

# BITS PILANI PhD

# ADMISSIONS - COMPLETE

# GUIDE

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## 1. PhD PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

### General Information

- **Institution:** Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Pilani
- **Campuses:** Pilani, Goa, Hyderabad, Dubai
- **Programme Type:** Full-time, Part-time, Aspirant Scheme
- **Duration:** Minimum 4-6 semesters after qualifying exam approval; Maximum 10 semesters
- **Medium of Instruction:** English

### Departments Offering PhD (2019-20 Intake)

**Engineering:** Chemical, Civil, Computer Science, Electrical & Electronics, Mechanical

**Science:** Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Pharmacy

**Management:** Management, Economics & Finance, Humanities & Social Sciences

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## 2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

### Minimum Qualifications

#### A. For Higher Degree Holders:

- **M.E./M.Tech./M.Pharm./MBA/M.Phil.** or equivalent from recognized institute with **minimum 60% aggregate**

#### B. For First Degree Holders:

- **M.Sc./B.E./B.Pharm.** or equivalent from recognized institute with **minimum 60% aggregate**
- These candidates must complete mandatory coursework (6 courses, 24+ units minimum) upon admission

#### C. For Humanities & Social Sciences:

- **M.A.** or equivalent with **minimum 55% aggregate**
- May need to undergo 2 semesters of coursework depending on background

#### D. For Part-time PhD:

- Must be working in an organization that encourages research
- **Minimum 1 year work experience** in related field
- Same academic qualifications as above
- Must provide **No Objection Certificate (NOC)** from employer
- Must provide **Consent Certificate** from employer

#### E. For PhD Aspirant Scheme:

- Working professional from organization collaborating with BITS Pilani (Practice School/Research/WILP)
- **M.E./M.Tech./MBA/M.Phil./M.Pharm.** or equivalent with **60% marks minimum**
- Must choose BITS faculty as mandatory supervisor
- Co-supervisor can be from own organization
- Must obtain NOC from employer

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## 3. ADMISSION TYPES & SCHEMES

### A. FULL-TIME PhD

**Eligibility:** Individuals preferring to pursue PhD on-campus, residing on campus

- Eligible for Institute fellowship up to Rs. 31,000/month (First year, conditional on norms)
- Must undertake 8-10 hours/week work assigned by institute
- Registration required every semester until thesis submission

## B. PART-TIME PhD

**Eligibility:** Working professionals in research organizations, academic institutes, industries

- Can work while pursuing PhD
- Must have employer's NOC and consent
- Same academic regulations applicable as full-time students
- Registration required every semester

## C. PhD ASPIRANT SCHEME

**Eligibility:** High-standing professionals from industries/R&D organizations collaborating with BITS

- Unique pathway for proven competence professionals
- Can conduct research at own work location
- Must have BITS faculty supervisor
- No mandatory coursework required
- Registration pattern simplified

## D. VERTICAL TRANSFER SCHEME

**For:** BITS postgraduates progressing to PhD

- Admission ensured but funding/fellowship decided separately

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# 4. APPLICATION PROCESS

## Step-by-Step Process

### Step 1: Portal Registration & Application

- **Website:** <https://www.bitsadmission.com/phdmain.aspx> (<https://www.bitsadmission.com/phdmain.aspx>)
- Download application form online
- For Aspirant Scheme: Submit by post with Demand Draft to:
  - The Admission Office
  - BITS Pilani, Pilani Campus
  - Rajasthan – 333031, India

### Step 2: Application Submission

- Submit filled application form with required documents
- Include application fee (Demand Draft in favor of BITS Pilani)
- Attach:
  - Academic transcripts

- Bachelor's/Master's degree certificates
- Mark sheets
- NOC from employer (Part-time/Aspirant)
- Consent letter from organization (Part-time/Aspirant)

### Step 3: Shortlisting

- Admissions office assigns application number
- Forms forwarded to Admissions Office → Dean AGSRD → Department Research Committee (DRC)
- DRC evaluates applications based on research thrust areas

### Step 4: Written Test/Interview

- Shortlisted candidates called for test (varies by department)
- **Test Duration:** Usually 1-2 hours
- **Interview:** Conducted by department faculty
- Candidates with **M.Phil./National Fellowships** (CSIR-JRF, UGC-JRF, DBT-JRF) exempted from test

