

Academic Guidelines
2021-22
MS by Research
Programme



3. MS by Research Programme

This program is presently offered by the Centre of Excellence in Space Sciences India (CESSI). However, other departments may also offer this programme. The following are the details of the program run by CESSI, and will be updated as and when other departments decide to offer this programme.

3.1 Introduction: The CESSI is a Center of Excellence (CoE) funded by the Ministry of Human Resource Development under the Frontier Areas of Science and Technology Scheme (FAST) programme of the Government of India. The CoEs are expected to offer post-graduate and doctoral programmes that combine a unique blend of basic sciences and engineering sciences allowing integration of fundamental knowledge while developing proficiency in research. In keeping with this mandate and to support fundamental and applied national research in space sciences CESSI runs an 'MS by Research' program to attract qualified and motivated engineering (BE/BTech) students to scientific research.

3.2 Selection Process:

Based on the evaluation of applications following an admission call, some candidates are short-listed and called for interview. Recommendation letters may be sought for short-listed candidates. Final selection is based on the performance in the interview, academic background of the candidate and any other criteria determined by the selection committee. No candidate may be selected if suitable candidates of sufficient quality are not found.

3.3 Details:

- i. Name of the Program: MS by Research in Space Physics
- ii. Duration: 2 years (4 semesters)
- iii. Eligibility: BE/BTech Graduates (satisfying declared eligibility criteria in the admission call)
- iv. Total Credit: 78
- v. Fellowship: As mentioned below

3.4 List of Courses and Semester Structure: Please refer to the 'Courses of Study' document in the Institute's website under 'Academic' tab.

Note: Candidates will have to clear any failed courses in the supplementary examination to be eligible for award of the 'MS by Research' degree. Fellowship (Rs.12,400/- per month) is contingent upon maintenance of a CGPA of 6.0 or above and no backlog.

3.5 Promotion Policy:

Please refer to the promotion policy of the BS-MS Academic Guidelines.

3.6 Termination of studentship:

Please refer to the promotion/termination policy of the BS-MS Academic Guidelines.

3.7 Thesis Submission:

- i. The PGAC of CESSI will administer the MS by Research Program offered by CESSI and will monitor the progress of each student. A student of this Programme will be associated with a specific faculty member or a research group, as recommended by the PGAC.
- i. At the end of two years, a dissertation will have to be submitted by the student. The dissertation will be submitted online through a Google Doc. form by the Supervisor. The student will share the following documents with the Supervisor for further submission:

1. MS dissertation in pdf (with a proper cover page having all details like name, roll no. title of the dissertation, name of the degree, name of the supervisor and co-supervisor (if any), name of the department, name of the Institute with logo, year)
2. Synopsis in pdf (with a proper cover page same as above)
3. Scanned copy of the Payment proof of thesis submission fees (Rs. 6000/-)

If required the student may have to submit one spiral bound copy of the thesis to the Office of Academic Affairs.

The supervisor will request AR Academics for the link of the Google Doc. form via thesis@iiserkol.ac.in

- ii. The Panel Form for reviewers' names suggested by the supervisor (and forwarded by the HoD and concerned PGAC member) should also be uploaded in the Google Doc form. The panel of reviewers should have a minimum of 4 names at the level of Professor or Associate Professor (2 within IISER Kolkata fraternity and 2 external with Indian affiliation). It is preferred that the supervisor takes prior consent from the reviewer before empanelling him/her (this expedite the process). Care should be taken to avoid any conflict of interest. Research collaborators of the student or the supervisor should not be suggested as examiner of the thesis.
- iii. The dissertation will be evaluated by the supervisor of the student and two examiners (one of them from outside the IISER-K). If the dissertation is found acceptable, the candidate will have to defend it through a seminar, conducted before a committee of examiners as well as other interested listeners.
- iv. The deadline of thesis submission should be around 10 April, which will allow one month's time for the thesis evaluation by the external reviewer. For evaluation of the MS by Research thesis, an honorarium as per norms will be paid to the external reviewer. (Presently it is Rs. 6000/-, this amount may be revised from time to time.) The external reviewer will be intimated well in advance regarding the proposed date of viva voce. In case of inability of the reviewer to physically come to the Institute, online presentation may be arranged.
- v. The format of the MS Project Report will be the same as prescribed for the BS-MS students (format available in BS-MS Guidelines)

3.8 Award of the MS Degree:

On receipt of the approval of the Senate, the MS degree may be conferred in the next convocation.

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