

FAQs

Q1. What is the PhD Program?

- A. PhD Program is the doctoral program of the Indian Institute of Management Visakhapatnam leading to award of 'PhD degree'. The duration of the program is 5 years, comprising 2 years of course work, a comprehensive examination and thesis work consisting of a thesis proposal defence and a final thesis evaluation and defence.

Q2. Can I complete the course on a part-time basis?

- A. No, it is a full time program.

Q3. Who should do PhD Program?

- A. Students/Professionals who want to pursue a career in advanced research and academics (including teaching) are the ideal candidates for this program. The applicant should have high scholastic ability, aptitude for research and excellent analytical skills. He/She should have enough motivation to withstand the rigour of the program.

Q4. What is expected of PhD Program students?

- A. PhD Program students are expected to complete course work, pass a comprehensive exam, and excel in their chosen areas of research through high-quality publications.

Q5. Do I need to be an MBA for doing PhD Program?

- A. Not necessary. The course work provides understanding of relevant fields of management. Different areas prefer students from diverse backgrounds to match the area requirement.

Q6. What is the level of rigour of the course?

- A. The course is rigorous. It needs a very high quality of academic commitment and integrity. It has stringent requirements at every stage of the program. Candidates who fail to match the requirements may be asked to leave the program.

Q7. Where do PhD Program students get placed?

- A. A PhD Program is oriented towards training students for careers in research. Such training is highly valued by academic institutions. But leading Indian companies, MNCs, investment banks and consulting firms also value their training for certain positions requiring specialized research skills.

Q8. When are PhD Program students allowed to take up outside employment?

- A. Students are allowed to seek employment after submitting the draft thesis to PhD Program office for sending it to the External Examiners for evaluation. Students seeking employment prior to their final thesis defence are required to take a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from their TAC (Thesis Advisory Committee) / PhD Program Chairperson.

Q9. I am working in a technical position in my company. I want to switch to a managerial position. However, I have not done any management course. My first preference is a corporate job. Should I apply for PhD Program?

- A. You do not want to spend four to seven years doing doctoral work while you can accomplish your career goals by doing a one to two years MBA program.

Q10. What is the selection process?

- A. Based on the information provided by the applicants, candidates will be shortlisted (on the recommendation of the respective areas) and called to Visakhapatnam for an area specific interview. Candidates will be admitted to the program based on a combination of multiple parameters, as specified by the respective areas. Parameters may include applicant's performance in either of CAT, GMAT, GRE, GATE , JRF (NET) score, past academic performance and interview performance.

Q11. Do I have to take any test for getting admission into PhD Program?

- A. Candidates require a valid test score, from any one of the acceptable tests for the area(s) of Specialisation they are applying to, as shown in the following table.

Area of Specialization	Acceptable Test Scores
Decision Sciences	GMAT, GRE, CAT, JRF (NET)*, GATE
Finance & Accounting	GMAT, GRE, CAT, JRF (NET)#
Marketing	GMAT, GRE, CAT, JRF (NET)#, GATE
Production & Operations Management	GMAT, GRE, CAT, JRF (NET)@, GATE

JRF (NET) in Economics/Commerce/Management only

* Economics/Commerce/Population Studies/Management/Forensic Science/ Computer Science and Applications/ Electronic Science/ Environmental Sciences

@ Mathematical Sciences and Management only

All candidates should mandatorily provide the test score, which *should be valid as on March 16, 2020*, while applying.

- a. Applicants opting for GMAT or GRE should upload a copy of their official GMAT scores along with the application. Applicants who have not received the official score card, should upload the TEST TAKER COPY along with the application, but submit the OFFICIAL SCORE CARD before the interviews.
- b. Applicants opting for Common Admission Test (CAT 2019) should provide their CAT 2019 registration number in the online application. The CAT 2019 scores made available to IIMV will be used in the assessment of the application.
- c. Applicants opting for GATE or JRF (NET) score should upload their valid SCORE CARD along with the application.

Q12. What is the purpose of Area specific interview?

- A. We give high importance to an applicant's motivation and research capability. Interviews of selected applicants allows us to ascertain their motivation for research, and whether their aspirations are compatible with objectives of PhD Program. It also gauges the academic preparation of the candidate for the specific area he/she has applied.

Q13. How many students get selected per year?

- A. The selection is area specific and entirely depends on the candidate's performance.

Q14. Do I apply for a specific area or can I choose my area after getting admission?

- A. You can apply to two areas but must mention your first preference in your application. Once a student is admitted to an area, rarely do we allow the student to change the area.

Q15. How much time does it take to complete PhD Program?

- A. Students are expected to complete the program within 5 years.

Q16. What's the degree/title that I get at the completion of the course?

- A. Students are awarded with PhD degree in their respective area of Specialisation.

Q17. What financial support is available?

- A. IIMV provides one of the best financial packages for doctoral students. Students will be provided with Rs 30,000/ pm as stipend (Rs 33,000 /pm after passing the comprehensive qualifying examination) and are exempted from tuition fee.

Q18. Do PhD Program students get hostel accommodation?

- A. Hostel accommodation is provided until the end of five-years subject to availability. HRA for students with families who live off-campus, monthly Rs.7,500/- or rent; whichever is less.

Q19. Do I have the scope to do interdisciplinary research?

- A. Yes, much of the research work done by our faculty members is interdisciplinary in nature.

Q20. Do PhD Program students need to teach?

- A. No, but they are required to work closely with professors as Teaching Assistants (TA) and Research Assistants (RA).