



राष्ट्रीय डिज़ाइन संस्थान
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DESIGN

2023-2024

**Handbook for Admissions to Academic Year 2023-2024
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Design**

Note:

- This brochure is only available as an online digital download.
- Changes and updates to this document, if any, will be highlighted on the official website (<http://admissions.nid.edu>).
- Candidates are advised to download this handbook from the official website only and check for any updates on the website before submitting their application.

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All courses at NID are taught in English.

Candidates must satisfy all the eligibility criteria stipulated in this handbook in order to be eligible for admission.

Records of exam-related documents will be retained by NID only for a period of one year from the date of declaration of final selection list.

The courts and tribunals in Ahmedabad alone shall have exclusive jurisdiction to entertain and settle any dispute or claim regarding admission to NID.

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1.

General Information

National Institute of Design (NID) is an 'Institute of National Importance' as per the NID Act 2014, as well as an autonomous Institute under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India. The Institute is empowered to award its own degrees and presently offers Bachelor of Design (B.Des.), Master of Design (M.Des.), and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Design. The Institute is also a member of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU). It has strong linkages with the industry and active collaboration with several design institutes and universities across the world.

In pursuit of its continued commitment to design research, NID started a PhD Programme in Design in the year 2017.

2. Stages of Selection

Entry to the PhD programme in Design will be granted on the basis of a three-stage selection process detailed below. Final selection will be based on the quality of proposals and suitability of topics to NID's research priorities.

2.1 Procedure for admission:

1. The Institute shall notify the admissions to the Doctor of Philosophy programme in the public domain on its website and other online resources.
2. The advertisement shall specify the number of seats for admission, criteria for admission, procedure for admission, examination centres where entrance tests shall be conducted and all other relevant information for the benefit of the candidate.
3. The Institute shall follow the reservation policy of the Government of India, as prescribed from time to time.
4. The applicant to the Doctor of Philosophy programme shall be required to submit a research proposal in two to three thousand words.
5. The applicant who is scheduled to complete the final year of the qualifying examinations and is awaiting result, shall also be eligible to apply for admission to the Doctor of Philosophy programme, and in such cases, the admission shall be provisional and confirmation of admission shall be subject to successful completion of the qualifying examination.
6. The research proposal submitted by the applicant shall be screened by the Research Committee and shall be primarily assessed on merit, analytical framework, research priorities and the relevance of the proposal to the broad theme of design.
7. The selection shall be made through an entrance test namely, Design Research Test with qualifying marks 60%, and on the basis of the design aptitude and research abilities, general awareness, basic numeric and design abilities:
Provided that design professionals with more than fifteen years of experience shall be exempted from the Design Research Test.
8. The entrance test shall be conducted at the centre notified in advance (if conducted offline).
9. The applicant who qualifies the Design Research Test shall be required to appear for an interview before the Selection Committee on a date notified in advance.
10. The Selection Committee shall consist of the following members, namely:-
 - (a) one member of the Research Committee, to be appointed by the Research Committee as Chairperson;
 - (b) Head, Doctor of Philosophy programme, ex-officio;
 - (c) two faculty members of the grade of Principal Designer or Principal Faculty or Senior Designer or Senior Faculty, nominated by the Research Committee;
 - (d) one external expert from academia or industry to be nominated by the Research Committee;

11. The interview shall consider the following aspects, namely:-
 - (a) competence of the candidates for the proposed research;
 - (b) whether the proposed research work can be suitably undertaken at the Institute or the Institute campus;
 - (c) whether the proposed research work is in alignment with Institute's research priorities;
 - (d) whether the proposed area of research can contribute to new or additional knowledge i.e. subject area or topic of the research proposal;
 - (e) delivery and presentation.
12. The final list of selected candidates shall be published on the website of the Institute or informed on their registered email id.

2.2 Stages

Stage 1: Assessment of eligibility and merit of Proposal

(A) **Eligibility:** Candidates who do not fulfil the eligibility criteria will be rejected on the basis of their application form.

(B) **Research Proposal:** The content of the research proposal of the eligible candidates will be examined from the point of view of alignment with NID's research objectives, appropriateness, analytical framework and the overall potential of the research. Only candidates whose proposals pass this examination would be shortlisted and would proceed to the next stage.

Stage 2: Design Research Test (DRT)

Candidates shortlisted in Stage 1 would be required to take the Design Research Test (DRT).

Stage 3: Personal Interview

Candidates shortlisted in Stage 2 would be invited to appear for the Personal Interview (Refer Section 2.5.3 Personal Interview).

Details of these 3 stages are given in Section 2.5 *Requirements of various stages*.

If the total scores of two or more candidates at any given stage are the same, higher rank would be decided based on the tie-break policy. The number of candidates shortlisted for any stage will be informed well in advance before the next stage.

2.3 Criteria for evaluation of different stages

Factors that would be considered for evaluation of the various stages are given below.

