

**Guidelines/Rules for Conversion from Masters' (M.Tech./MPP/M.Sc.-2 yrs) to
Dual Degree [Masters + Ph.D.], with / without decoupling of two degrees
(Pls. Read the following carefully, before applying for conversion)**

(Ref. 259th & 260th Senate)

1. Preamble : The objective of this programme is to make available a wider choice to motivated and capable M.Tech./MPP/M.Sc. students who could become research scholars, without compelling them to forfeit the Masters' Degree for which they are admitted. Promising and motivated students in the Masters' (M.Tech./MPP/M.Sc.) programme may be encouraged to move to a Dual degree (M.Tech./MPP/M.Sc.+ Ph.D.) programme, soon after completion of Masters' requirement, without going through the process of fresh Ph.D. admission. The process of conversion begins in the 3rd semester of Masters' programme. For students of M.Tech./MPP, conversion is possible as early as at MTP-I stage evaluation and latest at MTP-II stage evaluation and for M.Sc.-2 yrs. students on completion of M.Sc. requirement.

Students in their Masters' programme need to apply for conversion to Dual Degree programme, as per the schedule given herein. Usually it will start at the beginning of 3rd semester of Masters' programme.

The Senate in its 259th meeting approved the decoupling of the two degrees in the Masters + Ph.D. dual degree programmes (Conversion programmes (M.Tech./MPP/M.Sc.-2 yrs) and Dual Degree direct admission programmes (M.Sc./M.A.+Ph.D.). Therefore, the provision is made for decoupling of two degrees [Masters (M.Tech./MPP/M.Sc.) and Ph.D], i.e. Masters degree can be awarded, on completion of credit requirement of the Masters' programme, in the subsequent convocation and Ph.D. degree will be awarded on completion of Ph.D. requirement in the subsequent convocation). **This (decoupling of two degrees) is applicable from 2023 batch for students joined in Master's programme.**

Students must adhere to the schedule mentioned herein for submission of application for conversion, option of with/without decoupling of two degrees, submission and presentation of MTP-I & II, evaluation for conversion, completion of requirement of Masters' programme for conversion and completion of requirement of respective programme for award of respective degrees (Masters and Ph.D.).

Students, on conversion from Masters to Dual Degree (M.Tech./MPP/M.Sc.-2 yrs + Ph.D.) programme will not be required to do any additional course work beyond the Masters' degree requirement. Students needs to complete required course work/Projects as required for awarding the Masters' degree.

2. Eligibility for Conversion to Dual Degree (Masters' + Ph.D.) :

For conversion, submission of application in prescribed format is mandatory. Student should submit it in their respective Academic units, as per schedule given herein. ***[prescribed format is available at <https://tinyurl.com/yz3zf397>]***

Student should plan their semesters in such a manner, that the coursework for the Masters' degree is completed alongwith the evaluation for conversion. At the time of application for conversion, student must have registered the course credits required for completion of the Masters' programme.

In case, a student does not qualify for conversion or not completed Masters' requirement at the time of conversion, in this case, the student will stand inadmissible to move to the dual degree

[M.Tech./MPP/M.Sc. + Ph.D.] programme and he/she should plan towards completion of Master's degree. On completion of credit requirement of Masters' programme, Masters' degree will be awarded in the subsequent Convocation and student's registration shall be ceased.

3. Schedule for submission of application for conversion to Dual Degree :

Students must adhere to the following schedule for submission of the application for conversion:

(i) Conversion of M.Tech/MPP students for consideration at MTP-I stage : from Registration date of 3rd (for regular students) / 5th Semester (for part-time students) till 15 days prior to the scheduled date of presentation of MTP-I stage.

For conversion at MTP-I stage, submission of Research Proposal (RP) alongwith the application is a must. Successful presentation of Research Proposal and obtaining a grade "AB" or higher in the MTP-I stage is mandatory for conversion at MTP-I stage.

The DPGC shall constitute a committee for students who have applied for conversion and have submitted Research proposal.

The student shall present the Research proposal to the committee. The evaluation of Research proposal presentation, alongwith the presentation of the MTP-I stage should be completed latest by 30th October in the 3rd/5th semester of the student.

In case the research proposal presentation of the student is not completed successfully by 30th October, the student may apply for conversion at MTP-II stage.

(ii) Conversion of M.Tech/MPP students for consideration at MTP-II stage : after the date of MTP-I stage till 30th April of 4th/6th semester (for regular students / part time students, respectively).

Research Proposal submission and its evaluation **is not required** for conversion at MTP-II stage.

The DPGC shall constitute a committee for students who have applied for conversion, to examine them for conversion and submit their recommendation to the DPGC. The evaluation for conversion should be completed alongwith the presentation of the MTP-II stage, latest by 30th June in the 4th/6th semester of the student.

(iii) Conversion of M.Sc.-2 year students : from beginning of the 4th semester of joining the M.Sc. programme till 30th April of the same semester.

Student should fulfill the CPI requirement as prescribed by the respective academic units for conversion to Dual Degree, at the end of 3rd/4th semester.