### Step 5: Admission Offer & PhD Qualifying Exam Registration

- Shortlisted candidates receive communication
- Assigned to campus of choice for monitoring
- Must register for **PhD Qualifying Examination**
- **Timeline:** Clear qualifying exam within 2 semesters of shortlisting

### Step 6: PhD Qualifying Examination

- **Mandatory** for all admitted candidates
- 2 written tests + oral viva
- Can attempt maximum 2 times
- **Must pass** to formalize admission

### Step 7: Formal Admission After Qualifying Exam

- Passing qualifying exam = Formal admission offer from Admissions Office
- Failure to qualify = Application rejected

## 5. WRITTEN TEST & SYLLABUS

### Test Structure (General Science Disciplines)

#### TEST-I (Common for all disciplines)

- **Format:** 30 multiple-choice questions
- **Content:** General Science, Quantitative Reasoning & Analysis, Research Aptitude

- **Duration:** 1 hour
- **Marking:** +2 for correct, -0.5 for wrong answer
- **Maximum Marks:** 60

## TEST-II (Subject-specific)

- **Format:** 70 multiple-choice questions
- **Duration:** 1 hour
- **Marking:** +2 for correct, -0.5 for wrong answer
- **Maximum Marks:** 140
- **Content:** Covers prescribed syllabus for each discipline

# Subject-Specific Syllabus

## A. BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

### Topics Covered:

1. **Genetics:** Laws of inheritance, genetic mapping, gene expression (prokaryotes & eukaryotes), population genetics
2. **Molecular Techniques:** Restriction enzymes, vectors, cloning, blotting, PCR, sequencing
3. **Biological Chemistry:** Biomolecules, enzymes, vitamins, coenzymes, bioenergetics, metabolism, photosynthesis
4. **Microbiology:** Fundamentals, microbial world survey, host-microbe interaction, diseases, environmental microbiology
5. **Ecology:** Abiotic factors, ecosystem ecology, community ecology, population ecology, terrestrial/aquatic ecology
6. **Plant Physiology:** Transport, essential elements, plant development, ascent of sap, movement
7. **Biophysics:** Chemical properties, biomolecule conformation, biological membranes, X-ray crystallography, NMR
8. **Developmental Biology:** Model systems, axis, germ layers, morphogenesis, organogenesis
9. **Cell Biology:** Cellular systems, transport, organelles, nucleus, cytoskeleton, cell growth
10. **Animal Physiology:** Digestive, respiratory, circulatory, excretory, nervous, endocrine, immune systems

## B. CHEMISTRY

### Physical Chemistry:

- Quantum mechanics, hydrogen atom, atomic structure, chemical bonding
- Spectroscopy (Infrared, Raman, NMR, ESR, Mass Spec, Fluorescence)
- Thermodynamics, entropy, free energy, solutions, phase equilibria
- Chemical kinetics, reaction mechanisms, catalysis, enzyme kinetics

### Inorganic Chemistry:

- VSEPR, VB Theory, ionic crystals, electronegativity, coordination chemistry
- Organometallic compounds, catalysis, bio-inorganic chemistry
- Transition metals, redox chemistry

### Organic Chemistry:

- IUPAC nomenclature, reactive intermediates, aromaticity, substitution reactions
- Heterocyclic compounds, natural products (carbohydrates, alkaloids, amino acids)
- Stereochemistry, name reactions, pericyclic reactions, photochemistry
- Structural elucidation using UV, IR, NMR, Mass Spectrometry

#### **Analytical Chemistry:**

- NMR ( $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ ), IR, Mass Spectrometry, UV-Vis, fluorescence, chromatography
- Chemical experimentation, synthesis, characterization
- Titrations, kinetics studies, nanomaterial synthesis

## **C. MATHEMATICS**

#### **Topics Covered:**

1. **Algebra:** Permutations, combinations, number theory, groups, rings, fields, Galois theory
2. **Analysis:** Sets, sequences, series, continuity, differentiability, Riemann integral, Lebesgue measure
3. **Topology:** Topological spaces, continuity, connectedness, compactness
4. **ODEs:** Existence & uniqueness, homogeneous/non-homogeneous linear equations, boundary value problems
5. **PDEs:** Lagrange's method, Charpit's method, second-order PDE classification
6. **Linear Algebra:** Vector spaces, linear transformations, eigenvalues, Jordan forms, quadratic forms
7. **Complex Analysis:** Complex numbers, analytic functions, Cauchy-Riemann equations, contour integrals
8. **Numerical Analysis:** Errors, algebraic equations, interpolation, differentiation/integration
9. **Probability:** Probability theory, random variables, distribution functions, convergence modes, limit theorems
10. **Optimization:** Linear programming, simplex method, non-linear programming
11. **Advanced Calculus:** Multivariable functions, derivatives, implicit/inverse function theorems