A: Screening of Proposals

1. Alignment of Research Proposal topic to NID's expressed research areas; willingness of some faculty member to be the Guide OR Match with at least one faculty member's published interest areas
2. Relevance and feasibility of research study to the field of design
3. Clearly defined objectives, rationale of the study and research questions
4. Language, articulation, and presentation quality

B: Design Research Test

1. Knowledge and worldview
2. Creativity and design thinking
3. Observation and imagination
4. Comprehension and articulation
5. Analysis and/or synthesis capabilities
6. Quality of Representation

C: Interview

1. The merit of the Research Proposal
2. Academic Record and Work Experience
3. Exposition of proposed research to panel
4. Personal Attributes

2.4 Weightages of different stages

The selection shall be made through an entrance test namely, Design Research Test with qualifying marks as 60 per cent and on the basis of the design aptitude and research abilities, general awareness, basic numeric and design abilities:

- Provided that design professionals with more than fifteen years of experience shall be exempted from the Design Research Test.

The research proposal of those applicant who qualifies the Design Research Test shall be required will be to appear for an interview before the Selection Committee on a date notified in advance.

The interview shall consider the following aspects, namely:-

- (a) competence of the candidates for the proposed research;
- (b) whether the proposed research work can be suitably undertaken at the Institute or the Institute campus;
- (c) whether the proposed research work is in alignment with Institute's research priorities;
- (d) whether the proposed area of research can contribute to new or additional knowledge i.e. subject area or topic of the research proposal;
- (e) delivery and presentation.

The final weightage of the applicant who gets admission will be decided by the PhD. Research Committee which will be intimated at a later stage.

For those who take the DRT and appear in the Interview (i.e., those with less than 15 years of work experience): weightage of DRT = 20% and weightage of Interview / Presentation of Research Proposal= 80%

For those who appear only in the interview (i.e. those with more than 15 years of work experience): the presentation by the candidate should be in two parts: i) (worth 20%) a presentation of their prior academic and work experience and its relevance to the proposed research and (ii) (worth 80%) detailed exposition of their research proposal.

2.5 Requirements of various stages

1. PhD Proposal

The PhD Proposal is a vital component of the selection criteria. The proposal is judged on the basis of its significance to the practice of design and should suitably justify the need for the investigation the candidate wishes to undertake. The proposal should explain how the research is relevant and how it could make an original contribution to the field of design. An outline of the proposed methods to be used must shed light on the feasibility and suitability of their approach.

This year, research proposals are invited in (but not restricted to) the following areas: Indigenous practices (related to culture, nature, material culture practices, visual culture, crafts, and heritage), Meta-systems of eco-social innovation, circularity, sustainability, human practices, diversity and inclusivity, Design pedagogy concerns (related to product semantics, form studies, semiotics, visual rhetoric, phenomenology, design aesthetics, spatial studies, design history), Mobility and transportation concerns, Narrative traditions and structures, Information design, Strategic design and Design futures.

Candidates for the PhD programme shall be required to submit, in addition to other relevant documents, a well-developed Research Proposal, approximately 2000-3000 words in length, reflecting:

- A. The proposed work
 - a. The broad field of study or general background or the context of the research
 - b. Literature review or the context of the research incorporating a list of references and/or a bibliography
 - c. The research problem and scope
 - d. The rationale for and the significance of the study
 - e. The objectives of the study and the research questions
 - f. The approach/methodology to be followed
 - g. The candidate's skills, knowledge and research or work experience relevant to the study
 - h. The research work's potential contribution to knowledge and understanding of the relevant field
 - i. In case of practice-based research, how the practice and research objectives relate to each other

- B. The candidate's skills, knowledge and research or work experience relevant to the study (This would count for 20% of the score for candidates who do not have to give the DRT).

The proposal will be verified using an anti-plagiarism tool to check the originality of the proposal.

2. Design Research Test (DRT):

The Design Research Test (DRT) would be conducted in an online format.

Candidates with less than 15 years of post-eligibility criteria experience must take the Design Research Test (DRT) as mentioned earlier in the section *Stages of Selection* of this handbook. Design professionals meeting the eligibility requirements detailed in Section 5.1 of this document and with more than 15 years of post-eligibility criteria experience are exempted from the DRT. They would be directly eligible to appear for the interview, on evaluation of their submitted proposal alone.

3. Personal Interview:

The Personal Interview shall be conducted by the NID Selection Committee. Details of the Research Proposal as well as evidence of their work experience and portfolio would be examined in the personal interview.

Note:

- Candidates are solely responsible to provide accurate information during the application process. If it is found that any information provided by the candidate is not true, NID has the right to cancel, at any stage, the candidate's application or selection. Any direct or indirect attempt to influence the management and employees of the Institute will lead to automatic disqualification of the candidate.
- The Institute has the sole prerogative to determine the procedure for each cycle of admission. In case of any matter not covered in this handbook, NID's decisions shall be considered final and binding to all the parties concerned.

The Doctor of Philosophy programme shall be classified into full-time and part-time as detailed in Section 4.5.

The research proposal submitted by the applicant shall be screened by the Research Committee and shall be primarily assessed on merit, analytical framework, research priorities and the relevance of the proposal to the broad theme of design.

The selection shall be made through an entrance test namely, Design Research Test with qualifying weightage and criteria as mentioned in Section 2.4. Provided that design professionals with more than fifteen years of experience shall be exempted from the Design Research Test.