The DPGC shall constitute a committee for students who have applied for conversion, to examine them for conversion and submit their recommendation to the DPGC. The evaluation for conversion should be completed latest by 30th June in the 4th Semester of the student.

4. Option for with/without Decoupling of two degrees :

[A] M.Tech./MPP students, only those who will be converted at MTP-I stage (as per 3(i) above) will have the options of with/without decoupling of two degrees, as given below in 4A(i) & 4A(ii).

Student must submit this option in the prescribed format in the Department, within 15 days after MTP-I stage presentation.

prescribed format is available at <https://tinyurl.com/yz3zf397>

If option is not submitted, both the degrees (Master's and Ph.D.) together will be awarded on completion of Ph.D.

(i) Option with decoupling of two degrees : i.e. award of Masters' degree on completion of Masters requirement and Ph.D. on completion of Ph.D. By availing this option, presentation of MTP-II stage is mandatory. It must be presented latest by 30th June of 4th / 6th semester (as per academic calendar).

OR

(ii) Option without decoupling of two degrees : i.e. award of two degrees (Master's and Ph.D.) together on completion of Ph.D. programme (as existing). By availing this option, the student is not allowed for presentation of the final stage project (MTP-II). However, completion of course credit requirement of the Master's curriculum (without MTP-II) is necessary for awarding two degree (Master's and Ph.D.) on completion of Ph.D. requirement.

[B] Students (M.Tech./MPP) converted at MTP-II stage and M.Sc.- 2 years will not have an option of award of both the degrees together at the end of Ph.D. programme. They will be awarded two degrees separately, on successful completion of requirement of respective programmes, each in separate convocations.

[C] Students directly admitted to the Dual Degree (M.Sc./MA + Ph.D.) programme will not have an option of award of both the degrees together at the end of Ph.D. programme. They will be awarded the two degrees separately, i.e. Masters (M.Sc./MA) on successful completion of credit requirement for award of M.Sc./M.A. degree in the subsequent convocation and Ph.D. on completion of requirement of Ph.D. in the subsequent convocation.

5. Evaluation for conversion to Dual Degree :

(i) At MTP-I stage (For M.Tech./MPP) - Research proposal evaluation to be completed alongwith the MTP-I stage, latest by 30th October (in 3rd/5th semester for regular/parttime students, respectively).

(ii) At MTP-II stage (For M.Tech./MPP) - Oral evaluation to be completed alongwith the MTP-II stage, latest by 30th June (in 4th/6th semester for regular/parttime students, respectively).

(iii) For M.Sc.-2 year : Evaluation to be completed in the 4th Semester of the student, before the last date of academic activities of the semester (Spring), as mentioned in the Academic Calendar.

The report of the committee, in the prescribed format, should be sent to PGAPEC for consideration. *[prescribed format of evaluation reports are available below*

For M.Tech./MPP : <https://tinyurl.com/2vej4cnp>

For M.Sc.-2 year : <https://tinyurl.com/yc586nmd>

6. Constitution of a committee for evaluation of the Research proposal/recommendations for conversion from Masters (M.Tech/MPP/M.Sc.) to Dual Degree (Masters + Ph.D.):

The DPGC shall constitute a committee for evaluation of Research Proposal (at MTP-I stage for M.Tech./MPP students), Oral examination for conversion to Dual degrees (Masters +Ph.D.) and inform all concerned. The committee thus appointed, shall schedule the date of evaluation and inform the student and all concern of the same.

The schedule for evaluation is as given above in 5 (i), (ii) & (iii).

The constitution of the committee will comprise of :

1. Prospective Ph.D. Supervisor (s) /MTP Guide(s)
2. Atleast two faculty members, other than Supervisor/MTP guide (as 1. above) conversant with the topic/area of research the student has desired to work in, of which one can act as an Internal Examiner.

7. 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 (M.Tech./MPP) converted at MTP-I stage : From the date of successful presentation of Research proposal.

For students (M.Tech./MPP) converted at MTP-II stage and M.Sc.-2 yrs : from the date of successful oral evaluation for conversion to Dual Degree.

For students (M.Sc.) converted in their 4th semester : On approval from PGAPEC, conversion date will be 1st June of that year.

8. Award of Masters (M.Tech./MPP/M.Sc./MA) degree and continuation in Ph.D. : Students needs to complete required course work/Projects as required for awarding the Masters' degree, as specified in the conversion programme, above. The students who have successfully converted to Dual Degree (Masters+Ph.D.) and have completed the credit requirement of respective Masters' programme, will be awarded Masters' degree in the subsequent convocation (except for those who have opted for award of both the degrees together). Students are deemed to work towards Ph.D. from the date of conversion to Dual degree. They should register as Ph.D. student in the following semester, after conversion.]

Format for DPGC'S Recommendation for Students of M.Sc./M.A. + Ph.D. (direct admission) who will be continuing in Ph.D. programme after completion of M.Sc./M.A. requirement is available at <https://tinyurl.com/yrb5292t>.

9. 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 (M.Tech./MPP/M.Sc.-2 yrs + Ph.D.) 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 MTP-I) / oral examination (evaluation for conversion at MTP-II) will be treated as the first APS in that academic year for M.Tech./MPP+Ph.D. students. The 2nd APS to be presented in the next academic year as per the autumn semester APS cycle.

