JEE Helpdesk FAQs

**June 2019**

This disclaimer is to be included in all email communications with prospective students

**Disclaimer: Please note that getting admission to an IIT would depend on your rank, choice filling and seat allocation. Making enquires does not guarantee admission. Please note that the final decision of choices is yours.**

**Important links:**

JEE adv information brochure: <https://jeeadv.ac.in/brochures.html>

Seat Matrix: <https://josaa.nic.in/seatinfo/root/seatmatrix.aspx>

JOSAA business rules: <https://josaa.nic.in/webinfocms/Public/home.aspx>

Opening and closing ranks for 2018: <https://jeeadv.ac.in/archives/opening-and-closing-ranks.html>

<https://josaa.nic.in/webinfocms/Public/home.aspx>

Consolidated list of special helpdesk for female students info: <https://students.iitmandi.ac.in/other_IITs.php>

**SUPERNUMERARY SEATS FOR FEMALE CANDIDATES: ref JEEADV brochure page 9**

A decision has been taken at the level of the IIT Council to, inter alia, improve the gender balance in the undergraduate programs at the IITs to at least 17% in 2019-20 by creating supernumerary seats specifically for female candidates, without any reduction in the number of seats that was made available to gender neutral candidates in the previous academic year (i.e. academic year 2018-2019). Accordingly, to achieve this objective, and in accordance with the directions of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, supernumerary seats will thus be created and offered to female candidates for improving the gender balance in the undergraduate programs in IITs. These supernumerary seats will be offered (a) to only those female candidates who are declared qualified in JEE (Advanced) - 2019, and, (b) strictly based on the performance in JEE (Advanced) - 2019.

The reservation policy as per Government of India norms as existing at present will be applicable to these supernumerary seats as well. The detailed procedure for implementation of the above shall be set out in the Business Rules of the Joint Seat Allocation Authority, 2019.

**General FAQs**

1. **Is there a separate rank list for girls? How do I know which course I will get. Will the opening and closing rank change from last year?**

Separate rank lists for females are not published.

In the seat matrix <https://josaa.nic.in/seatinfo/root/seatmatrix.aspx> for each Branch/IIT there are two rows: gender-neutral and female supernumerary. Female candidates compete for the female seats first and then for the gender-neutral seats. Hence, only the common rank list is used. The female supernumerary seat scheme is introduced for the second time this year. The opening and closing ranks of female supernumerary seats are available on the JoSAA website.

This year, about 17% of seats in every branch at every IIT (except IIT Mandi where it is 20%) have been designated as 'female-only' seats (this has been done by creating sufficient supernumerary seats, without any reduction in the number of seats available to non-female candidates). The total number of female-only seats across all IITs is 2,415; whereas the total number of women who have qualified in JEE (Advanced) 2019 is 5,356. So if you are a qualified female candidate, this year you have quite a good chance of getting an IIT seat, and a better chance than previous years of getting a branch and IIT of your choice! Hence all female candidates are advised to not go just by previous years' closing ranks, but instead fill in as many of their genuine preferences as they can, in order to maximise their chances of getting a high-preference branch and/or campus.

Since many IITs have introduced new courses and total number seats are higher, the opening and closing ranks may change this year. There are two rounds of mock seat allocations and this would give you an idea about the chances of getting a particular choice according to your rank.

If you are passionate about some branch or some IIT, put those at the head of your choice list. Then, list a large number of other branches and IITs, even if you are not very keen on them. IITs give students many opportunities to pursue their passion regardless of the branch that they join.

1. **My rank is below the cut off for CSE in IITs, I am getting CSE in xxx college, What to do?**

A: Please contact JEE women Helpdesk in other IITs to find out details about particular branch you are interested in

<http://students.iitmandi.ac.in/other_IITs.php>

IITs offer a wholesome academic environment which is far superior to any other engineering institutes in India. An IIT B.Tech programme trains you for the fast-changing world of the future, in which branch is not important.

You may aspire to a particular branch or a particular IIT but are offered some other branch or IIT. IITs have flexible curricula that permit you to take some courses outside your allotted branch. The faculty, syllabus, the teaching and the lab facilities are comparable in all IITs. If you have passion and work hard, you can excel in any branch and in any IIT.

1. **My rank is xxx, which IIT will i get?**

A: Please note that we will not be able to comment on which specific course you will get. Please check the JOSAA website for opening and last year’s opening and closing ranks for various IITs and decide. Please note that the closing ranks this year may vary, so you may fill in many branches in IIT of your choice. Also you may fill in choices for other IITs which have even lower closing ranks.