3. Important Dates

- * **Accepting application form** online starts from **Friday, 1600 hrs. (IST) May 12, 2023**
- * The deadline for **submitting online application** is **Monday, 1600 hrs. (IST) June 12, 2023**
- * The dates for Window to edit application form is from **Tuesday, 1600 hrs.(IST) June 13, 2023, to Thursday 1600 hrs. (IST) June 15, 2023.**
- * The date for downloading **DRT is Thursday, 10 August, 2023.**
- * The date for **conducting DRT is Thursday, 17 August, 2023.**
- * The date for conducting Interview is **between Monday to Friday, August 21-August 25, 2023.** The exact schedule and time of the Interview and presentation by the shortlisted candidates will be mentioned in the Admit Card. Candidates who do not get shortlisted will be informed so by email.
- * The date for **announcing the final result is Tuesday, 1600 hrs.(IST) 05 September, 2023.**
- * Admit Cards for the DRT will be available for download on the NID website (<http://admissions.nid.edu>). It is the responsibility of all candidates to download and print their own Admit Cards.

The candidates can modify the details filled in the application form (except the Programme Applied in (Part-time/Full-time), Name of the Candidate, Date of Birth, Registered Mobile Number & Registered Email ID) at the time when 'Window to Edit' opens. In case, the candidate changes his/her applied category during the "Window to Edit" period, the applicable additional application form fees will have to be paid by the candidate. However, no refund of excess fees will be made in the case of any category change.

4. The Ph.D. Programme

4.1 About PhD in Design at NID

Design is the professional capability of creating and developing context-led concepts and translating them into tangible solutions for the benefit of people, society, industry and the environment. The design of objects, communication, services, interface and their systems requires in-depth analysis and the creative synthesis of information and ideas based on a variety of disciplines and experiences. Design thinking brings together the finest sensibilities of the arts, the logic of science and the functional pursuits of technology in an innovative framework.

At the heart of all of NID's academic programmes and activities are the values of 'learning by doing' and 'learning from the field'. The curriculum and pedagogy at Bachelor's and Master's levels offered at the Institute have uniquely evolved from a value based interdisciplinary approach to creative problem solving wherein research is integral to the process of design.

NID's Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree in Design shall be awarded for an advanced and detailed in-depth research study of any particular aspects of Design that the candidate feels have hitherto not been studied and which culminates with a thesis that extends the body of knowledge and the application of design thinking, process and practice. In the case of a practice-based PhD, such work might be centred around a creative outcome of the candidate's professional practice.

The programme is open to educators and professionals in design and allied creative fields who wish to undertake theoretical study of their own practice or knowledge base and push the boundaries of the discipline.

4.2 Aims and Goals

The PhD programme in Design aims to promote deep reflection, inquiry, and rigor in the development and dissemination of new ideas, expressions and skills in the field of design and allied fields and shall lead to their meaningful manifestations in the form of new design collections, objects, communication, services, strategies, etc. The work shall contribute new theories and knowledge to design, design education and design practice.

The purpose of the programme is to better the understanding and use of design in industry, education and society at large.

4.3 Objectives

1. To foster original research and create new knowledge about the nature and practice of design.
2. To engage in a deeper understanding of expressions, methods and the role of design in problem-solving activity.
3. To foster NID's pedagogic principles of 'Learning to Know' and 'Learning to Do' .
4. To enable collaboration in research, scholarship, design development and service.
5. To enable students to engage in advanced research and practice with design theorists and practitioners in a broad variety of fields.
6. To contribute towards the Institute's objective of design for dignity and service to society, and to participate in meaningful design for change and sustainability.

4.4 Modes of the PhD in Design

The PhD programme in Design may be undertaken in one of the modes given here:

Practice-based Research: Original investigation undertaken in order to gain new knowledge partly by means of practice and the outcomes of that practice. Such research includes practice as an integral part of its method and often falls within the general area of action research outcomes. Creative outcomes may be in the form of artefacts such as objects, images, film, fashion, music, design collections, models, samples, prototypes, digital media, performances and exhibitions or other outcomes. The doctoral submissions for this kind of research must include contextualisation of the creative work.

Theory-led Research: It would be concerned with the nature of practice and lead to new knowledge that has operational significance for that practice. The main focus is to advance knowledge about practice, or to advance knowledge within practice. Such research may be fully described in text form in the doctoral thesis, without the inclusion of a creative outcome.

4.5 Classification of Programme

1. The Doctor of Philosophy programme shall be classified into full-time and part-time.
2. The following shall be full-time Research Scholar, namely:-
 - a) Research Scholar with full fellowship;
 - b) Research Scholar sponsored by Industry, Government and recognised non-Governmental organisations who shall not be eligible for any financial support from the Institute;
 - c) Foreign nationals with Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Awardees Fellowship Awardees who are sponsored by their respective Governments and awarded a scholarship by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations shall apply for admission through Indian Embassy in their respective countries;
 - d) Foreign nationals who are self-financed shall be granted admission through the Embassy of the respective Governments after approval of the Ministry of External Affairs and a no objection certificate from the concerned Ministry of the Central Government;

3. The following shall be part-time Research Scholar, namely:-
 - (a) faculty or staff of the Institute who are permanent employees of the Institute or Institute campus, as the case may be, shall be eligible for admission to the Doctor of Philosophy programme;
 - (b) persons working in academia or industry or research organisation who are unable to pursue the full time doctoral programme in residence, for personal or professional reasons;
 - (c) individual sponsored on part time basis by industry or institution.