Students converted from M.Sc. to M.Sc.+Ph.D., should present their first APS in the following year, as per the joining cycle, (usually autumn semester APS cycle).

Student in Masters' programme, till the conversion is approved must follow the rules and schedule of Masters' programme as per the respective rule books and academic calendar. Masters' students, after conversion to Dual Degree (Masters+Ph.D.) and students admitted in the Dual degree (M.Sc./MA+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.

10. Award of PhD Assistantship :

For M.Tech./MPP+Ph.D. converted students : The total duration of Master+Ph.D. assistantship will be maximum six years for TA and seven years for RA, from the date of joining the Masters' programme till the date of submission of Ph.D. thesis, whichever is earlier. First three years (for TA)/four years (for RA) will be combination of Masters and Ph.D. assistantship. The Ph.D. assistantship, after conversion to Dual degree will be at the rate of JRF till completion of 3rd year (for TA) / 4th year (for RA), from the date of joining in Masters programme. Next three years will be at the rate of SRF of Ph.D, if continued in Ph.D., as per existing norms.

For M.Sc.+Ph.D. students : The total duration of Ph.D. assistantship will be for a maximum 5 years from the date of confirmation till the date of submission of Ph.D. thesis, whichever is earlier. The assistantship (TAsip/RAship) for first two years of Ph.D. will be @ rate JRF and next three years will be @ rate of SRF of Ph.D, if continued in Ph.D., as per existing norms.

11. Exit option after conversion to Dual Degree (Master+Ph.D.) programme :

There is an exit option available from the Dual Degree (Master+Ph.D.) programme. The exit degree shall not be a right of the student. Student should apply to PGAPEC for an exit degree. The recommendations of PGC to be forwarded to PGAPEC for approval. On approval from the PGAPEC for an exit option, the student is deemed to be registered in the exit programme. The continuation of such registration shall be subject to payment of fees and other usual conditions, same as that of original programme of admission.

[A] For Dual degree (M.Tech./MPP+Ph.D.) conversion students, without decoupling of degrees :

Based on the request of the student, the PGC of the academic unit of the student should clearly recommend award of one or two exit degrees.

The exit degree options are :

(i) Exit with one degree : The one degree to be awarded on exit from the Dual degree will be **M.Tech./MPP**, subject to completion of the final stage Masters' project evaluation as per regular M.Tech./MPP Programme. Failure to comply academic requirements for the M.Tech./MPP degree within one month of conversation to the exit degree shall lead to suo-moto termination of the registration from the Institute.

(ii) Exit with two degrees : The two degrees can be awarded on exit from the Dual degree will be **(a) M.Tech./MPP and (b) M.S. by Research (exit from Ph.D.)**.

- The two exit degrees can be recommended by the PGC if sufficient research work has been completed and the student should have at least one year of residency in the Ph.D. programme from the date of confirmation to Dual Degree M.Tech./MPP+Ph.D. programme.
- The M.Tech./MPP degree will be awarded on exit from the Dual degree, subject to completion of the final stage Masters' project (MTP-II) evaluation as per regular M.Tech./MPP Programme.
- Failure to comply academic requirements for the M.Tech./MPP degree within one month from the date of approval of the exit degree shall lead to suo-moto termination of the registration from the Institute.

- The student will be awarded M.S. by Research degree only if the M.S. by Research dissertation is defended, within a period of six months from the date of approval of exit.
- The student should defend two different dissertations for M.Tech./MPP and M.S. by Research.
- Failure to comply academic requirements for the M.S. by Research degree within six months from the date of approval of the exit degree shall lead to suo-moto termination of the registration from the Institute. However, if the student has successfully completed the requirement of M.Tech./MPP programme, before the termination, the M.Tech./MPP degree will be awarded in the subsequent convocation.
- The student will be awarded both the degrees together on completion of both the degrees requirements, in the subsequent convocation.

[B] Exit option for -

(i) Dual degree (M.Tech./MPP/M.Sc.+Ph.D.) conversion programme and (ii) Dual Degree (M.Sc./MA+Ph.D.) admission programme, both having decoupled the degrees :

- This is for students who have been awarded their Masters' degree and continuing in the Ph.D. in the Dual degree programme, with decoupling of two degrees.
- The exit degree [M.S.by Research/MA by Research (in HSS)] can be recommended by the PGC if sufficient research work has been completed and the student should have at least one year of residency in the Ph.D. programme from the date of confirmation to the Ph.D. programme.
- The student will be awarded M.S./MA by Research degree only if the M.S./MA by Research dissertation is defended, within a period of six months from the date of approval of exit.
- Failure to comply academic requirements for the M.S./MA by Research degree within six months from the date of approval of the exit degree shall lead to suo-moto termination of the registration from the Institute.
- The student will be awarded the M.S./MA by Research degree in the subsequent convocation, on completion of requirements for the degree.

12. 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 and the students who are admitted to Dual Degree programme (M.Sc./MA+Ph.D.) 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 and direct admission), 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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