Academic Options

Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad

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Note: All information is subject to approval of 23rd Senate Minutes.

IITH provides a number of options to its students to enhance their academic learning and qualification. These include – Branch change, Minor, Honor, and Double Major. While branch change is commonly practiced at other IITs also, the later options are unique to IITH. This document provides information on these options – when and how to apply and other requirements.

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Branch change

1. First year B.Tech students can apply for branch change at the end of the first semester.
2. The allotment of new branch is done on the basis of the CGPA at the end of the first semester, for those who seek branch change.
3. In case of a tie, the person with a higher JEE rank will be given allotment.
4. No more than 20% students can move to another department under branch change.
5. Each department can take 10% of new students from branch change.
6. Once the allotment is made, there is no possibility of a further change either to a new branch or to the original branch.
7. There is no cap on CGPA.
8. To ensure 4 and 5, any student applying for branch change should notify both the department.

Minor/ Honors

1. **What is the eligibility requirement for registration in terms of number of credits or projects?**
No requirement

2. What is the eligibility requirement for registration in terms of number of backlogs?
A student must have cleared all outstanding backlogs by the time of enrolment into Minor/Honors

3. Is there a CGPA criterion for registration?
No CGPA criterion for Minor.
However, a CGPA criterion for Honors can be set by the respective Departments.

4. Department-wise course prerequisites requirements? Please mention in detail all the courses semesters-wise with suitable credits here.
Collated information from all senates is included in appendix. The missing information may please be indicated to academic office.

5. Department-wise maximum number of students (or a percentage of existing student strength) that can avail this option?
To avoid overloading, departments offering Minor/Honors can put an upper limit on the number of Minor/honor students they wish to take. The students have to understand that since the number of seats available for each of the program will always be limited, one has to compete for a place; he/she thus cannot ignore the basic CGPA.

6. When can one apply, in which semester?
A student can enroll for Minor in fifth semester only. There is no CGPA criterion for enrolling into a Minor. A student can enroll for Honors in fifth or sixth semester, depending on the policy of the department. The department can plan the Honors from fifth or sixth semester. There is no CGPA criterion for enrolling into Honors at institute level.

7. **Whom to inform/seek approval from (faculty advisor/ DUGC/ others?) in case the student from your department wants to pursue an option in another department?**
Faculty advisor

8. Whom to inform/seek approval from (faculty advisor/ DUGC/ others?) in case the student from another department wants to pursue an option in your department?
DUGC Convener

9. Should the concerned person make a list and informs acads or will it all be online?
Faculty advisor is required to inform the academic office.

10. If a student would like to withdrawal from major, minor or honours what is the procedure and when can that be done, again whom to contact?
Through the faculty advisor

11. Can a student be terminated from the program and under what circumstances?
After enrolling into Minors/Honors, if a student gets FS/FR grade in more than 3 credits his/her enrolment to the same will be terminated.

10. If a student has done the required courses as free electives before, how to make up for the lost credits?
Case by case basis on recommendation of DUGC convener.

11. What is your department's take if a student wants to pursue more than one option such as major as well as minor or major as well as honors?
Should be permitted on the recommendation of the Faculty Advisor. Minor and major cannot be done in the same department. Student can enroll for both Minor & Honors or for 2 Minors.

CGPA and degree certificate

Separate CGPAs for
B.Tech (parent dept)
Minor Program
Honor Program
Honors will be reflected in the degree certificate as "BTech (honors) in XYZ Engineering". Similarly, Minor as "BTech in XYZ Engineering with Minor in ABC". If a student has done both honors & minor, it will be acknowledged as "BTech (honours) in XYZ Engineering with Minor in ABC". And two minors will be reflected as ""BTech in XYZ Engineering with Minor in ABC and Minor in DEF".