4.6 Duration of the Programme

1. The Doctor of Philosophy programme for full-time research scholars shall be for a period of three years including course work and a maximum of five years:
 - a. Provided that the female candidates and persons with disability of more than 40 per cent. may be allowed relaxation of two years in the maximum duration:
 - b. Provided further that a full time Research Scholar may be allowed to take maternity leave or child care leave up to 240 days once in the entire duration of the programme.
2. The Research Scholar who is not able to complete the full-time programme within three years may seek extension up to two years.
3. The Doctor of Philosophy programme for part-time research scholars shall be for a period of five years including course work and a maximum of seven years:
 - a. Provided that the female candidates and persons with disability of more than 40 per cent may be allowed relaxation of two years in the maximum duration:
 - b. Provided further that a part time Research Scholar may be allowed to take maternity leave or childcare leave upto 240 days once in the entire duration of the programme.
4. The Research Scholar who is not able to complete the part-time programme within five years may seek extension up to two years.

4.7 Details of the PhD Programme

The PhD programme will be offered in 5-year part-time and 3-year full-time formats.

Full-time candidates are required to be present on campus throughout the duration of their doctoral study period. Part-time candidates are required to be present on campus for the duration of scheduled coursework, seminars, and other academic requirements.

Financial support for full-time PhD:

Candidates enrolled in the full-time PhD programme and not getting any external funding or fellowship shall be eligible for a research fellowship or a service-based assistantship from NID for the first three years. The stipend would stop after the first three years. Candidates enrolled in the full-time PhD programme (with stipend) will have to take up teaching or research assignments at the Institute and its campuses, based on the recommendations of their guides.

Part-time PhD Programme: Candidates enrolled in the part-time PhD programme will not be entitled to any stipend or assistantship.

Working professionals seeking admission to the part-time PhD programme shall be required to obtain a No-Objection Certificate (NOC) from their employer, stating that the employer has no objection to the employee pursuing a PhD from the Institute, and that the employee will be available for doctoral consultations with the guide, periodic seminars and presentations, as the case may be, and will fulfil residential requirements as per the Institute's ordinances. This certificate should be submitted along with the application.

Part-time candidates shall also be governed by all rules and regulations of the Institute.

5. Eligibility Criteria

5.1 Educational Qualifications

The following shall be the minimum eligibility for admission to the Doctor of Philosophy programme, namely:-

Master's degree in Design from an accredited institution or recognised University or Post Graduate Diploma Programme in Design from the National Institute of Design or Advanced Entry Programme or five-five and a half year School Leavers' Professional Education Programme Diploma in Design from the National Institute of Design;

OR

Master's degree in Architecture or Fine Arts or Applied Arts from a recognised institution or University with 55 per cent. marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 7 point scale or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or an equivalent foreign degree from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognised or authorised by an authority established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any statutory authority in that country for the purpose of assessing accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions and having a graduate or post graduate degree, in Design;

OR

Bachelor's degree in Design from National Institute of Design or National Institute of Design's Graduate Diploma Programme in Design with three years' of professional or teaching experience or both;

OR

Four and a half year School Leavers' Professional Education Programme Diploma in Design with three years of professional or teaching experience or both;

OR

Master's degree in Philosophy (in Design) with 55 per cent. marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 7 point scale or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or an equivalent foreign degree from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognised or authorised by an authority established or incorporated under a law

in its home country or any statutory authority in that country for the purpose of assessing accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions;

OR

Individuals who have successfully completed a Faculty Development Programme in Design having two years or more duration from the National Institute of Design or any other recognised University;

OR

Foreign nationals or Indian nationals with degree from a foreign University subject to equivalence of their educational qualifications with the Master's degree in Design from an accredited institution or recognised University or Post Graduate Diploma Programme in Design from the National Institute of Design of Advanced Entry Programme or five-year School Leavers' Professional Education Programme Diploma in Design from the National Institute of Design.

Note:

Candidates who are scheduled to complete the final year of their qualifying examinations and are awaiting results are also eligible to apply for the PhD programme. In such cases, their candidature shall be provisional and confirmation of selection shall be subject to successful completion of the qualifying exams. Provisional acceptance will be confirmed only if the candidates secure the minimum grade/marks in their qualifying examination and submit its results to the Institute before the commencement of the programme. Failing this, the provisional status granted to such candidates shall automatically stand cancelled.

In case the degree/certificate has been obtained from a University/Board of any country other than India, an equivalence certificate must be submitted to Admissions Office by the candidate from the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), New Delhi, at the time of document verification tentatively scheduled in September 2023. Visit <http://www.aiu.ac.in> for more details about how to obtain an equivalence certificate. Failing this, the provisional status granted to such candidates shall automatically stand cancelled.

6. Reservation of Seats

The maximum number of seats for the PhD programme is 15. The Institute shall follow the reservation policy of the Government of India, as may be applicable from time to time, for allocation of seats for the PhD programme.

