

24 October 2026

Advertisement for Admission to Ph.D. Programme in English/Linguistics/Cultural Studies or other relevant disciplines for AY 2026-27 Semester-II (January 2027)

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Berhampur invites applications from highly motivated students for admission to the Ph.D. programme starting from January 2027. Currently, IISER Berhampur offers Ph.D. programmes in English/Linguistics/Cultural Studies or other relevant disciplines. Candidates interested in pursuing research in Linguistics, English Language Teaching (ELT), and allied areas are encouraged to apply.

Admission criteria are provided on the admission webpage and further information about faculty profiles and area of research can be obtained from the IISER Berhampur website. Prospective students satisfying the eligibility criteria are encouraged to acquaint themselves with the research areas of our faculty member for a suitable match of interest.

The aim of the Ph.D. Program is to develop graduates having good knowledge and research training in classical and emerging areas. Applications are invited in the following disciplines:

1. English/Linguistics/Cultural Studies or other relevant disciplines

Detailed information about the research areas of Faculty Member in the above discipline can be obtained from the Institute website at <https://www.iiserbpr.ac.in/people/faculty>. The applicants are strongly encouraged to go through the profile of Faculty Member and to get familiar with their specialization and research interests.

A. Application Procedure:

Applicants are requested to use the following link to fill and submit the application form online: <https://iiserbpr.in/engphd/index.php>

In case of any query, candidates may contact the Office of Academic Affairs (academics_pg@iiserbpr.ac.in, caa_pg@iiserbpr.ac.in) for issues related to online application and other general queries may be directed to the offices of the Academic Affairs

B. Eligibility Criteria for Admission:

1. Candidates should hold a master's degree in English/Linguistics/Cultural Studies or other relevant disciplines from a recognised university, with a minimum of 60% marks or CGPA/CPI of 7.0 on a 10-point scale. (Overall percentage/ CGPA/CPI; not only in majoring subjects).
2. Candidates with a four-year bachelor's degree may also apply, subject to applicable PhD regulations and admission criteria.
3. A relaxation of 5% of marks, or an equivalent relaxation of grade, will be allowed for candidates belonging to SC/ST/PwD categories.
4. If the transcript/grade sheet issued by the Institute/University reports:
 - a. Only marks, percentages will be considered.

- b. Only grades, CGPA/CPI will be considered. If CGPA/CPI is reported on any scale other than 10 (eg. 4 point/ 8 point scale), an equivalent CGPA/CPI will be calculated as per the following formula:

$$\text{CGPA/CPI in a 10 point scale} = (\text{CGPA/CPI Obtained} \times 10) / \text{PS}$$

PS = Point scale used by the Institute/University.

- c. Both marks and CGPA/CPI

The percentage equivalent of CGPA/CPI, as indicated on the transcript/grade sheet, will be considered if absolute grading is followed.

- d. CGPA/CPI ONLY will be considered if relative grading is followed.

5. Additionally, a National level examination like the National Eligibility Test (NET)/GATE/UGC-JRF/CSIR-JRF/DBT (JRF A category)/ICMR (JRF category I)/NET-LS/INSPIRE-PhD/JGEEBILS/JEST/or any other recognized score is mandatory. The certificate/ fellowship MUST be valid at the time of admission.

C. Research Areas: Theoretical and Applied Linguistics; Sociolinguistics; Language Documentation and Description; Language, Culture and Society; Discourse Studies; English Language Teaching (ELT); Language Education; and allied interdisciplinary areas.

D. Reservation Policy:

The norms of reservation for different categories shall be adopted as laid down by the Ministry of Education, Government of India.

E. Age relaxation:

Applicant's age should not exceed more than 28 years at the time of joining. Age relaxation of 3 years will be given for OBC (Non Creamy Layer) and 5 years for SC/ST/PwD/Female candidates.

F. Financial Assistance

Candidates admitted to Ph.D. Programme (Regular) will be eligible for financial assistance as per the norms of IISER Berhampur or the external funding agency as applicable.

Important Instructions

Selection mode: The interview shall be conducted in offline mode.

- All communication with candidates will be done by email only.
- Kindly check the Institute website periodically for updates, if any.
- Candidates who are appearing or are about to appear for final examinations of the qualifying degree programme are eligible to apply for Ph.D. programmes. However, their final selection is subject to their successful completion of the qualifying degree with the above-mentioned requirements at the time of admission. A provisional degree certificate is mandatory at the time of admission.
- Selection will be based on interviews of the short-listed candidates. Shortlisted candidates will be called for an interview. **Date of the interview will be communicated to shortlisted candidates by e-mail, and the same will be available on the Institute website.** TA will be paid to SC/ST candidates appearing for the interview as per Govt. of India norms.
- Mere fulfilment of the eligibility criterion does not entitle a candidate to be called for the test and interview.

Important Dates:

Milestones	Date
Opening date of online Application	24 October 2026
The closing date of filling online application form	09 November 2026
Announcement of shortlisted applicants for the interview process	14 November 2026
Last date for issuing PhD interview call letters	17 November 2026
Date of test/interview (Tentative):	Last week of November, 2026

Whom to contact:

In case of any query, the applicants may contact the office of the department/school, where they are applying to:

Department	Email ID
Office of Academic Affairs	chandank@iiserbpr.ac.in , academics_pg@iiserbpr.ac.in