

INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS, PROCEDURE FOR REGISTRATION AND PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION OF A THESIS FOR THE AWARD OF THE Ph.D DEGREE OF THE INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

(Not valid for those joining on or after 01.05.2011)

The degree of Doctor of Philosophy is awarded to a candidate for original contribution in a chosen field of research in the areas: Statistics, Mathematics, Quantitative Economics and Computer Science.¹ For this purpose, it is necessary for the candidate to register for this degree under a supervisor and subsequently submit a thesis embodying his/her research work for evaluation by a panel of examiners.

Basic Eligibility Conditions

A candidate must satisfy all the three basic eligibility conditions I, II and III listed below in order to be considered for registration for the Ph.D. degree of the Indian Statistical Institute.

I. At least one of (i)- (iv) given below has to be satisfied.

- (i) The candidate has successfully completed M.Stat., M.S.(QE), M.Tech.(CS) or M.Tech.(QR & OR) course of the Indian Statistical Institute.²
- (ii) The Candidate has successfully completed, either as a regular research fellow of the Institute or a research fellow in an externally funded project of the Institute, the research programme of the Institute in a subject in which the Institute awards the Ph.D. degree. The Research Fellow Advisory Committee (RFAC) of the concerned Unit/Division has to certify that the candidate has successfully completed the research programme.

¹ The Indian Statistical Institute Act, as amended in 1995, empowers the Institute to "hold such examinations and grant such degrees and diplomas in Statistics, Mathematics, Quantitative Economics, Computer Science and such other subjects related to Statistics as may be determined by the Institute from time to time".

² Candidates having the following diplomas may also be considered for the purpose of clause I(i): the Post Graduate Diploma, the Two/Three year Advanced Statisticians Diploma and the Senior Diploma in Statistics.

- (iii) The candidate has a Master's degree from a recognized university and has been a regular worker of the Institute or a project-linked person in an externally funded project of the Institute for at least three years and during this period has been engaged in research in a subject in which the Institute awards the Ph.D. degree. The RFAC of the concerned Unit/Division has to certify that the candidate has been engaged in research for at least three years.
- (iv) The candidate has a Master's degree or a four-year technological degree from a recognized university in a relevant subject and has been formally engaged in full-time research in a recognized research organization for at least three years after the qualifying degree. The candidate should have spent at least one of these three years at the Institute in a maximum of two spells. The association of such a candidate with the Institute for the purpose of satisfying the minimum one-year residence requirement has to be full time and formal, even if it is not on a stipendiary basis.

II. If a candidate wishes to submit a Ph.D. thesis in a subject area in which the Institute is empowered to confer a Ph.D. degree, then he/she should pass either the J.R.F. Selection Test, comprising written test and interview, conducted annually by the Institute in the relevant subject area or a written test cum interview, at the same level as the Selection Test conducted annually by the Institute, in the relevant subject area conducted by the RFAC of the concerned Unit/Division of the Institute, in consultation with the Dean. The test conducted by the concerned RFAC will have the same syllabus as that of the normal JRF selection test in the subject in which ISI's Ph.D. degree is being sought. This condition also applies to candidates who have successfully passed the UGC, CSIR, NBHM or similar other tests for junior research fellowship.

For a candidate passing JRF admission test conducted by a funding organization (e.g., CSIR) in a subject in which ISI is not empowered to grant Ph.D. degree (e.g., Physics), but wants to do Ph.D. in one of the four subjects in which the Institute offers Ph.D. degree, the following rule will apply. He/she may join ISI as a JRF with fellowship from

the funding organization but must pass the Selection Test ,as stated above, in the relevant subject area conducted by the RFAC of the concerned Unit/Division of the Institute.

III. The candidate has sufficient knowledge of the relevant subject and has made substantial progress towards the submission of a thesis as evidenced by research papers published/accepted for publication in journals and/or working papers/ preprints and a title and summary of the proposed thesis.

Procedure for Registration

Candidates who satisfy the basic eligibility conditions I, II and III may apply for registration in the prescribed form which may be obtained from the Convener, Ph.D. and D. Sc. Committee, Indian Statistical Institute, 203 B.T. Road, Kolkata 700108. The application form, duly filled in, should be submitted to the Convener after obtaining the endorsements of the supervisor (and the Dean of Studies, for Research Fellows of the Institute) along with photo copies of degree certificates and (p)reprints of research papers and a title and summary of the proposed thesis. A candidate who has been selected as a JRF of the Institute should apply for registration within five years from the date of selection. Candidates who are not Research Fellows of the Institute should apply through proper channel.