<https://josaa.nic.in/Result/result/OpeningClosingRank.aspx>

Also refer to the JOSAA business rules for clarity about choice filling. <http://josaa.nic.in/>

1. **Seat allocation procedure**

A:The seat allocation in IITs in carried out in multiple rounds where the seats are allocated based on the preferences she has given. In each round after allotment of the seat, she will be provided the choice to freeze, float, slide or reject the current allotted seat.

* Freeze implies that the candidate accepts the current allotted seat and does not wish to be considered for other rounds.
* Slide implies that the candidate wants to be in the current allotted institute but still wants to be considered for preferable branches within that institute.
* Float means that she wants to be considered for any branch or any institute based on her preference list.
* Reject means that she does not want to continue and be considered for any further rounds of counselling.

For more info please refer to: <http://josaa.nic.in/>

1. **Community/cast certificate, fee payment, other formalities**

A: Please refer JOSAA website

1. **My Rank is beyond the closing rank for courses last year what should I do**

A: Please note that we will not be able to comment on which specific course you will get. Please check last year’s closing ranks for various courses and decie. This year the closing ranks may vary, but not drastically. Though with rank xxxx getting a seat is difficult,To maximize your chance, you may consider filling in choices for a course which has lower closing rank and also fill in a large number of choices. You will get clarity during the two mock rounds and may decide accordingly.

1. **I have got a PREP rank, what does that mean?**

A: The Preparatory Course is a provision of PWD, SC and ST candidates only. In case there are vacancies in your category towards the end of seat allocation, you may be provisionally allotted one of these vacant seats. You will then have to attend the Preparatory Course of one year duration in one of the IITs during 2018-2019. If you pass in all subjects, you will be admitted into the allotted branch/IIT in the 2019-2020 session. For more details on preparatory course, see<https://www.jeeadv.ac.in/Information-Brochure.html>

To be considered for the Preparatory seat allotment, you must fill in your choice lists before 25th June. The provisional allotment is made based on your choice list. For more information, please visit<http://josaa.nic.in>

**8. Clarity on EWS seat**

A: Certificate GEN-EWS certificate (FORM-GEN-EWS) should have been issued in confirmation with the OM No. 20013/01/2018-BC-II dated January 17, 2019 issued by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the OM No. 12-4/2019-U1 dated 17.01.2019. (Ref JEE ADV brochure)

**9. Grievances**

All stages of JEE (Advanced) 2019 will be conducted with transparency. Should there be any grievance relating to JEE (Advanced) 2019, the candidate can write to the Chairman of the Zonal IIT, or to the Organizing Chairman of JEE (Advanced) 2019 for clarification. (Ref JEE ADV brochure)

**IIT Mandi FAQs**

1. **Why should i join IIT Mandi**

A:Unique curriculum with real-world design-oriented projects every year from 1st year to 4th year. Students work in teams across branches. Even in 1st and 2nd year, students do projects that are normally done only in 3rd and 4th year at other IITs.

Friendly atmosphere with mingling of faculty and students. Students have easy access to faculty, Deans and the Director. The faculty participate in sports and other activities and eat in the Mess along with students. A close knit community.

Himachal is the most peaceful State in India. The campus is perfectly safe, especially for girls. Situated in the serene Uhl River Valley far from cities, it is very healthy without the pollution and congestion of the cities.

A healthy climate, warm in summer and cool in winter.

Excellent outdoor and indoor sports facilities: cricket, football, tennis, volleyball, etc ....

Unique extra-curricular activities include the Hiking & Trekking Club, the Mountain Biking Club, social outreach programs working with local school children.

Himachal has many scenic spots such as Kullu, Manali, Manikaran hot springs, Dharamsala, ... where you can go for weekend outings with your friends.

1. **Is there any special incentive given to girl students which is not available in most of the other IITs?**

**A:** Yes. If you are admitted to IIT Mandi, you will get a merit scholarship including full tuition fee waiver and Rs. 1,000/- per month stipend in the first year irrespective of category and parent’s income. This merit scholarship will continue for all 4 years of B.Tech. subject to good academic performance of the candidate indicated by a minimum SGPA criteria of 7.0 for the previous two semesters and no disciplinary action.

1. **Where will be the freshers be accommodated?**

A: At North Campus, Kamand.

1. **How developed is the IIT Mandi campus at Kamand?**

A: IIT Campus is spread over North and South campuses in Kamand. North and south campuses are contiguous and interconnected with road and walkways. Phase 1 construction of the south campus is complete and north campus is expected to complete in 2020. Faculty and students are living on both south and north campuses. Most of the academic activities of B.Tech students are planned in the north campus.

