राष्ट्रीय डिज़ाइन संस्थान
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DESIGN

Admissions 2027-28 Handbook

Master of Design (M.Des.) Programmes

Last date for submitting application form (Online Mode Only):
11:59 pm (midnight) 30 November 2026

Date of Design Aptitude Test (DAT) Prelims
Sunday, 20 December 2026

Note:

- This handbook is only available as a digital download.
- Changes and updates to this document, if any, will be highlighted only on the official NID admissions website ***(https://admissions.nid.edu).***
- Candidates are advised to refer to the handbook only from the official NID admissions website 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 six months from the date of declaration of the Final result.

The DAT Prelims and Mains score card will be available on the admissions website only for 20 days from the date of declaration of the result. NID shall not be responsible if the scorecard is no longer available for download from the website or portal at a later stage of the admission process. Candidates shall be responsible for downloading and retaining a copy of their score card for their future reference and records.

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

Amendment(s) Section

- As on 29 September 2026, an amendment has been made regarding the Disciplines and number of seats available under each category for Master of Design at NID Haryana.

Discipline	Intake Capacity
Digital Design Futures	13
Creative Leadership	13

An applicant seeking admission to the M.Des programme at NID Haryana shall be permitted to select only one Discipline/Specialization while submitting the application form. For the application fees visit the website https://www.nidh.ac.in/admissions27-28

Category-wise reservation of seats				
Institute	**GEN-EWS (10%)**	**OBC-NCL (27%)**	**Scheduled Caste (15%)**	**Scheduled Tribe (7.5%)**
Disciplines with 13 seats	1	4	2	1

Programme	No. of supernumerary seats
Disciplines with 13 seats	02

- As on 24 September 2026, an amendment has been made regarding the Disciplines and number of seats available under each category for Master of Design at NID Madhya Pradesh.

Communication Design

Discipline	Intake Capacity
Experience Design	12

Industrial Design

Discipline	Intake Capacity
Design For Care	12

Textile & Apparel Design

Discipline	Intake Capacity
Textile Design	12

An applicant seeking admission to the M.Des programme at NID Madhya Pradesh shall be permitted to select only one Discipline/Specialization while submitting the application form. For the application fees visit the website https://nidmp.ac.in/admission-details/

Category-wise reservation of seats				
Institute	**GEN-EWS (10%)**	**OBC-NCL (27%)**	**Scheduled Caste (15%)**	**Scheduled Tribe (7.5%)**
Disciplines with 12 seats	1	3	2	1

Programme	No. of supernumerary seats
Disciplines with 12 seats	02

- As on 15 September 2026, an amendment has been made regarding "Window to edit the application form" *The candidates can modify the details filled in the application form* ***(except the Programme Applied in, Name of the Candidate, Date of Birth, Registered Mobile Number & Registered Email ID)*** *at the time when 'Window to Edit Application Form' opens. In case, the candidate changes his/her applied category or gender during the "Window to Edit Application Form" 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 or gender change.*

  No requests for change in ***category or gender (after the "Window to Edit the Application Form" closes)*** *will be permitted during the subsequent stages of the admissions process.*

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1. General Information

1.1 NID Ahmedabad - National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad (NIDA) and its extension campuses at Gandhinagar & Bengaluru, is an 'Institute of National Importance' as per the NID Act 2014. NID functions 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 also a member of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU).

The Institute is presently offering full-time The Professional Education Programme Master of Design (Integrated Pathway) of five-and-half year duration, full time Master of Design (M.Des.) of two-and-half years duration , full time Master of Design in Education of two-and-half years duration and PhD in Design (Full-time and part-time).

1.2 Programmes at NID MP & NID Haryana

The details of the **programmes/disciplines offered and the number of seats available under each category** at the other NIDs will be made available on the respective Institute websites:

NID Haryana: https://www.nidh.ac.in/

NID Madhya Pradesh: https://nidmp.ac.in/

Candidates are advised to refer to the respective Institute websites for the latest information regarding the **programmes/disciplines offered and seats available under each category**.

Admission to all the programmes at NID is based on the candidates' performance in the two-stages of Design Aptitude Tests viz. DAT Prelims & DAT Mains. The objective of these exams is to assess the knowledge, skills and behavioural abilities of candidates.

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2. Application

Candidates who apply for Master of Design (M.Des.) can not apply for UG Programmes. Candidates cannot apply for both options because the entrance examinations for these programmes are scheduled to be conducted simultaneously on the same day.

The first stage of the admission process is the submission of the online application for the Design Aptitude Test (DAT). Candidates are required to complete and submit a single application form for both the DAT Prelims and the DAT Mains within the prescribed timeline (Refer Section 3 of the Admissions Handbook). Only those candidates who successfully submit the application and satisfy the prescribed eligibility criteria will be considered for the DAT Prelims. Shortlisting for the DAT Mains will be based on the candidate's performance in the DAT Prelims, in accordance with the admission criteria specified by the Institute.

Candidates will have to make a separate application for M. Des programmes at NID MP & NID Haryana through a separate link.

Stage 1: Design Aptitude Test (DAT) Prelims

Design Aptitude Test (DAT) Prelims will be conducted at various test centres across India (Refer Section 8.3 of this Admissions Handbook). Candidates should note that appearing for the DAT Prelims or being shortlisted for the second stage of the admission process does NOT guarantee automatic entitlement to admission.

The DAT Prelims exam will be common for all NIDs. The DAT Prelims exam score will be used only for shortlisting candidates for DAT Mains Exam and Prelims Score will not be carried forward as any weightage to the DAT Mains stage.

Stage 2: Design Aptitude Test (DAT) Mains

Candidates shortlisted based on their DAT Prelims scores will be invited to appear for the Stage 2 DAT Mains examination. The DAT Mains will be conducted separately by the respective NIDs for the disciplines offered at each Institute. Details regarding the schedule, venue and other related information for the DAT Mains will be published on the respective NID's official website or admissions website. Candidates are advised to regularly check the respective NID's website or admissions website for updates.

Note:

- Candidates are fully and solely responsible to provide correct information during the application process. If it is found that any information provided by the candidate at the time of filling / submitting the application form is not true, NID has the right to cancel the application or admission, at any stage, in accordance with its rules and regulations. 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 accordance with internal institutional mechanisms and processes. In case of any matter not covered in this handbook, NID's decisions shall be considered final and binding to all the parties concerned.

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3. Important Dates* (All mentioned times are in IST)

S.N	Admission Stages	Dates
1	Online submission of Application Forms with prescribed application fees for DAT	10 September 2026 to 11:59 pm (midnight), 30 November 2026
2	Window to Edit the application forms	4 pm, 01 December 2026 to 11:59 (midnight), 03 December 2026
3	Download Admit Cards for DAT Prelims**	4 pm, 10 December 2026
4	DAT Prelims Exam	Sunday, 20 December 2026
5	DAT Prelims Result	4 pm,16 February 2027
6	One-time window to edit the category certificate	4 pm, 15 January 2027 to 11:59 pm (midnight) 31 January 2027
7	Re-totalling of Marks of DAT Prelims Answer Booklet	6 pm, 16 February 2027 to 11:59 (midnight) 18 February 2027
8	Download Admit Card for DAT Mains Exam**	To be announced later
9	DAT Mains	To be announced later
10	DAT Mains Exam Result	To be announced later
11	Re-totalling of Marks of DAT Mains Answer Booklet	To be announced later
12	Admission Counselling, Payment of Fees & Physical verification of Documents	To be announced later

Note:

The candidates can modify the details filled in the application form **(except the Programme Applied in, Name of the Candidate, Date of Birth, Registered Mobile Number & Registered Email ID)** at the time when 'Window to Edit Application Form' opens. In case, the candidate changes his/her applied category during the 'Window to Edit Application Form' 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.

