National Institute of Advanced Studies
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Admission to NIAS Doctoral Programme 2017–18

The National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) is looking for exceptionally motivated students interested in pursuing interdisciplinary research in natural and engineering sciences, social sciences, humanities and the arts. Unencumbered by the constraints of traditional disciplinary Ph.D. programmes, NIAS Ph.D. students have a unique opportunity to broaden their intellectual horizons beyond their narrow training during their thesis research in one of the listed areas. NIAS not only values such cross-pollination of ideas but encourages and provides the necessary support to its students to develop interdisciplinary orientation to problem-solving. This interdisciplinary ethos is also reflected in the work of its faculty and research scholars.

NIAS was established by the late J. R. D. Tata to develop and train leaders with a multidisciplinary orientation for problem-solving. The Institute is recognized as a centre for research by Manipal and Mysore Universities from which students get their Ph.D. degrees. A limited number of scholarships are available for exceptionally bright and motivated postgraduate students. Candidates who have passed the NET/SET/GATE examinations with good scores or qualified for JRF/DST/CSIR/ICSSR/JEST fellowships will also be considered for admission.

If you are a postgraduate or expecting the degree by July 2017, you can apply to one or more research areas represented by faculty research interests and funded projects at NIAS. For the 2017–18 academic year, we invite applications from those interested in the following areas:

- Art History, Archaeology, Archaeological Science and Crafts History
- Geo-spatial Analysis for Cultural Heritage
- Architecture of Ancient Monuments, Traditional Knowledge Systems including Astronomy
- Conflict Studies and Internal Conflicts in India
- Energy Modelling and Policy, Energy Equity, Air Pollution Impacts and Policy
- Energy Sustainability and Natural Resources, Human Development and Policy
- Science and Technology in National and International Security
- Armed Conflicts, Peace Processes and Regional Security
- Regional Security in South Asia
- Nuclear Energy Policy, Nuclear Risk Perception and Communication
- Social Cognition in Humans and Animals, Science Communication
- Behavioural Ecology, Cognitive Psychology and Theoretical Analyses of Primate Communities, Populations and Societies
- Primate Behaviour and Biology, Human–Animal Relations, Human–Wildlife Conflict
- Higher Education Policy, Women in Science; Gifted Education
- Education in Conflict Zones, Education Policy and Social Exclusion
- Physics of Complex Systems, Dynamical Systems Theory
- Urban Studies
- Sociology of Technology, Labour, Migration, and Skills
- Economic Inequality and Social Development

Applicants are advised to visit the NIAS website for more information on faculty and their research interests (www.nias.res.in).

Eligibility: Admissions to the NIAS Ph.D. programme are open to those who have completed/are completing a Master’s/ M.Phil. degree in any relevant subject in the natural sciences, engineering, mathematics, social sciences, humanities or the arts, and with a consistently proven academic record (minimum 55% marks). Some research and/or field experience in the concerned areas will be preferred. Candidates who have passed the NET/SET/GATE examinations with good scores or qualified for JRF/DST/CSIR/ICSSR/JEST fellowships are also encouraged to apply.

Financial support: A limited number of selected candidates will be eligible to receive NIAS fellowship, which will be available for a period of four years on a yearly renewable basis. The NIAS fellowship amount is currently fixed at Rs 28,000 per month for the first two years and Rs 25,000 per month from the third year, with an additional 30% per month as House Rent Allowance. Limited hostel seats are available on campus for women.

Admissions are also open to those applying under specific funded research projects, candidates with external support such as CSIR fellowships and DST/INSPIRE fellowships, candidates with employer sponsorship and self-funded candidates. Under no circumstances will NIAS financially support externally funded candidates and self-funded candidates. Candidates supported by project will receive financial support only for the duration of the project.

Selection procedure: Irrespective of the source of funding, admission to the NIAS Ph.D. programme will be based on a common entrance test and two levels of interview. Short-listed candidates will be invited for a written test and interviews on 19 and 20 June 2017. A written examination comprising multiple choice type questions in quantitative, logical reasoning, analytical and vocabulary skills will be conducted to shortlist the candidates for the two interviews, a subject specific interview and a comprehensive interview.

How to apply: Please download the application form (http://www.nias.res.in/content/doctonal-programme) from our website. The completed and signed application form should be sent along with scanned copies of undergraduate and postgraduate degree certificates, mark sheets, and a resume containing your academic history, skills, interests, published work and accomplishments should be collated and sent as a single PDF file to the e-mail address: niasphd@gmail.com.

Please note that the Institute will only accept applications submitted by e-mail. The deadline for receiving application with all required documents by e-mail is 10 April 2017.

For additional information, applicants may contact: jnsandhya@gmail.com, admin@nias.iisc.ernet.in