

## Credential Templates – Republic of India

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**Country: INDIA (Republic of India)**  
**Secondary School Certificate**

**Category:** Secondary

**Credential Actual Name:**  
Secondary School Certificate

**Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**  
All India Secondary School Certificate  
Delhi Secondary School Certificate  
Matriculation Examination  
Indian Certificate of Secondary Education  
Secondary School Leaving Certificate  
Secondary School Examination  
Anglo-Indian High School Examination  
Certificate

*Note: These are just examples and do not constitute a complete list of (lower) secondary level credentials. Some of the names may no longer be current.*

**Time Period Credential Offered:** Current

**Issuing Body:**

Three All India Boards:

- Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)
- Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE)
- National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)
- State Boards of Secondary Education (<http://education.nic.in/boards.asp>)

**Admission Requirements:**

- Graduation from elementary/upper primary school (representing 8 years of schooling)

**Program Description:**

- Ten-year combined primary and lower secondary education program (current structure)

(Lower) secondary schools in India provide two years of general education. Upon completion of secondary education, students receive a certificate by passing an external examination given by either the State Board of Secondary Education or one of the three All-India boards.

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment
- Admission into higher secondary school and further vocational and technical training

**IQAS Recommendations:**

Generally compares to the completion of Grade 10.

**Course Equivalencies:**

Grade 10 level courses.

**IQAS Rationale:****Program Description**

Secondary education (also called lower secondary or high school) is not compulsory. In most states it lasts two years from Class 9 to Class 10 following the completion of elementary school (Class 8) and represents 10 years of schooling (8+2). Some older certificates represent the completion of 11 years of schooling (9+2).

The curriculum includes subjects such as languages, math, science, and the arts. Secondary school teachers generally hold a one-year postgraduate Bachelor of Education (B.Ed), with entry based on completion of a first bachelor's degree.

The following table shows the subjects and time allocations for secondary education as recommended by the Ishwarbhai Patel Committee in 1977. The committee indicated that the scheme was illustrative only, leaving it to the state boards to decide whether to make some subjects compulsory and others elective.

**Secondary (Classes 8/9-10) Subjects, 1977**

Subjects	Hours (per week)
Languages	8
Math	4
Science	5
History, civics, and geography (as one course)	3
One of the following: the arts (music, dancing, painting, etc.), home science, agriculture, commerce, economics, social reconstruction, classical languages, etc.	2
Socially useful productive work (SUPW) and community service	6
Games, physical education, and supervised study	4
Total	32

The 2000 National Curriculum Framework lists the following subjects for secondary education:

**Secondary (Classes 9-10) Subjects, National Curriculum Framework, 2000**

Stage	Subject
Secondary	Three languages – mother tongue/regional language, modern Indian language, and English
	Math
	Science and technology
	Social sciences
	Work education

	Art education
	Health and physical education

While following the National Curriculum Framework in terms of educational structure and general course patterns, the state boards prescribe specific subjects and syllabi for schools under their jurisdiction and for their secondary school certificate examinations. The following table lists the subjects and time allocation for secondary education in the state of Tamil Nadu.

**Secondary (Classes 9-10) Subjects, Tamil Nadu**

Stage	Subject	Hours (per week)
Secondary	English	6
	Tamil/regional language	7
	Math	7
	Science and technology	7
	Social sciences	6
	Scientific Tamil	2
	Computer education	2
	Life oriented education	1
	Health and physical education	2
	Total	40

Upon completion of secondary education, students receive a certificate by passing an external examination given by either the state board or one of the three All-India boards. With the certificate, they may seek employment or admission into higher secondary school. They may also pursue vocational and technical education, such as trade programs of various lengths offered by industrial training institutes (ITIs) and three-year engineering and technology diploma programs offered by polytechnics.

### **Conclusion**

Secondary education in the Republic of India requires graduation from elementary school for admission and takes two years to complete, representing a total of 10 years of schooling. Earlier programs in some states may have represented a total of 11 years of schooling. Upon completion of their study, students must sit external examinations administered by the State Board of Secondary Education or one of the three All-India Boards to receive the Secondary School Certificate or equivalent. The certificate allows an individual to seek employment or admission into higher secondary school, industrial training institute (ITI) or polytechnic. Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS compares the Secondary School Certificate or equivalent (from the current structure) to the completion of Grade 10.

### **Grading:**

The percentage system is predominantly used. The Indian system is low marking, and the minimum pass mark generally ranges between 30 and 35%. Grades above 80% are rarely awarded. Grading scales adopted by the state boards and the three All India boards vary and may have changed over time. A common grading scale at the secondary and higher secondary levels is given below:

### School Education Grading Scale

Mark (%)	Descriptor
60-100	First Class or First Division
50-59	Second Class or Second Division
35-49	Third Class, Third Division or Pass
<35	Fail

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) puts all the candidates who passed the Class 10 or Class 12 examination in a ranking order to award the grades. The top 0.1% of candidates will receive Merit Certificates. The minimum pass mark for each subject is 33%.

### CBSE Grading Scale

Grade	Mark (%)	Description
A1	33-100	Top 1/8 of passed candidates
A2		Next 1/8 of passed candidates
B1		Next 1/8 of passed candidates
B2		Next 1/8 of passed candidates
C1		Next 1/8 of passed candidates
C2		Next 1/8 of passed candidates
D1		Next 1/8 of passed candidates
D2		Next 1/8 of passed candidates
E	<33	Fail

The Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE) adopts a nine-point scale. Grades 1-6 indicate “pass with credit”, with 1-2 as “very good”. Grades 7-8 indicate “pass”, and grade 9 “failure”. The minimum pass mark for each subject is 40%.

### CISCE Grading Scale

Grade	Descriptor
1	Pass with Credit
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	Pass
8	
9	Failure

**Country: INDIA (Republic of India)**  
**Higher Secondary School Certificate**

**Category:** Secondary

**Credential Actual Name:**

Higher Secondary School Certificate

**Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

All India Senior School Certificate

Delhi Senior School Certificate

(All India) Higher Secondary Examination –  
Part II

Indian School Certificate

Senior Secondary Certificate

Higher Secondary Certificate

Pre-University Examination

Intermediate Examination

*Note: These are just examples and do not constitute a complete list of higher secondary level credentials. Some of the names may no longer be current.*

**Time Period Credential Offered:** Current

**Issuing Body:**

Three All India Boards:

- Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)
- Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE)
- National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)

State Boards of Higher Secondary Education (<http://education.nic.in/boards.asp>)

**Admission Requirements:**

- Secondary School Certificate or equivalent

**Program Description:**

- Two-year higher/senior secondary education program (current structure)

Higher/senior secondary schools in India provide two years of education in the academic or vocational stream. Upon completion of higher secondary education, students receive a certificate by passing an external examination given by either the State Board of Secondary Education or one of the three All-India boards.

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment

- Admission into university and other postsecondary programs such as further vocational and technical training

**IQAS Recommendations:**

Generally compares to the completion of a High School Diploma.

**Course Equivalencies:**

30-level (Grade 12) courses.

**IQAS Rationale:**

**Program Description**

Higher secondary (also called senior secondary) education lasts two years from Class 11 to Class 12. It is divided into the academic/general stream, which prepares students for higher education, and the vocational stream, which prepares students for employment and may lead to further education in vocational and technical fields. More than 90 percent of students choose the academic stream, which is often divided into subject groups such as science, arts, and commerce. Earlier higher secondary programs in some states may have represented a total of 11 years of schooling.

Higher secondary education is provided mostly by schools and also by some colleges. Senior secondary school teachers generally hold a one-year postgraduate Bachelor of Education degree, with entry based on completion of a first bachelor degree, plus a master’s degree.

The National Review Committee on Higher Secondary Education of 1978 recommends the following course pattern for both the academic and vocational streams:

**Higher Secondary (Classes 11-12) Subjects, 1978**

Subject	Time Allocation
Languages	15%
Socially useful productive work (SUPW)	15%
Electives	70%

The 2000 National Curriculum Framework prescribes the following course groups for higher secondary education. In the academic stream, foundation and elective courses should take up about 40% and 60% of instructional time respectively. In the vocational stream, language, general foundation courses and health and physical education take up about 30% of instructional time, with the remaining 70% devoted to vocational electives.

