

BUSINESS RULES

**FINE ARTS & CULTURE EXCELLENCE (FACE)
ADMISSION
TO
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS
FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026 - 2027**

**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MANDI**

Updated on 30 April, 2026

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1. FINE ARTS AND CULTURE EXCELLENCE ADMISSION

The Fine Arts and Culture Excellence Admission (FACE) process aims to reward and encourage students who have achieved a certain level of excellence in various domains of fine arts and culture. The following two institutes will be offering seats under the FACE program for the academic year 2026-2027.

1. Indian Institute of Technology Madras
2. Indian Institute of Technology Mandi

The seats offered by the institutes are supernumerary and will be filled only if the candidates satisfy the eligibility criteria as outlined later. For the academic year 2026-2027, IIT Madras will offer two supernumerary seats (one Gender-Neutral and one Female-Only) per program. IIT Mandi will offer one Gender-Neutral supernumerary seat per program. The list of programs and the maximum number of supernumerary seats that may be created for admission through FACE in each department are listed in the table below.

Sl.No.	Program Name	Supernumerary Seats	
		Gender Neutral	Female Only
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS			
1	Aerospace Engineering (4 years B.Tech.)	1	1
2	Aerospace Engineering (5 years B.Tech + M.Tech)	1	1
3	Computational Engineering & Mechanics (4 years B.Tech.)	1	1
4	Instrumentation & Biomedical Engineering (4 years B.Tech.)	1	1
5	Biological Engineering (4 years B.Tech.)	1	1
6	Biological Science (4 years B.S.)	1	1
7	Chemical Engineering (4 years B.Tech)	1	1

8	Chemistry (4 years B.S.)#	1	1
9	Civil Engineering (4 years B.Tech.)	1	1
10	Computer Science and Engineering (4 years B.Tech.)	1	1
11	Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics (4 years B.Tech.)	1	1
12	Electrical Engineering (4 years B.Tech.)	1	1
13	Engineering Design (5 years B.Tech. + M.Tech.)	1	1
14	Engineering Physics (4 years B.Tech.)	1	1
15	Physics (4 years B.S.)	1	1
16	Mechanical Engineering (4 years B.Tech.)	1	1
17	Metallurgical and Materials Engineering (4 years B.Tech.)	1	1
18	Naval Architecture (4 years B.Tech.)	1	1
19	Medical Science and Engineering (4 years B.S.)#	1	1
20	Mathematics (4 years B.S.)	1	1

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MANDI

1	Agricultural Engineering (4 years B.Tech.)	1	0
2	Bio Engineering (4 years B.Tech.)	1	0
3	BS in Chemical Sciences (4 years B.S.)	1	0
4	Chemical Engineering with Data Analytics (4 years B.Tech.)	1	0
5	Civil Engineering (4 years B.Tech.)	1	0
6	Computer Science and Engineering (4 years B.Tech.)	1	0
7	Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (4 years B.Tech.)	1	0
8	Electrical Engineering (4 years B.Tech.)	1	0
9	Engineering Physics (4 years B.Tech.)	1	0
10	General Engineering (4 years B.Tech.)	1	0
11	Materials Science and Engineering (4 years B.Tech.)	1	0
12	Mathematics and Computing (4 years B.Tech.)	1	0

13	Mechanical Engineering (4 years B.Tech.)	1	0
14	Microelectronics & VLSI (4 years B.Tech.)	1	0
15	Quantum Technology (4 years B.Tech.)	1	0

#Admission to these two programs are ONLY for the candidates qualified in IISER Aptitude Test - IAT 2026. The application process for these two programs (under FACE admission) will be done through a different portal (<https://ugadmissions.iitm.ac.in/bsiat>) and will be governed by the same business rules with a different timeline which is updated on the website. The tie-breaking rule for these programs will be based on the IAT 2026 instead of JEE (Advanced) 2026.

2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The candidates should satisfy ALL the following criteria to be eligible to apply for FACE admission at IIT Madras and IIT Mandi.