## **D. PHYSICS**

#### **Topics Covered:**

1. **Modern Physics:** Special relativity, quantum properties of particles, Heisenberg uncertainty, Bohr model, Schrödinger equation
2. **Thermodynamics & Matter:** Thermometry, thermal expansion, heat, first/second law, kinetic theory, phase transformations
3. **Classical Mechanics:** Constraints, Lagrange equations, central force motion, rigid body dynamics, Hamilton equations
4. **Electromagnetic Theory:** Electrostatics, magnetostatics, Faraday's law, Maxwell equations, EM waves
5. **Quantum Mechanics:** Schrödinger equation, eigenvalues, operators, harmonic oscillator, angular momentum, hydrogen atom, perturbation theory
6. **Mathematical Physics:** Vector analysis, complex variables, ODEs, special functions, PDEs
7. **Statistical Physics:** Probability, kinetic theory, ensembles, quantum statistics
8. **Solid State Physics:** X-ray diffraction, lattice dynamics, free electron theory, energy bands, semiconductors, superconductivity
9. **Optics & Spectroscopy:** Geometrical optics, interference, diffraction, polarization, spectroscopy

10. **Nuclear & Particle Physics:** Nuclear properties, fission/fusion, quark model, elementary particles, conservation laws

## E. HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

### TEST-I Components:

1. **Reading Comprehension** (2 passages, 5 questions each = 10 questions, 20 minutes)
2. **Logical Reasoning** (10 questions, 10 minutes)
3. **Analytical Reasoning** (15 questions, 15 minutes)
4. **General Awareness** (10 questions, 15 minutes)

### TEST-II: Subjective questions covering:

- Media Studies: Cinematic art, news, mass communication, advertising, content design
- Communication: Business communication, conflict management, technical communication
- Phonetics & Language: English language teaching, usage, phonetics, linguistics
- Literature: English literature (Elizabethan-20th century), Indian writing, postcolonial literature
- Music: Logic of music, musical forms and styles
- Other Areas: Sociology, public policy, gender studies, history, psychology, philosophy, political science

## F. ECONOMICS

**TEST-I Components:** Same as Humanities (Reading, Logical Reasoning, Analytical Reasoning, General Awareness)

### TEST-II: Multiple-choice questions covering:

- Principles of Economics: Demand, supply, elasticity, consumer behavior, production, markets
- Microeconomics: Consumer behavior, firm theory, market structures, general equilibrium
- Macroeconomics: Measurement, keynesian system, inflation, unemployment, investment
- Econometrics: OLS, linear equations, time series, ARIMA
- Money & Banking: Financial markets, money supply, central banking
- Public Finance: Taxation, fiscal policy, budgeting
- International Economics: Trade theories, commercial policies, FDI, WTO
- Indian Economy: Growth, agriculture, infrastructure, employment, inflation

## G. MANAGEMENT

### Written Test: 1 hour duration covering:

- Marketing strategies, marketing research, brand positioning
- Production & operations management, inventory, quality control
- Finance & Accounting, financial statements, ratio analysis
- HR & OB: Recruitment, training, performance management, compensation

**Exemptions:** Candidates with M.Phil. or National Fellowships (CSIR-JRF, UGC-JRF, DBT-JRF) are exempted from test

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# **6. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE**

## **A. FULL-TIME PhD PATTERN I (Higher Degree)**

Year 1, Semester 1:

- Course 1 (units)
- Course 2 (units)
- BITS C791T Teaching Practice I (1 unit)
- BITS C797T PhD Seminar (1 unit)

Year 1, Semester 2:

- BITS C797T PhD Seminar (1 unit)
- BITS E661 Research Methodology-I (5 units)

Year 2 onwards:

- BITS C797T PhD Seminar (1 unit/semester)
- BITS C799T PhD Thesis (10 units/semester)

## **B. FULL-TIME PhD PATTERN II (First Degree)**

Year 1, Semester 1:

- Course 1, 2, 3 (mandatory coursework)

Year 1, Semester 2:

- Course 1, 2, 3 (continued/additional)
- BITS C797T PhD Seminar (1 unit)
- BITS C791T Teaching Practice I (1 unit)