*NID reserves the right to modify/change this schedule due to unforeseen emergent circumstances.

** Admit Cards will be available for download on the NID website *(https://admissions.nid.edu)* as per the schedule. Separate admit card (digital or hard copy) will NOT be provided to the candidates. It is the responsibility of the candidates to download and print their own Admit Cards. Reporting time will be mentioned in the Admit Card. NID's DAT Prelims and DAT Mains Admit Card cannot be used by any person/institution without the prior permission of the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad.

In emergent unforeseen circumstances, the schedules as well as the nature & structure of the exams can change, and all tests may be conducted entirely online or entirely offline or in a combination of offline & online modes, at the discretion of the Institute.

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4. Disciplines & Number of Seats

4.1 Master of Design at NID Ahmedabad

The two-and-a-half years' full-time Master of Design (M.Des.) programme is offered at its campuses in Ahmedabad, Bengaluru and Gandhinagar.

GROUP 1

Discipline	Offered at	Number of Seats
Animation Film Design	Ahmedabad	19
Film & Video Communication	Ahmedabad	19
Graphic Design	Ahmedabad	19
Photography Design	Ahmedabad	19

GROUP 2

Discipline	Offered at	Number of Seats
Apparel Design	Gandhinagar	19
Lifestyle Accessory Design	Gandhinagar	19
Textile Design	Gandhinagar	19

GROUP 3

Discipline	Offered at	Number of Seats
Design for Retail Experience	Bengaluru	19
Exhibition Design	Ahmedabad	19
Furniture & Interior Design	Ahmedabad	19

GROUP 4

Discipline	Offered at	Number of Seats
Ceramic & Glass Design	Ahmedabad	12
Product Design	Ahmedabad	19
Toy & Game Design	Gandhinagar	12
Transportation & Automobile Design	Gandhinagar	19

GROUP 5

Discipline	Offered at	Number of Seats
Digital Game Design	Bengaluru	19
Information Design	Bengaluru	19
Interaction Design	Bengaluru	19
New Media Design	Bengaluru	19

GROUP X

Discipline	Offered at	Number of Seats
Design Trends and Futures	Gandhinagar	19
Design Education*	Gandhinagar	19
Strategic Design Management	Gandhinagar	19
Universal Design	Bengaluru	19

- Candidates who choose Design Education as their discipline must meet the eligibility criteria applicable to M Des Design Education, as specified in the Admissions Handbook.
- Candidates may apply for one, two, or three disciplines, subject to the permitted combinations specified below.
  i. Candidates applying for one discipline can choose any one discipline from any group.
  ii. Candidates applying for two disciplines can choose either any two disciplines within the same group (except Group X) (OR) can choose one discipline from Groups 1 to 5 and one discipline from Group X.
  iii. Candidates applying for three disciplines can choose any two disciplines within the same group (except Group X), along with any one discipline from Group X.

  Candidates must ensure that their choice of disciplines conforms to the permitted combinations prescribed in the Admissions Handbook.

4.2 Master of Design at other NIDs

The details of the **programmes/disciplines offered and the number of seats available under each category** at the other NIDs will be made available on the respective Institute websites:

NID Haryana: https://www.nidh.ac.in/

NID Madhya Pradesh: https://nidmp.ac.in/

Candidates are advised to refer to the respective Institute websites for the latest information regarding the **programmes/disciplines offered and seats available under each category**.

The **eligibility criteria, age limit, and other applicable examination-related rules and requirements** shall be as specified in the updated Admissions Handbook.

Candidates seeking admission to the M.Des programme at more than one NID must submit a separate application form for each NID.

Note:

- The percentage of seats reserved for candidates (Indian nationals only) belonging to various reserved categories are as prescribed in the Government of India guidelines (Refer Section 6 of this document for more information).
- Based on the availability of the seats, the shortlisted candidates will be allotted a seat in order of merit in their respective category and will be purely based on the choice submitted by the candidate at the time of submitting their application. Under no circumstances will the candidate be allowed to change these choices later.
- Applications received to a specific discipline are not transferable at any stage of the admissions process.

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5. Eligibility Criteria - NID Ahmedabad (with extension campuses at Gandhinagar & Bengaluru)

5.1 Eligibility for All Master of Design (M.Des.) Programmes except MDes Design Education

All candidates applying for the M.Des. programme (any discipline) must fulfil eligibility criteria of both age and educational qualification as under.

Age Limit:

- For Indian Nationals in General Category & General EWS Category: Only those candidates born on or after **1 July 1995** are eligible to apply for admission.
- For Indian Nationals in Reserved Category (Other Backward Class-Non Creamy Layer (OBC-NCL), Scheduled Caste (SC) & Scheduled Tribe (ST): Only those candidates born on or after **1 July 1992** are eligible to apply for admission.
- For Indian Nationals in Person with Disabilities (PwD) Reserved Category: Only those candidates born on or after **1 July 1990** are eligible to apply for admission.
- For Foreign Nationals in Overseas (Supernumerary) Category: Only those candidates born on or after **1 July 1995** are eligible to apply for admission.

Educational Qualification:

In addition to satisfying the above age criteria, the candidate must possess the following minimum qualifications to be considered eligible for admissions:

Bachelor's degree* or its equivalent in any discipline awarded by any University or educational institution as incorporated by an Act of Parliament or State legislature in India or declared to be deemed as an University under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956, or possess an equivalent qualification recognised by the Ministry of Education, Government of India.

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 the Admissions Office by the candidate from the AIU, New Delhi/ Ministry of Education, Government of India at the time of uploading of documents as announced in the Admissions Handbook. Visit *https://www.aiu.ac.in* for more details about how to obtain an equivalence certificate.

Candidates who are in the final year *(appearing for the academic year 2026-27)* of their Bachelor's Degree or its equivalent in any discipline whose universities may not have issued the final degree certificate before the last date of application to NID, are also eligible to apply provided:

(i) Candidates who will be appearing for the final year of their qualifying examinations in the academic year 2026–27 must have appeared for their qualifying examination before the **on or before 28 June 2027** and must have passed the same in the first attempt.

(ii) The candidate must submit the final result/marksheets of the qualifying degree examination, proving his/her eligibility, to the Academic Record Cell **on or before 31 July 2027.** If the candidate has any backlog/compartment/supplementary paper and has not cleared the final qualifying examination or fails to submit his/her final result **on or before 31 July 2027,** whatsoever may be the reason, his/her provisional admission will be treated as null and void (cancelled) and the entire fees will be forfeited.

