INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GANDHINAGAR

NORMS FOR WORK AND STUDY M.TECH. PROGRAMME

(As approved by the BoG in its 30th meeting held on 17 December 2020 and updated in the 49th meeting of the Senate held on 22nd February 2021)

The Board of Governors of the Institute in its 30th meeting held on 17 December 2020 in-principle approved to have a provision of Work and Study M.Tech. programme to create a specialized workforce for major facilities/laboratories and research projects within the Institute. The M.Tech. graduation requirements will remain unchanged in this programme, but the enrolled students can complete it over a period of 3 years (or more) while working for 20 hours per week within the Institute.

The students admitted under the Work and Study M.Tech. programme can complete their coursework and thesis requirements at a relatively slower pace while working in the Institute. The normal time for graduation for these students will be 3 years, and the maximum period of graduation will be 5 years. Their tuition fees will be the same as for the regular full-time MTech students with Institute fellowship. These students will receive an assistantship of 18,000/- per month to serve 20 hours per week in their host Facility/Laboratory/Project for the entire duration of their programme. The assistantship provided to a student may be extended beyond 36 months, subject to the performance and established need in the host facility/laboratory. Faculty members can also recruit these students on sponsored research projects where a long association of students with the research project can bring immense benefit to both faculty and student. The host facility or faculty members can also provide an additional assistantship amount from their project funds or other available funding sources to attract and retain the best talent.

1. Scope and Principle

(i)   All candidates enrolled in the Work and Study M.Tech. program would be associated with a major facility in the Institute – such as Central Instrumentation Facility (CIF), Computer Center (CC), Informational Systems and Technology Facility (ISTF), Institute Management System (IMS), laboratories and research projects, wherein they would be expected to work for 20 hours per week. Faculty members may also recruit these students on sponsored research projects where a longer association of students with the research project can bring immense benefit to both faculty and student.

(ii)   While working in the Institute, the candidates would be concurrently completing the thesis and coursework requirements expected for an M.Tech. degree, but at a relatively slower pace, as explained in the following sections.

(iii) This program is expected to facilitate recruitment of talented individuals for handling sophisticated equipment and managing high-end research facilities. The hands-on experience that the candidates would earn through this program is expected to provide them a rich skill set, which would make them well prepared for a successful career.

2. Admission

(i) The number of positions available in the Work and Study M.Tech. program will be compiled by the R&D office every academic year and shared with the disciplines prior to the admission process.

(ii) While applying for admissions in this programme, the candidates would be required to select a discipline in the same manner as they do for a regular M.Tech. program.

(iii) The minimum eligibility criteria for admission to this programme be the same as that for the regular M.Tech. program. The discipline, however, may use additional criteria to shortlist the best candidates, which may be different from that for regular M.Tech. program.

(iv) The shortlisted candidates would appear for written test/interview conducted by the disciplines. The disciplines will recommend the candidates to Dean R&D for final selection.

(v) The offer letter for admission to this program would be sent from the R&D office indicating the requirements of the programme in terms of work expectations. This would be supplemented by a letter from the academic office explaining the academic requirements for earning M.Tech. degree through this program.

(vi) For recent graduates, a valid GATE score may be considered as a criteria for shortlisting. However, the candidates with significant industrial experience or with evidence of excellent academic record be granted exemption.

(vii) The final selection of the candidates will be based on their performance in the written test and/or interview.

3. Educational plan

(i) The students enrolled in the Work and Study M.Tech. programme are expected to earn minimum 80 credits as per the graduation requirements of the regular M.Tech. programme. However, they will be completing these requirements at a relatively slower pace. The normal duration of program for these students would be three years. The maximum duration for completing the program, however, will be five years.

(ii) The students enrolled in this program would be allowed to register for a maximum of 12 credits in a regular semester and a maximum of 8 credits during summer term, including credits earned through online courses.

(iii) The students are expected to register for a minimum of 8 credits in a regular semester and a minimum of 4 credits during the summer term.

4. Financial Support

(i)   The R&D office will assign the selected candidates to the host facility, where the student is expected to work 20 hours every week, for receiving their assistantship.

(ii)   IITGN will provide an assistantship of Rs 18,000/- per month to the students enrolled in this program.

(iii)   The tuition fee per semester for students admitted in this program would be the same as that paid by the regular M.Tech. students with Institute fellowship.

(iv)   This assistantship would be provided for a period of 36 months, subject to a satisfactory work and academic performance, as explained in the following section.

(v)   The assistantship provided to a student may be extended beyond 36 months, subject to the satisfactory performance, availability of funds, and established need in the host facility/laboratory.

(vi)   The host facility or faculty members can also provide an additional assistantship amount from their project funds or other available funding sources to attract and retain the best talent.

5. Assessment

(i)   The students admitted in this program would be allotted two advisors – Work Advisor for work related matters, and Faculty Advisor for thesis and coursework related matters. It is possible that in some cases the same faculty member can serve both the advisory roles.

(ii)   A monthly progress report will be sent by the work advisor to the R&D office for release of fellowship. The students enrolled in this programme would be submitting a time card at the end of every month detailing the work carried out. The work advisor will rate the progress as Above Expectations/As Per Expectations/Below Expectations every month.

(iii)   For continuing in the programme, the students are expected to satisfy both the work as well as the academic expectations. In case a student consistently accumulates 'Below Expectations' ratings from the work advisor, or if the CPI of the student falls below 5.0, at any point of time from second semester onwards, he/she will be liable to be terminated from the academic programme.

(iv)   Conversion of Work and Study programme to regular M.Tech programme is not permitted. However, students may be permitted to convert their programmes to PGDIIT contingent upon the Institute approval.

(v)   The students will have a maximum of five years to obtain the degree.