**Higher Secondary (Classes 11-12) Subjects, National Curriculum Framework, 2000**

Stream	Subject	
Academic	Foundation Courses (compulsory)	Language and literature
		Work education
		Health and physical education, games, and sports
	Electives	Choose three of the subjects provided by the relevant state or All-India boards: Modern Indian languages and their literature, Sanskrit and its literature, classical languages and their literature, English (academic

		and specialised), other foreign languages, physics, chemistry, biology, mathematics, computer science, geology, political science, geography, economics, history, sociology, psychology, philosophy, fine arts, sculpture, instrumental music, vocal music, home science, accountancy, business studies, engineering drawing, etc.
Vocational	Language (compulsory)	
	General Foundation Courses	General studies, entrepreneurship development, environmental education, rural development, and information and communication technology
	Health and Physical Education (compulsory)	
	Vocational Electives	Choose from a large number of subjects based on local needs, employment opportunities, students' interest, and the geographical location of the school. A number of courses for developing specific competencies may be chosen for each broad area of study such as agriculture, engineering and technology, business and commerce, home science, health and paramedical services, and humanities.

While following the National Curriculum Framework in terms of educational structure and general course patterns, the state boards prescribe specific subjects and syllabi for schools under their jurisdiction and for their higher secondary certificate examinations. In some states, students in Classes 11-12 opt for a subject group such as science, arts and commerce. The following tables give examples of higher secondary subjects of three states, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu. The information is obtained from the official websites of educational authorities of these states; please refer to the websites for further details.

#### Higher Secondary (Intermediate) Subjects, Andhra Pradesh

Group	Subject
English	
Second Languages	Telugu, Hindi, Sanskrit, Urdu, Arabic, French, Tamil, Kannada, Oriya and Marathi
Optional Subjects	Mathematics, physics, chemistry, botany, zoology, commerce, economics, civics, history, psychology, public administration, logic, sociology, geography and geology
Modern Language Subjects	English, Telugu, Hindi and Urdu

#### Higher Secondary Subjects, Madhya Pradesh

Group	Subject	
Group A – Language	First language	
	Second language	
Group B – Diversified Subjects	General education courses	Humanities group: history, geography, political science, languages, etc.
		Science group: physics, chemistry, biology, higher math, agriculture, etc.
		Commerce group: elements of commerce & management, bookkeeping & accountancy, computer application, business math, etc.
		Agriculture group: elements of science & math useful for agriculture, crop production & horticulture, etc.
		Fine arts group: drawing and painting, still life and paint making, history of Indian art and world art, etc.
	Home science group: home management & nutrition, mother-craft, health & hygiene, elements of science, etc.	
	Vocational courses	
Group C	Socially useful productive work (SUPW) or vocational training of a trade	
	Physical education or National Cadet Cores/National Social Service/ Boy Scout & Girl	



	Guide or co-curricular & other activities
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### Higher Secondary Subjects, Tamil Nadu

Group	Subject
Part I – Language	Tamil, Hindi, Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam, Urdu, Gujarati, Sanskrit, Arabic, Persian, French, German, and Latin
Part II – English	
Part III – Optional Subjects (Students choose a combination of four subjects for the higher secondary examination.)	Math, physics, chemistry, biology-zoology, biology-botany, history, geography, accountancy, commerce, economics, etc.

Upon completion of higher secondary education, students take an external examination administered by either the state board or one of the All-India boards. The higher secondary education certificates may lead to employment and admission into university programs. The names of the higher secondary education certificates vary across the states and over time, and some older certificates issued before the implementation of the 10+2 structure may represent 11 years of schooling.

### Conclusion

Higher/senior secondary education in the Republic of India requires a Secondary School Certificate or equivalent for admission and takes two years to complete, representing a total of 12 years of schooling. Upon completion of their study, students must sit external examinations administered by the State Board of Higher Secondary Education or one of the three All-India Boards to receive the Higher Secondary School Certificate or equivalent. The certificate allows an individual to seek employment or admission into universities. Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS compares the Higher Secondary School Certificate or equivalent from the Republic of India to the completion of a High School Diploma.\*

\* The comparison also applies to some earlier higher secondary school certificates that represented 11 years of schooling. This is based on the following factors:

- Such certificates were exit credentials representing the completion of higher secondary school;
- Such certificates gave access to university programs;
- When a state switched from the 11-year to the 12-year system, students who graduated from the 11-year system were eligible for admission into university programs without additional upgrading;
- Students from a state with the 11-year system were eligible for admission, without additional upgrading, into university programs in another state that had the 12-year system.

### Grading:

The percentage system is predominantly used. The Indian system is low marking, and the minimum pass mark generally ranges between 30 and 35%. Grades above 80% are rarely awarded. Grading scales adopted by the state boards and the three All India boards vary and may have changed over time. A common grading scale at the secondary and higher secondary levels is given below:

**School Education Grading Scale**

Mark (%)	Descriptor
60-100	First Class or First Division
50-59	Second Class or Second Division
35-49	Third Class, Third Division or Pass
<35	Fail

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) puts all the candidates who passed the Class 10 or Class 12 examination in a ranking order to award the grades. The top 0.1% of candidates will receive Merit Certificates. The minimum pass mark for each subject is 33%.

**CBSE Grading Scale**

Grade	Mark (%)	Description
A1	33-100	Top 1/8 of passed candidates
A2		Next 1/8 of passed candidates
B1		Next 1/8 of passed candidates
B2		Next 1/8 of passed candidates
C1		Next 1/8 of passed candidates
C2		Next 1/8 of passed candidates
D1		Next 1/8 of passed candidates
D2		Next 1/8 of passed candidates
E	<33	Fail

The Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE) adopts a nine-point scale. Grades 1-6 indicate “pass with credit”, with 1-2 as “very good”. Grades 7-8 indicate “pass”, and grade 9 “failure”. The minimum pass mark for each subject is 40%.

**CISCE Grading Scale**

Grade	Descriptor
1	Pass with Credit
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	Pass
8	
9	Failure

For more information on Indian grading scales, please refer to the chapter *Grading Scale* in *International Education Guide for the Assessment of Education from the Republic of India*.

**Country: INDIA (Republic of India)**  
**University-Level Certificates and Diplomas**

**Category:** University

**Credential Actual Name:**

University-level Certificates and Diplomas

**Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

Certificate in xxx

Diploma in xxx

Post Diploma in xxx

Advanced Diploma in xxx

*Note: The above names are just examples and do not constitute a complete list of such programs.*

**Time Period Credential Offered:** Current

**Issuing Body:** Universities and university-level institutions

**Admission Requirements:**

- Certificates/diplomas: Higher Secondary School Certificate or equivalent (usually representing 12 years of schooling)
- Post diplomas: Completion of a university-level diploma

**Program Description:**

- University certificate/diploma program [usually one year, though length varies from six months to three years]

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment
  
  - Further education
- Advanced standing or credit transfer may be awarded for admission into undergraduate programs.

**IQAS Recommendations:**

A university-level Certificate or Diploma generally compares to the completion of a postsecondary Certificate/Diploma with a focus in xxx.

Or assessed individually, depending on admission requirements, fulltime duration of study and general content of the program.

**IQAS Rationale:**

## Program Description

This credential template applies to certificate and diploma programs provided by universities and university-level institutions. Entry is normally based on the completion of higher secondary school (Class 12), though post diploma and advanced diploma programs require a previous diploma, usually in the same field of study, for admission. Length of study varies from six months to three years. Typical fields of study include foreign languages, fine arts, business, and management.

Many certificate/diploma courses are vocational in nature and do not give access to further education. However, in some cases, certificate/diploma holders may be admitted into a bachelor's degree program with advanced standing.

Other than universities, a lot of institutions also offer certificate/diploma programs. For example, three-year diplomas in a range of engineering and technological fields, with entry usually based on the completion of secondary school, are available at polytechnics. Certificate and diploma courses in nursing and midwifery are mostly offered at institutions attached to hospitals. Please refer to other credential templates for more information.

## Conclusion

Certificate/diploma programs involve six months to three years of fulltime study, with entry usually based on the completion of higher secondary school. The certificate/diploma allows an individual to seek employment and, in some cases, admission into a bachelor's degree program with advanced standing. Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS compares the university-issued certificate/diploma from the Republic of India to the completion of a postsecondary Certificate/Diploma with a focus in xxx (or assessed individually, depending on admission requirements, fulltime duration of study and general content of the program).

## Grading:

Most bachelor's and master's degrees are classified into divisions or classes based on the marks students obtain in the major examinations at the end of each year or semester. Other programs such as certificates, diplomas and research-based degrees (M.Phil and Ph.D) are usually awarded without classification. Grading scale varies from institution to institution. The Indian system is low marking, with minimum pass mark generally ranging between 33 and 40%, though some institutions or programs adopt a 50% pass. Students who have failed in one or more subjects in a major examination but who have achieved institution-designated minimum marks (e.g. 25%) in the aggregate may be allowed to proceed with their study and make up the failed subjects at a subsequent examination. The following table shows a common grading scale along with conversion to Alberta grades.

