



Integrated MSc (Clinical Research) & PhD under the Aegis of AcSIR

A two-year Master's program in Clinical Research,
with the option of pursuing a PhD, if eligible, as an Integrated MSc (Clinical Research) & PhD

AUGUST 2025 SESSION

Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH)-Delhi
Governed by the 'Institute of Public Health Sciences (Society)'
(IPHSS) registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860,
by the Government of NCT Delhi

APPLY NOW

Integrated MSc (Clinical Research) & PhD



BACKGROUND

Any research that impacts the care and well-being of human population comes under the domain of clinical research. Clinical research in a broader sense involves epidemiologic studies, clinical trials, translational research, patient-oriented research, behavioral science, and health service research. High quality data and reliable results are key to generate evidence for decision making and to provide impetus for improving patient care. To produce such data, a systematic and multidisciplinary approach is required involving a range of disciplines like basic sciences, biotechnology, pharmacology, clinical medicine, statistics, public health and behavioral sciences.

The Indian Institute of Public Health-Delhi is pleased to announce its call for applications for MSc (Clinical Research) & PhD for academic year August 2025 - June 2027, affiliated to Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR) an Institute of national Importance under Government of India.

DEGREE AWARDING AND REGISTERING BODY

Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) in collaboration with Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR) brings you this unique opportunity to further your career in the area of clinical research through the Integrated MSc & PhD program. The MSc (Clinical Research) & PhD programme is jointly conducted by PHFI and AcSIR and the degree will be awarded by Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR). For more information visit <https://acsir.res.in/>

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Masters in Clinical Research

The MSc program in Clinical Research is an intensive 2-year full time program focusing on the scientific, ethical, and operational issues related to clinical research. The entire course is divided into 4 semesters. First three semesters include class room based, face to face teaching, tutorials and practical. The final semester includes 5 months of project work (with dissertation). The student needs to complete 11 compulsory core courses (modules), 4 elective courses (modules) in 18 months and submit the project report to be awarded the MSc degree. Students are encouraged for taking up internships during summer/ winter breaks between semesters, or after completion of the project work, only after due formal permission from their respective supervisors. Adequate institutional support will be provided to students for acquiring internship.

PhD Program

The students who complete the Master's program with a CGPA (Cumulative Grade Point Average) of 8 and above will be eligible for the PhD program. A formal application needs to be submitted which will be screened & enrolment will be finalized by the PhD screening committee. This full time and project based PhD program is for a minimum of 3 years. The research topic for PhD will be developed under the guidance of mentors from PHFI/ IIPH-Delhi and AcSIR. The students are free to choose any topic of their interest ranging from basic sciences to community based studies. The student can be allocated to any of the CSIR labs participating in the collaborative program on mutual consent.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND LANGUAGE

This on-campus, full-time program is offered at the Indian Institute of Public Health-Delhi (www.iiphd.org). The main language of instruction would be English. The course utilizes a variety of teaching / learning techniques, which includes lectures, group discussions, student presentations, hands-on practice in statistical softwares, basic sciences laboratory, workshops and

field visits. During the project work and internship, the students will get an opportunity to engage in research related activities that could be based in community, hospital or laboratory.

PROGRAM CONTENTS

The multi-disciplinary curriculum will be covered under the core & elective courses (modules). The core modules include: Basic Epidemiology, Basic Biostatistics, Clinical Trials-Design and Analysis, Conduct and Operational Issues in Clinical Trials, Bioethics and Regulatory Affairs, Systematic Reviews, Proposal Development and Medical Writing, Basics in Data Management, Drug Development, Pharmacovigilance and Project Management.

Under elective courses, we offer various areas that will fall under Research Methods, Statistics and Laboratory Sciences.

Following are the core competencies acquired by the candidates at the end of the Master's program:

- Reviewing existing evidence in literature
- Developing a grant application in bio-medical research
- Managing ethics and regulatory approvals of protocols
- Managing a research project
- Managing research data
- Planning and executing statistical analysis
- Communicating research results to a scientific community

TARGET AUDIENCE AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

This program is relevant to those wishing to gain an in-depth understanding in research methods & also keen to specialize in specific areas in clinical research.

Minimum Academic Qualifications

- Applicants with graduate qualifications in: medical and allied fields like dentistry, AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy), pharmacy, physiotherapy, nursing, and veterinary science.
- Applicants with graduate qualifications in: biological and life sciences (microbiology, biochemistry, biotechnology, botany, zoology), laboratory sciences, allied health sciences, basic sciences (chemistry), occupational therapy and biostatistics.
- All applicants should have basic computing skills and proficiency in English language.

SELECTION PROCESS

All candidates should submit the application form for the program Integrated MSc (Clinical Research) & PhD in the prescribed format. The candidate can apply online form at IIPH-Delhi website: <https://iiphd.org/academic-programs/on-campus-programs/>. The application consists of registration form, proof of academic credentials, work experience, contact details of two referees (academic and/ or professional) and a Statement of Purpose (SOP). The applicants will be short-listed based on their academic qualifications, relevant experience and Statement of Purpose.

This will be followed by an interview. The selection of candidates will be conducted by a specially constituted selection committee represented by members from PHFI/IIPH-Delhi and AcSIR.

Integrated MSc (Clinical Research) & PhD



The final selection of the candidate for the MPH program is based on qualifications, relevant experience, statement of purpose and interview. The weightage for each component is as follows:

Qualifications	-	25%
Relevant experience	-	5%
Statement of purpose	-	10%
Interview	-	60%
Total	-	100%

Reservation of seats in admissions will be as per Government of India policy as applicable from time to time.

Decisions taken by the selection committee will be final. The selection in the MSc program does not guarantee entry in PhD program. Selection for PhD will be made strictly on the basis of merit and performance in the MSc program.

FACULTY

A team of experienced and multidisciplinary faculty from PHFI/IIPH-Delhi and AcSIR would be engaged in teaching. The students will also be exposed to lectures delivered by invited faculty and a pool of adjunct faculty with PHFI/IIPH-Delhi of national and international acclaim. Guides may be identified from either of the organizations for mentoring during project work.

CREDIT AND EVALUATION SYSTEM

The program will follow a credit and grading system consistent with AcSIR norms. Credits are awarded for successful completion of each course (module) and dissertation. A total of 64 credits and a CGPA (Cumulative Grade Point Average) of at least 6.5 is mandatory for awarding the MSc degree. Student evaluation for each course (module) would be through a concurrent evaluation during course work (that includes test/assignments, attendance and classroom participation) and marks scored in the end of semester unseen written examination. The weighted average of both will contribute to the course (module) GPA. A detailed evaluation frame work will be provided to the students before the beginning of the program.

PROGRAM FEES

The fee structure for MSc (Clinical Research) program for the candidates admitted in the year 2025-27 will be as follows:

For Indian and South Asian Nationals

Tuition Fee:

The annual tuition fee for the students admitted in academic year 2025-27 is INR 2,40,000/- Lakhs per student per academic year (The total tuition fee for the two year program is Rs. 4,80,000/- which includes Rs. 10,000/- admission fees and Rs. 10,000/- examination fees)

For International Candidates

Tuition Fee:

The annual tuition fee for the students admitted in academic year 2025-27 is USD 7,200 per student per academic year.

Scholarship:

Limited number of scholarships for MSc may be awarded for deserving and meritorious candidates, subject to availability of funds, after starting of the program.

PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The project work and internship during the MSc program would provide the candidate with an opportunity to interact with potential researchers. The setting may be a hospital, research organization or a CSIR laboratory. The placement cell at IIPH-Delhi will also strive to arrange for campus interviews with companies in clinical research pursuits. However, no formal guarantee will be provided to any candidate regarding future job selection after completion of the program.

ABOUT PUBLIC HEALTH FOUNDATION OF INDIA (PHFI)

PHFI is a public-private initiative that collaboratively evolved through consultations with multiple constituencies, including Indian and international academia, state and central governments, multi- and bi-lateral agencies, and civil society groups. PHFI aims to address the limited institutional capacity in India for training, research, and policy development in the area of public health through establishment of Indian Institutes of Public Health across the country.