The total number of seats available in the PhD Programme for Indian Nationals are classified into different categories as mentioned below:

Seat Category	Category of eligible candidates
Open	GEN, GEN-EWS, OBC-NCL, SC, ST, GEN-PwD, OBC-NCL-PwD, SC-PwD, ST-PwD, GEN-EWS-PwD
General- Economically Weaker Section (GEN-EWS)	GEN- EWS, GEN-EWS-PwD
Other Backward Class-Non Creamy Layer (OBC-NCL)	OBC-NCL and OBC-NCL-PwD
Schedule Caste (SC)	SC and SC -PwD
Schedule Tribe (ST)	ST and ST -PwD
Open—Persons with Disability (PwD)	GEN-PwD, GEN-EWS-PwD, OBC-NCL-PwD, SC-PwD, ST-PwD
Other Backward Class-Non Creamy Layer—Persons with Disability (OBC-NCL-PwD)	OBC-NCL-PwD
Schedule Caste —Persons with Disability (SC-PwD)	SC-PwD
Schedule Tribe—Persons with Disability (ST-PwD)	ST-PwD

Candidates belonging to the GEN-EWS, OBC-NCL, SC, ST and PwD categories will be shortlisted for the Interview on the basis of the minimum qualifying criteria which will be announced later.

Foreign nationals applying under the Overseas category are outside the ambit of reservation of seats for the GEN-EWS, OBC-NCL, SC, ST and PwD categories.

In accordance with the guidelines of the Government of India, the prescribed number of seats reserved for each of these categories are as follows:

Category-wise reservation of seats (For Part Time)					Overseas (Supernumerary)
Total No. of Seats	GEN- EWS (10%)	OBC- NCL (27%)	Scheduled Caste (15%)	Scheduled Tribe (7.5%)	
5	1	1	1	1	3

Category-wise reservation of seats (For Full Time)					Overseas (Supernumerary)
Total No. of Seats	GEN- EWS (10%)	OBC- NCL (27%)	Scheduled Caste (15%)	Scheduled Tribe (7.5%)	
5	1	1	1	1	2

Note:

Out of the total 05 seats in the Overseas (Supernumerary) category, 03 seats are for applicants from HSLU, Lucerne under the NID-HSLU Joint supervised Ph.D programme in "Eco-social Innovation by Design".

It may be noted that the category chosen by a candidate at the time of submitting the application form will be considered as final, and requests for change of category will not be entertained.

The breakup of 5 seats in the Full-Time programme will be as:

- a) at least 1 (one) applicant with full fellowship,
- b) at least 1 (one) applicant sponsored by Industry, Government and recognised non-Governmental organisations who shall not be eligible for any financial support from the Institute,
- c) at most 1 (one) foreign applicant with Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Fellowship (who would need to apply for admission through Indian Embassy in their respective countries), and
- d) at most 1 (one) foreign applicant who is self-financed (who would be granted admission through the Embassy of the respective Governments after approval of the Ministry of External Affairs and a no objection certificate from the concerned Ministry of the Central Government);
- e) at least 1 (one) candidate who does not fall into any of the above 4 categories.

If no applications are received in the first 4 categories or if their applicants do not make it into the cut-off merit list, these would be filled by the next candidates in the open merit list.

The breakup of 5 seats in the Part Time programme will be as:

- a) at most 2 (two) Faculty or staff of the Institute who are permanent employees of the Institute or Institute campus, as the case may be
- b) at most 2 (two) Persons working in academia or industry or research organisation who are unable to pursue the full-time doctoral programme in residence, for personal or professional reasons.
- c) at most 1 (one) Individual sponsored on part time basis by industry or institution

If no applications are received in the first 3 categories or if their applicants do not make it into the cut-off merit list, these would be filled by the next candidates in the open merit list.

6.1 Reservation for Economically Weaker Section (EWS):

General category belonging to Economically Weaker Section (GEN-EWS) will be a reserved category in which the percentage of reservation is 10%. The benefit of reservation will be given only to those General category candidates who satisfy the condition given in the OM No. 20013/01/2018-BC-II dated 17 January, 2021 issued by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Dept. of Higher Education.

The benefit of reservation under GEN-EWS can be availed upon production of an Income & Asset Certificate issued by a Competent Authority. The Income and Asset Certificate issued by any one of the following authorities in the prescribed format as available on the website <http://admissions.nid.edu> shall only considered valid

- (i) District Magistrate/Additional District Magistrate/ Collector/ Deputy Commissioner/Additional Deputy Commissioner/ 1st Class Stipendiary Magistrate/ Sub-Divisional Magistrate/ Taluka Magistrate/ Executive Magistrate/ Extra Assistant Commissioner
- (ii) Chief Presidency Magistrate/Additional Chief Presidency Magistrate/ Presidency Magistrate
- (iii) Revenue Officer not below the rank of Tehsildar and
- (iv) Sub-Divisional Officer or the area where the candidate and/or his family normally resides.

The date of issue of EWS certificate must be 01 April, 2022 or later.

Based on the information provided by the candidate in the application form while applying online, will be provisionally allowed to appear for the DRT and subsequent test if shortlisted. To provide / upload valid certificate at the time of applying online is the candidate's responsibility.

On verification at any stage during the admission process or ever after admissions, if the information/document/ certificate found to be incorrect / invalid, the candidature of such candidate will stand cancelled.

NID's decision will be final and binding. No further communication in this regard will be entertained.