**Higher Education Grading Scale**

Indian Marks (%)	Descriptor	IQAS (%)
87-100	First Class/Division	96
74-86		88
60-73		82
57-59	Second	77

53-56	Class/Division	74
51-52		70
47-50	Third Class/Division	66
45-46		62
40-44		58
33-39		52
<33	Fail	<50

For more information on Indian grading scales, please refer to the chapter *Grading Scale* in *International Education Guide for the Assessment of Education from the Republic of India*.

**Country: INDIA (Republic of India)**  
**Technical-Professional Certificates and Diplomas**

**Category:** Technical/Professional/Vocational

**Credential Actual Name:**

Technical-Professional Certificates and Diplomas

**Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

Diploma in Computer Science and Engineering  
Diploma in Engineering  
Diploma in Hotel Management (and Catering Technology)  
Diploma in Management  
Diploma in Modern Office Practice  
Diploma in Pharmacy  
Diploma in Radiation Technology  
Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology  
Diploma in Rehabilitation Therapy

*Note: The above names are just examples and do not constitute a complete list of such programs.*

**Time Period Credential Offered:** Current

**Issuing Body:** State Boards of Technical Education

**Admission Requirements:**

- [Diploma in Engineering (in most states)/Pharmacy (pre-1994)]: Secondary School Certificate or equivalent (10 years of schooling)
- [Diploma in Engineering (in a few states)/Hotel Management (and Catering Technology)/Management/Medical laboratory Technology/Modern Office Practice/Pharmacy (1994-)]: Higher Secondary School Certificate or equivalent (12 years of schooling)

**Program Description:**

Three-year (or two-year, etc.) diploma program

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment
  
- Further education  
Advanced standing or credit transfer may be awarded for admission into undergraduate programs.

## **IQAS Recommendations:**

### **Diplomas**

A Diploma (2-3 years duration) requiring 10+2 for admission generally compares to the completion of a postsecondary Diploma.

A Diploma (at least 3 years duration) requiring 10 years of secondary school for admission generally compares to the completion of postsecondary Certificate.

A Diploma (2 years or less duration) requiring 10 years of secondary school for admission generally compares to the completion of a High School Diploma including xx years of vocational training in xxx.

[Note: Engineering technology diplomas should be awarded by the State Boards of Technical Education.]

### **Diploma Programs in Pharmacy**

A Diploma in Pharmacy (D. Pharm.) [awarded prior to 1994] generally compares to the completion of a postsecondary Pharmacy Technician Certificate.

A Diploma in Pharmacy (D. Pharm.) [awarded in or after 1994] generally compares to the completion of a postsecondary Pharmacy Technician Diploma.

### **Certificates**

Certificates are assessed individually, depending on admission requirements, fulltime duration of study and general content of the program.

## **IQAS Rationale:**

### **Program Description**

Technical education at the sub-degree level, mainly conducted by polytechnics, includes diploma/certificate programs in a wide range of fields under the purview of the AICTE, such as engineering and technology, architecture, computer applications, applied arts and craft, and pharmacy. The AICTE provides a broad framework of norms and standards for polytechnic education regarding program structure, facilities, human and financial resources, etc. However, program structure and entry requirements may vary from state to state.

Diploma courses generally last two to three years, with entry based on the completion of Secondary School (Class 10) or Higher Secondary School (Class 12). They aim to train supervised technicians and other middle level technical personnel for a range of professional duties. Successful completion of the programs leads to a diploma awarded by the State Board/Council of Technical Education. Certificate courses are one year, six months, or even shorter in duration. Following is a description of some of the common diploma programs.

The diploma in **engineering and technology** generally involves three years of fulltime study,

with entry based on the completion of Class 10. Examples of exceptions: Rajasthan requires Class 12 for admission. In Assam and Tamil Nadu, applicants may enter a three-year program after Class 10 or two-year program after Class 12.

In addition to three-year fulltime programs, part-time programs lasting up to four years through evening school or distance learning are also available for students already in the workforce. Some fulltime courses are available in the sandwich pattern, which incorporates industrial training between semesters and lasts three and a half to four years.

Holders of the diploma in engineering and technology may seek employment, e.g. by undertaking a one-year “technician apprentice” training through the Apprenticeship Training Scheme. They can also pursue further education at universities or through professional associations such as the Institution of Engineers India (IEI). Some universities allow them lateral entry into the second year/third semester of a Bachelor of Engineering (BE/B.Engg.) or Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech.) program in the same field.

The **Diploma in Hotel Management and Catering Technology** involves three years of fulltime study following the completion of Class 12. The program is available at some polytechnics and 24 affiliated institutions of the [National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology](#).

The **Diploma in Modern Office Practice** involves three years of fulltime study, including six months of industrial training, following the completion of Class 12.

As prescribed by the [Pharmacy Council of India \(PCI\)](#), the **Diploma in Pharmacy (D.Pharm.)** involves two years of fulltime study followed by 500 hours of practical training. Entry is based on the completion of higher secondary school (Class 12) with Physics, Chemistry, Biology or Math as required subjects. The entry requirement of Class 12, as per PCI education regulations of 1991, applies to pharmacy students graduating in 1994 or later. Previous programs required Class 10 for admission. D.Pharm. holders may register with the state pharmacy council to stock, sell, and dispense medicine according to doctor’s prescription. They may be admitted directly into the second year of the four-year Bachelor of Pharmacy (B.Pharm.) program but must pass the first year subjects that are not covered in the diploma program. In Canada, examples of comparable sub-degree programs in pharmacy include the one-year Pharmacy Technician Certificate and two-year Pharmacy Technician Diploma, both requiring Grade 12 for admission.

## **Conclusion**

Technical-professional diploma programs generally involve two to three years of fulltime study, with entry based on the completion of Class 10 or Class 12. They provide access to employment and, in some cases, advanced standing for admission into undergraduate programs. In Canada, postsecondary certificate and diploma programs require Grade 12 for admission, with diploma programs generally involving at least two years of fulltime study and certificate programs less than two years; they provide access to employment and possible transfer of credit for admission into undergraduate programs. Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS compares the technical-professional certificate/diploma to:



## Diplomas

A Diploma (2-3 years duration) requiring 10+2 for admission generally compares to the completion of a postsecondary Diploma.

A Diploma (at least 3 years duration) requiring 10 years of secondary school for admission generally compares to the completion of postsecondary Certificate.

A Diploma (2 years or less duration) requiring 10 years of secondary school for admission generally compares to the completion of a High School Diploma including xx years of vocational training in xxx.

[Note: Engineering technology diplomas should be awarded by the State Boards of Technical Education.]

## Diploma Programs in Pharmacy

A Diploma in Pharmacy (D. Pharm.) [awarded prior to 1994] generally compares to the completion of a postsecondary Pharmacy Technician Certificate.

A Diploma in Pharmacy (D. Pharm.) [awarded in or after 1994] generally compares to the completion of a postsecondary Pharmacy Technician Diploma.

## Certificates

Certificates are assessed individually, depending on admission requirements, fulltime duration of study and general content of the program.

### Grading:

Most bachelor's and master's degrees are classified into divisions or classes based on the marks students obtain in the major examinations at the end of each year or semester. Other programs such as certificates, diplomas and research-based degrees (M.Phil and Ph.D) are usually awarded without classification. Grading scale varies from institution to institution. The Indian system is low marking, with minimum pass mark generally ranging between 33 and 40%, though some institutions or programs adopt a 50% pass. Students who have failed in one or more subjects in a major examination but who have achieved institution-designated minimum marks (e.g. 25%) in the aggregate may be allowed to proceed with their study and make up the failed subjects at a subsequent examination. The following table shows a common grading scale along with conversion to Alberta grades.

**Higher Education Grading Scale**

Indian Marks (%)	Descriptor	IQAS (%)
87-100	First Class/Division	96
74-86		88
60-73		82
57-59	Second Class/Division	77
53-56		74
51-52		70
47-50	Third Class/Division	66
45-46		62

40-44		58
33-39		52
<33	Fail	<50

For more information on Indian grading scales, please refer to the chapter *Grading Scale* in *International Education Guide for the Assessment of Education from the Republic of India*.

**Country: INDIA (Republic of India)**  
**Bachelor's Degree (3 years)**

**Category:** University

**Credential Actual Name:**  
Bachelor's Degree (3 years)

**Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

Bachelor of Arts (BA)  
Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com)  
Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.)

