National Institute of Advanced Studies
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Admission to NIAS Doctoral Programme 2018–19

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 problemsolving. 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 problemsolving. The Institute is recognized as a centre for research by Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) and The Institute of Trans-disciplinary Health Sciences and Technology (TDU) 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 post-graduate or expecting the degree by July 2018, you can apply to one or more research areas represented by faculty research interests and funded projects at NIAS. For the 2018–19 academic year, we invite applications from those interested in the following areas:

- Megalithic Burials, Landscape Archaeology and Experimental Archaeology
- Complexity Theories of Consciousness, Causality Testing
- Behaviour and Cognition in Fishes
- Science Communication
- Primate Behaviour and Ecology, Human Wildlife Conflict, Human Animal Relations
- Nuclear Power and Risk Communication
- Material Culture and Archaeology, Specifically Archaeomaterials Research and Archaeometallurgy and Artisanal and Crafts Studies and Art History
- Armed Conflicts and Security in South Asia, Peace Processes South Asia
- Afghanistan and Pakistan, Science and Diplomacy
- Gifted and Talented, Diversity and Culture
- Social Exclusion, Education and Conflict Zones
- Conflict Studies
- Landscape Archaeology: Geospatial Analysis for Cultural Heritage
- Geopolitical dimensions of Maritime Security, Maritime Security and Maritime Cooperation in International Politics
- Sustainable Energy Options, Human Development and Policy
- Marginalized/Glorified History and Social Identity
- 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/Ph.D., 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 will also be considered for admission.

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.25,000 per month for the first two years and Rs.28,000 per month from the third year, with an additional 24% 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 18 and 19 June 2018.

How to apply: Please download the application form (http://www.nias.res.in/content/doctoral-programme) from our website. The completed and signed application form should be sent along with scanned copies of undergraduate and postgraduate degree certificates and 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 20 April 2018.

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