Information regarding filling PhD topic preference form and FAQ

Please read the document carefully before submitting your PhD topic preferences.

Hereafter the word **website** refers to :

Ph.D. Admission (Spring Semester 2026-27) | Chemical Engineering

Admissions to the PhD programme of IIT Bombay can be obtained by qualifying under any of the following categories.

1. **Teaching / Research Assistantship (TA/RA):**
   Based on candidates' performance in the selection process, they are awarded IIT Bombay (MoE) funded teaching assistantships. List of TA topics is available on the website. For this category, final allotment of guide and Ph.D. topic happens after joining the department.

2. **Teaching Assistantship through Project (TAP):**
   Candidates are offered financial support originating from sponsored projects (Govt./Industry grants awarded to faculty). List of TAP topics is available on the website. For this category, guide selection happens during the interview process.

3. **Govt./Semi Govt. Fellowship Award (FA):**
   Candidates must have their own sources of funding via scholarships such as those from CSIR, UGC, DBT, ICMR, or DST-Inspire. (Candidate has to produce the sanction order at the time of interview) .

4. **For External (EX) and College Teacher (CT) Category:** Candidates working with industry or academic institutions fall under this category. For this category, no stipend or scholarship is provided from IIT.

Topic Category	Funded by/through	PhD Guide and Topic selection	Who can apply
TA	MoE through IIT Bombay	After joining the department.	All candidates fulfilling requirements for TA category (Refer to section A.6.1. of the admission brochure)
TAP	Govt. or Industry Sponsored project where funds are procured by faculty-in-charge	At the time of the interview.	All candidates
FA	PhD candidate has secured his/her own funding like CSIR-JRF, UGC-JRF, ICMR, DBT and others	At the time of the interview	Only those candidates who have secured funding through respective institutes/organisations.
EX, CT	No stipend or scholarship is provided from IIT.	Candidates are required to contact professors before the interview to confirm the willingness of the professor to be your advisor.	Candidate working with industry or academic institutions.

To submit your preference:

1. Attend the online session, details of which are given on the website, to clarify the doubts of candidates regarding the admission process, topic selection (TA/TAP/FA), etc.
2. Open the google form using the link provided on the website.
3. Correctly fill in all the required information, such as the RCL number, email address, etc.
4. The list of available topics under TAP or FA category has been uploaded on the webpage.
    a. For TAP, a specific project code for the topic you are interested in must be chosen from the dropdown menu. If a candidate is offered admission under the TAP category, their final guide and topic selection will happen during the interview process.
    b. For FA, the topic codes are faculty-specific. The choice of a particular FA project code helps the department to put you into a suitable evaluation panel. If a candidate is offered admission under the FA category, their final guide and topic selection will happen during the interview process.
    c. For CT or EX, the candidates are required to contact department faculty before the interview to confirm their willingness to be your advisor. Kindly select the "EX or CT" option in google preference form and mention the name of this faculty in the "Additional information" section of google form.
    d. For TA, the list of faculty who will be available as PhD guide can be found here. If a candidate is offered admission under the TA category, their final guide and topic selection will happen after joining the department.
5. Provide the preference from the drop-down menu in the google form. The first (1st) preference should be the topic of highest preference. It is mandatory to give at least 3 preferences. Candidates can give a maximum of 5 preferences. For example, a candidate can choose as given in the table below.

Preference	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
PhD Topic No.	AB-TAP	TA	EF-FA	GH-TAP	

6. Please keep a record of the preferences before submitting it for your future reference.
7. Submit the form.
8. After successful submission, you will receive an email with your preferences. Save this information for future reference.
9. You can also edit the form after submission BUT before the deadline.

Important: *Note that if you are selected for the topic of your higher preference, you will not be considered for the topics of lower priority.*

Read the following FAQs before filling the google form. If you need any additional clarification, email us at phd_admissions@che.iitb.ac.in

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Related to TAP/FA topics

Q1. I have CSIR/DBT JRF. Can I opt for a topic listed as TA or TAP?

Ans: Yes, you can always do that.

Q2. I DO NOT have CSIR/DBT JRF. Can I apply for a topic listed as only FA?

Ans: No, you can not.

Q3. Can I opt only for TA?

Ans: Yes, you can opt only for TA. Since the seats under TA category are limited, we encourage you to also opt for topics under other categories.

Q4. How many preferences can I fill?

Ans: Maximum of 5 preferences.

Q5. Do I need to fill in all the 5 preferences?

Ans: No. three preferences are mandatory, rest are optional, as shown in the example below.

Preference	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
PhD Topic No.	AB-TAP	CD-TA	EF-FA		

Q6. I am an external (EX) candidate. Do I need to fill out the form?

Ans: Yes. You should choose the "EX or CT" option for the first three preferences and provide the name of the faculty with whom you have discussed the research plan in the "additional information" section of google form. You can also send this information by email to phd_admissions@che.iitb.ac.in by the deadline. Since you are an external category candidate, your area of research and potential faculty advisor(s) willing to guide you should be identified before you appear for the interview.

Q7. I am a CT candidate. Do I need to fill the form?

Ans: Same as the answer of Q6.

Q8. Can I edit the google form?

Ans: Yes, you can edit but before the deadline.