*Note: These are the most common three-year bachelor's degrees and do not constitute a complete list of such programs.*

**Time Period Credential Offered:** Current

**Issuing Body:** Universities and university-level institutions

**Admission Requirements:**

- Higher Secondary School Certificate or equivalent (usually representing 12 years of schooling)

**Program Description:**

- Three-year undergraduate degree program

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment
- Admission into university graduate programs, postgraduate bachelor's degree programs, diploma programs and professional programs

**IQAS Recommendations:**

Generally compares to the completion of a three-year Bachelor's degree.

**IQAS Rationale:**

**Program Description**

From independence in 1947 to the early 1970s, undergraduate education in most states represented a total of 14 years of schooling. Until 1960, a bachelor's degree usually involved two years of fulltime study following 10 years of schooling and two years of intermediate study. From then on to the early 1970s, most states adopted the 10+1+3 system, with 11 years of schooling (10 years of school education plus one year of higher secondary or pre-university study) followed by a three-year bachelor's degree.

The current 10+2+3 system, with 12 years of school education followed by a three-year bachelor's degree, evolved in the 1970s and was implemented across the country, with some exceptions, in the late 1980s. One such exception was the two-year pass bachelor's degrees in arts, science and commerce offered by a number of universities in the state of West Bengal until the 1999-2000 academic year. These two-year pass degrees do not give access to further education in master's degree programs.

The most common three-year bachelor's degrees are the Bachelors of Arts (BA), Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) and Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com). The courses are usually listed as "papers", for which the students must attend a number of lecture hours per week and pass the annual examinations. The BA, B.Sc. and B.Com are usually offered as pass or general degrees, though some universities offer honours or special bachelor degrees. Honours or special programs do not involve a longer duration of study but have more academic depth and tend to attract high performing students. They are either similar to the pass degree with a few additional papers, or designed as a separate course that emphasizes specialization in the chosen subject.

Annual examinations are usually conducted by universities at the end of the academic year, between March and May. Internal assessment by the colleges accounts for a small percentage of the total marks. Minimum pass mark is normally 33-35%. Students who have failed some papers in a given year but who have achieved a minimum mark designated by the university (e.g. 25% in the aggregate) may be allowed to proceed to the next year of study but must make up the failed papers in the following annual examination.

One can study for a bachelor's degree on a part-time basis or externally through distance learning programs, and sit the annual examinations as an external or private candidate. Universities usually prescribe a time limit (e.g. seven years) in which students must complete all coursework and pass the examinations to qualify for the award of the degree. After completing a bachelor's degree, students may pursue further education in master's degree, postgraduate bachelor's degree (e.g. Bachelor of Education), or postgraduate certificate or diploma programs.

In addition to the BA, B.Sc. and B.Com, several other bachelor's degrees also involve three years of fulltime study. Examples include Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), Bachelor of Business Management (BBM), Bachelor of Computer Applications (BCA), and Bachelor of Physical Education (BPE).

After completing a bachelor's degree programs, students receive degree certificates and marks sheets (also known as marks card, marks certificate, statement of marks, etc.). Format of the documents may vary depending on the issuing body and time period. Documents are usually issued in English, English and Hindi, or English and a regional language (e.g. Bengali, Punjabi, Tamil, etc.). Universities issue the degrees, regardless of whether the program is conducted by a university department or an affiliated college. If the program is conducted by an autonomous college, the name of the college also appears on the degree certificate. Marks sheets are normally issued by universities. Marks sheets issued by autonomous colleges are also acceptable.

## **Conclusion**

The three-year bachelor's degree (BA, B.Com or B.Sc.) requires a Higher Secondary School Certificate or equivalent (generally representing 12 years of schooling) for admission. The degree allows an individual to seek employment or admission into master's degree, postgraduate bachelor's degree, postgraduate diploma, and professional programs. Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS compares the three-year Bachelor's degree from the Republic of India to the completion of a three-year Bachelor's degree.

**Grading:**

Most bachelor's and master's degrees are classified into divisions or classes based on the marks students obtain in the major examinations at the end of each year or semester. Grading scale varies from institution to institution. The Indian system is low marking, with minimum pass mark generally ranging between 33 and 40%, though some institutions or programs adopt a 50% pass. Students who have failed in one or more subjects in a major examination but who have achieved institution-designated minimum marks (e.g. 25%) in the aggregate may be allowed to proceed with their study and make up the failed subjects at a subsequent examination. The following table shows a common grading scale along with conversion to Alberta grades.

Indian Marks (%)	Descriptor	IQAS (%)
87-100	First Class/Division	96
74-86		88
60-73		82
57-59	Second Class/Division	77
53-56		74
51-52		70
47-50	Third Class/Division	66
45-46		62
40-44		58
33-39		52
<33	Fail	<50

For more information on Indian grading scales, please refer to the chapter *Grading Scale* in *International Education Guide for the Assessment of Education from the Republic of India*.

**Country: INDIA (Republic of India)**  
**Bachelor's Degree (4 years)**

**Category:** University

**Credential Actual Name:**

Bachelor's Degree (4 years)

**Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

Bachelor of Engineering/Technology (BE or B.Engg./B.Tech.)/Bachelor of Science in Engineering (B.Sc. Engg.)

Bachelor of Pharmacy (B.Pharm.)

Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (B.Sc. Agri.)

Bachelor of Science in Horticulture (B.Sc. Hort.)

*Note: These are examples of the four-year bachelor's degrees and do not constitute a complete list of such programs.*

**Time Period Credential Offered:** Current

**Issuing Body:** Universities and university-level institutions

**Admission Requirements:**

- Higher Secondary School Certificate or equivalent such as Pre-University Examination, etc. (usually representing 12 years of schooling) with required courses (e.g. Math, Physics, Chemistry for programs in engineering and technology)

**Program Description:**

- Four-year undergraduate degree program

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment

- Admission into university graduate programs, postgraduate bachelor's degree and diploma programs

**IQAS Recommendations:**

Generally compares to the completion of a four-year Bachelor degree with a focus in xxx.

**IQAS Rationale:**

## **Program Description**

The 10+2+3 system, first introduced in the 1970s, has been implemented in most of the country since the late 1980s. This represents 10 years of elementary and secondary education + 2 years of higher/senior secondary education + 3 years of undergraduate education (general bachelor's degree).

While a general bachelor's degree such as Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Commerce involves three years of fulltime study, there are a lot of four-year bachelor's degrees offered in specialized and professional fields. Entry is based on the completion of higher secondary education with certain required subjects as designated by the program, e.g. physics, chemistry and mathematics for engineering courses. Some applicants may hold a first bachelor's degree. Most programs involve four years of fulltime study. The Bachelor of Physiotherapy (BPT) may be three and a half years or four and a half years, including a six-month clinical internship.

## **Engineering and Technology**

Bachelor's degrees in engineering and technology such as **Bachelor of Engineering (BE or B.Engg.)**, **Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech.)**, **Bachelor of Science in Engineering (B.Sc. Engg.)** and **Bachelor of Science in Technology (B.Sc. Tech.)** involve four years of fulltime study. Entry is based on the completion of higher secondary school, with physics, chemistry and mathematics as required subjects. Holders of three-year diplomas in engineering and technology or a general B.Sc. may be allowed lateral entry into the second year/third semester of the program. Students take about ten courses each semester, including both theoretical subjects and their lab components. They participate in practical training starting from the third year and must complete a major project in the last semester. A minimum of about 200-220 credits are required for the awarding of the degree. The AICTE prescribes the following course structure for the BE/B.Tech. degree:

- General 5-10%
- Basic science 15-25%
- Engineering sciences and technical arts 15-25%
- Professional subjects 55-65%

The seven Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), designated as “Institutions of National Importance” by the Government of India, have an international reputation for offering high quality undergraduate and graduate programs in engineering and technology.

- Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati
- Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
- Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay (Mumbai)
- Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (Chennai)
- Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur
- Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee
- Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur

## **Agriculture**

Bachelor's and graduate degree programs in agriculture are available at over 100 institutions, including non-agricultural institutions and 45 central and state agricultural universities and

agricultural research institutes (deemed universities). The US has played an important role in helping India establish a system of agricultural universities, which tend to show strong American influence such as adoption of the credit system. Agricultural universities are mostly non-affiliating.

A bachelor’s degree in agriculture and related disciplines involves four years of fulltime study. Examples include **Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (B.Sc. Agri.)**, **Bachelor of Agriculture (B.Agri.)**, **Bachelor of Science in Horticulture (B.Sc. Hort.)**, **Bachelor of Science in Sericulture (B.Sc. Sericulture)**, and **Bachelor of Technology in Agricultural Engineering (B.Tech. Agri. E.)**. The **Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry (B.V.Sc. & A.H)** involves five years of fulltime study. Total credits required for four-year programs range between 140 and 180, and there is also great variation of credit distribution among different disciplines. In 2000 the Agricultural Education Division of the [Indian Council of Agricultural Research](#) published a model curriculum for undergraduate program in agriculture that prescribes a minimum of 161 credits, including physical education but excluding the regional language course. The content of the model curriculum must be followed, allowing 25% regional variation.

