

# Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering (BSBE) IIT Bombay

## PhD Admission Process and Timeline for May-2026 cycle (i.e. Autumn 2026 semester intake) for AY 2026-27

The Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering (BSBE) consists of two research groups: the Biosciences and Engineering (BSE) group and the Medical Engineering (MedEngg) group. Details about the two research groups are available on the department's website: <https://www.bio.iitb.ac.in>. The PhD topics floated under each group are displayed on the BSBE department website.

The department will process a single application per applicant for admission to its PhD program in the given admission cycle through the process outlined below.

Each application will be first screened for meeting the department's minimum eligibility criteria (these are common to both the groups). Candidates who meet the common minimum eligibility criteria will be emailed a google form by the BSBE office asking them to indicate their PhD topic preferences among the topics floated under each of the two groups [up to 10 preferences will be sought per group]. Candidates may choose to select PhD topics under both the groups or under any one group. Those candidates that have selected PhD topics under both groups will also be required to indicate the order of their group preference.

Thereafter, each application will be processed in parallel by its two research groups, using their respective shortlisting criteria. For those candidates that have selected PhD topics under both groups, it is possible that they may be shortlisted by one or by both groups for their respective next rounds of evaluation.

The subsequent rounds of evaluation differ between the two groups, but if both groups shortlist a candidate, then the candidate is free to either participate in only one group's evaluation process or to go through both processes in parallel. For candidates that have selected PhD topics only under one group, if shortlisted by that group, they will participate in only that group's evaluation process.

[Note: Based on the performance across various rounds of the PhD admission process, a candidate will be offered admission to any one of the PhD topics among the topics they have selected. A candidate will not be offered admission to a PhD topic that they have not selected as one of their topic preferences.]

The table given below provides further details of the group-wise rounds of evaluation and their respective timeline of activities.

Timeline of activities	Group A: BSE Group (BSE: Biosciences and Engineering)	Group B: MedEngg Group (MedEngg: Medical Engineering)
13 April 2026	Group-wise PhD topics displayed on the BSBE department website.	
14 April 2026 (by 5 pm)	Last date for submission of completed application EXTENDED forms (with late fine).	
15 April 2026	Screening of applications based on the minimum eligibility criteria for the department (these are common to both groups).	
16 April 2026	Candidates who meet the common minimum eligibility criteria will be emailed a google form by BSBE office asking them to indicate their PhD topic preferences among the topics floated under each of the two groups [up to 10 preferences to be sought per group]. Candidates may choose to select PhD topics under both the groups or under any one group. Those candidates that have selected PhD topics under both groups will also be required to indicate the order of their group preference.	
19 April 2026 (by 5 pm)	Deadline for candidates to submit their PhD topic and group preferences via the google form.	
22-23 April 2026	Candidates who have submitted the google form and chosen at least one PhD topic under Group A will be further shortlisted based on Group A's shortlisting criteria.  These shortlisted candidates will receive an email from BSBE office with details and instructions for Group A's Round 1 - Written Test (in-person).	Candidates who have submitted the google form and chosen at least one PhD topic under Group B will be further shortlisted based on Group B's shortlisting criteria.  These shortlisted candidates will receive an email from BSBE office with slot and meeting link details for Group B's Round 1 - Online Interview.
24-28 April 2026	-----	Conduction of Round 1 - Online Interview for candidates shortlisted under Group B.

28-29 April 2026	-----	Following the online interview, candidates that are further shortlisted will receive an email from BSBE office with details and instructions for Group B's Round 2 – In-Person Interview.
12 May 2026	<p>Conduction of Round 1 – Written Test (in-person) for candidates shortlisted under Group A.</p> <p>The written test will include the following subjects: Biology, Physics, Mathematics, and Chemistry.</p>	-----
13 May 2026	Following the written test, candidates that are further shortlisted will appear for Group A's First Level of Round 2 – In-Person Interview.	
13-14 May 2026		Conduction of Round 2 – In-Person Interview for candidates shortlisted under Group B.
14-15 May 2026	Following the first level of in-person interview, candidates that are further shortlisted will appear for Group A's Second Level of Round 2 – In-Person Interview.	