Year 2, Semester 1:

- BITS C797T PhD Seminar (1 unit)
- BITS E661 Research Methodology-I (5 units)

Year 2, Semester 2:

- BITS C797T PhD Seminar (1 unit)
- BITS C799T PhD Thesis (10 units)

Year 3 onwards:

- BITS C797T PhD Seminar (1 unit/semester)
- BITS C799T PhD Thesis (10 units/semester)

## C. PART-TIME PhD PATTERN I (Higher Degree)

Year 1, Semester 1:

- Course 1, 2 (2 courses minimum)
- BITS E793T Practice Lecturer Series I (1 unit)

Year 1, Semester 2:

- BITS C797T PhD Seminar (1 unit)
- BITS E661 Research Methodology-I (5 units)

Year 2 onwards:

- BITS C797T PhD Seminar (1 unit/semester)
- BITS C799T PhD Thesis (10 units/semester)

## D. PhD ASPIRANT PATTERN I (Higher Degree)

Year 1, Semester 1:

- BITS C790T Independent Study (1 unit)
- BITS E793T Practice Lecturer Series I (1 unit)

Year 1, Semester 2:

- BITS C790T Independent Study (1 unit)
- BITS E661 Research Methodology-I (5 units)
- BITS C799T PhD Thesis (10 units)

Year 2 onwards:

- BITS C790T Independent Study (1 unit/semester)
- BITS C799T PhD Thesis (10 units/semester)

## Mandatory Coursework Requirements

### For Higher Degree Holders:

- **6 courses minimum with 6 units minimum** (typically 2 courses in first 1-2 semesters)
- Courses at 4th level or above
- Maximum 1 course at 4th level
- Preferably structured courses
- Minimum CGPA: 5.50, No grade below D
- If below D in any course or CGPA < 5.50: Discontinuation from program

### For First Degree Holders:

- **6 courses minimum with 24+ units minimum**
- Completed in first 2 semesters
- Maximum 14 units per semester
- Same grading requirements as above

## Key Programme Components

### 1. PhD Qualifying Examination

- **Mandatory** for all candidates
- 2 written tests in different sub-disciplines
- 1 oral viva
- Maximum 2 attempts
- Must pass both sub-disciplines
- Open book written exam pattern
- Theory: 150-160 marks (3-4 hours)
- Viva: 50-40 marks (separate for each sub-area)

### 2. Research Proposal Approval

- After passing qualifying exam, prepare research proposal
- Present to Doctoral Advisory Committee (DAC)
- Timeline: Within 1-2 semesters of qualifying exam
- Requires DRC, DCC recommendation, and Research Board approval
- Marks registration in PhD Thesis course eligibility

### 3. PhD Thesis Course (BITS C799T)

- 10 units per semester
- Minimum 40 units required for submission
- Typical duration: 4+ semesters after proposal approval
- Continuous evaluation each semester
- Supervisor monitors progress

### 4. PhD Seminar (BITS C797T)

- 1 unit per semester
- Minimum 2 units required for submission
- Each semester: Present minimum 2 seminars
- Evaluated on technical content, knowledge depth, presentation style, response to questions

### 5. Teaching Practice (BITS C791T) or Practice Lecturer Series (BITS E793T)

- 1 unit required
- Full-time: BITS C791T Teaching Practice I
- Part-time: BITS E793T Practice Lecturer Series I

- Develops presentation and teaching skills

## 6. Research Methodology (BITS E661)

- 5 units required
- Covers research design, methods, analysis techniques
- Typically in 2nd-4th semester

## 7. Pre-submission Seminar

- After thesis draft complete
- Present to DAC, DRC, department faculty
- DAC assesses thesis quality and readiness for submission
- Approval required before formal submission

## 8. Thesis Submission

- After pre-submission seminar approval
- Thesis title must be DCC and Research Board approved
- Submit: Thesis (bound copies), synopsis, DAC reports, examiner list, documents
- Bound as per BITS specifications

## 9. Thesis Evaluation

- External examiners (minimum 2)
- Internal supervisor assessment
- Examiner reports evaluation committee review
- May require major/minor revisions or rejection

## 10. Viva-Voce Examination

- Conducted at respective campus
- Present with: Supervisor, at least 1 external examiner, co-supervisor (if any)
- Oral defense of thesis
- Essential component before degree award