**Conclusion**

The four-year bachelor’s degree, offered in specialized and professional fields, requires a Higher Secondary School Certificate or equivalent (generally representing 12 years of schooling) with relevant subjects for admission. The degree allows an individual to seek employment or admission into professional master’s degree, after degree, and postgraduate diploma programs. Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS compares the four-year Bachelor’s degree to the completion of a four-year Bachelor degree.

**Grading:**

Most bachelor’s and master’s degrees are classified into divisions or classes based on the marks students obtain in the major examinations at the end of each year or semester. Grading scale varies from institution to institution. The Indian system is low marking, with minimum pass mark generally ranging between 33 and 40%, though some institutions or programs adopt a 50% pass. Students who have failed in one or more subjects in a major examination but who have achieved institution-designated minimum marks (e.g. 25%) in the aggregate may be allowed to proceed with their study and make up the failed subjects at a subsequent examination. The following table shows a common grading scale along with conversion to Alberta grades.

**Higher Education Grading Scale**

Indian Marks (%)	Descriptor	IQAS (%)
87-100	First Class/Division	96
74-86		88
60-73		82
57-59	Second Class/Division	77
53-56		74
51-52		70
47-50	Third Class/Division	66
45-46		62
40-44		58
33-39		52



<33	Fail	<50
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A number of institutions such as the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), the central and state agricultural universities, and Jawaharlal Nehru University adopt a 10-point system. The grading scale may vary from institution to institution. The points can be converted to letter grades and are sometimes divided into divisions or classes.

**Grading Scale, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi**

Grade Point	Letter Grade	Description
10	A	Outstanding
9	A-	Excellent
8	B	Very Good
7	B-	Good
6	C	Average
5	C-	Below Average
4	D	Marginal
2	E	Poor
0	F	Very Poor

For more information on Indian grading scales, please refer to the chapter *Grading Scale* in *International Education Guide for the Assessment of Education from the Republic of India*.

**Country: INDIA (Republic of India)**  
**Bachelor of Education (B.Ed) and Master of Education (M.Ed)**

**Category:** University-level teaching credentials

**Credential Actual Name:**

Bachelor of Education (B.Ed)  
Master of Education (M.Ed)

**Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

Bachelor of Elementary Education (B.El.Ed)

*Note: This is just an example of possible alternative names for the B.Ed.*

**Time Period Credential Offered:** Current

**Issuing Body:** Universities and university-level institutions

**Admission Requirements:**

- B.Ed (1 year): Bachelor's degree (e.g. BA, B.Com, or B.Sc.)
- B.Ed (4 years): Higher Secondary School Certificate or equivalent (usually representing 12 years of schooling)
- M.Ed (1 year): B.Ed
- M.Ed (2-year integrated): Bachelor's degree (e.g. BA, B.Com, or B.Sc.)

**Program Description:**

- B.Ed (1-year): One-year university after-degree program
- B.Ed (4-year): Four-year undergraduate degree program
- M.Ed (1-year): One-year university graduate degree program
- M.Ed (2-year integrated): Two-year university graduate degree program

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment

A B.Ed is required for teaching at both (lower) secondary and higher secondary schools. Higher secondary school teachers must also hold a master's degree (M.Ed, MA, M.Com, or M.Sc.).

- Admission into university graduate degree programs

A B.Ed is required for admission into the one-year M.Ed program.

An M.Ed holder may apply for admission into doctoral programs such as Ph.D. in Education.

**IQAS Recommendations:**

B.Ed (1 year): Generally compares to the completion of a one-year Bachelor of Education after-degree.

B.Ed (4 years): Generally compares to the completion of a four-year Bachelor of Education degree.

M.Ed: Generally compares to the completion of a one-year Master's degree in Education.

### **IQAS Rationale:**

#### **Program Description: B.Ed**

A Bachelor of Education (B.Ed), in the form of a one-year postgraduate bachelor's degree (Indian terminology for after-degree) or four-year integrated degree, is required for teaching at (lower) secondary (Classes 9-10) and higher secondary (Classes 11-12) schools. Higher secondary school teachers must also hold a master's degree (e.g. M.Ed, MA, M.Com, or M.Sc.). There is no separate professional certification process for teachers in the Republic of India.

B.Ed programs are offered at universities and five Regional Institutes of Education (RIEs), which are university-affiliated.

The B.Ed is usually earned as a one-year postgraduate bachelor's degree, with entry based on the completion of a first bachelor's degree (e.g. BA, B.Sc. or B.Com). One may also obtain a B.Ed after completing the first year of a two-year Master of Education (M.Ed) program.

According to NCTE (National Council for Teacher Education) regulations, the postgraduate B.Ed in Secondary Education involves one year of fulltime study, including 150 days of instruction plus at least 30 days of internship, following the completion of a bachelor's or master's degree with at least 45% marks. Where the postgraduate B.Ed is offered through correspondence or other distance learning mode, the length of study is usually two years.

Institutions currently offer the same B.Ed program for training secondary and higher secondary teachers. The most recent Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education (2006) proposes separate curricula for secondary teacher education and higher secondary teacher education, which is further divided into the academic and vocational streams. NCTE also envisages increasing the duration of the postgraduate B.Ed. program from one year to two years of fulltime study.

The B.Ed may also be earned as a four-year integrated course, with entry based on the completion of higher secondary school (Class 12).

The minimum qualification for teaching at elementary schools (Classes 1-8) is a two-year certificate/diploma following the completion of higher secondary school. However, elementary teacher education at the university level is also available through the one-year postgraduate B.Ed with specialization in elementary education or the newer four-year integrated Bachelor of Elementary Education (B.El.Ed).

According to NCTE regulations, the integrated Bachelor of Elementary Education (B.El.Ed) involves four years of fulltime study, including 16 weeks of internship in the fourth year, following the completion of Class 12 with at least 50% marks.

### **Program Description: M.Ed**

The Master of Education (M.Ed) requires one year of fulltime study following the completion of a B.Ed, or two years of fulltime study following the completion of a bachelor's degree (e.g. BA, B.Sc., or B.Com). The completion of the first year of the two-year M.Ed program leads to the award of a postgraduate B.Ed.

According to NCTE regulations, the M.Ed program involves one year of fulltime study following the completion of the B.Ed with at least 55% marks. There shall be at least 180 working days, including internship and four weeks of field visit for dissertation. Only university departments and institutions offering B.Ed programs are eligible to run the M.Ed program. Two-year part-time M.Ed programs for in-service teachers and educational administrators with at least two years of related work experience are also offered by some university departments and Institutes of Advanced Studies in Education (IASEs), which are university-affiliated.

### **Conclusion**

The one-year B.Ed, with entry based on the completion of a first bachelor's degree, and the four-year B.Ed, with entry based on the completion of higher secondary school, represent at least four years of university study following the completion of school education (12 years). The B.Ed allows an individual to teach at (lower) secondary schools and is also a prerequisite for teaching at higher secondary schools. It also gives access to further education in M.Ed programs.

Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS compares the B.Ed (1 year) to the completion of a one-year Bachelor of Education after-degree, and the B.Ed (4 years) to the completion of a four-year Bachelor of Education degree,

The one-year M.Ed, with entry based on the completion of a B.Ed, and the two-year M.Ed, with entry based on the completion of a first bachelor's degree, represent at least five years of university study following the completion of school education (12 years). An individual must have an M.Ed, or a B.Ed plus a master's degree (e.g. MA, M.Com or M.Sc.), in order to teach at higher secondary schools. An M.Ed also gives access to further education in doctoral programs.

Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS compares the M.Ed to the completion of a one-year Master's degree in Education.

### **Grading:**

Most bachelor's and master's degrees are classified into divisions or classes based on the marks students obtain in the major examinations at the end of each year or semester. Grading scale varies from institution to institution. The Indian system is low marking, with minimum pass mark generally ranging between 33 and 40%, though some institutions or programs adopt a 50% pass. Students who have failed in one or more subjects in a major examination but who have achieved institution-designated minimum marks (e.g. 25%) in the aggregate may be allowed to proceed with their study and make up the failed subjects at a subsequent examination. The following table shows a common grading scale along with conversion to Alberta grades.

