HoD. They can complete the required number of credits 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.
9	Ph.D. scholars with B. Tech./4-year BS as their highest qualification must complete additional coursework as prescribed by the institute, which may exceed one semester. The Ph.D. scholars will take courses offered by IIST and/or online through Swayam /NPTEL, subject to the approval of the Doctoral Committee and the Institute.
10	If the Ph.D. scholar from ISRO/DoS opts to undertake the coursework offered by IIST, either by residing on campus or as a day scholar, the 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.)
11	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 the IIST Ph.D. Programme.

Table-9

7 Contact and Official Information

Item	Details to be inserted before publication
Official website	https://www.iist.ac.in
Ph.D. admission portal	https://admission.iist.ac.in
Admission office email	admissions@iist.ac.in
Admission Helpdesk	0471-256-8618/477 (9:30AM to 4:30PM on all working days
Postal address	Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST), Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India-695547

Important Note

Applicants are advised to read the rules, regulations and guidelines carefully before applying. In case of any discrepancy between this admission notification and the applicable IIST rules/regulations, the rules and regulations of IIST shall govern.