1. **What will be the courses in 1st sem of B.Tech?**

A: There will be common courses for all of you in the first semester. These courses include Engineering Drawing, Electrical systems around us, Computation for Engineers, Mathematics, Reverse Engineering and English I. Apart from Maths and English all courses involve Lab work, and offer a thorough understanding of the subjects, not to speak of easy grades!

1. **Can freshers bring laptops in the first sem? How is the internet facility on campus?**

A: Yes. There is no restriction in bringing a laptop to the Institute but it is not a necessity at the beginning. It would be better if you had a laptop for the course on computation with Phython-language programming, but then the PC lab is always there. Internet is pretty good in the Institute and is uncapped, i.e., unlimited hi-speed net at all times. Sometimes glitches happen, but do count your blessings - break the spell that the net is weaving on you!

1. **What facilities are provided to the freshers for the purchase of hostel necessities like mattresses, pillows, buckets etc.? Do we need to bring these things along with us?**

A: Institute arranges for the sale of hostel necessities like mattresses, pillows, pillow covers, bed sheets, locks, buckets, mugs etc. on Orientation day. Local vendors are arranged for the sale of these items inside the Institute.

1. **How easy is the branch change in IIT Mandi? What is the criterion for the same?**

A: Branch change depends solely on your CGPA (Cumulative Grade Point Average) for the first two semesters. Compared to other IITs, it is easy to get a branch change here. Any branch can have at the most a fifty percent increase over the original sanctioned strength and the strength of a class should not fall below the sanctioned strength by more than fifty percent. For a more details kindly have a look at the link below:

<http://iitmandi.ac.in/academics/branch_change.php>

1. **Will we be buying books or we can get them from the library?**

A: In general, you can get the e-books for the materials that the teacher specifies. Also, you can get them from the library, though the library may have only limited copies. Local bookshops in Mandi or online stores are also of help, so are the seniors. Moodle web pages on our intranet site has all the course materials posted by faculty and students.

1. **How is the weather in Kamand like?**

A: Weather becomes chilly after mid-October, and in winter, there is the occasional snowfall, especially in the mountains above Kamand. But in general, we have long winter vacations from early December till mid-February to keep the cold at bay. The weather is usually pleasant, especially in the evenings and is ideal for nature enthusiasts who want to explore the serene surroundings of IIT Mandi.

1. **What is the holiday schedule of IIT Mandi?**

A: A generous holiday schedule is followed in here. We have a five-day working week, and at times there are other holidays in between too. Semester breaks are from December to Mid February for winters and from mid June to early August in summers.

1. **What about sports?**

A: Sports activities are coordinated by the Principal Sports Officer and the Faculty Sports Advisor. A team of highly experienced coaches and ground staff work under their direction to help you take part in the games of your choice. Participate in various tournaments like Inter-IIT, Aagaaz, Rann-Neeti and other in-house tournaments.

At Kamand, we are have fields for Cricket, Football and Hockey, Basketball, Tennis, Squash, Badminton, TT and Volleyball courts. TT and Foosball tables are also available in most hostels. There is also Swimming pool, gym and yoga room etc.

1. **What are the games played at IIT Mandi?**

A: Football, Basketball, Cricket, Volleyball, Badminton, Hockey, Lawn Tennis, Squash, Table Tennis, and Athletics.

1. **What are the co-curricular activities and clubs at IIT Mandi?**

A: Have a look at the link below

<https://students.iitmandi.ac.in/gymkhana/>

1. **How many people will stay in a hostel room?**

A: Hostels have rooms of different sizes, single, double and triple occupancy. First year students usually get shared room.

1. **What is the procedure for getting the MCM scholarships?**

A: Income certificates are submitted at the time of admission as mentioned on the website and applications are collected in September. The decision is made by the Senate to award the scholarships, and later in the second semester, students are given the scholarship reimbursing their earlier tuition fees and that of the second semester. Other details can be found here:

<http://iitmandi.ac.in/academics/scholarship.php>

1. **What are the good places to hang out in Mandi town?**

A: Mandi has a fairly good market, which can provide you with almost anything. Hotels like Raj Mahal, Regent Palms, Treat are good for dinners. Dominos, Raman Bakers, Sai Sweets have their share of fast food fanatics. Indira Market, built around a sunken lake, - the Mandi version of a super mall - is a delightful place for making little discoveries.

1. **How to reach from Delhi/Chandigarh to Mandi?**

A: Mandi is easily accessible from the two places by bus or by cab. From Delhi ISBT(Kashmiri gate) there is a regular bus service: Volvo, Tata AC and ordinary buses go directly to Mandi. Same is the case for Chandigarh; besides, all buses from Delhi pass through Chandigarh. You can also take the train to Chandigarh, and from there from the ISBT at Sector 43 to Mandi by bus. At Mandi ISBT, you are right in front of our Transit Campus. From there take the Institute shuttle service to Kamand campus.

