

## **Categories, guide selection and related pre-requisites**

**TA positions:** Candidates admitted under this category are provided financial support from the government through the institute. These candidates can select their guide and research topic after admission within the first year based on their interest and mutual consent of the student and the guide. Candidates from other categories can not change to this category at any time after admission.

**RA / TAP / RAP (project) positions:** If the candidate is selected for a particular project, it usually means that there is a funded research project in the institute from which he/she will be financially supported. These projects have specific investigator(s), and the candidate will be required to work on that project under the guidance of the specific investigator(s). Having taken admission under this category, it is not possible to change to TA category. He/she may change to a self financed category.

**Sponsored candidates (SW):** Candidates who are sponsored by their employer have usually restrictions on the time they can spend in the institute, the topic of research, and possibly also co-guide from the sponsoring organization. They are not provided any financial support from the institute. Such candidates are required to contact a prospective guide before applying for admission. This is a prerequisite.

**External candidates (EX):** External candidates are usually working professionals who will spend a limited time in the institute to complete the required courses. For the rest of the duration of PhD, they do their PhD research from outside the institute. External candidates are required to contact a prospective guide before applying for admission. This is a prerequisite.

**Project staff (PS):** Candidates who are already employed as project staff in a project in the institute can apply under this category. They do their PhD research in parallel to working on the same project where they are currently employed. These candidates are not provided any financial support from the institute for PhD. They are required to contact a prospective guide before applying for admission. This is a prerequisite.

**Institute staff (IS):** Candidates who are already employed as a staff in IIT Bombay can apply under this category. They do their PhD research in parallel to working on their current job. These candidates are not provided any stipend for PhD. They are required to contact a prospective guide before applying for admission. This is a prerequisite.

**College teachers (CT):** College teachers can do PhD while teaching in another institute simultaneously. They are not provided any financial support from the institute. They are required to contact a prospective guide before applying for admission. This is a prerequisite.

**Fellowship Awardees (FA):** Candidates who have approved fellowship from external organizations, e.g., CSIR, NBHM, UGC, DBT, ICAR can apply under this category. They receive funding from the respective agencies and IIT Bombay does not provide any scholarship. These candidates can select their guide and research topic after admission within the first year based on their interest and mutual consent of the student and the guide.

Applicants under any other category may contact the [department office](#) during office hour.