- A. The candidate should be an Indian national (by birth or naturalization) or OCI/PIO candidate (with OCI/PIO card issued before 04 March 2021) who have (or wish to be) chosen to be treated at par with Indian nationals at the time of JEE (Advanced) 2026 registration¹.
- B. The candidate should be qualified in JEE (Advanced) 2026 and have obtained a rank in the Common Rank List (CRL) or category-wise rank list in JEE (Advanced) 2026. The candidates with preparatory rank are not eligible for admission through FACE. The position in the rank list may be in any of the categories for which rank lists are prepared, thereby ensuring that the benefits of reservations are not lost and the requisite academic requirement is not diluted.
- C. The candidate should have obtained the minimum required marks in class XII as per the eligibility criteria for IITs (Clause 26 of the Information Brochure (IB), JEE (Advanced) 2026).

¹ As per the decision dated 03 February 2023, passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in WP(Civil) 891/2021, OCI/PIO candidates who have obtained their OCI/PIO card before 04.03.2021 will be treated at par with Indian nationals.

D. Candidates should have received a recognition in at least one of the following as a testimony to their excellence in fine arts and cultural activities.

- a. Must have received an award that is given **once-in-a-lifetime** for an art form given by the Government of India (See [Appendix - A](#) for the list of awards that are considered).
- b. Must have at least one of the recognitions in category A or category B in the list of awards/recognition/fellowships listed in Appendix A, in the **last SIX years**.

Table 1: Point System for FACE Admission. The details of the Award/Recognition type are provided in [Appendix-A](#).

Sl. No.	Award/Fellowship/Certification	Points
1	Once in a Lifetime	100
2	Category A	75
3	Category B	50

E. APPLICATION PROCESS

The candidates are required to apply through the FACE admission portal (<https://ugadmissions.iitm.ac.in/face>) for consideration for admission under fine arts and culture excellence. The candidate should be ready with all the necessary documents (see [Appendix-B](#)) before starting their application on this portal. The application process consists of the following steps.

New User Registration: Every applicant should create login credentials through the “New User Registration” process. The candidates will be able to create a password for their account by providing their JEE (Main) 2026 registration details. Upon successful registration, the candidate can log in to the application portal using their JEE (Main) 2026 application number and the password created.

Candidate Profile: The candidate profile will be auto-populated from the JEE (Main) 2026 database. Any additional information needed from the candidate will be sought in this step. The candidate should confirm the details shown on the candidate profile page. The data, once confirmed, cannot be changed at a later stage, and hence, utmost care should be exercised before confirming the details in the profile.

Upload Documents: The candidate should upload all the relevant documents as per the size and document type guidelines mentioned in the portal. The request for submission of documents at a later date WILL NOT be entertained. The correctness and validity of the certificates are the responsibility of the candidate. Submission of wrong documents will lead to denial of admission without further chance for appeal by the candidate. All the certificates will be verified by the document verification officers and their decision is final regarding the validity of the documents.

Choice Filling: After completing the above three steps in the application process, the candidate is required to provide the choice of their program in the order of their preference and save the same. The candidate will be able to modify the order of their preference in the portal before submission. The candidates can reorder their choices by using the appropriate buttons. Once the order of preference for different academic programs is finalized to the candidate's satisfaction, it should be confirmed by clicking the "Save" button. The last saved order will be locked by the system after the deadline.

Payment of Registration Fee: The candidates are required to pay a non-refundable registration fee as mentioned below.

- Rs.500/- for SC/ST/PwD/Female candidates.
- Rs.1000/- for all other candidates.
- Application fee is non-refundable.

Download the Application Acknowledgement: Upon successful completion of the above-mentioned steps, the candidate will be able to download the filled-in application. A copy of the application should be downloaded and kept in safe custody for future reference.

