

CHAPTER 2

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

2.1. For Entrance Examinations for UG and PG Programmes (Regular, NLEA, Artisans) and Ph.D. for NIFT Admissions –2026

Program	Specialisation
Bachelor Programmes (B.DES. 4 Years)	Fashion Communication (FC)
	Accessory Design (AD)
	Fashion Design (FD)
	Knitwear Design (KD)
	Leather Design (LD)
	Textile Design (TD)
	Fashion Interiors (FI)
Bachelor Programmes (B.F. TECH. 4 Years)	Bachelor of Fashion Technology (Apparel Production)
Master Programmes	Master of Design (M.DES)
	Master of Fashion Management (MFM)
	Master of Fashion Technology (M.F. Tech)

Kindly refer NIFT Prospectus / Admissions Guidelines for Admissions – 2026 for Eligibility Criteria / Essential Educational Qualifications uploaded on NIFT Website i.e. www.nift.ac.in

2.2. Upper Age limit:

- (a) For Bachelor's Programmes (B. Des and B.F. Tech.), the maximum age should be less than **24 years** as on **1st August of the year of admission**. The upper age limit may be relaxed by a period of 5 (five) years for candidates belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe/ Person with Disability (PwD) categories.
- (b) For Master's Programmes (M. Des, M.F.M and M.F. Tech) and Ph.D. there is **No age limit**.

2.3. Educational Qualification

Following is the required educational qualification for UG and PG programmes:

Programme	Eligibility Criteria
Bachelor of Design (B. Des.)	Passed the plus 2 level examination in the 10+2 pattern of examination from any recognized Central/State Board of Secondary Examination, such as the Central Board of Secondary Education/State Board New Delhi/Council for Indian School Certificate Examination, New Delhi. OR A pass grade in the Senior Secondary School Examination conducted by the National Open School with a minimum of five subjects. OR 3 or 4 years diploma recognized by AICTE or a State Board of Technical Education after secondary examination/10th standard. OR Any Public School/Board/University Examination in India or in foreign countries recognized by the Association of Indian Universities as equivalent to the 10+2 system. OR General Certificate Education (GCE) Examination (London/Cambridge/Sri Lanka) at the Advanced (A) level/International Baccalaureate (IB).
Bachelor of Fashion Technology (B.F.Tech.)	Passed the plus 2 level examination in the 10+2 pattern of examination from any recognized Central/State Board of Secondary Examination, such as the Central Board of Secondary Education, New Delhi/Council for Indian School Certificate Examination, New Delhi with Mathematics. OR A pass grade in the Senior Secondary School Examination conducted by the National Open School with a minimum of five subjects with Mathematics. OR 3 or 4 years diploma in any branch of Engineering recognized by AICTE or a State Board of Technical Education after secondary examination/10th standard. OR Any Public School/Board/University Examination in India or in foreign countries recognized by the Association of Indian Universities as equivalent to the 10+2 system with Mathematics. OR General Certificate Education (GCE) Examination (London/Cambridge/Sri Lanka) at the Advanced (A) level with Mathematics/International Baccalaureate (IB).

Programme	Eligibility Criteria
Master of Design (M. Des.)	Undergraduate Degree in any discipline from any Institute/University recognized by law in India. OR Undergraduate Diploma of minimum three years duration from NIFT/NID. <i>Note: Master of Design (M.Des.) is an advanced course that demands an understanding of fundamentals in design and presupposes that candidates would be familiar with the basic skills and theories for successful completion of the program. The course will not provide any basic knowledge and skill development in design as a part of its curriculum.</i>
Master of Fashion Management (M.F.M.)	Undergraduate Degree in any discipline from any Institute/University recognized by law in India. OR Undergraduate Diploma of minimum three years duration from NIFT/NID.
Master of Fashion Technology (M.F.Tech.)	B.F.Tech. from the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT). OR B.E./B.Tech. from any Institute/University recognized by law in India. OR B.F.Tech. (4 years) from any Institute/University recognized by law in India.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE ARTISAN

Programme	Eligibility Criteria
Bachelor of Design (B.Des.)	Passed the plus 2 level examination in the 10+2 pattern of examination of any recognized Central/ State Board of Secondary Examination, such as Central Board of Secondary Education / State Board New Delhi / Council for Indian School Certificate Examination, New Delhi. OR A pass grade in the Senior Secondary School Examination conducted by the National Open School with a minimum of five subjects. OR 3 or 4-years Diploma recognized by AICTE or a State Board of Technical Education after secondary school examination. OR Any Public School/Board/University Examination in India or in foreign countries recognized by the Association of Indian Universities as equivalent to 10+2 system. AND Artisan/Ward of Artisan can seek admission under this category on submission of a valid Artisan Card issued to Self/ Father/ Mother by the Development Commissioner (Handicraft), or Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India or have applied for the Artisan Card before the launch of Prospectus for Admissions-2026.