1. **How will we get a SIM in Mandi? And which one is best?**

A: On the day of your registration, you will get a bonafide certificate from the Institute which will serve as your address proof. Provide additionally an identity proof for your SIM card. The sale of SIM cards will be done by the company representatives of Jio, AirTel, Vodafone, BSNL etc. on Orientation Day. Mobile recharge for companies are available at the stationery shop.

1. **Is there Ragging? Does IIT Mandi have policies against it?**

A: Zero Tolerance for ragging. We have the following committees to take care of any issues, Student Welfare and Disciplinary Committee (SWDC), Anti-Ragging Committee (ARC)

1. **What if I get lost in Kamand?**

**A:** it is a small place so chances of getting lost is minimal. Keep the security numbers with you.

1. **How is the mess food?**

**A:** The mess food is nutritional and offers a huge variety from matar paneer to chole bhature to non veg food and not to mention the special dinner at every month end.

1. **How many girls are studying in IIT Mandi right now? More specifically, how many female students are in BTech courses?**

A: There are 73 girls in Btech. Gender ratio in PG is more.

1. **How many girls hostels are in IIT Mandi campus? Will all first year female students get accommodation in the same hostel?**

**A:** One hostel in south campus and one in north campus. Yes first year students are accommodated together.

1. **Is it safe for female students to roam around in the IIT Mandi campus and nearby places (like Kamand village etc)?**

A: IIT Mandi campus and nearby places are very safe to roam alone. The villagers around the campus are very friendly and ready to help anytime. There are many security guard posts across the campus.

1. **Is there any place to eat in or around campus apart from the Dining Halls?**

A: There are many canteens on campus, some of which remains open till midnight or beyond.

1. **Hostel timings:**

A: 24 hrs open, need to give attendance at 10pm, permission to be sought if going away. No alcohol or smoking

1. **Wild animals**

A: The campus is safe. No incident involving wild animal has been reported so far.

1. **Unique activities**

A: Due to its pristine location, students can enjoy, hiking and trekking, mountain biking etc. We have active student clubs who coordinate these activities.

1. **Placement statistics**

A: 80-90% students who opt for placement get placed. Salary package comparable to other IITs. Students go for higher studies, entrepreneurship etc

1. **Labs & research facilities at IIT Mandi**

**A:** IIT Mandi has excellent teaching and research labs. Since the labs are newly developed, they have new and updated equipments.

1. **I heard that IIT Mandi has only fresh, young faculty. Will I get good teaching?**

**A:** In any IIT, you will find a few teachers who inspire you because you have an interest in the subject. We have young faculty who are active in cutting-edge research and worked in excellent research labs and industry in India and abroad. Young faculty are easy to approach informally outside the classroom, they participate in sports etc

IIT Mandi has 10% senior faculty who mentor the young faculty so that their teaching is good and is improving. Many of the young faculty now have 4-7 years of teaching experience

**33. What are the opportunities for semester exchange with other national and international Institutes?**

A:

**34. New programs**

**Details of new B.Tech. programmes starting from 2019 are the following:**

**Data Science and Engineering**

Data science has become important due to recent technology disruptions. Most fundamental is Moore's Law which has driven an exponential growth in computing, storage, and communications per rupee over the past 50 years. This rate of growth shows no signs of abating. Consequently, today we have the Internet of Things: a plethora of sensors costing 10s of rupees or less, a global Internet with almost limitless bandwidth, and enormous storage in global clouds. The present era is full of technological advances in almost all spectrum of life and we are flooded with enormous amount of data. There is an increasing demand of capturing, analyzing, and synthesizing this large amount of data in a number of application domains to better understand various phenomena and to convert the information available in the data into actionable strategies such as new scientific discoveries, business applications, policy making, and healthcare etc.

Data science is the area where applications of various tools and techniques from the disciplines of applied statistics, mathematics and computer science are used to get greater insight and to make better and informed decisions for various purposes by analysing a large amount of data.

Jim Gray, database pioneer, has called Data Science the 4th paradigm of science. The first 3 are the empirical, the theoretical and the computational paradigms.

In industry there is an escalating demand for trained professionals that can collect, process, and study the large data sets and reveal underlying trend and other insights. Consequently, the study of data science as a discipline has become essential to cater the growing need for professionals and researchers to deal with the future challenges.

Given the mounting importance of the data science paradigm, IIT Mandi has decided to start a new 4 years bachelor program on Data Science and Engineering (DSE).