SCORE COMPUTATION AND FACE RANK LIST (FRL)

A score will be assigned to each candidate based on their fine arts and culture excellence as per the points system described in Table 1. A separate FACE Rank List (FRL) will be prepared based on the total score obtained by the candidates based on their performance in various fine arts and culture events/awards/scholarships.

The list of eligible awards/scholarships/fellowships/recognitions mentioned in [Appendix - A](#) only will be considered for score computation. Mere presence in the FRL does not guarantee admission. In the event that there are candidates with the same score, the following ordered tiebreaking criterion will be adopted to allot a rank. The seat allotment will be done based on FRL only.

- Level 1: A Candidate with higher scores in “once in a lifetime” awards will be ranked higher.
- Level 2: In case of a tie at Level 1, the candidate with a higher score in Category A will be ranked higher.
- Level 3: In case of a tie at both Level 1 and Level 2, the candidate with higher total marks in JEE (Advanced) 2026 (IAT 2026 for B.S. in MSE and Chemistry programs) will be ranked higher.
- Level 4: In case of tie at Level 3, the candidate with higher marks in Mathematics in JEE (Advanced) 2026 (IAT 2026 for B.S. in MSE and Chemistry programs) will be ranked higher.
- Level 5: In case of tie at Level 4, the candidate with higher marks in Physics in JEE (Advanced) 2026 (IAT 2026 for B.S. in MSE and Chemistry programs) will be ranked higher.
- Level 6: In case the tie continues at Level 5 also, all the candidates will be given the same rank.

The admission process through FACE will not be through the Joint Seat Allocation Authority (JoSAA) portal but on a separate portal (<https://ugadmissions.iitm.ac.in/face>) maintained by IIT Madras, where other IITs interested in offering seats through FACE may also participate. For the academic year 2026-2027, IIT Madras and IIT Mandi are offering seats through Fine Arts and Culture Excellence admission.

The FACE admission portal is to be used exclusively for admission to supernumerary seats under FACE admission route in various academic programs at IIT Madras and IIT Mandi. The candidates should apply separately on JoSAA portal for seats in the academic programs at all the IITs (including IIT Madras and IIT Mandi) offered through JoSAA based on their JEE(Advanced) 2026 rank.

The FRL rank of all the candidates will be displayed in the portal (accessible through their respective logins) along with FACE Round 1 allotment (synchronized with Round 2 of JoSAA). Note that mere presence in FRL does not guarantee admission.

SEAT ALLOTMENT

The FACE mode of admission will have a time limit within which the students must submit their supporting documents in advance for verification. The timeline of FACE admission will be synchronized with JoSAA 2026. The detailed schedule of the FACE admission process is given below.

Activity	Date and Time
FACE Application Window Opens	06 May 2026 at 17:00 hrs
FACE Application Window Closes	05 June 2026 at 17:00 hrs
Announcement of candidate eligibility after preliminary verification of certificates of achievement	20 June 2026 at 17:00 hrs
Round 1 Allotment and Display of FRL Rank	TBA
Last Date for Payment of Seat Acceptance Fee	TBA
Resolution of Fee Payment Issues	TBA
Last Date for Withdrawal of Seat	TBA
Last date for Responding to Queries (if any) raised by Document Verification Officers	TBA
Round 2 Allotment	TBA
Start of Withdrawal from FACE	TBA
Last Date for Payment of Seat Acceptance Fee	TBA

Last Date for Withdrawal of Seat	TBA
Resolution of Fee Payment Issues	TBA
Last date for Responding to Queries (if any) raised by Document Verification Officers	TBA
Round 3 (Final Round) Allotment	TBA
Start of Withdrawal from FACE	TBA
Last Date for Submission Proof of Withdrawal from JoSAA 2026 (if not done so already)	TBA
Last Date for Payment of Seat Acceptance Fee	TBA
Last Date for Withdrawal of Seat	TBA
Resolution of Fee Payment Issues	TBA
Last date for Responding to Queries (if any) raised by Document Verification Officers	TBA

For the academic year 2026-2027, the FACE admission will consider the scores obtained by the candidates only in the recognitions/awards/scholarships/fellowships pertaining to fine arts and culture listed in Appendix A.

