



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY KOTTAYAM
(An Institution under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India governed by an Act of parliament)
Valavoor (PO), Pala, Kottayam, Kerala - 686635

Admission to Ph.D. Programme – August 2026

IMPORTANT DATES

ONLINE APPLICATION PORTAL OPENS	15th March 2026
LAST DATE FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS	15th April 2026
WRITTEN TEST AND INTERVIEW	01-09 May 2026

IIIT Kottayam invites applications from motivated and research-oriented students for the Ph.D. programmes starting in August 2026.

The major areas of research are as follows:

Computer Science and Engineering	Artificial Intelligence, v, Explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI), Agentic AI, Vision Language Models, Edge AI, AI for Social Good, Optimization in Machine Learning and Deep Learning, Evolutionary Algorithms, Machine Intelligence, Data Analytics, Data Science, Graph Machine Learning, Graph Representation Learning; Natural Language Processing & Speech Technologies: Natural Language Processing (NLP), Speech Processing, Language Models (LLM), NLP for Healthcare, NLP applications in Ayurveda; Computer Vision & Image/Video Processing, Medical Image Processing, Remote Sensing Image Classification and Segmentation, Geospatial Analysis, Explainable AI for Vision Systems; Biomedical Systems & Healthcare AI: Biomedical Systems, AI in Healthcare, Health Informatics, Medical Imaging, Brain Network Analysis, Bioinformatics, AI for Disease Detection, Quantum Computing, Quantum Artificial Intelligence, Quantum Machine Learning, Cloud Edge Continuum, Network Analytics, AI for Social Good, Responsible Computing, Remote Sensing Image Classification/Segmentation, Geospatial Analysis, Distributed Computing, Cloud Computing, Fog computing, Energy forecasting and Scheduling in EV Charging, Resource Optimization in EV, Software defined networks and security, UAVs in Agriculture, Surveillance and Smart Cities, Security and privacy, Edge computing and intelligence, IoT, Biometric Security Quantum Technologies Post-Quantum Cryptography, Quantum Sensors, Graph Neural Networks, Federated Learning, Climate Networks, Human Computer Interaction, E-learning, Theoretical Computer Science, Algorithms and Graph Theory, Cloud Edge Continuum, Network Science, Network Representation Learning, Robustness of complex networks, Vision, Remote Sensing Image Classification/Segmentation, , Explainable AI (XAI), Energy forecasting and Scheduling in EV Charging, Resource Optimization in EV, Advanced Databases, Mobile adhoc networks(MANETs), Vehicular adhoc networks VANETS.
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<p>Computer Science and Engineering (CSE): Cyber Security</p>	<p>Cyber Security, Digital Forensics, Information Security, Network Security, Data Security, Applied Cryptography, Post-Quantum Cryptography, Hardware Security, Adversarial Machine Learning, Multimedia Forensics, Digital Forensics and Crime Investigation, Mobile Application Forensics, Malware Analysis, OSINT (Open Source Intelligence), Financial Crime Analytics, Offensive Security Frameworks; Privacy, Trust & Responsible Computing: Privacy Preserving Machine Learning, Federated Learning, Blockchain Applications, Quantum Computing, Quantum Artificial Intelligence, Quantum Machine Learning, Post-Quantum Cryptography, Quantum Sensors, ML for systems and IOT, Forensics&Malware, AI and AI agents for offensive security, Mobile adhoc networks(MANETs), Vehicular adhoc networks VANETS, Graph - Based Forensics, Financial Crime, Open-Source Intelligence, Internet of Things privacy and security, Biometric security, Biometric security, Machine learning in cyber security, FPGA design, Hardware security, Cryptography, Privacy preserving, Healthcare, AI/ML/DP based cyber security, Network security and Distributed/Cloud/edge computing security.</p>
<p>Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE):</p>	<p>Internet of Things (IoT), Wireless Sensor Networks, Embedded Systems, Edge Computing / Edge Intelligence, FPGA Design, VLSI Design, Electronic Instrumentation, Smart Nanotechnology; Wireless Communications & Networking: Wireless Communication, Signal Processing for Communications, Beyond 5G and 6G Wireless Technologies, RF / Microwave / Antenna Design, MIMO Systems, Optical Wireless Communication, Free Space Optics, Visible Light Communication; Network Technologies: Mobile Adhoc Networks (MANETs), Vehicular Adhoc Networks (VANETs), Vehicular Communications, Software Defined Networks, Network Analytics, Cloud-Edge Continuum; Physics, Photonics & Optics: Optoelectronics, Lasers, Spectroscopy, Ocean Optics, Quantum Sensors; Fluid Mechanics & Physical Systems: Fluid Mechanics; Biofluid Mechanics, Machine Learning in Fluid Mechanics, Energy Systems & Smart Infrastructure: Energy Forecasting, EV Charging Scheduling, Resource Optimization in Electric Vehicles; Fluid Mechanics & Physical Systems: Fluid Mechanics, Biofluid Mechanics, Machine Learning in Fluid Mechanics; Energy Systems & Smart Infrastructure: Energy Forecasting, EV Charging Scheduling, Resource Optimization in Electric Vehicles; UAV & Smart City Applications: UAVs in Agriculture, UAVs for Surveillance, Smart City Technologies, Computer Vision for UAV Systems, Waveform Design, Biomedical systems, Vibration Energy Harvesting, Acoustic Source Localization using AI/ML, Signal Processing, VLSI, Speech Processing, Image Processing, Machine Learning, Deep Learning.</p>
<p>Computational Mathematics</p>	<p>Mathematical Modelling, Computational Mathematics, Optimization, Fractional Calculus, Dynamical Systems, Nonlinear Partial Differential Equations, Graph Theory, Network Science/Analysis, Graph Algorithms, Uncertainty Quantification Mathematical and Computational Finance, Partial Differential Equations, and Mathematical Modelling in Sports Analytics, Fuzzy mathematics, Graph Embedding, Optimization in Machine Learning and Deep Learning, Evolutionary Algorithms, Physics-Informed and Graph Neural Networks, Spatio-Temporal Climate Modelling, Uncertainty Quantification, Data Science, Quantum Computing, Post Quantum Cryptography</p>