6.2 Reservation for Other Backward Classes (Non-Creamy Layer):

The name of the caste must be in the current Central list of OBCs available at: http://www.ncbc.nic.in/User_Panel/CentralListStateView.aspx and the format of the OBC-NCL certificate must be as per the Central format (available on the website <https://admissions.nid.edu> in Download section). The caste of the OBC candidate is

mentioned in the state list, but not mentioned in the Central list, such candidates will not be entitled to claim the benefit of reservation under OBC-NCL category.

Candidates belonging to the Creamy Layer of OBC are not entitled to apply under reserved category (OBC-NCL) and will have to submit their application under General (unreserved) category.

Candidates applying under the OBC-NCL or Non-Creamy Layer category are required to produce (upload) a valid certificate in their name in English (**issued after 1 April, 2022 or later**) from the relevant competent authorities of their respective state or union territory, certifying that they do not belong to the Creamy Layer along with the final application form. For certificates that are not in the English language, the candidate is required to produce / upload a notarized copy of the English version along with the original copy of the category certificate.

Based on the information provided by the candidate in the application form while applying online, will be provisionally allowed to appear for the DRT and subsequent test if shortlisted. To provide / upload valid certificate at the time of applying online is the candidate's responsibility.

On verification at any stage during the admission process or ever after admissions, if the information/document/ certificate found to be incorrect / invalid, the candidature of such candidate will stand cancelled.

NID's decision will be final and binding. No further communication in this regard will be entertained.

6.3 Reservation for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes:

The benefit of this reservation will be given only to candidates belonging to castes and tribes mentioned in the central list published by the Government of India, which can be viewed at the following web links:

<http://socialjustice.nic.in/UserView/index?mid=76750>

<https://tribal.nic.in/ST/LatestListofScheduledtribes.pdf>

Candidates applying under SC and ST categories are required to upload the relevant caste/tribe certificate (in English language only) from the competent authorities of their respective state, union territory or the National Commission of Tribes, valid at the time of applying online. For certificates that are not in the English language, the candidate is required to produce / upload a notarized copy of the English version along with the original copy of the category certificate.

Based on the information provided by the candidate in the application form while applying online, will be provisionally allowed to appear for the DRT and subsequent test if shortlisted. To provide / upload valid certificate at the time of applying online is the candidate's responsibility.

On verification at any stage during the admission process or ever after admissions, if the information/document/ certificate found to be incorrect / invalid, the candidature of such candidate will stand cancelled.

NID's decision will be final and binding. No further communication in this regard will be entertained.

6.4 Reservation for Persons with Disability (PwD):

Of all seats across Open, GEN-EWS, OBC-NCL, SC and ST categories, 5% of the seats are reserved for Persons with Disability (PwD). Admission will be granted to the top 5% of the candidates in order of merit, irrespective of their parent category.

The benefit of reservation will be given only to those candidates with disability as described by the Government of India under RPWD Act 2016.

The candidate should also submit the disability certificate issued from the Unique Disability Identity Card Portal namely, <http://www.swavlambancard.gov.in> as per the Gazette notification dated 5 May 2021 issued by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Candidates seeking admission under this category are required to upload a valid Disability Certificate issued by Competent Medical Authority as certified by the Government of India, valid at the time of applying online. The formats of the certificate (Annexure 1 to 4) are available on the official website of admissions <https://admissions.nid.edu> under the Download section.

Dyslexic candidates need to submit FORM (Annexure 4) instead of PwD certificate. The certificate must clearly mention that the disability is at least 40% or 'SEVERE' under Dyslexia category to enable the candidate to avail the benefit of PwD category..

Based on the information provided by the candidate in the application form while applying online, will be provisionally allowed to appear for the DRT and subsequent test if shortlisted. To provide / upload valid certificate at the time of applying online is the candidate's responsibility.

On verification at any stage during the admission process or ever after admissions, if the information/document/ certificate found to be incorrect / invalid, the candidature of such candidate will stand cancelled.

NID's decision will be final and binding. No further communication in this regard will be entertained.

6.5 Overseas Category (Supernumerary candidates):

Foreign candidates—holding citizenship of a country other than the Republic of India—are eligible to apply only under the Overseas (supernumerary) category, provided they fulfill all the eligibility criteria mentioned in Section 5.1.

Note:

- Candidates under Overseas (supernumerary) category fall outside the ambit of seats reserved for the GEN- EWS, OBC-NCL, SC, ST and PwD categories and are required to pay the fees as per Overseas fee category.
- Candidates holding OCI and PIO card will have to apply only under the Overseas (supernumerary) category.
- Candidates must possess a valid passport. The candidate must ensure that the passport is current (not expired) at the time of applying online.
- Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) holding an Indian passport are not eligible to apply under the Overseas (supernumerary) category and will have to apply as Indian nationals only.
- Candidates will be offered admission to NID based on the final merit list of the Overseas (supernumerary) category, which will be prepared after all the stages of the admission process have been completed. Candidates will be offered admission to NID based on the minimum qualifying which will be announced later.
- To accept the offer of admission, candidates will be required to produce the original documents that will be announced later.
- The candidate will be responsible for obtaining a student visa for the entire duration of the programme at NID, before the commencement of the programme.
- If selected candidates do not pay their programme fees or fail to produce any of the required documents, or if they decline the offer of admission, their candidature will stand cancelled and their seat will be offered to the next candidate in order of merit under Overseas category.
- Seats remaining vacant in the Overseas (supernumerary) category will lapse and will not be transferred to candidates from any other categories.
- Overseas candidates will have to appear for DRT and Interviews as per the schedule which will be announced later.
- The medium of instruction at NID is English language.