Two supernumerary seats per academic program will be allotted in all the B.Tech., B.S. and Dual Degree programs of IIT Madras under this scheme. Of the two seats in each department, one seat will be female-only, and the other will be gender-neutral. At IIT Mandi, one supernumerary gender-neutral seat per academic program will be allotted. In case candidates with the same rank in FRL apply to the same program, additional supernumerary seat(s) will be created if required.

After a seat is allotted to a candidate in Round 1, (s)he MUST “Accept” or “Reject” the allotted seat before the deadline for the payment of the seat acceptance fee. If the candidate rejects the seat, (s)he will be removed from the FACE seat allotment process permanently. If the candidate accepts the seat, they should (1) pay the Seat Acceptance Fee before the deadline specified and (2) choose one of the three willingness options (“Freeze” or “Slide” or “Float”) described below.

- (A) **Freeze** – Choosing the option “Freeze” means that the candidate accepts the offered seat and indicates that the candidate is content with the allocated academic program and that the candidate does not want to participate in further rounds of seat allocation while retaining the same seat. Such candidates will NOT be considered in subsequent rounds of FACE 2026 (if any). Their chosen seat shall remain allocated to them and shall be provisionally confirmed after **the candidate pays the seat acceptance fee and submits the proof of withdrawal/exit from JoSAA 2026.**
- (B) **Float** – Choosing the option “Float” means that the candidate accepts the offered seat and indicates that, if admission to an academic program of higher preference in any Institute is offered in subsequent rounds of seat allocation, the candidate will accept it. Else, the candidate will continue with the currently accepted academic program. Such candidates will be considered in subsequent rounds of FACE 2026 (if any).
- (C) **Slide** – Choosing the option “Slide” means that the candidate accepts the offered seat and indicates that, if admission to an academic program of higher preference is offered within the same Institute in subsequent rounds of seat allocation, the candidate will accept it. Such candidates will be considered in subsequent rounds of FACE 2026 (if any).

The following changes in the willingness options alone are permitted during the allotment process.

Round n Willingness	Possible Changes in Round $n+1$
Freeze	No Changes Allowed
Float	Float or Slide or Freeze
Slide	Slide or Freeze

For candidates who choose the float or slide option, allocation of a seat in an academic program of the candidate’s higher preference would automatically result in the replacement of the seat accepted by the candidate in the earlier round. For such candidates, the option chosen in the previous round (float or slide) will continue unless they change the willingness type for subsequent rounds.

Withdrawal from FACE Admission

If a candidate accepts a seat allotted through FACE admission, and would like to withdraw from the admission process later, then (s)he will must submit the duly filled withdrawal form included in the [Annexure 1](#) of this document.

Eligibility to participate in FACE admission process in future

If a candidate accepts a seat allotted through FACE admission, (s)he will not be eligible for admission through FACE at any participating IIT in the future. The candidate may withdraw from the FACE admission process without accepting a seat, and in such a case, they may be eligible to participate in FACE admission, provided they also satisfy the other eligibility conditions announced by the respective FACE admission business rules.

SEAT ACCEPTANCE FEE

The candidates should pay a Seat Acceptance Fee (SAF) upon accepting the allotted seat. The seat acceptance fee is Rs. 30,000 for General, GEN-EWS and OBC-NCL category students and for all others, it is Rs. 15,000. The SAF, excluding a processing fee of Rs. 5,000 will be adjusted against the first-semester admission fee to be paid at the time of joining the institute.

If a candidate later validly withdraws from the seat allocation process, then the seat acceptance fee paid will be refunded after deducting the withdrawal processing charges of Rs. 7,000. If a candidate's seat is cancelled due to not meeting the eligibility criteria or due to unresolved discrepancy(ies) in the uploaded document(s), then the seat acceptance fee paid will be refunded after deducting the processing charges of Rs. 5,000. The SAF can be paid online using the payment gateway options provided on the FACE portal.

GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL / QUERIES

- In case of any query/grievance with respect to the admission process, please contact: 044 2257 8220 or email us at ugadmissions@iitm.ac.in
- The decision(s) by the concerned authorities with regard to such grievance shall be final.

APPENDICES

Appendix - A		
Sl. No.	Event Name	Category
1	Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar under Arts and Culture awarded by Ministry of Women and Child Empowerment, Government of India	Once in a lifetime
2	National Bal Shree Honour in <i>creative performance, creative art, creative painting</i> awarded by Ministry of Education, Government of India	Once in a lifetime
3	National Youth Award under Art/Culture awarded by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India	Once in a lifetime
4	Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar awarded by Sangeet Natak Akademi , Government of India	Once in a lifetime
5	Active B-grade certification from All India Radio or Doordarshan, Prasar Bharati, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India	Category A
6	Empaneled Artists to perform in Indian Festivals Abroad by the Government of India	Category A
7	Award of Scholarship to Young Artists (SYA) , Ministry of Culture, Government of India	Category A
8	Award in National Youth Festival Competition in the stage 4 where the presentation (in the domain of Arts and Culture) is made to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India	Category A
9	Cultural Talent Search Scholarship Award (CCRT) , Ministry of Culture, Government of India	Category B

*Category A and Category B will be considered only from the last SIX years.

Appendix - B

List of Documents to be uploaded by Candidates for Online Reporting [for Admission through Fine Arts and Culture Excellence]

1. Class X Mark Sheet/Certificate or Birth Certificate (for Date-of-Birth)
2. Class XII Mark Sheet (Qualifying Examination)
3. Certificate/Proof of Fine Arts and Culture Excellence achievement through one of the listed items in [Appendix - A](#)
4. Certificate of SC/ST category, if applicable [in the format provided in the application portal, issued by the competent authority]. The Scheduled Castes MUST be listed in the respective State-wise List published by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India. The Scheduled Tribes MUST be listed in the respective State-wise List published by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.
5. Certificate of OBC-NCL or GEN-EWS (if applicable) issued after 01 April 2026 by the competent authority in the standard format. The OBC caste name MUST be listed in the Central List of OBCs published by the National Commission for Backward Classes, Government of India.
6. Original Certificate for Persons with Disabilities (PwD), if applicable [in the format provided in the application portal, issued by the competent authority] or UDID card
7. Original Certificate for persons having less than 40% disability and having difficulty in writing, if applicable [in the format provided in the application portal, issued by the competent authority]
8. Crossed Bank Cheque copy / Image of Passbook with bank account details
9. Medical Certificate [in the format provided in the application portal, issued by the competent authority]
10. OCI certificate/PIO card, if applicable
11. Passport / Citizenship certificate, if applicable

Note: If the original certificates are not in English/Hindi, English/Hindi version/translation of such certificates, duly certified by the Principal/Director or other competent authority of the graduating Institute, will be required during the verification of documents.

Annexure 1

Form for Withdrawal of Allotted Seat through FACE Admission

(To be printed out, signed, scanned and uploaded on the application portal by the candidate while applying for withdrawal. This form will not be accepted or processed unless it contains the signature of the parent / guardian)

I, _____ (Candidate's Name), bearing the Application number _____ have been allotted a seat through FACE admission in the UG Program _____ in the IIT _____. My father's/mother's/legal guardian's name is _____.

I would like to withdraw my allotted seat (by not accepting the same) and I do not want to be considered for seat allocation/allotment of UG program _____ at IIT _____ due to the following reasons:

I understand that any seat allocated to me shall stand cancelled. I will be out of the FACE Admission process in 2026. Thus, I will forfeit the eligibility for admission to UG Programs through FACE admission in the future.

(Signature of the Candidate)

(Signature of the Parent/Guardian)

Name:

Name:

Date & Place:

Relationship: