

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY BOMBAY

Guidelines for conversion from

M.S. by Research

to

M.S. by Research + Ph.D.

(Dual Degree Programme)

with / without decoupling of two degrees



Academic Office
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(Applicable from 2021 Batch onwards)

Guidelines for conversion from M.S. by Research to M.S. by Research + Ph.D. (Dual Degree Programme), with / without decoupling of two degrees

1. Eligibility for application :

- a) Completion of all M.S.R credit requirements
For CSE: (2 M.S.R. RnDs, 1 S/W Lab, 5 Electives, M.S.R. Seminar, Communication Skills) = 58 + 6 = 64 credits
- b) CPI requirements: (over 64 credits) 7.5
- c) Seminar Grade \geq BB

2. Schedule for conversion :

A student who meets the eligibility criteria for the conversion, can apply for conversion earliest by the end of 3rd semester (for TA) and 4th Semester (for RA) and latest by 30th June of completion of 3rd year from the date of joining (for both TA & RA). Students can apply 15 days before any BPS date or M.S.R. defence date, but not beyond 3 years from the date of joining.

There should be an option of whether the student wants to continue in the Dual Degree programme OR needs decoupling of the Dual degrees.

3. Research proposal/recommendations for conversion

Students need to submit a Research Proposal for evaluation along with any BPS (Biannual Progress Seminar). The RPC shall evaluate the Research Proposal of the student for recommending them to the Dual Degree programme.

The students who obtain an overall progress evaluation of SATISFACTORY, Quality evaluation of EXCELLENT or GOOD, and a Quantity evaluation of ENOUGH, on successful presentation of a Research proposal, can be recommended to the conversion to Dual Degree programme from the date of the BPS or after completion of M.S.R. Thesis (based on choice related to decoupling of the dual degrees). The confirmation to the M.S.R.+PhD programme will take effect from the following semester.

4. Option for with/without Decoupling of two degrees

Scheme A :

Students recommended directly for conversion to Dual Degrees at a BPS evaluation, shall be required to submit an option, whether they want to obtain both the degrees at the end of the higher degree programme OR they wish to receive the Masters degree soon after completion of M.S.R. Thesis. For students who do not submit any option, both the degrees [Masters and higher degree (Ph.D. or exit from Ph.D.)] will be awarded at the end of the higher degree programme.

- i. Students who opt to continue in the Dual Degree programme, without decoupling of the two degrees need to complete requirements of the higher degree programme to obtain both their degrees at the end of the higher degree programme.
- ii. Students who opt for decoupling should defend the M.S.R. Thesis at the time of conversion or at the BPS at the end of the semester when the conversion request was made. Conversion to the M.S.R.+Ph.D Dual degree program will take effect after the defence (subject to the required approvals). The Ph.D. thesis of such students should contain research different from their M.S.R. thesis. On successful defence of the M.S.R. Thesis, the degree of Masters' will be awarded at the earliest convocation.

Scheme B :

Students who apply for conversion at the last BPS in their 3rd year shall have to present an M.S.R thesis, as per rules and as per academic calendar (usually by 30th June). They can still be considered for conversion, but only after the thesis defence . These students will not be required to submit Research Proposal, but for such students, the DPGC of the academic units shall constitute a committee (similar to the PhD admission interview committee) for evaluating and recommending them for their Ph.D. programme, at the time of the M.S.R. thesis defence . The evaluation will be through an 'ORAL' exam, similar to the "Interview" taken at the time of Ph.D. admissions. The DPGC will forward the names recommended for conversion to academic office for further approvals.

The students who have opted for decoupling of Dual degrees and who have been converted to Ph.D. at the M.S.R. defence and passed the defence, the degree of Masters' will be awarded in the nearest convocation, after completion of M.S.R. Thesis requirements and the higher degree will be awarded at the end, on completion of the higher degree programme.

Students shall work for Ph.D. from the date of the BPS or M.S.R. Thesis defence, as the case may be (Scheme A / Scheme B).

5. Date of conversion to Dual Degrees :

The date of conversion for purpose of working towards Ph.D. programme and availing the Ph.D. assistantship will be as follows :

For students converted at BPS evaluation : From the date of successful presentation of Research proposal.

For students converted at last BPS in their 3rd year : From the date of successful oral examination at the time of the M.S.R. thesis defence.

6. Confirmation to Ph.D. programme :

Students are required to submit the Ph.D. confirmation form within 15 days from the date of registration of the semester following the completion requirement of conversion or from the date of qualifier.

The date of Confirmation to Ph.D. will be the date of registration of the following semester after successful completion of evaluation for conversion or the date of successful completion of Ph.D. qualifier (if any), whichever is later, subject to the following :

- (i) completion of requirement of conversion,
- (ii) completion of credit requirement of Masters programme for award of Masters degree,
- (iii) successful registration in the following semester after conversion.

On conversion from Masters to Dual Degree programme, students will not be required to do any additional course work beyond the Masters' degree requirement towards confirmation to Ph.D programme.

Any courses done after confirmation to Ph.D. registration, will be tagged as additional learning.

The successful presentation of research proposal (evaluation for conversion at BPS) / oral examination (evaluation for conversion at last BPS in 3rd year) will be treated as the first APS in that academic year. The 2nd APS to be presented in the next academic year as per the autumn semester APS cycle.

Student in M.S.R. programme, till the conversion is approved must follow the rules and schedule of M.S.R. programme as per the rule book and academic calendar. Masters students, after conversion to Dual Degree (Masters+Ph.D.) programme, after completion of requirement of Masters programme and further continuing in Ph.D. must follow Ph.D. rules (Ph.D. rule book). The rest of the process shall be in accordance with the rules for Ph.D. programme of the Institute.

On successful completion of PhD viva-voce examination, Ph.D. degree shall be awarded.

7. Teaching /Research Assistantship

The award of Ph.D. scholarship will be from the date of BPS or M.S.R. Thesis defence, as per existing norms for scholarship. The scholarship for TA and RA categories for the Dual degree M.S.R.+Ph.D. program will be provided for a maximum duration of 4 years from the date of conversion to the Dual degree program.

8. Exit option

After conversion to M.S.R.+Ph.D., (without decoupling of dual degrees), the exit option will be a degree of M.S.R. on completion of the requirement of M.S.R, within 6 months from date of exit approval. If the student does not complete the requirement of M.S.R., a PGDIIT can be awarded, subject to completion of the requirement of PGDIIT.

If the decoupling option was chosen by the student and the student is continuing in Ph.D. programme, after M.S.R. degree is already awarded, then no additional exit degree will be awarded from M.S.R+Ph.D. programme.

The exit degree/diploma will be awarded subject to RPC and DPGC recommendations and approval of PGAPEC.

9. Eligibility for award of Medals / Excellence in Ph.D. Thesis work

Students who have converted to Dual Degree (Masters+Ph.D.), with decoupling of two degrees will be eligible for award of Medals (Silver medal for Masters' programme). For eligibility, student must have completed all the academic requirement (Coursework/Projects, as applicable) of Master's programme in due period of time. Also, student must fulfill the criteria, if any, norms and rules for award of Medals, as set for award of medals (Refer rules for award of Medals).

The students who have opted for award of both the degrees together (without decoupling of degrees), are not be eligible for award of Medals for Masters programme.

All students of Dual degree (Masters+Ph.D.) programme (Conversion, with or without decoupling), on successful completion of Ph.D. defence, will be eligible for award of "Excellence in Ph.D. Thesis work", as per the existing norms and rules for the same.

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