Candidates belonging to the GEN-EWS, OBC-NCL, SC, ST and PwD categories will be declared as qualified on the basis of the minimum qualifying criterion as mentioned in the handbook.

Unfilled seats based on minimum qualifying criterion mentioned in this handbook or unavailability of candidates in the OBC-NCL category will be de-reserved and allotted to Open Category candidates in order of merit.

Unfilled seats based on minimum qualifying criterion mentioned in this handbook or unavailability of candidates in the GEN-EWS category, SC category and ST categories will not be de-reserved.

The category selected by a candidate at the time of submitting the application form will be final. Requests for any change of category will not be permitted during the later stage of the admission process.

Candidates must note that that benefit of reservation will be given to them subject to verification of documents. If it is found at any stage that a candidate has used a false/fake/incorrect document or has furnished false/ incorrect/ incomplete information in order to avail the benefit of reservation, then such a candidate shall be excluded from the subsequent stages of admissions. In case a candidate has already been given admission, then the admission shall stand cancelled.

Candidates should note that the mere appearance in DRT/Interview or being in the rank/merit list neither guarantees nor provides any automatic entitlement to admission to the Ph.D programme.

7. How to Apply

Visit the NID website at <http://admissions.nid.edu> and follow the steps given below:

Step 0:

Read and familiarise yourself with the eligibility criteria and other relevant information related to the PhD programme. All this information can be found in this Handbook.

Step 1: Sign up/Registration

1. All candidates are required to download this handbook and fill up the online application form available at <http://admissions.nid.edu>
2. Please fill up the online application form giving correct information. Provide a valid email address and an active mobile number while filling up the form, since these contacts will be used for all future communication with the applicant. Ensure that this email id and mobile number is active till 31 October 2023. Candidates will be solely responsible in case a wrong email address and/or mobile number has been provided.
3. After registration, login credentials will be sent via an email to the registered email address (do remember to check your spam or junk folders in case you do not find the email in your inbox). **In case a wrong email address and/or mobile number has been provided during sign up, you are required to register afresh with the correct details.**
4. Do not delete emails sent to you as this will be needed for future reference.
5. Log in to your account using login credentials to proceed further.

Step 2: Fill the Online Application Form

1. Log in and proceed to Step 2–Application Form.
2. Fill in all the required details.
Note: Allotment of seat/campus will be purely on merit in respective category.
3. **The candidates can modify the details filled in the application form (except the Programme Applied in (Part-time, Full-time), Name of the Candidate, Date of Birth, Registered Mobile Number & Registered Email ID) at the time when ‘Window to Edit’ opens. In case, the candidate changes his/her applied category during the “Window to Edit” period, the applicable additional application form fees will have to be paid by the candidate. However, no refund of excess fees will be made in the case of any category change.**
4. After filling all details, click ‘Save & Proceed’ to go to the next section to ‘Upload Document’.
5. Click ‘Save & Exit’ to complete the form at a later time or date.

Step 3: Uploading Documents & Signature

1. Upload a scanned recent passport size photograph as per the instructions. All photographs must be in colour, taken at a professional studio, must be in JPG/JPEG format, and not exceeding 100 KB in size.
2. Upload your scanned signature as per the instructions. All signature files must be in JPG/JPEG format and not exceeding 100 KB in size. You should have your signature digitally photographed or scanned and cropped to the required size.
3. Candidates applying under the GEN-EWS category are required to upload their valid EWS Certificate issued by a competent authority, in the prescribed format as available on the website <https://admissions.nid.edu>, shall only be considered valid. **The date of issue of EWS certificate must be 01 April, 2022 or later**, based on the gross annual income of the financial year 2021-22. The certificate must be in the name of the candidate and also must have the candidate's photo on the certificate. The certificate must be in PDF format and should be of maximum of 2MB in size. For certificates that are not in the English/Hindi language, the candidate is required to produce / upload a notarized copy of the certificate in English language along with the original copy of the category certificate.
4. Candidates applying under the OBC-NCL category are required to upload their valid OBCNCL Certificate issued by a Competent Authority. The format of the OBC-NCL certificate should be as per the Central format (available on the website <https://admissions.nid.edu> in Download section). The OBC-NCL certificate must be **issued on or after 01 April 2022** (based on the gross annual income of the financial year 2021-22) and in the name of the candidate. The certificate must be in PDF format and should be of maximum 2 MB in size. For certificates that are not in the English/Hindi language, the candidate is required to produce / upload a notarized copy of the certificate in English language along with the original copy of the category certificate.
5. Candidates applying under the SC and ST categories are required to upload their valid Caste Certificate issued in their name by a Competent Authority. For certificates that are not in the English/Hindi language, the candidate is required to produce / upload a notarized copy of the certificate in English language along with the original copy of the category certificate. The certificate must be in PDF format and should be of maximum 2 MB in size.
6. Candidates applying under the Persons with Disability (PwD) category are required to upload their valid Disability Certificate issued by a Competent Medical Authority as per the guidelines of the Government of India (format of which is available on the website <https://admissions.nid.edu>) along with the Unique Disability Identity Card. The certificate must be in PDF format and should be of maximum 2 MB in size.
7. Candidates applying under the Overseas category are required to upload the first and last page of their valid passport in JPG/JPEG format, clearly showing all of their personal information. The candidate must ensure that the passport is current (not expired) at the time of applying online. The certificate must be in PDF format and should be of maximum 2 MB in size.
8. **Upload Research Proposal in ONE SINGLE PDF FILE and not exceeding 5 MB in size.**
9. **Upload certificates of graduation, post-graduation, additional qualification, experience certificate, no objection certificate from the employer if applicable and two recommendation letters** (as per the information provided during filling up the application form) in ONE SINGLE PDF FILE and not exceeding 5 MB in size.