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH-DELHI

IIPH-Delhi is one of the five academic institutes established by PHFI. It commenced its operations in November 2008. From 1st January 2025 the IIPH-Delhi is governed by the 'Institute of Public Health Sciences (Society)' (IPHSS) registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860, by the Government of NCT Delhi. The institute is actively involved in conducting academic programs- both on-campus and eLearning. Apart from Integrated MSc (Clinical Research) & PhD, it also offers other on-campus programs like Post Graduate Diploma in Public Health Management, Master of Public Health and PhD (Sciences). The institute also offers a range of eLearning courses including, ePost Graduate Programs in Public Health Nutrition; Epidemiology; Management of Reproductive and Child Health Programs; Health Economics, Healthcare Financing & Policy and eCourses in Monitoring & Evaluation of Health Programs; Clinical Research Methods; Maternal, Infant, Young Child and Adolescent Nutrition (MIYCAN). For more information about IIPH-Delhi's academic programs, please visit website: www.iiphd.org

ABOUT ACADEMY OF SCIENTIFIC AND INNOVATIVE RESEARCH (AcSIR)

The Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR) is an Institution of National Importance, established by an Act of Parliament (AcSIR Act, 2011) and notified in the Gazette of India on April 3, 2012.

AcSIR is dedicated to fostering world-class research and training in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medical research (STEMM). It leverages the extensive infrastructure and expertise of 82 associated research institutes, including National Institutes of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), and the Department of Science and Technology (DST), etc.

Research at AcSIR spans various faculties such as Agricultural Sciences, Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Engineering Sciences, Medical Research, Physical Sciences, Mathematical and Information Sciences, and interdisciplinary areas. By fostering scientific talent and driving cutting-edge research, AcSIR aims to significantly contribute to India's scientific and societal progress.

Integrated MSc (Clinical Research) & PhD



AcSIR has several academic collaborations with reputed International Universities to facilitate student mobility and exchange programs. It currently has joint PhD programs (Cotutelle) with three International Institutions: Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University (Australia), University of Western Australia (Australia), and Deakin University (Australia), as well as two National Institutions: National Institute of Ayurveda (Jodhpur) and Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda (Jamnagar). Besides, AcSIR has signed MoUs with the University of Turku (Finland) and the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST, Japan) for mutual exchanges of scientists and students, short-term training programs, and joint research projects.

As on January 31, 2025, ~1200 Masters and 5013 PhD students have already graduated from AcSIR. Currently, with about 7000 PhD Students on its rolls in Science, Engineering and Medical Research, AcSIR is the largest institution of Doctoral education in India and has awarded 831 PhD degrees in the year 2024 in STEM. The NIRF Ranking by the Ministry of Education ranked AcSIR at 11th position in 'Research Institutions' category in 2024. As per Nature Index Rankings, AcSIR occupies the 11th rank among Universities in India and 11th rank in SCImago ranking (2024) among educational Institutes in India.

As per the Center for World University Rankings (CWUR) 2024, AcSIR has achieved a position in the top 3.9% globally and has secured the 9th rank nationally.

AcSIR is committed to shaping the next generation of Science and Technology leaders through cutting-edge curricula, innovative, teaching methods, and rigorous evaluation processes. Its mission is to foster research opportunities in emerging and inter-disciplinary fields that are often underrepresented in traditional academic institutions across India.

UNIQUENESS OF THE PROGRAM

This clinical research program is a blend of principles of basic and advanced research and its application in health sector. It supports AcSIR's mission and vision of affordable health care by advancing knowledge and technology. It also fulfils PHFI's mandate of improving research by imparting training to health professionals. This program delivered by PHFI/IIPH-Delhi in partnership with AcSIR aims to contribute in innovative ways to promote health and improve healthcare management in India. During the academic tenure, apart from the program activities and academic support from the faculty, the students will be exposed to certain workshops relevant to the specific course (modules) and due importance will be given to impart skills that enhance their placement opportunities. Successful completion of the MSc program may serve as excellent foundation to go on to take higher degrees like PhD (within and outside India).

Other Programs in collaboration with AcSIR

1. PhD (Sciences)

The doctoral degree program in various areas of public health will enable PhD scholars to be future thought leaders in public health. The aim of this doctoral program is to generate knowledge and evidence in public health using scientific & innovative research and develop expertise in specific areas under public health to provide advanced knowledge, mastery of skills in leadership, management, communication, and innovative thinking.

2. Master of Public Health (MPH)

Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) in collaboration with Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR) brings you this unique opportunity to further your career in the area of public health through the Master of Public Health program. The MPH program is an intensive two-year full time program focusing on enhancing skills and abilities of students in research, management, problem solving, and critical thinking in the area of public health.

Log on to www.iiphd.org for more information about these programs

For more information about the program and to download the program brochure visit:
<https://iiphd.org/academic-programs/on-campus-programs/integrated-msc-clinical-research-phd/>

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