## 11. Final Approval & Degree Award

- Vice-Chancellor approval as Examination Committee Chairman
- Senate ratification of degree award

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# 7. IMPORTANT TIMELINE & REGISTRATION

# Registration Pattern

- **Mandatory** every semester until thesis submission
- Fees must be cleared before each semester registration
- Non-registration leads to:
  - Withheld registration formalities
  - Room allotment cancellation (on-campus students)
  - Withholding of grades

## Duration Timeline

- **Minimum:** 4-6 semesters after proposal approval (no prescribed minimum)
- **Maximum:** 10 semesters (counting from semester after qualifying exam)
- **Extensions:** Up to 4 additional semesters permitted (total 14 semesters max)
- **Female candidates:** May get 1 extra semester if maternity leave availed

## Important Dates (2025-26 Semester II Admission)

- **Admission portal opens:** September 26, 2025
  - **Last date for online application:** Check official website for deadline
  - **Shortlist declaration:** As announced on bitsadmission.com
  - **Written test/interview:** Scheduled after shortlisting
  - **Admission announcement:** After test results
  - **Registration:** As per semester calendar
- 

## 8. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

### Full-Time PhD Fellowship

- **Fellowship Amount:** Up to Rs. 31,000/month (First year)
- **Eligibility:** Institute norms-based
- **Mandatory Service:** 8-10 hours/week work assigned by institute
- **Fellowship Duration:** Up to 5 years for eligible candidates
- **Important:** Funding/fellowship decided separately from admission under vertical transfer

### CSIR/UGC/DBT Fellowships

- Candidates with external fellowships (CSIR-NET-JRF, UGC-NET-JRF, DBT-JRF):
  - Exempted from written test
  - Follow their respective fellowship guidelines for leave and benefits
  - Institute does not provide additional fellowship

## Part-Time/Aspirant Scheme

- No Institute fellowship provided
  - Candidates continue employment with their organizations
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## 9. LEAVES & HOLIDAYS

### Leave Entitlements (Per Academic Year: August - July)

- **Vacation Leave:** 30 days (can be taken 1-2 times, can be postponed if course duties covered)
  - **Casual Leave:** 15 days (Maximum 10 days at stretch, cannot be clubbed)
  - **Special Casual Leave:** 15 days (for conferences, workshops, training, academic meetings)
  - **Maternity Leave:** 180 days (for female candidates)
  - **On-Duty Leave:** Under DRC approval (work-related research needs)
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## 10. CONTACT INFORMATION

### PILANI CAMPUS

- **Prof. Hemant R. Jadhav**
- Academic Research Division (PhD Programme)
- BITS Pilani, Vidya Vihar, Pilani 333031, Rajasthan
- Email: ardpilani@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in
- Phone: +91 1596 515506

### HYDERABAD CAMPUS

- **Prof. Vidya Rajesh**
- Academic Research Division (PhD Programme)
- BITS Pilani, Jawahar Nagar, Shamirpet, Secunderabad 500078
- Email: agsrd@hyderabad.bits-pilani.ac.in
- Phone: +91-40-66303505, 66303606, 66303836, 66303815

### GOA CAMPUS

- **Prof. Prasanta Kumar Das**
- Academic Research Division (PhD Programme)
- BITS Pilani, NH-17B, Zuarinagar 403 726, Goa
- Email: pdas@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in
- Phone: +91-832-2580448

## DUBAI CAMPUS

- **Dr. Neeru Sood**
- Academic Research Division (PhD Programme)
- BITS Pilani, Dubai International Academic City
- P.O. Box 345055, Dubai, UAE
- Email: [sood@dubai.bits-dubai.ac.ae](mailto:sood@dubai.bits-dubai.ac.ae)
- Phone: +971-4-4200700 Ext. 244

## MAIN OFFICE

- **Prof. Sanjay Kumar Verma** (Dean)
- Academic Research Division
- BITS Pilani, Vidya Vihar, Pilani 333031
- Email: [skverma@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in](mailto:skverma@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in)
- Phone: +91-1596-515217

## ADMISSIONS WEBSITE

- <https://www.bitsadmission.com/phdmain.aspx> (<https://www.bitsadmission.com/phdmain.aspx>)
  - Regular updates on shortlists, results, notifications
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# 11. SPECIAL PROVISIONS

## PhD Aspirant Scheme - Specific Guidelines

1. **Collaboration Requirement:** Organization must collaborate with BITS through:

- Practice School activities
- Research projects
- WILP (Wipro Institute of Leadership Program) activities

2. **Supervisor Requirement:**

- BITS faculty as mandatory supervisor
- Co-supervisor can be from candidate's organization

3. **NOC & Consent:** Employer must provide:

- No Objection Certificate
- Consent for research leave
- Facilities for research work

4. **Pending Applications:**

- If collaboration not established initially, given time to establish BITS partnership
- Application reviewed again after collaboration established

## Part-Time PhD - Specific Guidelines

**1. Employer Consent Document** (To be submitted on official letterhead):

- Employee name and designation
- Employment since date
- Organization will provide research facilities
- Leave will be granted as needed
- Organization letterhead and authorized signature with seal

**2. On-Campus Attendance:** Must be present for:

- Mid-semester evaluation components
- End-semester evaluation components
- Seminars and pre-submission seminar

**3. Workload Flexibility:**

- Expected flexibility from employer
- DRC monitors attendance and course completion
- Different patterns than full-time PhD

## Faculty Development Programme (FDP)

- Faculty joining Hyderabad campus under FDP can apply for PhD
- Same registration patterns as part-time students
- Admission can be done anytime during semester (no waiting for advertisement)
- Admission handled by Hyderabad campus directly

## 12. IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER

- ✓ **Minimum eligibility does NOT guarantee admission** - Departments set specific shortlisting criteria
- ✓ **PhD Qualifying Exam is MANDATORY** - Must pass to formalize admission
- ✓ **Coursework required for First Degree holders** - 6 courses, 24+ units minimum
- ✓ **Annual registration compulsory** - Non-payment of fees leads to de-registration
- ✓ **Thesis title approval mandatory** - DCC and Research Board must approve before submission

- ✓ **Pre-submission seminar required** - DAC assessment before formal thesis submission
  - ✓ **External examiner evaluation** - At least 2 external examiners review thesis
  - ✓ **Viva-voce mandatory** - Essential before degree award
  - ✓ **Research publications expected** - Typically 2+ papers in peer-reviewed journals
  - ✓ **Extension possible but limited** - Maximum 4 additional semesters beyond 10-semester limit
    - ✓ **Leave policies strict** - Managed by individual DRCs
    - ✓ **Placements/facilities vary by campus** - Check with respective department for details
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## 13. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Q1: Can I pursue PhD while working?**

- Yes, through Part-time or PhD Aspirant Scheme with employer NOC

### **Q2: What if I have B.Sc./B.E. degree?**

- Need to enroll as First Degree holder, complete 6 courses (24+ units) mandatory coursework

### **Q3: Will my CSIR-JRF/UGC-JRF qualify me?**

- Yes, you're exempted from written test but must clear qualifying exam of university

### **Q4: How long is the entire PhD duration?**

- 4-8 years typically (4+ semesters coursework/qualifying + 4+ semesters thesis + evaluation time)

### **Q5: Is fellowship guaranteed?**

- No, full-time fellowship is conditional and based on institute norms

### **Q6: What if I fail the qualifying exam?**

- Can attempt maximum 2 times; after 2 failures, admission may be cancelled

### **Q7: Can I change my supervisor?**

- Yes, but requires DCC/Research Board approval

### **Q8: Can I do thesis research outside BITS campus?**

- Yes, if approved by DCC/Research Board; location of research decided on case-by-case basis

### **Q9: Is viva-voce compulsory?**

- Yes, viva-voce is essential before degree award

**Q10: What happens if I don't submit thesis within 10 semesters?**

- Maximum 4-semester extension available; after that, discontinuation from program
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## 14. APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Before applying, ensure you have:

- Bachelor's/Master's degree certificates
  - Mark sheets/transcripts for all qualifications
  - Proof of minimum aggregate marks (60% for most, 55% for HSS)
  - Research area of interest identified
  - Preferred department identified
  - NOC from employer (if part-time/aspirant)
  - Consent certificate from organization (if part-time/aspirant)
  - Proof of work experience (1+ years for part-time)
  - Application fee (Demand Draft)
  - Contact information for supervisor preference (if applicable)
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**Last Updated:** December 2025 **Source:** Official BITS Pilani PhD Admission Brochures and Guidelines **Disclaimer:** This document is compiled from official BITS Pilani sources. For latest updates and confirmations, always refer to <https://www.bitsadmission.com> (<https://www.bitsadmission.com>) or contact BITS directly.