(ii) Such candidates must also have appeared for all the subjects and cleared any backlogs (if any) of the previous semester/year, of the qualifying examination, on or before **28 June 2027.** They are required to submit a self-undertaking signed by both the candidate and their parents, along with an undertaking from their college or university confirming that the candidate has appeared or will be appearing for their final year qualifying examination without any pending backlogs by **28 June 2027**. These undertakings must be submitted at the time of counselling, payment of fees and physical verification of documents (as announced in Section 3). Any candidate who has not appeared in all the subjects of the qualifying examination **on or before 28 June 2027**, will not be eligible to participate in the further process of admissions.

(iii) Candidates who are still appearing for their final year examination, even after being granted provisional admission, must submit an additional certificate from their respective college/university (as per the format available on the website https://admissions.nid.edu). This certificate must be presented at the time of physical verification of documents, confirming the completion of their final qualifying examination by **28 June 2027**.

5.2 Eligibility for Master of Design (M.Des.) in Design Education

All candidates applying for the M.Des. in Design Education must fulfil eligibility criteria of both age and educational qualification as under.

Age Limit:

- For Indian Nationals in General Category & General EWS Category: Only those candidates born on or after **1 July 1992** are eligible to apply for admission.
- For Indian Nationals in Reserved Category (Other Backward Class-Non Creamy Layer (OBC-NCL), Scheduled Caste (SC) & Scheduled Tribe (ST): Only those candidates born on or after **1 July 1989** are eligible to apply for admission.
- For Indian Nationals in Person with Disabilities (PwD) Reserved Category: Only those candidates born on or after **1 July 1987** are eligible to apply for admission.
- For Foreign Nationals in Overseas (Supernumerary) Category: Only those candidates born on or after **1 July 1992** are eligible to apply for admission.

Educational Qualification:

The candidate must possess the following minimum qualifications to be considered eligible for admission.

Master's Degree (or Equivalent) in Design awarded by any University or educational institution as incorporated by an Act of Parliament or State legislature in India or declared to be deemed as an University under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956, or possess an equivalent qualification recognised by the Ministry of Education, Government of India.

(OR)

Bachelor's Degree (or Equivalent) in Design followed by a Master's Degree in any discipline awarded by any University or educational institution as incorporated by an Act of Parliament or State legislature in India or declared to be deemed as an University under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956, or possess an equivalent qualification recognised by the Ministry of Education, Government of **India.**

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 the Admissions Office by the candidate from the AIU, New Delhi/ Ministry of Education, Government of India at the time of uploading of documents as announced in the Admissions Handbook. Visit *https://www.aiu.ac.in* for more details about how to obtain an equivalence certificate.

Candidates who are in the final year *(appearing for the academic year 2026-27)* of their qualifying Degree or equivalent in the relevant field whose universities may not have issued the final degree certificate before the last date of application to NID, are also eligible to apply provided:

(i) Candidates who will be appearing for the final year of their qualifying examinations in the academic year 2026–27 must have appeared for their qualifying examination before the **on or before 28 June 2027** and must have passed the same in the first attempt.

(ii) The candidate must submit the final result/marksheets of the qualifying degree examination, proving his/her eligibility, to the Academic Record Cell **on or before 31 July 2027.** If the candidate has any backlog/compartment/supplementary paper and has not cleared the final qualifying examination or fails to submit his/her final result **on or before 31 July 2027,** whatsoever may be the reason, his/her provisional admission will be treated as null and void (cancelled) and the entire fees will be forfeited.

(iii) Such candidates must also have appeared for all the subjects and cleared any backlogs (if any) of the previous semester/year, of the qualifying examination, on or before **28 June 2027.** They are required to submit a self-undertaking signed by both the candidate and their parents, along with an undertaking from their college or university confirming that the candidate has appeared or will be appearing for their final year qualifying examination without any pending backlogs by **28 June 2027**. These undertakings must be submitted at the time of admission counselling, payment of fees and physical verification of documents (as announced in Section 3). Any candidate who has not appeared in all the subjects of the qualifying examination **on or before 28 June 2027**, will not be eligible to participate in the further process of admissions.

(iv) Candidates who are still appearing for their final year examination, even after being granted provisional admission, must submit an additional certificate from their respective college/university (as per the format available on the website https://admissions.nid.edu). This certificate must be presented at the time of physical verification of documents, confirming the completion of their final qualifying examination by **28 June 2027**.

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5.3 Overseas Category (Supernumerary candidates):

Foreign candidates—holding citizenship of a country other than the Republic of India—only, are eligible to apply under the Overseas (supernumerary) category, provided they fulfil all the eligibility criteria mentioned in Section 5.

Of the seats available for the M.Des., 15% supernumerary seats are available for Overseas category candidates. The actual number of seats available in Overseas (supernumerary) category is as under:

Programme	No. of seats
Master of Design programme (discipline having 19 seats)	03
Master of Design programme (discipline having 12 seats)	02

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. Such candidates cannot avail the facility of age-relaxation, scribe etc.
- Candidates holding OCI and PIO cards will have to apply only under the Overseas (supernumerary) category.
- Candidates must possess a valid passport**. The candidate must ensure that the validity of the passport is till 31 July 2027.**
- 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.
- To accept the offer of admissions, Overseas category candidates are required to submit an equivalence certificate from AIU, New Delhi/ Ministry of Education, Government of India. The candidates have to obtain the same in advance and required to be submitted at the time of physical verification of documents.
- 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 admissions, 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 DAT Prelims and DAT Mains as per the schedule mentioned in Section 3.

- Overseas candidates may choose their test centre for DAT Prelims from any test centres mentioned in Section 8.3.
- The medium of instruction at NID is English language.

The verification of Passport will be carried out after the DAT Prelims and before the declaration of the DAT Prelims result. Candidates whose Passport are found to be invalid or incomplete, expired or password protected, will be informed accordingly. Such candidates will be provided a **one-time window** to upload a revised Passport within the stipulated time (refer to Section 3 of the Admissions Handbook).

No further extension for uploading or revising the Passport will be granted under any circumstances after the closure of the one-time correction window. It shall be the sole responsibility of the candidate to upload a valid passport issued by a country other than India.

Only the passport uploaded through the application portal shall be considered for verification. Passport submitted through email or by any other mode shall not be accepted or considered.

If, upon verification of the revised category certificate, it is found that the passport is not valid, then the candidature of such candidates will stand cancelled. No further request for reconsideration or change of category will be entertained under any circumstances.

On verification, even after admissions, if the information/document/ category certificate are found to be incorrect / invalid, the candidature of such candidate will summarily stand cancelled.

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

Important Note:

Candidates in the final year *(appearing for the academic year 2026-27)* of their qualifying Degree or its equivalent in any discipline whose universities may not have issued the final degree certificate before the last date of application to NID, are also eligible to apply, provided:

i. Candidates who will be appearing for the final year of their qualifying examinations in the academic year 2026–27 must have appeared for their qualifying examination before the **on or before 28 June 2027** and must have passed the same in the first attempt.

ii. The candidate must submit the final result/marksheets of the qualifying degree examination, proving his/her eligibility, to the Academic Record Cell **on or before 31 July 2027.** If the candidate has any backlog/compartment/supplementary paper and has not cleared the final qualifying examination or fails to submit his/her final result **on or before 31 July 2027,**

whatsoever may be the reason, his/her provisional admission will be treated as null and void (cancelled) and the entire fees will be forfeited.

iii. Such candidates must also have appeared for all the subjects and cleared any backlogs (if any) of the previous semester/year, of the qualifying examination, on or before **28 June 2027.** They are required to submit a self-undertaking signed by both the candidate and their parents, along with an undertaking from their college or university confirming that the candidate has appeared or will be appearing for their final year qualifying examination without any pending backlogs by **28 June 2027**. These undertakings must be submitted at the time of at the time of admission counselling, payment of fees and physical verification of documents (as announced in Section 3). Any candidate who has not appeared in all the subjects of the qualifying examination **on or before 28 June 2027**, will not be eligible to participate in the further process of admissions.

iv. Candidates who are still appearing for their final year examination, even after being granted provisional admission, must submit an additional certificate from their respective college/university (as per the format available on the website https://admissions.nid.edu). This certificate must be presented at the time of physical verification of documents, confirming the completion of their final qualifying examination by **28 June 2027**.