Additional Details:

- In order to earn a minor, a student has to earn a minimum of 12 extra credits from a basket of courses prescribed for each minor stream.
- In order to earn honors, a student has to earn a minimum of 12 extra credits out of which six credits from project work and at least six credits are from courses offered by the student's major department. These can change as per department guidelines
- The final transcript will only show the basic CGPA corresponding to the minimum requirement for the degree. The Minors/Honors will be indicated by a separate CGPA. The additional courses taken will also find separate mention in the transcript.
- If a student drops (or terminated) from the Minor/Honors program, they cannot convert the earned credits into free or core electives; they will remain extra. These additional courses will find mention in the transcript (but not in the degree certificate). In such cases, the student may choose between the actual grade or a "pass(P)" grade and also choose to omit the mention of the course as for the following: All the courses done under the dropped Minor/Honors will be shown in the transcript. None of the courses done under the dropped Minor/Honors will be shown in the transcript.

Double Major

1. What is the eligibility requirement for registration in terms of number of credits or projects?
No requirement

2. What is the eligibility requirement for registration in terms of number of backlogs?
No backlogs

3. Is there a CGPA criterion for registration?
No

4. Department-wise course prerequisites requirements? Please mention in detail all the courses semesters-wise with suitable credits here.
Collated information from all senates is included in appendix. The missing information may please be indicated to academic office.

5. Department-wise maximum number of students (or a percentage of existing student strength) that can avail this option?
Departments can set their own cap.

6. When can one apply, in which semester?
Starting from 4th Semester

7. Whom to inform/seek approval from (faculty advisor/ DUGC/ others?) in case the student from your department wants to pursue an option in another department?
Faculty advisor. Further, the advisor should inform the academic section.

8. Whom to inform/seek approval from (faculty advisor/ DUGC/ others?) in case the student from another department wants to pursue an option in your department?
DUGC Convener decides.

9. If a student would like to withdrawal from major what is the procedure and when can that be done, again whom to contact?
Faculty advisor

11. Can a student be terminated from the program and under what circumstances?
After enrolling into majors, if a student gets FS/FR grade in more than 3 credits his/her enrolment to the same will be terminated.

10. If a student has done the required courses as free electives before, how to make up for the lost credits?
Case by case basis on recommendation of DUGC Convenor

11. What is your department's take if a student wants to pursue more than one option such as major as well as minor or major as well as honours?
Should be permitted on the recommendation of the Faculty Advisor. Minor and major cannot be done in the same department.

12. CGPA shall be displayed B.Tech (parent dept) as well as B.Tech (second dept)

Conversions/Dual degree

M.Tech to PhD Conversion:
- Option to convert will begin any time after the first year with a CGPA requirement of 7.0 for General and 6.0 for SC/ST/OBC.
- Only PhD degree will be awarded after successful completion of all requirements.
- Ph.D stipend to commence after the date of conversion
- There shall be no M Tech thesis.
- A formal application must be submitted through the Head of the Department.
- The candidate will appear for a technical interview with a panel of at least 3 faculty members nominated by the HoD.
- Minimum 6 credits are mandatory and the remaining is left to the department. The DPGC can decide which 6 credits to take. The 7 point CGPA requirement for PhD will be based on the minimum required 6 credit.
- Credit waiver can be given by doctoral committee for up to 6 credits
- PhD fees to be paid from the date of conversion.
- In case the student wants at a later stage, to get an MTech degree, the student will have to complete an MTech thesis, at the time of his choice and complete the M.Tech credits requirement. Whenever he/she submits the MTech thesis and defends it successfully, he/she will get a provisional certificate and will get the MTech degree in the following convocation. However, if the student does not want an MTech degree, he/she does not have to submit a separate MTech thesis.
- PhD Proposal defence to be completed within 13 months from the date of conversion.

M.Tech to M.Tech+PhD Conversion:
- Option to convert will begin any time after the first year with a CGPA requirement of 7.0 for General and 6.0 for SC/ST/OBC.
- Ph.D stipend to commence after the date of conversion
- Dual degree on completion of both the degree requirements.
- A formal application must be submitted through the Head of the Department.
- The candidate will appear for a technical interview with a panel of at least 3 faculty members nominated by the HoD.
- MTech duration will be 2 years (3 years for MTech RAs). For getting an MTech degree, the student will have to complete an MTech thesis and all the credit requirements, at the time of his choice. Whenever he/she submits the MTech thesis and defends it successfully, he/she will get a provisional certificate and will get the MTech degree in the following convocation.
- However, if the student does not want an MTech degree, he/she does not have to submit a separate MTech thesis.
- Minimum 6 credits are mandatory and the remaining is left to the department. The DPGC can decide which 6 credits to take. The 7 point CGPA requirement for PhD will be based on the minimum required 6 credit.
- Credit waiver can be given by doctoral committee for up to 6 credits
- PhD fees to be paid from the date of conversion.
- PhD Proposal defence to be completed within 13 months from the date of conversion.

