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 – January 2026

IMPORTANT DATES

ONLINE APPLICATION PORTAL OPENS	**17th October 2025**
LAST DATE FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS	**19th November 2025** ~~**14th November 2025**~~
WRITTEN TEST AND INTERVIEW	**22nd-29th November 2025** ~~**16th -20th November 2025**~~

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

The major areas of research are as follows:

Computer Science and Engineering	Artificial Intelligence (AI): Deep learning, Bioinformatics, Ayurinformatics, Natural Language Processing, Data science, Machine learning, AI for Social Good, Optimization, Distributed Computing, Artificial Intelligence, Edge/Fog Computing, AI and NLP applications, AI DS - in Medical Informatics, Data analytics, Image Processing, Responsible and Explainable AI, Interpretable AI, Graph Theory and Algorithms, Intelligent Transportation systems, Quantum Computing, Quantum Optimization, Quantum Machine Learning, Quantum AI, Graph Learning, Computer Vision - Precision agriculture, UAVs in agriculture, Autonomous Vehicles, ML on security, Privacy preserving ML, Federated Learning, EV charging and scheduling, Medical image processing, Big Data, Cloud Computing, Structural Complexity in Networks, Brain Connectivity Models, Climate Dynamics, Graph-Based Machine Learning, Semantic Knowledge Networks, Semantic Graph-Driven Language Understanding, Socio-Relational Graphs, GraphBased Text Representations Recommender Systems, AI Driven Portfolio Management, Privacy IoT Security, Computer Networks with AI , Software Engineering, Intelligent Video Analytics for surveillance, Geospatial data and applications, Computer vision and deep learning, Intelligent Transportation and Connected Vehicles, Multimodal Fusion, Memory Optimization, IoT and Its Applications. Cyber: Information Security, Cyber Security, Network Security, Lightweight cryptography, Adversarial attacks, Federated learning , Cyber Security, Malware, AI&ML for Systems and security, Edge Intelligence and Computing, Network and Blockchain Security, Offensive Security, Exploit Development, OSINT, AI in Offensive Security, Ethical Hacking, Web Application Security, Cyber Security, Hardware security, ML on security, Privacy preserving Security Aspects of EV Infrastructure, Applied Cryptography, Post-quantum Cryptosystem, Digital Forensics, AI for Digital Forensics and Crime Investigation, Mobile Application Forensics and Security Multimedia security, Multimedia forensics Privacy IoT Security, Biometric Security, Network security, Blockchain technology.
Electronics and Communication Engineering	AI, Deep Learning, Robotics, Machine Learning, Fuzzy Neural Network, Signal and Image Processing, Wireless Communication, Signal Processing for Wireless Communication, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and Deep Learning for Wireless Communication, Wireless Communication Technologies for Beyond 5G Systems, Waveform Design, RF and Microwave, Antenna Design, Optical Wireless Communication, Free Space Optics, Photonics , Ocean Optics, Lasers, Spectroscopy, Embedded Systems, Optoelectronics, Quantum Sensing, VLSI and Embedded Systems, FPGA Design for Artificial Intelligence, Electronic Instrumentation, Acoustic Source localization using AI/ML, Piezoelectric Vibration Energy Harvesting, Nanoelectronics and IoT, Speech Processing, Wireless Networks, Wireless Sensor Networks, Vehicular Communication, Signal detection and estimation.

Computational Mathematics	Fuzzy Mathematics, Computational Mathematics, Mathematical and Computational Finance, Optimization in Machine Learning and Deep Learning, Evolutionary Optimization, Computational Intelligence, Quantum Computing, Geometric function theory, Fluid Mechanics, Bio Fluid Mechanics, Operation Research, Differential Equations, Scientific Machine Learning, Graph theory and Network Science, Graph Algorithms, Interconnection Networks, Brain Network and Network Analysis, Climate Modeling, Machine Learning for Complex Systems, Physics-Informed Neural Networks, Graph Neural Networks, Dynamical Systems & Mathematical Modeling, Nonlinear Fractional Differential Equations.
Management	Organisational Behaviour, Human Resources Management, Marketing Management, Business Analytics, Operations and Supply Chain management, Strategic Management, Startups and Entrepreneurship.
Digital Humanities	Cultural Analytics, Human Centered Artificial Intelligence, Digital Storytelling & Interactive Narratives, Digital Literary Studies, Computational Social Science, Platform studies, Critical AI studies, Techno- Cultural Studies, Human- Computer Interaction.

Categories of Ph.D. Students:

i) SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS (FULL-TIME)

A student in this category works full-time for his/her Ph.D. degree. He/she receives assistantship/ fellowship from INSPIRE/ CSIR/UGC/NBHM or any other recognized funding agency.

ii) SPONSORED (FULL-TIME)

A candidate in this category is sponsored by a recognized R&D organization, academic institution, government organization, or industry or QIP candidates for 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 financial assistantship/fellowship to such a student. A sponsorship letter must be attached with the application.

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 except teaching assistantship to a limited number, on a case-to-case/need basis.

iv) EXTERNAL REGISTRANTS

A candidate of this category working in Industries/Institutes/Research Organisations can register as an External registrant and can pursue a Ph.D. Programme at IIIT Kottayam while continuing the duties of his/her service at the parent organization. The Institute does not provide any financial assistantship/fellowship to such a candidate.

No Objection Certificate in the prescribed format must be attached with the application. An external registrant scholar is required to spend a one-semester residential program preferably in the first year, during the course work. Other academic regulations are the same as those applicable to regular students.

Eligibility Criteria for Admission into Ph.D. Programme

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

Computer Science and Engineering	(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. **OR** (ii) 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.
Electronics and Communication Engineering	(i) Master's degree in ECE/ EEE or equivalent area with a minimum CGPA of either 6.5 on a 10-point scale or 60% of marks in appropriate branches. **OR** (ii) Four-year Bachelor's degree in ECE/ Electrical Engineering from any IITs, NITs, and IIITs/ Other Institutions 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.
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.
Management	Two year Master's degree in Management including MBA, MHRM, MSW-HR etc. or an equivalent PG degree or 2 years PG Diploma in management from a recognized/ approved Institution/ University, with a minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average(CGPA) of either 6.0 in a 10 point scale or 55% of marks. Candidates with graduation in Engineering and interest in interdisciplinary research may be preferred.
Digital Humanities	Two year Master's Degree in Humanities, Sciences, Arts, Linguistics, Media, Communication, Engineering or related disciplines from a recognized/ approved Institute/ University, with a minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of either 6.5 in a 10 point scale or 60 % of marks. Candidates having bachelor's degree in Engineering with a keen interest in interdisciplinary research may also apply.

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