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6. Reservation of Seats

6.1 As per the norms of the Government of India, the total number of seats available (as mentioned below) for Indian Nationals are classified into different categories i.e. Open, GEN-EWS, OBC-NCL, SC, ST and PwD.

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				
	GEN-EWS (10%)	**OBC-NCL (27%)**	**Scheduled Caste (15%)**	**Scheduled Tribe (7.5%)**
M.Des (disciplines with 19 seats each)	2	5	3	1
M.Des (disciplines with 12 seats each)	1	3	2	1

6.2 Reservation of seats for Economically Weaker Section (EWS):

General category belonging to the 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 2019 issued by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Higher Education, Government of India.

The benefit of reservation under GEN-EWS can be availed upon production/uploading of an Income & Asset Certificate (Central Format) issued by a Competent Authority. **The Income and Asset Certificate issued by any one of the following authorities in the prescribed Central Government format as available on the website** *https://admissions.nid.edu* **shall only be 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 of the area where the candidate and/or his family normally resides.

The EWS certificate must be issued **on or after 01 April 2026** based on the gross annual income of the financial year 2025-26 (as mentioned in the format available on the website https://admissions.nid.edu in Download section). The certificate must be issued in the name

of the candidate, and not in favour of the respective parent/guardian/relative, along with the candidate's photo on the certificate **in the prescribed Central Government format only as available on the website** *https://admissions.nid.edu*.

The candidates can modify the details filled in the application form **(except the Programme Applied in, Name of the Candidate, Date of Birth, Registered Mobile Number & Registered Email ID)** at the time when 'Window to Edit Application Form' opens. In case, the candidate changes his/her applied category during the 'Window to Edit Application Form' 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.

Based on the information provided by the candidate in the application form while applying online, the candidate will be provisionally allowed to appear for the DAT Prelims and subsequent tests, if shortlisted.

The verification of category certificates will be carried out after the DAT Prelims and before the declaration of the DAT Prelims result. Candidates whose category certificates are found to be invalid, incomplete, or not in the prescribed format will be informed via email on their registered email id. Such candidates will be provided a **one-time window** to upload a revised category certificate within the stipulated time (refer to Section 3 of the Admissions Handbook).

No further extension for uploading or revising the category certificate will be granted under any circumstances after the closure of the one-time correction window. It shall be the sole responsibility of the candidate to upload a valid category certificate in the prescribed Central Government format.

Only the category certificate uploaded through the application portal shall be considered for verification. Category certificates submitted through email or by any other mode shall not be accepted or considered.

If, upon verification of the revised category certificate, is found to be invalid or not in the prescribed Central Government format, the candidate shall be considered under the General category throughout the entire admission process. No further request for reconsideration or change of category will be entertained under any circumstances.

On verification, even after admissions, if the information/document/ category certificate are found to be incorrect / invalid, the candidature of such candidate will summarily stand cancelled.

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

6.3. Reservation of seats 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). If the caste of the OBC candidate is mentioned in the State list, but not mentioned in the Central list, then 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 only.

The OBC-NCL (Non-Creamy Layer) certificate must be issued **on or after 01 April 2026** in the Central Format (based on the gross annual income for the financial year 2025-26) 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**.** The certificate must be issued in the name of the candidate and not in favour of the respective parent/guardian/relative. **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/Hindi version along with the original copy of the category certificate.**

The candidates can modify the details filled in the application **form (except the Programme Applied in, Name of the Candidate, Date of Birth, Registered Mobile Number & Registered Email ID)** at the time when 'Window to Edit Application Form' opens. In case, the candidate changes his/her applied category during the 'Window to Edit Application Form' 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.

Based on the information provided by the candidate in the application form while applying online, the candidate will be provisionally allowed to appear for the DAT Prelims and subsequent tests, if shortlisted.

The verification of category certificates will be carried out after the DAT Prelims and before the declaration of the DAT Prelims result. Candidates whose category certificates are found to be invalid, incomplete, or not in the prescribed format will be informed via email on their registered email id. Such candidates will be provided a **one-time window** to upload a revised category certificate within the stipulated time (refer to Section 3 of the Admissions Handbook).

No further extension for uploading or revising the category certificate will be granted under any circumstances after the closure of the one-time correction window. It shall be the sole

responsibility of the candidate to upload a valid category certificate in the prescribed Central Government format.

Only the category certificate uploaded through the application portal shall be considered for verification. Category certificates submitted through email or by any other mode shall not be accepted or considered.

If, upon verification of the revised category certificate, it is found to be invalid or not in the prescribed Central Government format, the candidate shall be considered under the General category (provided the candidate has not availed age relaxation benefit) throughout the entire admission process. In the case where the candidate has availed age relaxation benefit, his/her candidature shall stand cancelled. No further request for reconsideration or change of category will be entertained under any circumstances

On verification, even after admissions, if the information/document/ category certificate are found to be incorrect / invalid, the candidature of such candidate will summarily stand cancelled.

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

6.4 Reservation of seats 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:
https://socialjustice.gov.in/common/76750
https://tribal.nic.in/downloads/statistics/ListScheduledTribes26092025.pdf
Candidates applying under SC and ST categories are required to upload the relevant/valid caste/tribe certificate **(in English/Hindi language only**) at the time of applying online.

The certificate should:

- Be issued in the candidate's name and not in favour of the respective parent/ guardian/ relative.
- Should mention clearly the name of the caste or tribe to which the candidate belongs to
- Be issued by the competent authorities of their respective state, union territory or the National Commission of Tribes

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/Hindi version along with the original copy of the category certificate.

The candidates can modify the details filled in the application **form (except the Programme Applied in, Name of the Candidate, Date of Birth, Registered Mobile Number & Registered**

Email ID) at the time when 'Window to Edit Application Form' opens. In case, the candidate changes his/her applied category during the 'Window to Edit Application Form' 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**.**

Based on the information provided by the candidate in the application form while applying online, the candidate will be provisionally allowed to appear for the DAT Prelims and subsequent tests, if shortlisted. It will be the sole responsibility of the candidate to provide/ upload valid certificates at the time of applying online.

The verification of category certificates will be carried out after the DAT Prelims and before the declaration of the DAT Prelims result. Candidates whose category certificates are found to be invalid, incomplete, or not in the prescribed format will be informed via email on their registered email id. Such candidates will be provided a **one-time window** to upload a revised category certificate within the stipulated time (refer to Section 3 of the Admissions Handbook).