M.Sc. to M.Sc.+PhD Conversion:

- Option to convert to Ph. D program will be given after the second semester.
- General students with CGPA ≥ 8.5 and SC/ ST/ OBC students with CGPA ≥ 7.5 at the end of the third semester may be eligible. These students must appear for a technical interview along with other applicants shortlisted against departmental PhD advertisement. All applicants, internal and external, will be treated equally during the technical interviews.
- A formal application with a supporting letter from the advisor (the faculty member who is willing to guide the student) must be attached.
- The candidate becomes eligible for stipend from the beginning of the fifth semester. The stipend amount and duration will be on par with a regular Ph. D student with MHRD fellowship.
- A total minimum of 12 credit hours of course work must be completed by the end of third year. Department may suggest an equivalent course if the candidate has already taken the courses offered at that time.
- In case the student decides to leave program after completing the fourth semester, he/ she may be awarded M. Sc. provided all the appropriate credit requirements are fulfilled.

Conversion from B.Tech to B.Tech.+PhD
- The total number of credits required to be completed after conversion is 24.
- A formal application must be submitted through the Head of the Department.
- The candidate will appear for a technical interview with a panel of at least 3 faculty members nominated by the HoD.
- M.Tech stipend shall be paid till the defence of PhD proposal
- PhD stipend should be paid after the BTech requirement are complete
- Proposal Defence will be conducted within 24 months of conversion
- Applying for conversion should be allowed from 6th semester until the end of the final semester.
- CGPA≥ 7.0 for general category and 6 for SC/ST/OBC.B.Tech fees will be paid up to the 8th semester.
- For GM students with $6.0 <= CGPA <; 7.0$ and SC/ST/OBC students with $5 <= CGPA < 6$ at the end of sixth or seventh semesters:

  (a) Must pass the M.Tech (3 year) written test.

  (b) Must appear for a technical interview.

  (c) It is recommended that students qualify in GATE to become eligible for MHRD scholarship.
- B.Tech fees will be paid up to the 8th semester.

Conversion from B.Tech to B.Tech.+M.Tech

- M.Tech Fellowship will be paid after 8th semester

- A formal application must be submitted through the Head of the Department.
- The candidate will appear for a technical interview with a panel of at least 3 faculty members nominated by the HoD.
- CGPA$\geq$ 7.0 for general category and 6 for SC/ST/OBC.B.Tech fees will be paid up to the 8th semester.
- B.Tech fees will be paid up to the 8th semester.
- Degree requirement for both degrees should be fulfilled
- Maximum time allowed for the completion of the degree is 7 years.
- In case, the student decides to leave at the end of fourth year, he/she may be awarded a B.Tech. provided all the appropriate credit requirements are completed.
- Fifth year later, he/she may be awarded an M.Tech. degree provided all the appropriate credit requirements are complete.

Fresh admission after B.Tech from IIT Hyderabad

Direct admission to PhD after B.Tech

- CGPA≥ 7.0 for admission without interview and without GATE; additional course work; credit can be given to students who have taken post-graduate courses at IITH and obtained a minimum grade of B (grade point of 7 on a 10-point scale).
- CGPA of 6.5 to be eligible for interview irrespective of the cut-off for other candidates; requirement of GATE not needed for such students
- Awardees of INSPIRE scholarship eligible for PhD interviews without the requirement of GATE or other eligibility criteria
- On top of this, departments can set up additional selection procedure.
- Proposal Defence will be conducted within 24 months of conversion

Direct admission to M.Tech after B.Tech

- Students from IITH with CGPA 7.0 or above are eligible for direct interview/admission without GATE for M. Tech.
- On top of this, departments can set up additional selection procedure.