Eligibility Criteria for NIFT Lateral Entry Admission (NLEA)

Programme	Eligibility Criteria
Bachelor of Design (B.Des.) NLEA	Candidates having minimum 1- or 2-years diploma recognized by AICTE/AIU/ UGC / National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF)/ITI or a State Board of Technical Education in courses related to Fashion / Apparel / Textile and Accessories / Home Science/ Handloom Technology / Products / Visual Communication / Graphic Design / Industrial Design / Interior Design / Multimedia Design / Apparel Technology / Leather/ Fine arts after passing Secondary Examination / 10th standard AND Two -year Full Time Industry Experience in the related field after completion of Diploma before launch of Admissions.
	OR
	Candidates having minimum 1 year diploma recognized by AICTE/AIU/ UGC / National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) /ITI or a State Board of Technical Education in courses related to Fashion / Apparel / Textile and Accessories / Home Science/ Handloom Technology / Products / Visual Communication / Graphic Design / Industrial Design / Interior Design / Multimedia Design / Apparel Technology / Leather/ Fine arts after passing Senior Secondary Examination / 12th Standard. AND One-year Full Time Industry Experience in the related field after completion of Diploma before the launch of Admissions.
	OR
	Candidates who have completed 2-year regular UG Diploma Programme at NIFT after passing Senior Secondary Examination/ 12th standard.
Bachelor of Fashion Technology (B.F. Tech) NLEA	Candidates having minimum 1- or 2-years diploma recognized by AICTE/AIU/ UGC / National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) / ITI or a State Board of Technical Education in courses related to Fashion/Apparel/Textile/ Home Science/ Handloom Technology after passing Secondary Examination / 10th Standard with Mathematics. AND Two-year Full Time Industry Experience in the related field after completion of Diploma before the launch of Admissions
	OR
	Candidates having minimum 1-year diploma recognized by AICTE/AIU/ UGC / National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF)/ ITI or a State Board of Technical Education in courses related to Fashion/Apparel/Textile/ Home Science/ Handloom Technology after passing Senior Secondary Examination / 12th Standard with Mathematics. AND One-year Full Time Industry Experience in the related field after completion of Diploma before the launch of Admissions.
	OR
	Candidates who have completed 02 years UG Diploma Programme at NIFT after passing Senior Secondary/12th standard recognized by AIU with Mathematics.

Qualifying Age and Academic Eligibility criteria for Foreign National/NRI /OCI/PIO/SAARC

- **Qualifying Age**

For UG programmes: Maximum age should be **less than 24 years** as on **1st August of the year of admission**. The upper age limit may be relaxed by a period of 5 (five) years for candidates of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe/Person with Disability (PwD) categories.

For PG programmes: **No age limit**.

- **Academic Eligibility**

All candidates must satisfy the required academic qualifications listed for the concerned course. In case the Degree/Certificate has been obtained from a University/Board of any country other than India then an equivalence certificate must be obtained from the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) New Delhi (website: www.aiuweb.org) prior to admission.

Foreign National/NRI/OCI/PIO/SAARC applying to NIFT must possess working knowledge of the English language.

The candidate should have appeared for SAT/GMAT/GRE examination BEFORE applying for admission under this category.

Candidates may have appeared in multiple SAT/ GMAT/GRE examinations prior to 30th April 2026. The highest score submitted among these tests will be taken into consideration for allotment of seat. The minimum requirement of SAT/GMAT/GRE score is 50%. The GRE/ GMAT/SAT scores should not have been declared before **1st January, 2024 and should be received by the Institute (NIFT) latest by 30 April 2026**.

Admission Eligibility for Ph.D. (Full-time and Part-time)

Qualification	Minimum Years of Education After Class X	CGPA	Work Experience
Master's degree in the relevant area of Design, Management or Technology (or) equivalent qualification from an institute/ university of national/ international repute	07	Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 6.0 on a 10-point scale (5.5 for SC/ST candidates) or equivalent OR 55% (50% for SC/ST candidates) marks in aggregate (of all the years/semesters)	None (candidates appearing in final semester / final year may also apply as per Format -8)
Where the Master's Degree is found to be in a discipline not relevant to the areas identified by NIFT	07	Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 6.0 on a 10-point scale (5.5 for SC/ST candidates) or equivalent OR 55% (50% for SC/ST candidates) marks in aggregate (of all the years/semesters)	10 years of professional experience (teaching / working) in the proposed area of research
Bachelor's degree in the relevant area of Design, Management or Technology (or) equivalent qualification from an institute/ university of national/ international repute	05	Minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 8.0 on a 10-point scale (7.5 for SC/ST candidates) or equivalent as determined by the Institute wherever letter grades are awarded OR 75% (70% for SC/ST candidates) marks in aggregate (of all the years/semesters) where marks are awarded	10 years of professional experience (teaching / working) in the proposed area of research

2.4. Declaration

In the event of any ineligibility being detected by NIFT /NTA at any stage, their candidature will be cancelled, and they shall be liable for legal action. NTA does not verify the information provided by the candidates during online registration and hence candidature will be purely provisional subject to the fulfillment of eligibility criteria.