Categories of Ph.D. Students:

i. SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS (FULL-TIME)

A candidate in this category works full-time in the Institute for his/her Ph.D. degree. He/she receives assistantship/fellowship from INSPIRE/CSIR/UGC/NBHM/QIP or any other recognized funding agency but no financial assistance/scholarship from the Institute. Such candidates are required to perform the teaching assistantship and other duties assigned by the department from time to time.

ii. SPONSORED (FULL-TIME)

A candidate in this category is sponsored from a recognized R & D organization, academic institution, government organization or industry and doing research in the Institute on a full-time basis. The candidate must be a regular employee of the sponsoring organization with at least one year of professional experience in the respective field. The Institute does not provide any assistantship/fellowship to such a student. An intending sponsored candidate must submit his/her application in prescribed form along with No objection cum sponsorship certificate for admission through his/her employer, to the Institute with suitable endorsement. A sponsored candidate selected for admission shall be required, at the time of joining the Institute, to produce certificate in the prescribed form from the employers to the effect: (i) that he/she has been officially released from his duties for purpose of joining the programme and has been granted leave for the required period; (ii) that his services may/shall be retained with the employer.

iii. SELF-FINANCED (FULL-TIME)

A candidate in this category works full-time towards the Ph.D. Programme. The Institute will not provide any financial assistantship/fellowship to such a student.

iv. EXTERNAL REGISTRANTS

A candidate working in Industries/Institutes/Research organizations can register as External Registrant and do research work either in their own organisation along with their regular work or in the host institute. A no objection certificate issued by the competent authority of parent organization shall be attached with the application for admission. The Institute does not provide any assistantship/fellowship to such a candidate.

v. Ph.D. THROUGH SPONSORED PROJECT

A candidate working in a sponsored project of the Institute (IIIT Kottayam) can register to the Ph.D. program under project category. The minimum remaining period of the project should be at least 2 years from the date of joining the Ph.D. program. They will do research work along with their regular project work. They shall submit recommendation of the Principal Investigator and HoD along with the application. The Institute does not provide any assistantship/fellowship to such a candidate for his PhD registration

Eligibility Criteria for Admission into Ph.D. Programme

For admission to the Ph.D. Programme, a candidate must satisfy the following criteria:

Ph.D. Programme in Engineering/ Sciences	i) Master's degree in Computer Science and Engineering/ Information Technology/Mathematics/ Statistics/Computer Science/Computer Applications/Electronics and Communication Engineering / Electrical and Electronics Engineering or equivalent area with a minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of either 6.5 in a 10-point scale or 60% of marks.
Computational Mathematics:	Two years M.Sc./Integrated M.Sc. in Mathematics/Mathematics and Computing/ Applied Mathematics/Statistics or an equivalent degree with a minimum of 60% aggregate in the qualifying examination.
MS-Ph.D.	Four-year Bachelor's degree in Computer Science and Engineering/Information Technology/Electronics and Communication engineering/Electronics and Electrical Engineering/ Mathematics or equivalent in a relevant area from an institute of national importance with a minimum CGPA of either 8.0 in a 10-point scale or 75 % of marks. Such students will be awarded both MS and Ph.D. degrees on completion of Ph.D. programme without any exit option during the programme.
Direct Ph.D. (IIIT Kottayam) B.Tech.-MS and Ph.D.	A student of IIIT Kottayam who is continuing his/her B.Tech.-MS studies and having a minimum CGPA of 8.0 at the end of sixth semester may be enrolled in the Ph.D. programme of the institute in the beginning of his/her seventh semester of study. Such students can receive B.Tech.-MS and Ph.D. Degrees on completion of Ph.D. programme.
M.Tech.-Ph.D. (For working professionals only)	The applicants from M.Tech. for working professionals (offered by IIIT Kottayam) who have a minimum CGPA of 8.0 upto 5th semester at first attempt and without failures, can be admitted to direct M.Tech.-Ph.D. programme. This is applicable for the applicants within two years from the completion of M.Tech. degree.

APPLICATION FEE

An application fee of Rs.1000/- for general/OBC and Rs.500/- for SC/ST/PWD/Female candidates to pay via SBI Fee Collect.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection of the candidate will be based on the performance in the written test and /or interview. Appearing for the test and/or interview does not entitle any candidate to admission to the Ph.D. programme.

Registrar