

University of Manchester (UK) -IIT Kharagpur (India) Dual Award PhD Programme Proposal for Project – Guidance Notes & Selection Criteria

Admission for the fourth cohort of students for the University of Manchester and IIT Kharagpur Dual Award PhD programme is being rolled out.

Funding

Up to 3 fully funded (all basic level tuition fees, standard living allowances at Manchester and Institute scholarship while at IITKGP for all 4 years of programme, including 2 years of allowances at UKRI equivalent stipends) scholarships are available for suitable candidates to commence on this 4-year programme initially at IIT Kharagpur in August 2024.

How to apply

For a proposed project to be considered for approval, please complete the attached form and email to fse.doctoralacademy.specialistprogrammes@manchester.ac.uk, adeanir@adm.iitkgp.ac.in and ir-office@adm.iitkgp.ac.in by **4th December 2023**.

Project eligibility

In order to receive approval, a project must meet the following essential criteria:

- Have an agreed joint project supervisory team comprising at least a main supervisor and co-supervisor from University of Manchester and a main supervisor from IIT Kharagpur.
- The main supervisors are both permanent members of academic staff of their respective institutions.
- Confirmation that the joint project supervisory team have agreed a project title
- Have an agreed outline project plan with milestones and timelines showing the progression of the Ph.D. over the 4 years.
- The joint project supervisory team confirms that they have collective access to the resources, other than tuition fees and living allowances, to enable the proposed PhD project to be executed.
- Supervisory teams confirm their availability to discuss with, interview and rank before 20th March 2024 candidates who apply to their project by 04th March 2024.
- The UoM supervisors must have conducted the [Export Control self-assessment](#) for the project and are undertaking the necessary step to put an Export Control licence (if applicable) and they must have conducted a compliance risk assessment for the project (e.g. ATAS clearance and export control clearance) and put mitigating measures in place.

The following desirable characteristics will also be used to rank these proposals

- Demonstrated extent of previous collaboration between the IIT Kharagpur and University of Manchester supervisory teams
- Demonstrated strength of joint project supervisory team
- Demonstrated value added of the project arising from the collaboration between IIT Kharagpur and University of Manchester
- Inclusion of co-supervisor from IIT Kharagpur on supervisory team
- Demonstrated (as evidenced by an appropriate letter of support or email) and extent of involvement of a suitable business, NGO or government agency partner

- Potential of research to address strategic research priorities of India, UK or global challenges

A maximum of 20 projects will be approved for potential students starting in August 2024. Applications will open for candidates to apply for approved projects at IIT KGP on 15th January 2024 with application deadline on 4th March 2024.

Interviews will be conducted tentatively in the week commencing 15th April 2023.

Student eligibility

1. Candidates may only apply for projects approved by the Joint Academic Board.
2. For Indian residents, the programme is open to graduates B.Tech. or M.Sc./M.Tech. graduate from any Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) with a minimum CGPA of 7.5 on a scale of 10.
3. For residents of other countries, it is open to graduates of [Institutes/Universities within QS WUR of 500](#) (published in 2023).
4. Candidates must be able to undertake PhD studies at IIT Kharagpur from July 2024 or as soon as possible thereafter with no requirement for a (further) visa to study in India.
5. Willingness to travel to the UK to undertake 2 years of study based at The University of Manchester if such travel is permitted by UK and India governments.
6. Holds or expects to obtain a 2:1 class honours undergraduate degree or higher (or international equivalent).
7. Ideally holds a master's-level qualification at merit or distinction (or international equivalent).
8. Demonstrable excellent communication skills, including in English language, a proficiency in which should be demonstrably indicated by meeting the requirements as indicated on <https://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/international/admissions/language-requirements> and in particular securing an IELTS score of at least 6.5 overall with a minimum of 6.0 in each component OR securing a TOEFL iBT score of 90 with no less than 20 in each component equivalent OR equivalent.
9. For some projects an ATAS certificate may also be required by them.
10. Demonstrate to fulfil the University of Manchester [Faculty of Science and Engineering Postgraduate Researcher person specification](#):
 - a. Educational background matches research project.
 - b. Potential to form effective working relationships with a diverse range of people, including working inclusively and as part of a team.
 - c. Potential to take the initiative, lead on projects, and be proactive in prioritising a dynamic, agile and diverse workload.
 - d. Potential to develop understanding of complex problems, evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of a given scenario, and apply in-depth knowledge to address them.
 - e. Potential to develop expertise in new areas of the subject.
 - f. Evidence of an understanding of the proposed area of research, including knowledge of current challenges and opportunities.
 - g. An interest in continuous personal and professional development.
 - h. Potential to communicate ideas and conclusions, verbally and in writing, clearly and effectively to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
 - i. Preliminary knowledge of research techniques/track record of engaging with research.

- j. Commitment to principles of [Equality, Diversity, Inclusion, & Accessibility](#) in teaching, research, or experience.

Timeline

Date	Process	Action By
October 2023	Agree and circulate invitation for project summaries for supervisory teams	DC (IITKGP) & BR (UOM)
Monday 4th Dec, 2023	Deadline for submission of projects	Prospective project supervisory teams
Week commencing 11th Dec, 2023	Meeting of JAB for review and selection of projects	JAB meeting on 12 th /13 th /14 th
Monday 18th Dec, 2023	Selection of approved projects – limited to 20 – Communication to supervisory team	Joint Academic Board chaired by DC (IITKGP) & DP (UOM)
Week commencing 15th January, 2024	Websites updated and applications opened for candidates to apply for approved projects	Wednesday 17 th / Thursday 18 th Jan
Monday 4th March, 2024	Deadline for submission of applications to IITKGP and UOM	
Wednesday 13th March	Applications shared with supervisory teams	Folders created and shared with supervisors by KM
Wednesday 27th March	Deadline for supervisory teams to notify Joint Academic Board of their top two ranked candidates for each approved project	
Monday 8th April	Info on Top candidates shared with JAB	
Tuesday 9th April, 2024	Top ranked candidates screened for eligibility and invited for interview	<i>Meeting of JAB should be convened</i>
Wednesday 10th April, 2024	Information (applications, scoring and ranking information) shared with the Panel members	
Week commencing 15th April, 2024	Candidates interviewed, ranked and notified of outcomes.	16 th , 17 th and 18 th April
July 2024	Commencement of programme at IIT Kharagpur	

Contact details

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact to

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