No further extension for uploading or revising the category certificate will be granted under any circumstances after the closure of the one-time correction window. It shall be the sole responsibility of the candidate to upload a valid category certificate.

Only the category certificate uploaded through the application portal shall be considered for verification. Category certificates submitted through email or by any other mode shall not be accepted or considered.

If, upon verification of the revised category certificate, it is found that the SC/ST certificate is not valid, then the candidature of such candidates will stand cancelled. No further request for reconsideration or change of category will be entertained under any circumstances.

On verification, at any stage during the admission process or even after admissions, if the information/document/ certificate is 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 Reservation of Seats for Persons with Disability (PwD):

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

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

Candidates applying under this category should have a Disability Certificate signed by the District Chief Medical Officer and/or Disability Certificate/Unique Disability ID (UDID) card issued by Department of Empowerment of Person with Disability (available at *http://www.swavlambancard.gov.in).* No other certificate or document will be valid and no representations in this regard will be entertained.

The candidates can modify the details filled in the application **form (except the Programme Applied in, Name of the Candidate, Date of Birth, Registered Mobile Number & Registered Email ID)** at the time when 'Window to Edit Application Form' opens. In case, the candidate changes his/her applied category during the 'Window to Edit Application Form' 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.

The verification of PwD certificates will be carried out after the DAT Prelims and before the declaration of the DAT Prelims result. Candidates whose Disability Certificate and/or Disability Certificate/Unique Disability ID (UDID) card are found to be invalid or incomplete, will be informed via email on their registered email id. Such candidates will be provided a **one-time window** to upload a revised PwD certificate within the stipulated time (refer to Section 3 of the Admissions Handbook).

No further extension for uploading or revising the PwD certificate will be granted under any circumstances after the closure of the one-time correction window. It shall be the sole responsibility of the candidate to upload a valid PwD certificate.

Only the PwD certificate uploaded through the application portal shall be considered for verification. PwD certificates submitted through email or by any other mode shall not be accepted or considered.

If, upon verification of the revised certificate, it is found that the PwD certificate is not valid, then the candidature of such candidates will stand cancelled. No further request for reconsideration or change of category will be entertained under any circumstances.

On verification, at any stage during the admission process or even after admissions, if the information/document/ certificate is 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.

6.5.1 SERVICES OF A SCRIBE & COMPENSATORY TIME

- The compensatory time of 20 minutes per hour, will be provided only to those candidates with disability as defined under the RPwD Act 2016 and in accordance with the applicable guidelines issued by the Government of India.
- Candidates must upload a valid Disability Certificate issued by the District Chief Medical Officer and Disability Certificate/or UDID issued by Department of Empowerment of Person with Disability while filling up the application form.
- Details regarding the use of scribe services will be announced separately at a later stage. However, owing to the nature of the examination, candidates will be required to attempt the subjective part of the DAT Prelims exam as well as DAT Mains exam without the assistance of a scribe.
- If it is found that a candidate has availed the services of a scribe and/or compensatory time but DOES NOT possess the extent of disability that warrants the use of a scribe and/or compensatory time, he/she will be excluded from the process of DAT Prelims answer sheet evaluation, ranking and subsequent stages of admissions. If the candidate has already been admitted, his/her admission will stand cancelled.

6.6 Important Information:

Unfilled seats or unavailability of eligible candidates in the OBC-NCL category will be de-reserved and allotted to Open Category candidates in order of merit. Unfilled seats or unavailability of eligible candidates in the GEN-EWS, SC & ST category will **NOT** be de-reserved.

The candidates can modify the details filled in the application form (except the Programme Applied in, Name of the Candidate, Date of Birth, Registered Mobile Number & Registered Email ID) at the time when 'Window to Edit Application Form' opens. In case, the candidate changes his/her applied category during the 'Window to Edit Application Form' 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. No requests for change in **category (after the "Window to Edit the Application Form" closes)** will be permitted during the subsequent stages of the admissions process.

Candidates must note that the benefit of reservation will be given to them subject to verification of documents (at any stage after DAT Prelims). If it is found at any stage that a candidate has used a false/fake/incorrect/invalid 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 Design Aptitude Tests or being in the rank/merit list neither guarantees nor provides any automatic entitlement to admission to the programme.**

7. How to Apply

Candidates will have to visit the official admissions website at *https://admissions.nid.edu* **and follow the steps below:**

Step 0:

Read and familiarise yourself with the eligibility criteria, number of seats, test centres, reservation policy and other necessary information related to admissions to the M.Des. programme in the Admission Handbook 2026-27 and confirm that you have read and agree to the same.

Step 1: Sign up/Registration

1. All the candidates are required to register/sign up online (by selecting Programme of Study, Nationality & Category) before proceeding to fill the application form. This is to be done only at *https://admissions.nid.edu.*
2. Candidates must provide a valid email address and an active mobile number while registering. Since this email address and mobile number will be used for all future communications with the candidate, the candidate will receive an OTP on the Registered Email ID and Mobile Number, for validation. The Name of the Candidate, Programme Applied in, Date of Birth, Registered Email ID and Registered Mobile Number cannot be changed at any stage. Ensure that this email ID and mobile number is active till 31 August 2027. Candidates are advised to check their email and SMS on a regular basis for any important communication made by the Admissions Cell via email id admissions@nid.edu or nid@applyadmission.net.
3. After sign up/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)**.**
4. Log in to your account using your Registered Email ID, Date of Birth, and Password to proceed further.
5. In case you forget the Password, click on “Forgot Password”. You will receive a new auto generated password on your registered email ID.
6. If you wish to change the password, log-in using the existing password and click on the “Change Password” link provided on the Home page.

Step 2: Fill-in Personal & Educational Details

1. Log in and proceed to Step 2–Application Form. Fill in all the required details.
2. The candidates can modify the details filled in the application form (except the Programme Applied in, Name of the Candidate, Date of Birth, Registered Mobile Number & Registered Email ID) at the time when ‘Window to Edit Application Form’ opens. In case, the candidate changes his/her applied category during the Window to Edit Application Form’ 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**.**

3. After filling all details, click 'Save & Proceed' to go to the next section 'Upload Document'.
4. Click 'Save & Exit' to complete the form at a later time or date.

Step 3: Upload Documents and Signature

1. Checklist of documents to be uploaded by candidates submitting their application under reserved category at the time of applying online are summarized as under:

Applicants	Photo	Signature	Certificate	Valid documents to be submitted
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 and/or UDID Card*
GEN-EWS-PwD	Yes	Yes	Yes	EWS Certificate
				Disability Certificate and/or UDID Card *
OBC-NCL/SC/ST-PwD	Yes	Yes	Yes	Caste/Tribe Certificate
				Disability Certificate and/or UDID Card *
Overseas	Yes	Yes	No	First page of Passport
				Last page of Passport

If a PwD candidate is using the facility of the scribe or compensatory time, they have to select relevant options, while filling the online application form and upload a valid Disability Certificate and/or UDID card.

2. To avail the application fees relaxation the candidate must upload the following documents at the time of submitting the application form.

