

Ashank Desai Centre for Policy Studies  
Indian Institute of Technology Bombay

# Master *of* Public Policy

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*Information Brochure*  
2026-27



Ashank Desai  
**Centre *for* Policy Studies**  
Indian Institute of Technology Bombay

Insight ♦ Dialogue ♦ Impact

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## 1. The Institute

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The Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB) is one of the Institutes of National Importance in the country. It was established in 1958 as an institution devoted to higher education, research and training in various fields of science and technology. The Institute is located in Powai, a suburb of Mumbai, on a campus spread over about 480 acres, amidst picturesque surroundings, with the Vihar and Powai lakes on either side. At present, it has 17 departments and multiple interdisciplinary groups/centres/schools that offer various undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programmes.

## 2. Student Amenities

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The Institute is mostly residential and has an adequate number of well-serviced student hostels. The Students' Gymkhana has excellent facilities for sports, cultural programmes, National Social Service (NSS), NCC and other extra-curricular activities. The various clubs at the Gymkhana and the Student Activity Centre (SAC) encourage students to develop their talents in painting, music, photography, modelling and fabrication.

## 3. The MPP Programme

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The Ashank Desai Centre for Policy Studies (ADCPS) is an interdisciplinary policy research centre established by the Institute in 2016. The ADCPS offers a full-time Master's programme in Public Policy (MPP), and a PhD programme in Public Policy (PhD).

ADCPS envisions myriad ways in which its PhD and MPP programmes and graduates from these programmes can contribute to IIT Bombay's intellectual diversity as well as to India's polity and society. The aim is to produce professionals or academicians who seek to serve the public interest.

These academic programmes reflect the changing dynamics in today's world and the need for policy to keep pace with technological advancements and globalisation processes. ADCPS aims to capitalise on IIT Bombay's existing institutional strengths and become a hub for public policy research and expertise. ADCPS's academic programmes integrate public policy, social sciences, and technology.

### A) Minimum Eligibility Criteria

- i) A 4-year Bachelor's degree in Arts, Commerce or equivalent, or any 2-year Master's degree, or an LLB<sup>#</sup> with a minimum of 55% marks (50% marks for SC/ST/PwD) or equivalent letter grade\*/GPA from a recognised institution or deemed university (as recognised by AICTE/UGC/AIU).

- ii) A 4-year BSc/BS/BTech/BArch (minimum 4-year degree), or MBBS (post 10+2) or equivalent, or a 2-year MSc/MS/MTech with a minimum of 60% marks (55% marks for SC/ST/PwD) or equivalent letter grade\*/GPA from a recognised institution or deemed university (as recognised by AICTE/UGC/AIU).

#### Notes

#LLB completed after an undergraduate (UG) degree, or a 5-year integrated LLB (after 10+2), will be equivalent to a 4-year Bachelor's degree.

\*Equivalence of the degree(s) must be certified by the institution awarding it.

### B) Teaching Assistant (TA)

ADCPS offers a limited number of TAships. Candidates applying for the same will be required to submit valid GATE score.

### C) Teaching/Research Assistantship through Project (TAP/RAP)

Depending upon project availability, ADCPS may offer Teaching Assistantship/Research Assistantships through Project (TAP/RAP). Candidates applying for TAP/RAP positions (if available) will be required to submit valid GATE score.

### D) Self-Finance (SF) and In-Service Candidates

The MPP programme will also be open to all SF candidates with a minimum of 2 years of work experience, and In-Service candidates. If admitted, In-Service candidates working in government organisations or a Public Sector Undertaking, will have to submit a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from their employer at the time of admission.

1. Candidates without any work experience will need a valid GATE score.
2. SF candidates with work experience must have completed their UG degree on a date which is at least 2 years prior to the date of admission to the MPP programme.
3. GATE-qualified candidates are also eligible for the SF seats.

### E) Sponsored (SW)

1. SW candidates must be from reputed Industrial Organisations/Academic Institutions.

2. SW candidates are not eligible for any financial assistance from the Institute. They would have to submit a sponsorship certificate (with/without Financial Support from the employer) at the time of admission.
3. SW candidates without any work experience will need a valid GATE score.
4. SW candidates with a minimum of 2 years of work experience need not submit a GATE score.

#### **F) Fellowship Award (FA)**

The MPP programme will also be open to all FA category candidates, receiving fellowships or scholarships from government or semi-government agencies. The financial support under the FA category may be provided by various Govt./Semi-Govt. schemes (UGC\*, CSIR, DAE, DST, DBT, NBHM, etc.). A valid Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) award letter from any of the above agencies is required for the execution of this fellowship/scholarship.

##### **Note**

\*The UGC-NET JRF award for MPhil has been discontinued.

#### **G) Candidates of All Categories**

Candidates of all categories will be required to have fulfilled the minimum eligibility criteria as mentioned above.

##### **Note**

No candidate will be exempt from appearing for the ADCPS entrance exam and interview (if qualified) in order to be considered for the MPP programme.

#### **H) Employment/Career Opportunities**

Through its programmes, ADCPS aims to give its students tools which are applicable in diverse situations and teach students how to adapt to various domains, contexts, or situations. Students can find themselves fitting into and contributing to the public or private sectors, working within the government, or in the social sector. They could find employment in private corporations, think-tanks, consultancies, government bodies, as well as academic and social-sector organisations.

## I) Programme Duration, Credits, and Course Structure (Subject to Revision)

### Core Courses

- Public Policy Theory 1
- Public Policy Theory 2
- Social Science Perspectives in Public Policy
- Public Policy in India: History, Institutions, and Practice
- Research Methodology and Design
- Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods
- Communication Skills
- Writing Policy

### Elective Courses (Offered by ADCPS)

- Introduction to AI, Data and Policy
- Advanced Topics in AI, Data, and Policy
- Values in Public Policy: The Rhetoric of Political “Isms”
- Information Economy, Platforms and Governance
- Making Documentaries for Policy Change
- Mobility, Policy and Infrastructure
- Cybersecurity Governance and Management - Policy Considerations
- Governing Environmental Services in a Climate-Changing World
- Economic Analysis for Public Policy
- Data Analytics for Public Policy
- Crafting Narratives to Shape Policy
- State, Markets and Public Policy
- Constitutional Law and Public Policy
- Affirmative Action in India: A Brief Constitutional History
- Data Visualization for Public Policy
- Rethinking Work, Labour and Public Policy
- Environmental Governance and Development
- Technology and the Future of Workers
- Contemporary Issues in Data Policy and Management
- Circular Economy: Policy and Practices
- Technology, Culture and Policy
- State, Business and Human Rights
- Gender & Development
- Trustworthy System: A Policy Engagement
- Water Policy II - Advanced Themes in Water Policy
- Policy and Practice of Education
- Health Policy
- Energy Transition
- Public Finance and Budget Analysis
- GIS for Policy Analysis

## Semester-wise Break-up of the MPP Programme

### Semester I

Code	Course	Type	Credits
PS 601	Public Policy Theory - I	Core	6
PS 605	Social Science Perspectives in Public Policy	Core	6
PS 606	Public Policy in India: History, Institutions and Practice	Core	6
PS 609	Research Methodology and Design	Core	6
-	Institute Elective	IE	6
<b>Total</b>			<b>30</b>

### Semester II

Code	Course	Type	Credits
PS 607	Public Policy Theory - II	Core	6
PS 610	Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods	Core	6
PS 633	Writing Policy	Core	6
PS 694	Seminar	Core	4
PS 899	Communication Skills	Core	PP/NP
-	Institute Elective	IE	6
-	PS Elective	DE	6
<b>Total</b>			<b>34</b>

### Semester III

Code	Course	Type	Credits
PS 621	8-weeks Internship (in the Summer between Sem II & III) and Internship Report	Internship	20
PS 797	MPP Thesis/Project 1	Thesis	18
-	Only PS Courses (as Dept. Electives)	DE	24
<b>Total</b>			<b>62</b>

## Semester IV

Code	Course	Type	Credits
PS 798	MPP Thesis/Project 2	Thesis	40
<b>Total</b>			<b>40</b>
<b>Total Programme Credits</b>			<b>166</b>

### J) Fees and Deposits (Subject to Revision as per MoE/BoG Decisions)

The various fees and deposits for the programme are available on the following webpage:  
<https://acad.iitb.ac.in/fees-structure-prospective-students>

### K) General Instructions

1. Please read the instructions given in the brochure carefully before filling up the application form.
2. The Online Application Form and Information Brochure (including the admission schedule along with the important dates) are available on the Institute website (<https://acad.iitb.ac.in/admissions/masters/mpp>). Please fill and submit the application online. No downloadable forms will be available. After filling the form, you are advised to take a print of your application and keep the same for the record.
3. The application fee is as follows:

Category	Regular Period (Without Late Fine)	Extended Period (With Late Fine)
Women Candidates	₹150/-	₹650/-
SC/ST/PwD Category Candidates	₹150/-	₹650/-
All Other Candidates	₹300/-	₹800/-

The fee is to be paid through SBI Internet Banking/Online Payment System. You do not have to submit the hard copy of the application. Applications without online payment details will not be considered.

#### Note

Application fee is non-refundable.