**Higher Education Grading Scale**

<b>Indian Marks (%)</b>	<b>Descriptor</b>	<b>IQAS (%)</b>
87-100	First	96

74-86	Class/Division	88
60-73		82
57-59	Second Class/Division	77
53-56		74
51-52		70
47-50	Third Class/Division	66
45-46		62
40-44		58
33-39		52
<33	Fail	<50

For more information on Indian grading scales, please refer to the chapter *Grading Scale* in *International Education Guide for the Assessment of Education from the Republic of India*.

**Country: INDIA (Republic of India)**  
**Bachelor's Degree – Medicine and Dentistry**

**Category:** University

**Credential Actual Name:**

Bachelor's Degree – Medicine and Dentistry

**Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery

(MBBS/BMBS)

Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery

(BAMS)

Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS)

Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Animal  
Husbandry (B.V.Sc. & A.H.)

*Note: These are examples of bachelor's  
degrees in medicine and dentistry and do not  
constitute a complete list of such programs.*

**Time Period Credential Offered:** Current

**Issuing Body:** Universities and university-level institutions

**Admission Requirements:**

1. Higher Secondary School Certificate or equivalent (usually representing 12 years of schooling) with required courses (Physics, Chemistry and Biology), or Pre-Professional Certificate
2. Entrance examinations

**Program Description:**

- MBBS: Five-and-one-half-year professional university degree program, including a one-year clinical internship
- BAMS: Five-and-one-half-year professional university degree program, including a six-month/one-year clinical internship
- BDS: Five-year professional university degree program, including a one-year clinical internship
- B.V.Sc. & A.H.: Five-year professional university degree program, including a six-month clinical internship

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment

A bachelor's degree in medicine and surgery/Ayurvedic medicine and surgery/dentistry/veterinary medicine and animal husbandry allows an individual to register with the appropriate council and practice professionally.

- Admission into professional graduate programs

**IQAS Recommendations:**

MBBS/BMBS: Generally compares to the completion of a first professional university degree in medicine.

BAMS: Generally compares to the completion of a Bachelor's degree with a focus in Ayurvedic medicine.

BDS: Generally compares to the completion of a first professional university degree in dentistry.

B.V.Sc. & A.H.: Generally compares to the completion of a first professional university degree in veterinary medicine.

**IQAS Rationale:****Program Description**

The Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS or BMBS) programs last five and a half years, including a one-year internship. Applicants must pass the higher secondary certificate examination with Physics, Chemistry, Biology and English as required subjects. Those lacking the required subjects may attend a one-year pre-medical course provided by a medical or science college. Applicants must also sit a separate pre-medical examination, such as the All-India Pre-Medical/Pre-Dental Entrance Examination (AIPMT), conducted by CBSE (Central Board of Secondary Education) for admission into MBBS or BDS courses at central and state medical and dental colleges except in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir.

The [Medical Council of India](#) prescribes the structure and time allocation for medical courses. MBBS coursework lasts four and a half years or nine semesters, divided into three phases. The first phase (1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> semesters) consists of pre-clinical subjects such as anatomy, physiology, and biochemistry. The second phase (3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> semesters) consists of para-clinical subjects such as pathology, pharmacology and microbiology, and clinical subjects. The third phase (6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> semesters) is the continuation of clinical subjects, including medicine and its allied specialties, surgery and its allied specialties, obstetrics, gynaecology and community medicine. A total of three examinations are held: 1<sup>st</sup> professional examination (2<sup>nd</sup> semester), 2<sup>nd</sup> professional examination (5<sup>th</sup> semester), 3<sup>rd</sup> professional examination part I (7<sup>th</sup> semester), and 3<sup>rd</sup> professional examination part II (9<sup>th</sup> semester). After passing the last part of the professional examination, students must undergo a 12-month compulsory rotational internship to be eligible for the award of the MBBS degree and full registration with the medical council to practice professionally. In order to become a specialist or medical teacher, one must pursue further study in postgraduate medical programs.

Postgraduate diplomas in medicine approved by the Indian Medical Council involve two years of fulltime study following the completion of a Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS or BMBS). Students can choose from 28 fields of specialization such as clinical pathology, obstetrics & gynaecology, ophthalmology, orthopaedics, paediatrics, psychiatry, and radio therapy.

The Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) and Master of Surgery (M.S.) both involve three years of fulltime study following the completion of a Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS or BMBS). Holders of a postgraduate diploma in medicine in the same area of specialization receive one year's advanced standing. Students enrolled in the M.D. program can choose from 29 fields of specialization such as geriatrics, pathology, paediatrics, and radio therapy. Students enrolled in the M.S. program can choose from five fields of specialization including otorhinolaryngology, general surgery, ophthalmology, orthopaedics, and obstetrics & gynaecology.

The Doctor of Medicine (D.M.) program involves three years of fulltime study following the completion of an M.D. Students can choose from 12 fields of specialization such as cardiology, immunology, medical oncology and neurology. The Master of Chirurgie (M.Ch.) program involves three years of fulltime study following the completion of an M.S. (or an M.D. in some cases). Students can choose from ten fields of specialization such as cardiovascular and thoracic surgery, urology, neurosurgery, and surgical oncology.

The Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) involves five years of fulltime study, including a one-year internship. Individuals with an MBBS may be able to complete the program in three years. The [Dental Council of India](#) prescribes the curriculum structure, syllabi, and examination scheme for the BDS program. Students take a professional examination at the end of each of the first four years. These are known as the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and final BDS examinations. After passing the final BDS examination, students must undergo a one-year rotating internship. The BDS degree entitles an individual to work in general dental practice. Postgraduate study is required for specialization.

There are extensive programs for teaching the Indian systems of medicine (Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani Tibb) at both undergraduate and graduate levels. The [Central Council of Indian Medicine](#) advises the central government on matters relating to the recognition of such programs and prescribes the curricula and syllabi. Many institutions offer the “Ayurvedacharya”, or Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery (BAMS) degree, which involves five and a half years of fulltime study, including a clinical internship of 6 or 12 months. BAMS holders may have their names entered in the Central Register of Indian Medicine and are entitled to practice Indian medicine in any part of India according to their qualifications.

The Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry (B.V.Sc. & A.H.) is the minimum educational qualification to become a veterinary doctor. The [Veterinary Council of India \(VCI\)](#), a statutory body established under the Ministry of Agriculture, prescribes the program structure and syllabus for the B.V.Sc. & A.H. The program involves five years of fulltime study, including a six-month internship, with a total of 188 credits. Earlier programs may have been four and a half years. Entry is based on the completion of higher secondary school or equivalent with Physics, Chemistry and Biology. After completing both coursework and internship, students are eligible for the award of the B.V.Sc. & A.H. degree and full registration with the VCI or state veterinary council to practice as a veterinary doctor. Postgraduate programs such as the two-year Master of Veterinary Science (M.V.Sc.) provide options of specialization.

## Conclusion



Admission into the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS/BMBS), Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery (BAMS), Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) and Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry (B.V.Sc. & A.H.) programs requires Higher Secondary School Certificate or equivalent with Physics, Chemistry and Biology, plus entrance examinations. The length of the programs is five or five and a half years, including a clinical internship. The degrees allow individuals to enter professional practice in medicine/ Indian medicine/dentistry/veterinary medicine. Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS compares the MBBS/BMBS, BDS and B.V.Sc. & A.H. to the completion of a first professional university degree in medicine/dentistry/veterinary medicine. A note is appended to highlight the differences from comparable Canadian programs. The BAMS is compared to the completion of Bachelor's degree with a focus in Ayurvedic medicine.

**Grading:**

Most bachelor's and master's degrees are classified into divisions or classes based on the marks students obtain in the major examinations at the end of each year or semester. Grading scale varies from institution to institution. The Indian system is low marking, with minimum pass mark generally ranging between 33 and 40%, though some institutions or programs adopt a 50% pass. Students who have failed in one or more subjects in a major examination but who have achieved institution-designated minimum marks (e.g. 25%) in the aggregate may be allowed to proceed with their study and make up the failed subjects at a subsequent examination. The following table shows a common grading scale along with conversion to Alberta grades.

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40-44		58
33-39		52
<33	Fail	<50

For more information on Indian grading scales, please refer to the chapter *Grading Scale in International Education Guide for the Assessment of Education from the Republic of India*.

