



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATIONAL PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION (NIEPA)

(Deemed to be University u/s 3 of the UGC Act, 1956)

17-B, Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi-110016

Web: www.niepa.ac.in

ADMISSION NOTICE 2026-27

(i) PhD (Full-time) Programme

(ii) PhD (Part-time) Programme

The National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA) is a Deemed to be University, fully funded by Ministry of Education, Government of India. It is engaged in research and capacity building in Educational Policy, Planning and Administration.

The NIEPA offers PhD (Full-time and Part-time) programmes in all area of Educational Policy, Planning and Administration from a broader inter-disciplinary social science perspective. The Doctoral research programme of the NIEPA covers all levels and sectors of education, and it is holistic and multi-disciplinary in its perspective, and is inclusive of comparative and international approaches to education. The NIEPA has an excellent teaching faculty, with expertise in various area of education, policy, planning, management and with disciplinary backgrounds in the social sciences. The faculty has expertise in leading national and international research.

In due recognition of its institutional strength, the NIEPA has been awarded an "A" grade by the NAAC.

Eligibility Criteria for Application to the Doctoral Programme:

3.1 PhD (Full-Time):

Candidates who have completed:

- (a) 1-year/2-semester master's degree programme after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme in Social Sciences and allied disciplines or a 2-year/4-semester master's degree programme after a 3-year bachelor's degree programme in Social Sciences and allied disciplines or qualifications declared equivalent to the master's degree in Social Sciences and allied disciplines by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed.

Or

Equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of the educational institution.

A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the UGC from time to time.

Provided that a candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed.

- (b) Candidates who have completed the MPhil programme with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in Social Sciences and applied disciplines in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to the PhD programme. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the UGC from time to time.
- (c) Candidates who are yet to clear their final examination at the master level are also eligible to apply provided they have passed the examination as per the eligibility conditions laid down in the regulation in previous semesters and submit its proof at the time of final admission. In case, because of delay in examination, a candidate fails to provide the proof of minimum eligible marks, an extension of six months from the date of submission shall be given by the DPC, failing which the admission of such candidate shall be cancelled.
- (d) Those candidates who have qualified NET and have been awarded Junior Research Fellowships by the UGC, with the above-mentioned educational qualifications can also apply.

3.2 PhD (Part-time):

- (a) PhD programmes through part-time mode will be permitted, provided all the conditions stipulated in these Regulations are fulfilled.
- (b) The candidate for a part-time PhD programme shall submit a "No Objection Certificate" from the organization where the candidate is employed, clearly stating that:
 - i. The candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis.
 - ii. His/her official duties permit him/her to devote sufficient time for research.
 - iii. If required, he/she will be relieved from the duty to complete the course work.

Note: It will be compulsory to attend one-year full-time course work for all part-time and full-time scholars.

Mode of Selection

Initial short-listing of applications will be carried out on the basis of the eligibility criteria mentioned above. Short-listed candidates will be required to appear for a written test on **June 13, 2026**. Candidates who qualify in the written test, will be invited for a personal interview, to assess their potential. A weightage of 70% for the entrance test and 30% for the performance in the interview/ viva-voce shall be given. A final list of selected candidates will be in order of merit.

The NIEPA follows all mandatory provisions with respect to reservation policy of the Government of India. Admissions to PhD (Full-Time and Part-time) programmes are made purely on the basis of merit following the prescribed criteria of the Institute, and following rules of reservation of the Government of India.

The NIEPA reserves the right to decide the number of seats to be filled in the year 2026-27, the criteria for screening of applications; and the selection procedure of candidates for admission to its PhD programmes.

How to Apply

Candidates should apply online through Samarth Portal in the prescribed online form for admission to PhD programmes of the Institute. The link is available at NIEPA website i.e. <https://niepaadm.samarth.edu.in/>. For further details, please refer PhD Prospectus, 2026-27 of the NIEPA available at the website www.niepa.ac.in

A non-refundable sum of Rs. 1000/- (Rs. 500/- for SC/ST/PWD and EWS candidates), through online payment, as application fee is mandatory for seeking admission for the above programme. The hard copy of Prospectus can be obtained from NIEPA, if required after filling the online form.

Last Date for submission of Application

Online application should be submitted by on or before **June 01, 2026**.

1.	Starting date for Call for online application	April 20, 2026
2.	Last date for online application	June 01, 2026
3.	Written test	June 13, 2026
4.	Result of Written Test	June 18, 2026
4.	Interview	June 23-24, 2026
5.	Declaration of final results	June 30, 2026
6.	Date of admissions	July 09-10, 2026
7.	Commencement of PhD Session/Course work	July 15, 2026

Changes, if any, will be intimated through the NIEPA website (www.niepa.ac.in)

For any query related to admissions please send email on (admissions@niepa.ac.in).

Registrar