

Draft Press Release

Mahindra University and Virginia Tech launch joint Ph.D. intake for 2026 batch

Hyderabad/New Delhi, XXX: Mahindra University has opened applications for the January 2026 intake of its prestigious Ph.D. programme, offered in collaboration with Virginia Tech. The programme provides research scholars access to world-class laboratories, interdisciplinary mentorship, and co-supervision by Virginia Tech faculty, positioning it among India's most globally benchmarked doctoral offerings.

The Ph.D. programme spans advanced domains across Engineering & Sciences with specialisations available in key future-facing areas such as Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning, Smart & Connected Cities, Biomarker Discovery, the Energy & Water Nexus, Materials Research, Quantum Technologies, Civil & Structural Health Monitoring and Computational Sciences.

Students admitted to the programme will gain hands-on research exposure through cutting-edge media labs, design thinking studios, AI/ML laboratories, and continuously upgraded science and engineering facilities. Mahindra University also hosts the Mahindra University–Virginia Tech **Interdisciplinary Advanced Research Center for Transformative Technologies (IARCT²)**, which anchors collaborative research in emerging and frontier technologies.

Dr. Yajulu Medury, Vice Chancellor, Mahindra University said, *“Global collaborations enable a rich exchange of knowledge, expose learners to fresh perspectives, and create mutual value for every institution involved. Our partnership with Virginia Tech ensures that Ph.D. scholars at Mahindra University are mentored by globally recognised experts and exposed to research standards that match the best in the world. It blends academic rigour with innovation and international exposure.”*

Key advantages of the programme include co-supervision by Virginia Tech faculty, interdisciplinary research environment with access to high-end labs and computing infrastructure, strong emphasis on publications in globally reputed journals and conferences, four-year doctoral journey with structured coursework, comprehensive examination, and guided thesis development, guidance from expert faculty across Physics, Mathematics, Engineering, AI, Humanities and Social Sciences and research in next-gen domains such as AR/VR/XR, Generative AI, Deep Learning, Urban Mobility, Structural Health Monitoring, RNAi Therapeutics, and Smart Materials

Admissions are being conducted as per UGC guidelines. Candidates will be evaluated through the UGC-NET score or Mahindra University's written test (60% weightage) and an interview (40% weightage). UGC-NET qualified applicants receive default weightage but may opt to improve their score via MU's written test. Prospective doctoral candidates are invited to apply

by the deadline of **October 31, 2025**.

To apply click <https://www.mahindrauniversity.edu.in/programs/mahindra-university-virginia-tech/>.

About Mahindra University:

Mahindra University, Hyderabad (India), is a multidisciplinary, private university with a vision of "Educating future citizens for and of a better world". It aims to play a significant role in driving globally acclaimed innovation in higher education in the coming years. Mahindra University's special focus is on generating new knowledge through engagement in cutting-edge research, creating a spirit of research and discovery, experiential learning, and entrepreneurship, whilst forging collaborations with industry and global academic institutions. The university is associated with the Mahindra Group, one of the largest and most admired multinational federations of companies with presence in over 100 countries.