

Mahindra University, Hyderabad

www.mahindrauniversity.edu.in

School of Design Innovation Ph.D. Program Admission Notification (Academic Year 2026-27)

Mahindra University, notified by the Government of Telangana vide Telangana Ordinance No. 1 of 2020 dated 20th May 2020, invites applications for its Ph.D. programme at the School of Design Innovation, commencing in Aug'26.

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree is acknowledged to be the highest university degree that is conferred on a doctoral student, who successfully defends her/his Ph.D. thesis in front of a panel of experts in the field appointed by the University. The journey involves research coursework, comprehensive examinations, and successful thesis defense, typically over 3 years.

The Mahindra Edge

Ph.D. students at Mahindra University will have exceptional opportunities for interdisciplinary research by working closely with faculty members who are at the forefront of their fields. Our School of Design Innovation encourages implementation-driven research, combining traditional and contemporary design approaches.

Specialized Areas for Ph.D. Admission at the School of Design Innovation:

Students may apply in the following research domains in **Design**:

- Design Education pedagogy for Innovation
- Human–Computer Interaction and User Experience Design
- Immersive and Interactive Technologies (XR/AR/VR)
- Game Design and Gamified Experiences
- Artificial Intelligence for Design and Innovation
- User-Centered and Contextual Design
- Aesthetics and Perception
- Design for Sustainability and Social Impact

Eligibility

Minimum Qualification Required for Admission

Post-Graduate degree in Design, Architecture, Fine Arts, or related disciplines (M.Des, M.Arch, MFA, M.A.) or equivalent. Candidates with interdisciplinary backgrounds are welcome.

Additional weightage will be given to candidates who have passed UGC NET (JRF), SET, or other equivalent national exams.

Additional weightage for anyone who has published research papers in SCOPUS indexed journals/conferences.

Ph.D. Entrance Process

1. Candidates without valid UGC NET (JRF), SET, etc., must submit a 4-page document highlighting their research area with references.
2. If shortlisted, they will be called for a written test and interview. Written test will be assessed for research writing capability.
 - **Test Date:** 13th Jun'26
 - **Location:** Mahindra University Campus - Hyderabad

FEE STRUCTURE & Ph.D. ASSISTANTSHIP:

INR 75000/-
PER ANNUM

INR 20000/-
SECURITY DEPOSIT
(ONE TIME PAYMENT)

PH.D. ASSISTANTSHIP (for full time scholars)
INR 35000/- PER MONTH*
(plus Boarding & Lodging)

Important Dates (* Subject to revision):

Last Date for submission of applications	27 th May, 2026
Shortlisting of candidates for interview	3 rd Jun, 2026
Ph.D. Entrance Test / Interview	20 th Jun, 2026
Announcement of Results	30 th Jun, 2026
Commencement of the Fall 2026 Semester Teaching	6 th Aug,2026

[Please click here to view Application Procedure for Ph.D. Program](#)

[Please click here to Apply](#)