Normally, the supervisor should be a faculty member (Lecturer or equivalent and above) of the Institute. The Ph.D. and D.Sc. Committee may ask, if it feels necessary, for a copy of the supervisor's Curriculum Vitae, with List of Publications and based on his/her credentials take a decision on granting registration to the student. As soon as a student is assigned a supervisor, the Dean and the concerned RFAC will inform the Ph.D. and D.Sc. Committee so that the supervisor is not found ineligible at a later stage.

A candidate intending to satisfy the residence requirement of the basic eligibility condition I(iv) should apply to the Dean of Studies and the Head of the Unit of the Institute where the candidate wants to do research through the supervisor. The candidate will be asked to take a written test and appear at an interview in the Institute. On the

successful completion of this selection process he/she will be associated to the Institute on a formal and full time basis. During his/her stay at the Institute the candidate would carry out research under the supervision of a faculty member of the Institute approved by the appropriate RFAC.

If the candidate satisfies the three basic eligibility conditions I, II and III, the Ph.D. and D.Sc. Committee may, at its discretion, approve the registration of the candidate for the Ph.D. degree of the Institute. If the Committee approves the registration, the candidate has to pay a Registration Fee of Rs. 500 either by a bank draft drawn in favour of The Indian Statistical Institute and payable in Kolkata or by cash deposited to the Institute. The bank draft/original cash receipt is to be sent to the Convener of the Ph.D. and D.Sc. Committee. The candidate should keep a record of the details of the bank draft/cash receipt for future reference.

Submission of Thesis

The thesis should be submitted within three years of registration. Otherwise the candidate will have to reapply for registration.

The candidate should first submit seven copies of a synopsis of the thesis. The synopsis should essentially be a chapter-wise summary of the thesis. The first page should begin with the caption "SYNOPSIS" and should contain the title of the thesis, the name of the candidate and the month and the year of submission of the synopsis. The synopsis should include at the end a complete list of references appearing in the thesis, arranged alphabetically by the last name of the first author.

Along with the synopsis, the following should be submitted: (a) a statement from the supervisor certifying that the thesis would be submitted within three months, and (b) a list of names of all persons with whom joint work was carried out, results of which are included in the thesis.

To help speed up processing, candidates are strongly advised to submit a soft copy of the synopsis preferably in pdf, dvi or postscript format.

Seven copies of the thesis should be submitted within three months of submission of the synopsis. The thesis should be printed on one side of the paper. Five copies should be softbound and the other two hardbound. Along with the thesis the following has to be submitted: (i) Thesis Submission Form duly filled in, and (ii) No objection certificate from all authors joint work with whom is included in the thesis. These forms may be obtained from the Convener, Ph.D. and D.Sc. Committee.

Processing of a Submitted Thesis and Award of Degree

A thesis submitted to the Institute will be sent to three examiners for evaluation. After the processing of the thesis is complete

- (a) if the Ph.D. and D.Sc. Committee finds all the examiners' reports favourable, the candidate will be asked to appear for a viva-voce examination on the thesis and related topics, and the supervisor will be informed accordingly;
- (b) if the examiners' reports are not found favourable, the supervisor will be sent extract(s) from the relevant report(s) to be conveyed to the candidate. If the Ph.D. and D.Sc. Committee suggests that a revised version of the thesis may be resubmitted, then the resubmission, accompanied by an Actions Taken Report approved by the supervisor, should be made as soon as possible and positively within one year. Further, a candidate will be allowed to submit at most two revisions of the thesis that was originally submitted.

A provisional Ph.D. degree certificate is issued after viva-voce examination report is accepted for award of the Ph.D. degree by the Ph.D. and D.Sc. Committee. The subject area in which a candidate is found eligible at the time of registration, will be mentioned as his/her subject in the Ph.D. degree certificate. The degree is awarded at the convocation following the approval of the award by the Academic Council and the Council of the Institute. The Dean of Studies will contact the candidate in this regard before the convocation. Candidates are advised to keep the Convener of the Ph.D. and D.Sc. Committee and the Dean informed of any change of address.