**Country: INDIA (Republic of India)**  
**Bachelor of Law(s) (LLB or BL)**

**Category:** University

**Credential Actual Name:**

Bachelor of Law(s) (LLB or BL)

**Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

Bachelor of Law(s) (Special/Professional)

Bachelor of Law(s) (General/Academic)

Bachelor of Law(s) (integrated program)

*Note: These are examples of the Bachelor of Law(s) degrees and do not constitute a complete list of such programs.*

**Time Period Credential Offered:** Current

**Issuing Body:** Universities

**Admission Requirements:**

- LLB (Special/Professional) and LLB (General/Academic): Completion of a first bachelor's degree (e.g. BA, B.Com or B.Sc.)
- LLB (integrated program): Completion of higher secondary school (generally representing 12 years of schooling)

**Program Description:**

- LLB (Special/Professional): Three-year university after-degree program
- LLB (General/Academic): Two-year university after-degree program
- LLB (integrated program): Five-year undergraduate degree program

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment

An LLB (Special/Professional or integrated program) holder may apply to the Bar Council of India to practice law as an Advocate.

An LLB (General/Academic) holder may work in an allied legal profession.

- Admission into university graduate degree programs

An LLB (Special/Professional or integrated program) holder may seek admission into two-year Master of Law(s) (LLM) programs.

**IQAS Recommendations:**

LLB (Special/Professional): Generally compares to the completion of a first professional university degree in law.

LLB (General/Academic): Generally compares to the completion of a two-year Bachelor's after-degree with a focus in law.

*Note: In India, the LLB (Academic/General) does not give access to professional practice as a lawyer or admission into university graduate degree programs in law (LLM). It allows an individual to work in an allied legal profession.*

LLB (integrated program): Generally compares to the completion of a first professional university degree in law.

### **IQAS Rationale:**

The [Bar Council of India \(BCI\)](#) maintains a list of approved law colleges that provide law education in the form of either the newer five-year integrated program or the traditional three-year postgraduate bachelor's degree, or both.

The postgraduate Bachelor of Law or Bachelor of Laws (LLB/BL) involves three years of fulltime study after a first bachelor's degree. According to BCI rules, a three-year LLB (Special/Professional) program must include the following:

#### **I. 21 Compulsory Courses**

1. Jurisprudence
2. Contract-I(General Principle of Contract-Section 1-75 and Specific Relief)
3. Contract-II (Indian Contract Act, Indian Partnership Act, Sale of Goods Act and other Specific contracts)
4. Tort and Consumer Protection Laws
5. Family Law-I
6. Family Law-II
7. Law of Crimes
8. Criminal Procedure Code, Juvenile Justice Act and Probation of Offenders Act.
9. Constitutional Law
10. Property Law including Transfer of Property Act and Easement Act
11. Law of Evidence
12. Civil Procedure Code and Limitation Act
13. Legal Language/Legal Writing including General English
14. Administrative Law
15. Company Law
16. Human Rights and International Law
17. Arbitration, Conciliation and Alternate Dispute Resolution Systems
18. Environmental Law including laws for the protection of the wild life and other living creatures including animal welfare
19. Labour Law.
20. Interpretation of Statutes
21. Land Laws including ceiling and any other local laws

#### **II. No less than three subjects chosen from the following:**

1. International Economic Law

2. Bankruptcy Laws
  3. Taxation Laws
  4. Comparative Law/Legal History
  5. Insurance Law
  6. Conflict of Laws
  7. Banking law including Negotiable Instruments Act
  8. Investment and Security Law
  9. Trusts, Equity and Fiduciary Relationships
  10. Criminology and Penology
  11. Air and space Law
  12. Law and Medicine
  13. Women and Law and Law Relating to Child/Law, Poverty and Development
  14. Intellectual Property Law
  15. Maritime Law
  - 16.
- III. Six months of practical training including the following compulsory papers:
1. Moot Court, Pre-Trial Preparations and Participation in Trial proceedings
  2. Drafting, Pleading and Conveyancing
  3. Professional Ethics, Accountancy for Lawyers and Bar Bench Relations
  4. Public Interest Lawyering, Legal Aid and Para Legal Services

After completing the three-year LLB, students may apply to the Bar Council of India to practice law as Advocates. They may also seek admission into two-year Master of Law(s) (LLM) programs.

Some universities offer a two-year LLB (General/Academic), which does not give access to professional practice or admission into two-year LLM programs; graduates may seek employment in the allied legal professions. Students enrolled in a three-year LLB may choose to exit the program after two years with an LLB (General/Academic).

The Bachelor of Law or Bachelor of Laws (LLB/BL) integrated program lasts five years, including two years of pre-law study (part I) followed by three years of professional training in law (part II). Applicants who have already completed a first bachelor's degree (e.g. BA, B.Sc. or B.Com) may be admitted into part II of the five-year integrated program. According to BCI rules, part II of the program is identical to the three-year LLB; part I should include the following 6 compulsory subjects:

1. General English - 2 Papers (Part I and Part II)
2. Political Science - 3 Papers (Part I , Part II and Part III)
3. Economics - 1 Paper
4. Sociology - 1 Paper
5. History - 1 Paper
6. History of Courts, Legislature and Legal Profession in India - 1 Paper

After completing the five-year integrated LLB program, students may apply to the Bar Council of India to practice law as Advocates. They may also seek admission into two-year Master of Law(s) (LLM) programs.

According to BCI rules, students who have completed part I of the five-year integrated program are eligible to enrol in the final year of a three-year Bachelor's degree (e.g. BA, B.Com or B.Sc.), and those who have completed the first three years of the five-year integrated program may receive a degree such as BA (Law) by passing the relevant university examinations. This enables some law colleges to offer combined integrated degrees such as a combined Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Law(s) (BA & LLB/BL), a combined Bachelor of Business Administration and Bachelor of Law(s) (BBA & LLB/BL), or a combined Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Law(s) (B.Sc. & LLB/BL).

### **Conclusion**

The LLB (Special/Professional) involves three years of professional studies in law, with entry based on a first bachelor's degree (e.g. BA, B.Com or B.Sc.). This is similar in structure to LLB programs in Canada, which generally require at least two or three years of university study (though most applicants already hold a bachelor's degree), followed by three years of professional studies in law. An LLB (Special/Professional) holder may apply to the Bar Council of India to practice law as Advocates and may also seek admission into two-year Master of Law(s) (LLM) programs. Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS compares the LLB (Special/Professional) to the completion of a first professional university degree in law.

The LLB (integrated program) involves three years of professional studies in law, preceded by two years of prerequisite university study. An LLB (integrated program) holder may apply to the Bar Council of India to practice law as Advocates and may also seek admission into two-year Master of Law(s) (LLM) programs. Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS compares the LLB (integrated program) to the completion of a first professional university degree in law.

The LLB (General/Academic) involves two years of professional studies in law, with entry based on a first bachelor's degree (e.g. BA, B.Com or B.Sc.). An LLB (General/Academic) holder may work in an allied legal profession but cannot practice professionally as a lawyer or seek admission into two-year LLM programs. Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS compares the LLB (General/Academic) to the completion of a two-year Bachelor's after-degree with a focus in law.

### **Grading:**

Most bachelor's and master's degrees are classified into divisions or classes based on the marks students obtain in the major examinations at the end of each year or semester. Grading scale varies from institution to institution. The Indian system is low marking, with minimum pass mark generally ranging between 33 and 40%, though some institutions or programs adopt a 50% pass. Students who have failed in one or more subjects in a major examination but who have achieved institution-designated minimum marks (e.g. 25%) in the aggregate may be allowed to proceed with their study and make up the failed subjects at a subsequent examination. The following table shows a common grading scale along with conversion to Alberta grades.

#### **Higher Education Grading Scale**

<b>Indian Marks (%)</b>	<b>Descriptor</b>	<b>IQAS (%)</b>
87-100	First Class/Division	96
74-86		88
60-73		82
57-59	Second Class/Division	77
53-56		74
51-52		70
47-50	Third Class/Division	66
45-46		62
40-44		58
33-39		52
<33	Fail	<50

For more information on Indian grading scales, please refer to the chapter *Grading Scale* in *International Education Guide for the Assessment of Education from the Republic of India*.

**Country: INDIA (Republic of India)**  
**Master's Degree (3+2 years)**

**Category:** University

**Credential Actual Name:**

Master's Degree (3+2 years)

*Note: Two-year master's degrees that require a four-year bachelor's degree for admission are assessed differently.*

**Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

Master of Arts (MA)

Master of Commerce (M.Com)

Master of Science (M.Sc.)

*Note: These are the most common two-year master's degrees following a three-year bachelor's degree and do not constitute a complete list of such programs.*

**Time Period Credential Offered:** Current

**Issuing Body:** Universities and university-level institutions

**Admission Requirements:**

- Three-year bachelor's degree (e.g. BA, B.Com or B.Sc.)

**Program Description:**

- Two-year university graduate degree program

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment
  
- Admission into Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) and doctoral programs

**IQAS Recommendations:**

A Master's degree (following the completion of a three-year Bachelor's degree) generally compares to the completion of a one-year Master's degree with a focus in xxx.