10. **Upload No Objection Certificate from the employer if applicable** (as per the information provided during filling up the application form) in a pdf file and not exceeding 1 MB in size.
11. List of documents to be uploaded by candidates of various categories at the time of applying online are as under:

Category/ Documents	Photo	Signature	Certificate	Remarks
General	Yes	Yes	No	----
General EWS	Yes	Yes	Yes	EWS Certificate
OBC-NCL	Yes	Yes	Yes	OBC-NCL Certificate
SC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Caste Certificate
ST	Yes	Yes	Yes	Tribe Certificate
General-PwD	Yes	Yes	Yes	Disability Certificate
GEN-EWS- PwD	Yes	Yes	Yes	EWS Certificate
				Disability Certificate*
OBC-NCL- PwD	Yes	Yes	Yes	OBC-NCL Certificate
				Disability Certificate*
SC-PwD	Yes	Yes	Yes	Caste Certificate
				Disability Certificate*
ST-PwD	Yes	Yes	Yes	Tribe Certificate
				Disability Certificate*
Overseas	Yes	Yes	Yes	First & Last page of Passport

****If a PwD candidate is using the facility of the scribe or compensatory time, they have to select relevant option, while filling the online application form and upload a valid PwD certificate.***

12. Once you are done with uploading all the necessary documents, click 'Save and Exit' to complete the form at a later time or date.
13. Click 'Save & Proceed' to go to the next section to pay Application Fees. Your Application Form will be accepted only after successful payment of the application fees.

Step 4: Payment of Application Fee

1. Category-wise Application Fees for Academic Year 2023-24 are as under:

Category	Fees
General	Rs.5000/-
General- EWS	Rs.5000/-
OBC-NCL	Rs.5000/-
SC	Rs.2500/-
ST	Rs.2500/-
PwD	Rs.2500/-
General – EWS-PwD	Rs.2500/-
OBC-NCL-PwD	Rs.2500/-
SC-PwD	Rs.2500/-
ST-PwD	Rs.2500/-
Overseas (Supernumerary)	Rs.5000/-

2. **Application fee is NEITHER refundable NOR transferable.**
3. The Application fees paid online (by Debit/Credit Card) DOES NOT INCLUDE any bank/ transaction charges, and the same, as applicable, will be borne by the applicant.
4. You will be asked to verify your details, after which you can proceed to make the payment.
5. You will be directed to the payment gateway. After completing the payment process, you will be redirected to the 'Print' section where you can save your form as a PDF file and print it. **You are NOT required to send the print-out of your application form.**
6. Applicants are fully and solely responsible to provide correct information during the application process. At any stage, if it is found that the information provided by the candidate is not correct, NID has the right to cancel his/her candidature. Any direct or indirect attempt to influence the management and employees of the Institute will lead to automatic disqualification of the candidate.
7. Window to Edit Application Form (Tuesday, 1600 hrs. (IST) June 13, 2023 to Thursday, 1600 hrs. (IST) June 15,2023)
 - Candidates will be given an opportunity to review and correct their information in the application form between from Tuesday, 1600 hrs. (IST) June 13, 2023 to Thursday, 1600 hrs. (IST) June 15,2023)
 - The candidates can modify the details filled in the application form (except the Programme Applied in (Part-time, Full-time), Name of the Candidate, Date of Birth, Registered Mobile Number & Registered Email ID) at the time when 'Window to Edit' opens. In case, the candidate changes his/her applied category during the "Window to Edit" period, the applicable additional application form fees will have to be paid by the candidate. However, no refund of excess fees will be made in the case of any category change.
 - Application fees already paid will not be refunded in case the application is found not eligible for admissions to NID after modifying the information in the application form.
 - Candidates are fully and solely responsible to provide correct information during the application process. At any stage, if it is found that the information provided by the candidate is not correct, NID has the right to cancel his/her candidature. Any direct or indirect attempt to influence the management and employees of the Institute will lead to automatic disqualification of the candidate.

8. Announcement of Result

In order to be considered for the final selection, a shortlisted candidate must have appeared for the DRT and the interview, unless they have been exempted from the DRT as per the Institute's PhD regulations.

The list of the candidates selected for the PhD Programme 2023-2024 will be declared only on the website (<http://admissions.nid.edu>).

Contact

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