

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY HYDERABAD
DEPARTMENT OF LIBERAL ARTS
Ph.D. Admission Brochure
July 2026 session

The Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) invites applications for admission to the Ph.D. program in the Department of Liberal Arts.

Areas of specializations

For the July 2026 admissions, we invite applications in the following areas:

Sociology and Anthropology (MoE, JRF and any other funding agency) – Sub-fields: Science, Technology, and Society (STS) with a focus on environment, disasters and climate change, cities, digital technologies, infrastructures. Medical anthropology, Reproduction and Society. Applicants may keep a 1500-word research proposal ready. If shortlisted in the first round, they will be required to submit it before the interview.

Cognitive Sciences (MoE, JRF, RGNF, CSIR JRF, DBT JRF, Other Fellowships) - Sub-fields - Sensorimotor Learning and Memory, Cognitive Neuroscience.

Economics (MoE, JRF, RGNF, CSIR JRF, DBT JRF, Other fellowships) - Sub-fields: Macroeconomics, International Finance, Monetary Economics, Monetary policy, Economic Growth, International Economics, Industrial Economics and Public finance. Applicants should have a 1500-2000 word research proposal ready, as it may need to be submitted at short notice if shortlisted for the interview.

English (JRF and other fellowships)- Sub-fields: Feminist writing, Gender and performance. Applicants may keep a 1500 word research (excluding works cited) proposal ready. If shortlisted in the first round, they will have to upload it before the interview.

Linguistics (MoE and JRF) – Sub-fields: Theoretical Linguistics, Biolinguistics, Cognitive Linguistics, Mathematical Linguistics

Psychology (JRF, MoE or any other funding agency) - Sub-fields: Disability, Mental Health, Neurodiversity, Qualitative Psychology. Organizational learning, organizational psychology and systems thinking, knowledge sharing in organizations, psychological resilience, clinical psychology, mental health and well-being. Applicants may keep a 1500 word research proposal ready. If shortlisted in the first round, they will be required to submit it before the interview.

Categories for Admission

1. MoE/Institute Fellowship: This is a full-time program; candidates should not be employed in any organization.
2. CSIR JRF, UGC JRF, DST INSPIRE JRF, DBT JRF, ICMR JRF and similar fellowships from external funding agencies: This is a full-time program; candidates should not be employed in any organization.

Not available in this round of admission: External category for (working professionals with two years of work experience)

Eligibility Criteria for PhD Admission

1. MoE/Institute Fellowship

- 55% marks or equivalent CGPA in the Master's degree in the subject or allied areas.
- In order to obtain the MoE/Institute fellowship, a candidate must have qualified the UGC-NET or GATE or an equivalent qualifying examination.
- Shortlisted candidates must pass an interview conducted by the Department of Liberal Arts, IITH.
- Candidates must also provide evidence of passing the UGC-NET/equivalent qualifying examination.
- Failure to provide final proof of the qualifying degree (Masters degree, etc.) at the time of registration at IIT Hyderabad will lead to the cancellation of the applicant's admission.

2. UGC-JRF or Comparable Fellowship

- 55% marks or equivalent CGPA in the Master's degree in the subject or allied areas.
- Shortlisted candidates must pass an interview conducted by the Department of Liberal Arts.
- Candidates must also provide documentary evidence of qualifying for UGC-JRF/equivalent fellowship.
- Failure to provide final proof of the qualifying degree (Master's degree, etc.) at the time of registration at IIT Hyderabad will lead to cancellation of the applicant's admission.

Procedure for Submitting the Application

- Please fill in and submit the **online application form** available on the Institute website: <https://www.iith.ac.in/>
- **Important Checklist:** (a) Upload certificates from the qualifying exam, UGC-NET or UGC-JRF certificates (or other comparable certificates) (b) Mention the discipline in which you wish to apply (c) Mention the appropriate funding category such as MoE/Institute Fellowship or JRF (d) If applicable, please upload relevant documents pertaining to SC, ST, OBC, EWS and PwD as per Government of India rules

Selection

- Mere fulfillment of the minimum educational qualifications does not necessarily entitle applicants to a call for an interview. The Institute reserves the right to call only the requisite number of PhD candidates based on qualification and suitability.

Fellowship

- Candidates selected under MoE/Institute Fellowship category will obtain monthly fellowships as per IIT Hyderabad norms. Candidates selected under other funding categories will receive fellowships as per the guidelines of those funding agencies.

Reservations

- The reservation of seats in admissions under SC, ST, OBC, EWS categories and for persons with disability (PwD) will be as per Government of India rules.

Other Relevant Information

- Shortlisted candidates will be required to submit a letter of recommendation sent from their teacher/advisor at the educational institution last attended.
- For disciplines which require a research proposal to be submitted: A plagiarism check of the document submitted will be done. The penalty for plagiarism will be immediate disqualification from the selection process.
- All-important updates regarding the admission process will be uploaded on the Department of Liberal Arts website: <https://la.iith.ac.in/>

Tentative dates for the admission process

- List of only shortlisted candidates will be uploaded on the Department of Liberal Arts website by end of April 2026.
- The interviews will tentatively be scheduled by mid May 2026.
- The final list of selected candidates for admission into the PhD program will be uploaded on the Department of Liberal Arts website by first week of June 2026

Contact: For all queries regarding the application process, please email us at applications_laphd@iith.ac.in