INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KANPUR
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS AND DATA SCIENCE

PhD Admission in Statistics – Winter 2026

Criteria for Shortlisting for Interview and Final Selection

The selection process for admission to the PhD programme in Statistics, Department of Statistics and Data Science, IIT Kanpur, will consist of three stages, as detailed below.

Stage 1: Initial Shortlisting

Candidates will be shortlisted for the written examination based on the minimum eligibility and shortlisting criteria specified in the provisional list of shortlisted candidates published on the Department website:

https://iitk.ac.in/sds/data/List-1-SDS-19-11-26.pdf

Only candidates shortlisted at this stage will be eligible to appear for the written examination.

Stage 2: Written Examination and Shortlisting for Interview

The written examination will carry a maximum of **100 marks**. Candidates will be shortlisted for the interview based on their performance in the written examination, subject to category-wise qualifying cutoffs.

Subject to the availability of seats in each category, the minimum qualifying marks for shortlisting candidates for interviews under the respective categories shall be as follows:

Category	**Written-Test Cutoff (out of 100)**	**Expected Number of Candidates to be Shortlisted**
General (UR)	30	6
OBC-NCL	27	6
EWS	27	3
SC/ST/PwD	15	3
Total	—	**18**

Additional Provisions for Shortlisting

1. **Relaxation of written-test cutoffs:** If the number of candidates meeting the prescribed cutoff in a particular category, as specified in Column 2 of the above table, is lower than the expected number of candidates indicated in Column 3, the cut-off for that category may be relaxed only to the extent necessary to achieve the expected number of candidates for shortlisting.

2. **Tie in written examination:** If two or more candidates obtain identical marks at the last shortlisting position within a category, all candidates tied at that position will be shortlisted for interview, provided they satisfy the applicable cutoff (including any permitted relaxation).

Stage 3: Final Selection

Final selection will be based on the combined performance of candidates in the written examination and interview, with the following weightages:

Component	Weightage
Written Examination	60%
Interview	40%

Let W and I denote the marks obtained by a candidate in the written examination and interview, respectively, each expressed on a scale of 100.

The final selection score will be calculated as

$$\boxed{\text{Final Score} = 0.60W + 0.40I}$$

Subject to availability of seats, the minimum qualifying final scores for consideration for admission in each category shall be as follows:

Category	Minimum Final Score (out of 100)
General (UR)	40
OBC-NCL / EWS	36
SC/ST/PwD	20

Final Selection Provisions

1. **Minimum qualifying marks:** Candidates must obtain at least the prescribed category-wise minimum final score to be considered for admission.

2. **Merit-based selection:** Within each category, candidates satisfying the minimum qualifying score will be ranked in descending order of their final selection scores.

   Admission offers will be made to the highest-ranking candidates, subject to the number of available seats against each category.

3. **Tie in final selection:** In the event of two or more candidates obtaining identical final selection scores at the last available seat in a category, the candidate securing higher marks in the written examination will be given preference.

4. **Reservation provisions:** Reservations across the different categories shall be implemented in accordance with the roaster prepared by the Institute and applicable to the Department. Unreserved seats will be filled on open merit in accordance with the applicable reservation policy of IIT Kanpur.

   Candidates belonging to reserved categories may also be considered against unreserved seats if they meet the applicable unreserved selection standards.

5. **Final admission:** Merely obtaining the minimum qualifying final score does not guarantee admission.

   All admissions are subject to availability of seats, verification of eligibility, and applicable Institute rules.

Important Note

The prescribed cutoffs for final selection are independent of any relaxation granted at the written-examination shortlisting stage.

Relaxation of written-test cutoffs does not automatically entail relaxation of the minimum qualifying final selection scores.

Departmental Post Graduate Committee
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