The curriculum of the DSE program focuses on exposing to the students with the essentials of applied statistics, applied mathematics, and computer science required in the context of data science and its applications with strong emphasis on having hands-on experience with the help of practicum, labs and experience of dealing with real-world problems.

**Objectives of the program**

After the completion of the degree, students would

* 1. be prepared with a varied range of expertise in different aspects of data science such as data collection, visualization and processing large data sets.
  2. acquire good understanding of both the theory and application of applied statistics, applied mathematics and computer science based existing data science models to analyse huge data sets originating from diversified application areas.
  3. be able to create new models using the knowledge acquired from the program to solve future challenges and real-world problems requiring large scale data analysis.
  4. be better trained professionals to the cater the growing demand for data scientists and engineers in industry.

**Engineering Physics**

Engineering Physics (EP) at IIT Mandi is a unique program, which is designed to prepare graduates with rigorous foundation in Physics along with Engineering in order to tackle today’s technology challenges. EP will enhance the cross-functionality and bridge the gap between pure science and traditional engineering disciplines which so far have been pursued independently. This is necessary because in today’s world major scientific and technological breakthroughs happen in a multi-disciplinary environment where scientists from pure science work along with engineers. It is, therefore, highly important to inculcate both scientific and technological aspects, and the EP programme will serve this purpose.

The curriculum for EP at IIT Mandi introduces students to a wide variety of fields in pure as well as applied Physics. The core courses cover basic areas in Physics, such as Quantum Mechanics, Statistical Mechanics and Condensed Matter Physics; as well as basic courses in Mathematics and Engineering. In addition to the compulsory courses, students will complete a certain number of elective courses in Physics intended to provide a good exposure in various directions in both theoretical and applied Physics. The vision is to cater to and enhance the curiosity of students with varied interests in the field. Besides, a number of courses in other branches of science and engineering, along with humanities and social sciences, will also be available as electives. This will allow students to explore their areas of interest. If a student is inclined towards electrical engineering, s/he can take the requisite number of courses/credits in that program and get a minor.

Interdisciplinary areas in physical sciences and engineering, like Quantum technology, Photonics, Nano-electronics and Artificial Intelligence, promise to become dominant in the 21st century. EP that teaches science underlying engineering will prepare students to apply Physics to tackle these 21st century engineering challenges and vice-versa. Additionally, EP will also prepare students to pursue an advanced degree in Physics as well as engineering.

**B.Tech-M.Tech Integrated Dual Degree programme in Bioengineering**

Indian Institute of Technology Mandi is offering a unique B.Tech-M.Tech Integrated Dual Degree programme in Bioengineering that is aimed at providing students with a broad base knowledge of engineering principles and practices to understand the biological world. Ranging from sensing of data from the biological world, to actuation through prosthetics, from computational models to understand the biological world to machine learning techniques for diagnosis, the programme aims to offer a wide plethora of problem solving opportunities derived from the biological world. The programme, unique of its kind looks at Bioengineering from a more generalized perspective without getting limited to only Biomedical Engineering, as is commonly envisioned at many engineering institutions in the country. This widens the horizon of the student at a Bachelor’s level who can then choose to specialize in the different areas of Bioengineering like Biomedical Engineering, Agro-Technology, Computational Bioengineering or Environmental Science and Engineering. Such a programme definitely provides an exploratory approach to understanding Bioengineering, postponing the notion of specializing in a particular domain area to a later stage allowing a student to introspect into his/her potentials while taking lessons on basic biology and computational, electrical and mechanical engineering principles. Coupled with IIT Mandi’s philosophy of providing a broad base engineering education, the programme perfectly synergizes engineering fundamentals with biological domain areas with the intent of generating engineering manpower endowed with a sufficient appreciation towards biology. The biological world is vast and extracting information from biological world requires in depth understanding of electrical, mechanical and computational engineering principles and practices with significant understanding of the biological world.

The discipline of bioengineering has evolved drastically over the past 50 years, seemingly encompassing all fields that include bioelectric phenomena, bioinformatics, biomaterials, biomechanics, bioinstrumentation, biosensors, biosignal processing, biotechnology, computational biology, medical imaging, etc. The B.Tech and M.Tech dual degree programme on Bioengineering strives to train students in the field of physical, chemical, mathematical and biological sciences together with engineering principles for the development of technology aimed at providing diagnostic, therapeutic and assistive and analytical support to biological systems. The programme strives to train the students in the field of basic electrical and mechanical engineering disciplines together with principles in physical, chemical, mathematical, computational and biological sciences for inculcating knowledge enabling them in developing and deploying Bioengineering related technologies in various fields.