Applicants	Photo	Signature	Certificate	Valid documents to be submitted
Third Gender	Yes	Yes	No	Category Certificate (in case of applying under any reserved category
				Third Gender certificate/ Identity Card

Candidates applying under the Third Gender are required to upload a Certificate of Identity issued by the District Magistrate or equivalent authority under the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019 and/or Identity card issued from the website ***transgender.dosje.gov.in****. Candidates can view step by step procedure to register for the certificate on the website https://transgender.dosje.gov.in/docs/Manual.pdf. No other certificate or document will be valid and no representations in this regard will be entertained.*

3. Upload a colour scanned copy of recent passport size photograph as per the instructions. The photograph must be in JPG/JPEG format, should be of minimum 50 KB and maximum 200 KB in size. It must be a coloured photograph taken at a professional studio. Photographs with self-composed portraits will not be accepted.

4. Upload your scanned signature as per the instructions. The signature file must be in JPG/JPEG format and should be of minimum 50 KB and maximum 200 KB in size. You should have your signature digitally photographed or scanned and cropped to the required size.

5. Candidates applying under the GEN-EWS category are required to upload their valid central format 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 EWS certificate must be issued on or after 01 April 2026, based on the gross annual income of the financial year 2025-26. The certificate must be in the name of the candidate (and not in the name of parent/guardian/relative) and also must have the candidate's photo on the certificate.** The certificate must be in PDF format (which can more than one page) and should be of maximum of 1MB 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.

6. Candidates applying under the OBC-NCL category are required to upload their valid OBC-NCL 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 2026 (based on the gross annual income of the financial year 2025-26) and in the name of the candidate (and not in the name of parent/guardian/relative).** The certificate must be in PDF format (which can more than one page) and should be of maximum 1 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.

7. Candidates applying under the SC and ST categories are required to upload their valid Caste Certificate which mentions the name of the caste they belong to as well as it should be issued in their name **(and not in the name of parent/guardian/relative)** 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 version along with the original copy of the category certificate. The certificate must be in PDF format (which can more than one page) and should be of maximum 1 MB in size.

8. Candidates applying under the Persons with Disability (PwD) category are required to upload a Disability Certificate issued by the District Chief Medical Officer and/or Disability Certificate/Unique Disability ID issued by Department of Empowerment of Person with Disability (*http://www.swavlambancard.gov.in).* No other certificate or document will be valid and no representations in this regard will be entertained. The certificate must be in PDF format (which can more than one page) and should be of maximum 1 MB in size.

9. Candidates applying under the Third Gender are required to upload a Certificate of Identity issued by the District Magistrate or equivalent authority under the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019 and/or Identity card issued from the website **transgender.dosje.gov.in**. Candidates can view step by step procedure to register for the certificate on the website https://transgender.dosje.gov.in/docs/Manual.pdf. No other certificate or document will be valid and no representations in this regard will be entertained. Based on the information provided by the candidate, they will be provisionally allowed to appear for the DAT Prelims and subsequent test, if shortlisted. The verification of the certificate will be carried out after the DAT Prelims. During verification if it is found that the Certificate/ Identity Card of the candidate is not valid, then the candidature of such candidates will stand cancelled, irrespective of any category they have applied in. The certificate must be in PDF format (which can more than one page) and should be of maximum 1 MB in size.

10. 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. If the candidate has selected the "Yes" option for the OCI/PIO, then they must upload the scanned copies of the same. 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 1 MB in size.

11. 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.

12. If you wish to complete the form later after uploading all the necessary documents, you can click 'Save and Exit'.

Step 4: Pay Application Fee and Print

1. Application Fees for Academic Year 2027-28 are as under:

a) Indian National

Applicants	M.Des programme at NID Ahmedabad (Per Discipline)
General, Gen-EWS, OBC-NCL	Rs.3000/-
Female Candidates (except SC, ST & PwD category)	Rs.2000/-
SC & ST Candidates	Rs.1500/-
PwD Candidates	Rs.500/-
Third Gender	Rs.500/-

b) All Overseas Candidates

Applicants	M.Des programme at NID Ahmedabad (Per Discipline)
Overseas (Supernumerary) Candidates	US$ 125*

* The equivalent amount in Rupees of US$ rounded off to higher Rs.100 at the time of announcement of admissions.

2. **The above application fees is only applicable for M.Des at NID Ahmedabad, Bengaluru Gandhinagar.**

3. **Application fee is NEITHER refundable NOR transferable.**

4. The Application fees mentioned above DOES NOT INCLUDE any bank transaction charges/convenience fee, and the same, as applicable, will have to be borne by the candidate.

5. Candidate will be asked to verify their details, after which they can proceed to make the payment.

6. You will be directed to the payment gateway. The fees for the application can be paid only through Debit/Credit Card. After completing the payment process, you will be redirected to the 'Print' section where you can save and/or print a copy of your application form (which would be done only after successful payment of the application fee). The application is ONLY considered complete, if you can view/download/print the auto-generated application form.

7. Window to Edit Application Form **(4 pm, 01 December 2026 to 11:59 pm (midnight) 03 December 2026**

- Candidates will be given an opportunity to review and correct their information in the application form starting **4 pm, 01 December 2026 to 11:59 pm (midnight) 03 December 2026.**
- The candidates can modify the details entered in the application form during the 'Window to Edit Application Form' period, except for the following fields: **Programme Applied in, Name of the Candidate, Date of Birth, Registered Mobile Number & Registered Email ID**
- In case, the candidate changes his/her applied category during the 'Window to Edit Application Form' 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. After making the payment, candidates must proceed to the final step of the application process to ensure that the changes are saved. If the application form is closed before completing all the steps, any changes made in the applied category will not be saved or considered.
- 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.
- If the candidate makes any change in the application form during 'Window to Edit Application Form', they must proceed to the final step and verify that the changes have been updated by printing the revised 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. Design Aptitude Test (DAT)

The Design Aptitude Test will be conducted in two stages:

Stage 1: Design Aptitude Test (DAT) Prelims

Stage 2: Design Aptitude Test (DAT) Mains

8.1 Important Date:

DAT (Prelims) for Master of Design will be conducted on **Sunday, 20 December 2026.**

8.2 About DAT Prelims:

The DAT Prelims paper is a paper-and-pencil/pen test, conducted at the same time on the same day across all test centres. The question asked may involve text and visuals. The duration of the test will be announced in the admit card.

There will be a single common test paper for the DAT Prelims exam for the M.Des programme. The DAT Prelims exam score will be used only for shortlisting to the DAT Mains Exam and the weightage of DAT Prelims exam score will not be carried forward to the DAT Mains Exam.

The question paper will be in English language ONLY.

Based on the DAT Prelims scores, separate merit lists shall be prepared for each category (GENERAL, GENERAL-EWS, OBC-NCL, SC, ST & PWD) as applied for by the candidate for each discipline. Only shortlisted candidates as per merit will be eligible to appear for the DAT Mains exam as per the schedule announced. Separate merit list will be prepared for Overseas candidates.

In emergent unforeseen circumstances, the schedules as well as the nature & structure of the exams can change, and all tests may be conducted entirely online or entirely offline or in a combination of offline & online modes, at the discretion of the Institute.

8.3 Test Centres for DAT Prelims:

The DAT Prelims will be conducted in the following cities across India: *Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Dehradun, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jorhat, Kochi, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur, New Delhi and Patna.*

A city may have more than one test centre. NID reserves the right to add or remove any test centre and allot to a candidate a test centre that may not be of the candidate's choice. The chosen test centre can be changed only during the 'Window to Edit Application Form'. Any request for change of test centre will not be entertained, once the 'Window to Edit Application Form' closes.

