

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY BOMBAY

November 13, 2014

Committee Report on the formulation of rules for exit option for DD (M.Sc. + Ph.D.) Programme (Approved in the 218th meeting of the Senate)

1. **Institute guidelines and department specific rules:** This document specifies the general institute guidelines regarding the progress of students through the M.Sc.-Ph.D. programme of the institute. Departments that offer this programme may have rules in addition to these guidelines. These rules would be approved by the IIT Bombay Senate from time to time.
2. **Entry:** The M.Sc.-Ph.D programme at IIT Bombay is designed to attract Ph.D. students at an early stage in their academic career. Students enter the M.Sc.-Ph.D. course at IIT Bombay through the JAM exam. Some departments have an interview process after the JAM exam results, to select candidates.
3. **Coursework and M.Sc. curriculum:** The normal coursework for the programme is such that courses equivalent to an M.Sc. degree are completed in a maximum of 5 semesters. The normal coursework towards an M.Sc. will be done in 4 semesters (at least 35 credits every semester), followed by coursework towards the Ph.D. part of the programme as prescribed by the Department.
4. **Stipend:** A stipend is provided from semester 1 onwards. The details are available on the academic page and the amounts for the first two years may be changed from time to time, depending on the institute policy. After confirmation for Ph.D., the stipend amount will follow the regular MHRD norms for Ph.D. Candidates.
5. **CPI requirement for Ph.D:** Departments may have a CPI requirement to confirm entry to the Ph.D. programme, after 2.5 years. Students who do not fulfill this requirement will leave with an M.Sc. degree. A student with CPI less than 6 at any time in the first two years may be asked to leave with an M.Sc. degree after semester 5 or 6. Depending on academic probation rules in force at the time, the student may be given a chance to improve his/her CPI and continue.
6. **Confirmation in Ph.D. programme:** Like other Ph.D. programmes in the institute, admission to the programme means that the student can register, and can meet certain course credit requirements and then confirm registration based on the appointment of a Research Progress Committee for thesis work to be done under a supervisor. This process is not automatic and has to be planned by the student and the department. Any Ph.D. programme requires

mutual commitment between the student and some faculty in the department to work on a serious research agenda. It is necessary to assess the progress towards this objective at a few stages during the programme. If a student clears the M.Sc. courses, clears departmental qualifiers (if any) and departmental requirements and finishes confirmation of Ph.D. registration (includes signing up with a supervisor and setting up an RPC approved by the department), the student is now part of the Ph.D. programme. It is the student's initiative to find a suitable topic and supervisor in the department, and the faculty advisor and other faculty members in the department will make all efforts to find a good fit.

7. **Exit during Ph.D.:** Unsatisfactory performance in the Annual Progress Seminar (APS) has to be noted by the Research Progress Committee of the student and the student can be asked to leave based on unsatisfactory performance in the APS – normally one chance is given to repeat an unsatisfactory APS.
8. **Ph.D. Degree.:** If all requirements for the Ph.D. are fulfilled, the student is given the M.Sc. and Ph.D. Degrees from the institute.
9. **Research exit degree:** After confirmation, like regular Ph.D. students in a science based Ph.D. programme, students may try for an exit with an M.Phil if they have attempted some substantial research work. This can be done any time after the first Annual Progress Seminar by satisfying the following requirements:
 - a. A recommendation by the RPC and the DPGC of the Department allowing the student to submit an M.Phil thesis.
 - b. The thesis will be examined as per the M.Phil. thesis examination process.The M.Sc. Degree of the institute is also given for these candidates.
10. **Exit with M.Sc.:** Although the admission is for the M.Sc.-Ph.D. programme, students may desire to leave with an M.Sc. based on coursework at the end of 2.5 years. The requirements for the M.Sc. degree will be specified by each department. Students who do not fulfill the requirements of an M.Sc. degree will be leaving without any degree.
11. **Exit with FR courses:** A student with two or more FR grades in the M.Sc. part of the curriculum may be asked to leave with an M.Sc. degree after semester 5 and after completing all Department requirements for the M.Sc. degree.
12. **Placement:** Students who leave with an M.Sc. degree after fulfilling course requirements can participate in institute placement. For this option, the student has to express his / her intention at the end of the 4th semester.