4. Please refer to the Institute website (<https://acad.iitb.ac.in/admissions/masters/mpp>) for filling the online application form.
5. OBC-NC candidates may note that the limit of annual income is ₹8 lakhs for determining the creamy layer among Other Backward Classes (OBC) candidates. The OBC-NC certificate issued for the financial year 2026-27 by the competent authority in the prescribed format must be uploaded in the online application form and submitted at the time of admission. The information related to OBC reservation is available at: <https://acad.iitb.ac.in/admissions/policies>.
6. Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) candidates may note that the limit of annual income is ₹8 lakhs for determining the eligibility for benefit under Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) reservation. The EWS certificate issued by the competent authority in the prescribed format must be uploaded in the online application form and submitted at the time of admission. The information related to EWS reservation is available at: <https://acad.iitb.ac.in/admissions/policies>.
7. PwD candidates will be given extra time, as per Government of India (GOI) rules on request by the candidate. Such requests need to be addressed to the Head of the concerned academic unit through email/hard copy well in advance.
8. You should check the Institute website (<https://acad.iitb.ac.in/admissions/masters/mpp>) from time to time for results/important announcements.
9. You should regularly check emails at the email address provided in your application for all important communications and announcements.
10. Candidates called for the written test/interview should bring with them: (i) Government issued Photo ID Card, (ii) Hard copy of the application submitted online, (iii) Copies of any report/publication/certificates/marksheets.
11. You must upload the following while submitting the MPP Application Form:
  - Scanned photograph
  - Scanned signature
  - Scanned/PDF marksheet of last semester/consolidated marksheet of the qualifying degree. (Exam-pending/result-awaited candidates have to upload their previous semester's marksheet).
  - Caste Certificate (OBC-NC/SC/ST), if applicable, or a notarised affidavit for having applied, in case if the certificate is not yet received.
  - EWS Certificate, if applicable
  - PwD Certificate, if applicable
  - Project Staff/Institute Staff should submit an NOC, and a letter of recommendation from the Principal Investigator (PI)/Head/Office-In-Charge at the time of application.

12. Candidates having a degree from foreign universities should submit an equivalence certificate from the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), New Delhi for qualifying exam and proof of having first class or 60% (55% for SC/ST) marks or equivalent in qualifying examination.
13. Merely fulfilling eligibility criteria does not entitle a candidate to be called for the written test and/or interview. Admission is based on a valid GATE score/written test/interview performance and additional eligibility criteria for different admission categories and different disciplines as specified in section A of Information Brochure 2026-27.
14. Seats are reserved for EWS/OBC-NC/SC/ST and PwD Categories, as per GoI rules.
15. Students must submit self-attested copies of their qualifying degree certificate and final transcripts on or before **31 August 2026**, failing which admission will stand cancelled.
16. Candidates need to apply online only.

## Appendices

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### Appendix I

#### Sponsorship Certificate - For Full-time (2-years) Candidates

*(On the Letterhead of the Sponsoring Organisation)*

**SPONSORSHIP CERTIFICATE  
(With Financial Support)**

To  
The Director  
Indian Institute of Technology Bombay  
Powai, Mumbai - 400 076

**Subject:** Sponsoring of an employee for MPP Programme (full-time) (With Financial Support) at IIT Bombay

Dear Sir,

We hereby sponsor the candidature of Shri./Smt./Kum. \_\_\_\_\_, employed in our organisation as \_\_\_\_\_ (designation), for joining MPP programme at your Institute as a (full-time) candidate.

He/She is an employee of our organisation since \_\_\_\_\_. We shall fully relieve him/her from duties during the entire period of the MPP programme, to enable him/her to devote full time to his/her studies at the Institute. We understand that the duration for full-time MPP Programme is two years.

We shall bear the total expenses of his/her studies.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature and Seal of the Sponsoring Authority

## Appendix II

### Sponsorship Certificate - For Full-time (2-years) Candidates

*(On the Letterhead of the Sponsoring Organisation)*

**SPONSORSHIP CERTIFICATE  
(Without Financial Support)**

To  
The Director  
Indian Institute of Technology Bombay  
Powai, Mumbai - 400 076

**Subject:** Sponsoring of an employee for MPP Programme (full-time) (Without Financial Support) at IIT Bombay

Dear Sir,

We hereby sponsor the candidature of Shri./Smt./Kum. \_\_\_\_\_, employed in our organisation as \_\_\_\_\_ (designation), for joining MPP programme at your Institute as a full-time candidate.

He/She is an employee of our organisation since \_\_\_\_\_. We shall fully relieve him/her from duties during the entire period of the MPP programme, to enable him/her to devote full time to his/her studies at the Institute. We understand that the duration for full-time MPP Programme is two years and he/she will bear the total expenses.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature and Seal of the Sponsoring Authority

### Appendix III

#### Employer's Letter for MPP Candidates Joining on Study Leave (In-Service Candidate)

*(To be Typed on the Letterhead of the Institution)*

To  
The Director  
Indian Institute of Technology Bombay  
Powai, Mumbai - 400 076

**Subject:** Relieving an employee on Study Leave

Dear Sir,

We hereby relieve Shri./Smt./Kum. \_\_\_\_\_, employed in this organisation as \_\_\_\_\_ (designation) on \_\_\_\_\_ (full-pay/half-pay/no-pay) leave for joining MPP programme at IIT Bombay, for a period of two years.

Signature of Head of the Organisation and Seal of the Institution