NID will not provide accommodation for candidates appearing for the DAT Prelims; candidates must arrange travel/accommodation on their own.

8.4 About DAT Mains for M.Des.

Candidates shortlisted based on their DAT Prelims scores will be invited to appear for the Stage 2 DAT Mains examination. The DAT Mains will be conducted separately by the respective NID for the disciplines offered by respective institutes.

Candidates who have opted for disciplines offered at NID Ahmedabad, Bengaluru and Gandhinagar will appear for the DAT Mains conducted by NID Ahmedabad. The Studio Test will be conducted group-wise, except for Group X, for which the Studio Test will be conducted discipline-wise. Separate Interviews will be conducted for each discipline, the details of which will be announced later.

Candidates who have opted for disciplines offered at NID MP & NID Haryana will be required to appear for the DAT Mains separately. The schedule, venue, examination format, and other relevant details pertaining to DAT Mains at each NID will be communicated separately and made available on the respective Institute's official website or admissions website. Candidates are advised to regularly check the respective NID website & admissions website for updates and further information regarding the DAT Mains.

The weightage of DAT Prelims exam score will not be carried forward to the DAT Mains Exam.

NID will not provide accommodation for candidates appearing for the DAT Mains (Studio Test and Interview). Candidates must arrange travel/accommodation on their own.

In emergent unforeseen circumstances, the schedules as well as the nature & structure of the exams can change, and all tests may be conducted entirely online or entirely offline or in a combination of offline & online modes, at the discretion n of the Institute.

8.5 Weightages for Final Result

The final marks of the candidate appearing for the M.Des. programme of the National Institute of Design, will be calculated based on the weightages of the marks obtained in the DAT Mains, which will be announced later.

Note: Only those candidates who have appeared for Studio Test & Interview will be considered eligible for the Final Merit List.

9. Announcement of Results

In order to be considered for the merit list, a candidate must have appeared for DAT Prelims and DAT Mains exams.

9.1 Results for DAT Prelims:

Based on the scores obtained in the DAT Prelims and as per merit, separate merit lists shall be prepared for each category as applied for by the candidate (GENERAL, GENERAL-EWS, OBC-NCL, SC, ST, PWD & OVERSEAS). Results for admission to NID for the Academic Year 2026–27 for the M.Des. Programme (including overseas candidates) will be declared only on the official admissions website *(https://admissions.nid.edu)* as per the schedule announced in Section 3. The candidates' scores will also be available for viewing at this time.

The DAT Prelims exam score will be used only for shortlisting candidates for DAT Mains Exam and Prelims Score will not be carried forward as any weightage to the DAT Mains stage.

Candidates are advised to download and preserve a copy of your DAT Prelims score card immediately after the declaration of the result as the score card will be available only for 20 days from the date of declaration of the result. NID shall not be responsible if the scorecard is no longer available for download from the website or portal at a later stage of the admission process.

Separate result score cards (digital or hard copy) will NOT be provided to the candidates. Scores obtained in NID's DAT exam cannot be used by any person/institution without the prior permission of the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad.

In case the total marks scored by two or more candidates are the same, the tie-break policy will be used for awarding ranks, which will be announced later.

9.2 Retotalling of DAT Prelims Exam:

1. Requests for retotalling of the marks of the DAT Prelims can be submitted ONLINE ONLY on the official website *https://admissions.nid.edu*
2. Retotalling will be restricted to:–
   (i) Whether all the answers have been marked.
   (ii) Whether there has been any mistake in the totalling of marks for each question in of answer booklet and transferring the marks correctly onto the first cover page of the answer booklet.
3. No other re-evaluation of the answer script or other work done by the candidate as a part of the examination will be carried out.

4. No candidate, person or organisation shall be entitled to claim re-evaluation or disclosure or inspection of the answer scripts or copies of it and other documents as these are treated as most confidential by the NID Admissions Cell.
5. On retotalling the answer booklet, if it is found that there is an error, the marks will be revised accordingly.
6. The communication regarding the revision of marks, if any, shall be sent to the requesting candidate's registered email ID ONLY.
7. The Institute will not be responsible for any loss or damage, or any inconvenience caused to the candidate consequent to the revision of marks and no claims in this regard shall be entertained. The revised score after rechecking will be considered final.
8. Any retotalling request will not be processed if submitted without a scanned copy of the Admit Card duly signed by the invigilator and with the seal of the test centre. Retotalling requests will not be accepted over email and have to be submitted by the candidate online only at the official website of NID.
9. The details about "How to submit the retotalling request" will be available on the official website of admissions at a later stage.
10. The fees for retotalling of DAT Prelims paper for each discipline is **Rs.2000/-.**

9.3 Shortlisting of Candidates for DAT Mains (for NID Ahmedabad)

Based on the Merit list of DAT Prelims, a certain number of candidates for each discipline will be shortlisted to appear for DAT Mains. If the total scores of two or more candidates in the DAT Prelims are the same, higher rank will be decided based on the tie break policy. The number of candidates shortlisted will be **4.5** (four and half) **times** the number of available seats in each category applied for, by the candidate, in the respective category (GENERAL, GENERAL-EWS, OBC-NCL, SC, ST, PwD & OVERSEAS) as per merit. Please refer to Section 4 of this handbook to see the total number of seats available.

Candidates are advised to download and preserve a copy of your score card immediately after the declaration of the result as the score card will be available only for 20 days from the date of declaration of the result. NID shall not be responsible if the scorecard is no longer available for download from the website or portal at a later stage of the admission process.

Separate result score cards (digital or hard copy) will NOT be provided to the candidates. Scores obtained in NID's DAT exam cannot be used by any person/institution without the prior permission of the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad.

If the total scores of two or more candidates in the DAT Prelims are the same after applying tie-break policy, they will be assigned the same rank.

Candidates who have opted for disciplines offered at NID Madhya Pradesh will appear for the DAT Mains separately conducted by NID Madhya Pradesh. Further information regarding the DAT Mains will be communicated by NID Madhya Pradesh.

9.4 Final Merit List (applicable for NID Ahmedabad):

The final merit list for each discipline of the M.Des. Programme will be generated category-wise (Open, GEN-EWS, OBC-NCL, SC, ST and PwD) and as per merit, based on the weightages which will be announced later. A separate merit list will be prepared for Overseas candidates.

Results for admission to NID for the academic year 2027–28 for M.Des. Programme (including Overseas category candidates) will be declared ONLY on the official admissions website *(https://admissions.nid.edu)* as per the schedule announced

The candidates' scores and ranks will be available for viewing on the website and candidates will have to log in to the site to view their final results. Candidates are advised to download and preserve a copy of your score card immediately after the declaration of the result as the score card will be available only for 20 days from the date of declaration of the result.. NID shall not be responsible if the scorecard is no longer available for download from the website or portal at a later stage of the admission process. Separate result scorecards (digital or hard copy) will NOT be sent/provided to the candidates.

The scores obtained during the application process in the 2027-28 cycle are valid only for admission to the academic year 2027-28. Scores obtained in NID's DAT exam cannot be used by any person/institution without prior permission of the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad.

In case the total marks scored by two or more candidates are the same, the tie-break policy will be used for awarding ranks, which will be announced later.

Allotment of seat will be purely based on the merit and on the preference of the discipline filled in by the candidate at the time of **submitting the application form**.

In case a candidate who has applied for two or three disciplines is allotted a seat in his/her **second or third preference** in Round 1 of seat allocation, he/she may be considered for a higher preference in subsequent rounds, subject to availability of vacant seats and merit. If a vacant seat is available in the candidate's higher preference in a subsequent round, then by default the candidate will be allotted the seat in his/her **higher preference**. The seat allotted to the candidate in the lower preference in the previous round will then be considered vacant and allotted to the **next eligible candidate in the order of merit**.

Note: Obtaining a rank in the merit list does NOT guarantee admission to the programme of your choice.

9.5 De-reservation Rules

If seats are left unfilled in the OBC-NCL category due to no eligible candidates as per the minimum qualifying criteria or non-availability of candidates, the seats will be de-reserved and will be allotted to candidates from the Open category in the order of merit. Seats remaining vacant under the GEN-EWS, SC, ST and Overseas categories will NOT be allotted to candidates belonging to other categories.

9.6 Allotment of seat

Obtaining a rank in the merit list does NOT guarantee admission to the discipline of your choice in M.Des programme.

The procedure of allotment of seats in order of merit for M.Des programme will be conducted in either online or in-person mode at the discretion of the Institute. In case the allotment is done in the in-person mode, each candidate will be required to remain present in person with the requisite documents as per the schedule (which will be announced at a later date). Failing to report with the requisite documents as per the schedule will lead to forfeiting the candidate's seat and their seat will be allotted to the next eligible candidate in the order of merit in the respective category. Allotment of seat will be purely based on the merit and preference of discipline filled in by the candidate at the time of **submitting the application form**.

Seat allotment for final admissions will be based on the merit list, category of the candidate and availability of seats.

Candidates who have availed reservation benefits (such as compensatory time, scribe facility or age relaxation) will be allotted seats in their applied category only.

The seat allotment will be followed as under:

Sr. No.	Category of the Eligible Candidate	Seat Allocation Category
1	GEN	OPEN
2	GEN-PwD	OPEN, OPEN-PwD
3	GEN-EWS	OPEN, GEN-EWS
4	GEN-EWS-PwD	OPEN, GEN-EWS, GEN-EWS-PwD
5	OBC-NCL	OPEN, OBC-NCL
6	OBC-NCL-PwD	OPEN, OBC- NCL, OBC-NCL-PwD
7	SC	OPEN, SC
8	SC-PwD	OPEN, SC, SC-PwD
9	ST	OPEN, ST
10	ST-PwD	OPEN, ST, ST-PwD

In case the allotment is done in the in-person mode, each candidate will be required to remain present in person with the requisite documents (as per the schedule announced in Section 3) with the original documents, as listed in Section 9.7, and pay the fees.

The candidature of the candidate will be cancelled under any of the following conditions:

1. If the candidate is absent for the in-person admission counselling
2. Educational documents are missing or found to be invalid/not in order.
3. If the category certificate is invalid/incomplete or not as per the prescribed format.
4. Failure to pay the prescribed fees
5. Submission of false, forged, or misleading information/documents at any stage of the admission process.
6. Non-fulfilment of eligibility criteria as specified in the Admissions Handbook.
7. Failure to submit final qualifying examination results.
8. Any disciplinary action against the candidate for misconduct during the admission process.

Complete details and procedure of in-person admission counselling will be announced on the NIDs admission website prior to the commencement of seat allocation.

9.7 List of documents to be uploaded:

The shortlisted candidate will have to upload the following documents as a single pdf file of size not more than 10 MB:

1. Any one valid photo identity (Aadhar Card, Election ID, Driving License, PAN Card, Passport)
2. Birth Certificate **OR** School Leaving Certificate bearing the date of birth
3. Class 10th Mark-sheet
4. Class 12th Mark-sheet
5. Semester wise Marksheet **OR** Consolidated Transcript of Graduation/Diploma Programme issued by the University
6. Graduation Certificate issued by the University **or** Provisional Degree Certificate issued by the University, if the graduation certificate is awaited.
7. In the case of the candidates whose results of the final qualifying examination of the degree/diploma is yet to be declared:
    i. A self-undertaking, signed by the candidate as well as his/her parents, and
    ii. A certificate issued by the University
    (formats available on https://admissions.nid.edu), needs to be uploaded.
8. Migration certificate issued by the University
9. GEN-EWS/OBC-NCL/SC/ST Certificate, if applicable
10. Disability Certificate issued by the competent District Chief Medical Officer and/or Disability Certificate/Unique Disability ID issued by Department of Empowerment of Person with Disability (*http://www.swavlambancard.gov.in*, if applicable

11. Certificate of Identity issued by the District Magistrate or equivalent authority under the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019 and/or Identity card issued community from the website transgender.dosje.gov.in, if applied under Third Gender for availing relaxation in application fees.
12. Valid Passport and OCI/PIO Card (if applicable), if applied under Supernumerary category*

NOTE: Candidates who have completed or will be completing their Degree (or equivalent) from outside India or a University not specified in the Admissions Handbook 2027-28 should produce an equivalence certificate at the time of at the time of admission counselling, payment of fees and physical verification of documents (as announced in Section 3).

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10. Other Information

10.1 Question Booklet cum Answer Key

The question booklet cum Answer key of the DAT exams will not be available even upon request. The DAT exams question booklet cannot be shared as it is highly subjective in nature, and may not be furnished, in the larger public interest.

10.2 Answer Sheets

The answer sheets of the candidates will be available for six months after the announcement of the final result. The answer sheets will be available on request, only after the admissions process is complete. No request for answer sheets during the admissions process will be entertained.

Any candidate seeking his/her answer sheet for the admission cycle 2026-27 will have to make an online payment of Rs.1000/- separately per exam and also submit the admit card duly attested by the Invigilator with the seal of the Test Centre. The answer sheet will be provided to the candidate within 15-20 days after receiving the payment.

10.3 Result

The result of the candidate will be available for six months after the announcement of the final result. Any details regarding the same will not be provided after six months. The evaluation criteria/break-up of marks followed for the assessment of paper/interview, or the procedure followed in the interview shall not be shared. Also, statistical data concerning admissions including data of other candidates, apart from candidate's own data, shall not be shared.

10.4 Any form of canvassing—including attempting to influence authorities, lobbying, soliciting recommendations through political or external pressure, leveraging personal connections, contacting interview panels, or exerting external influence to alter evaluation outcomes—is strictly prohibited. Engagement in such activities will result in the immediate disqualification of the candidate from the NID admission process. Candidate selection is governed strictly by established merit criteria.

Contact

NID Admissions Cell
National Institute of Design
Paldi, Ahmedabad 380 007
Email: admissions@nid.edu

For any queries related to admissions 2026-27, contact 079-26623462 between Monday to Friday from 11.00 am to 12.30 pm and 3.00 pm to 5.30 pm.

Official admissions website: *https://admissions.nid.edu*
NID Main website: *https://www.nid.edu*

For technical issues related to submission of online applications, write to:
Email: *nid@applyadmission.net*

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