*Note: The first-year study of a two-year Master's degree (following the completion of a three-year Bachelor's degree) is considered to be at an undergraduate level.*

## **IQAS Rationale:**

### **Program Description**

Master's degrees in Arts, Commerce and Science (MA, M.Com, and M.Sc.) involve two years of fulltime study, with entry based on the completion of a three-year bachelor's degree, usually in the same field (BA, B.Com, or B.Sc.). The area of specialization is often noted for MA and M.Sc. degrees, such as MA (English), MA (Linguistics), M.Sc. (Computer Science), and M.Sc. (Electronics). Universities may set minimum marks for admission, e.g. 50% in the aggregate on the Indian scale from a bachelor's (honours) degree, and require applicants to write an entrance examination.

MA, M.Com and M.Sc. programs usually consist of coursework only, with no thesis requirement. Examinations are held at the end of each year, generally known as Previous/Part I (at the end of the first year) and Final/Part II (at the end of second year). Students may be allowed to reappear in the examinations in one or more courses either to make up for failed subjects or for the improvement of marks.

One can study for a master's degree on a part-time basis or externally through distance learning programs. Universities usually prescribe a time limit (e.g. four years) in which students must complete all coursework and pass the examinations to qualify for the award of the degree.

In recent years five-year integrated master's degrees, sometimes called bachelor and master dual degree programs, are available in a variety of disciplines such as MA, M.Com, M.Sc. and M.Tech. Entry is based on the completion of higher secondary education (Class 12). Students may have the option to exit the program with a bachelor's degree after three years.

The MA, M.Com or M.Sc. degree allows an individual to apply for admission into Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) programs. While some doctoral programs require an M.Phil for admission, others admit MA, M.Com or M.Sc. degree holders.

### **Conclusion**

The two-year master's degree (MA, M.Com or M.Sc.) requires a three-year bachelor's degree (e.g. BA, B.Com or B.Sc.) for admission, representing a total of five years of postsecondary education in the current structure. In Canada, a four-year bachelor's degree, or a three-year bachelor's degree plus at least one year of additional university study, is required for admission into a master's degree program, which involves one to two years of fulltime study. The MA, M.Com or M.Sc. degree allows an individual to seek employment or admission into M.Phil and doctoral programs. Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS compares the two-year master's degree from the Republic of India, in combination with the previous three-year bachelor's degree, to the completion of a four-year Bachelor's degree and a one-year Master's degree.

### **Grading:**

Most bachelor's and master's degrees are classified into divisions or classes based on the marks students obtain in the major examinations at the end of each year or semester. Grading scale varies from institution to institution. The Indian system is low marking, with minimum pass



mark generally ranging between 33 and 40%, though some institutions or programs adopt a 50% pass. Students who have failed in one or more subjects in a major examination but who have achieved institution-designated minimum marks (e.g. 25%) in the aggregate may be allowed to proceed with their study and make up the failed subjects at a subsequent examination. The following table shows a common grading scale along with conversion to Alberta grades.

<b>Indian Marks (%)</b>	<b>Descriptor</b>	<b>IQAS (%)</b>
87-100	First Class/Division	96
74-86		88
60-73		82
57-59	Second Class/Division	77
53-56		74
51-52		70
47-50	Third Class/Division	66
45-46		62
40-44		58
33-39		52
<33	Fail	<50

For more information on Indian grading scales, please refer to the chapter *Grading Scale* in *International Education Guide for the Assessment of Education from the Republic of India*.

**Country: INDIA (Republic of India)**  
**Master's Degree (4+1.5/2 years)**

**Category:** University

**Credential Actual Name:**

Master's Degree (4+1.5/2 years)

*Note: Two-year master's degrees that require a three-year bachelor's degree for admission are assessed differently. Refer to the separate Master's Degree (3+2) template.*

**Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

Master of Agriculture (M.Agri.)

Master of Science in Agriculture (M.Sc. Agri.)

Master of Science in Agronomy

Master of Engineering (ME/M.Engg.)

Master of Technology (M.Tech.)

Master of Science in Engineering (M.Sc. Engg.)

Master of Computer Science and Engineering (M.C.S.E.)

Master of Pharmacy (M.Pharm.)

*Note: These are just a few examples of two-year (or one-and-a-half-year) master's degrees following a four-year bachelor's degree and do not constitute a complete list of such programs.*

**Time Period Credential Offered:** Current

**Issuing Body:** Universities and university-level institutions

**Admission Requirements:**

- Four-year bachelor's degree in same or related field (e.g. Bachelor of Engineering, Bachelor of Technology, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, Bachelor of Agriculture, Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, Bachelor of Pharmacy, etc.), or
- Master's degree in a related field (e.g. Master of Science degree following the completion of a three-year Bachelor of Science degree)

**Program Description:**

- Two-year (or one-and-a-half-year) university graduate degree program

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment

- Admission into Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) and doctoral programs

### **IQAS Recommendations:**

A Master's degree generally compares to the completion of a Master's degree with a focus in xxx.

### **IQAS Rationale:**

#### **Program Description**

Master's degrees in a range of specialized and professional fields such as engineering, technology, agriculture, and pharmacy involve one and a half or two years of fulltime study. Entry is usually based on the completion of a four-year bachelor's degree in the same or a related field; alternatively, some eligible applicants hold a Master of Science degree following the completion of a three-year bachelor's degree. Universities set minimum marks for admission, e.g. 60% in the aggregate on the Indian scale from a four-year bachelor's degree, and require applicants to write an entrance examination. The master's degree (4+1.5/2) allows an individual to apply for admission into Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) and doctoral programs in the same or related field of study.

The area of specialization may be noted in the name of the degree, e.g. Master of Engineering in Civil Engineering, Master of Engineering in Computer Technology and Applications, Master of Technology in Computer Science and Engineering, and Master of Agriculture in Soil Science. Following is a description of some of the master's degree (4+1.5/2) programs.

The **Master of Engineering (ME or M.Engg.)**, **Master of Technology (M.Tech.)** and **Master of Science in Engineering (M.Sc. Engg.)** involve one and a half or two years of fulltime study, or up to four years of part-time study. Entry is based on the completion of a BE/B.Tech. or M.Sc. in the same or a related field. Examinations are conducted at the end of each semester. In addition to coursework, students have to complete a major research project. Following is a sample program structure for the Master of Technology (M.Tech.):

#### **Program Structure: Master of Technology in Microwave Electronics, University of Delhi**

Duration: 4 semesters (2 years) of fulltime study	Entry Requirements: M.Sc. Electronics or M.Sc. Physics with specialization in electronics and at least 60% marks, or BE Electrical/Electronics/Electronics and Communication/Instrumentation Engineering with at least 60% marks, plus entrance examination.	
Grading: The minimum pass mark is 40% for each paper, and 50% in the aggregate for each semester and for the major project. Students who have successfully completed the program are classified according to their marks in the aggregate from the four semesters: First Division with Distinction: 75% or more First Division: 60% or more but less than 75% Second Division: All others		
<b>Course No.</b>	<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Mark</b>
<b>Semester I</b>		
1.1	Electromagnetic Theory and Transmission Lines	100
1.2	Microwave and MM-Wave Planar Transmission Lines	100
1.3	Microwave Measurement Techniques and Industrial Microwaves	100

1.4	Microwave Devices	100
1.5	Microwave Measurements Laboratory	100
<b>Subtotal</b>		500
<b>Semester II</b>		
2.1	Microwave Passive Components	100
2.2	Antenna Theory and Techniques	100
2.3	Communication theory and Wave Propagation	100
2.4	Computational Electromagnetics	100
2.5	Computational Laboratory	100
<b>Subtotal</b>		500
<b>Semester III</b>		
3.1	Microwave Active Circuits	100
3.2	Communication Systems	100
3.3	Microwave Integrated Circuits (CAD, Fabrication and Measurement)	200
<b>Subtotal</b>		400
<b>Semester IV</b>		
4.1	Major Project (six months duration)	400
<b>Total</b>		1800

Master's degrees in agriculture such as **Master of Agriculture (M.Agri.)** and **Master of Science in Agriculture (M.Sc.Agri.)** involve two years of fulltime study following a bachelor's degree in agriculture. Agricultural programs in India generally adopt the American-style credit system. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) prescribes a minimum of 35 credits of coursework and 15 credits of thesis for Master's degrees in agriculture.

The **Master of Pharmacy (M.Pharm.)** involves two years of fulltime study consisting of both coursework and the completion and defence of a thesis. Entry is based on a four-year Bachelor of Pharmacy (B.Pharm.) with minimum marks (e.g. 50%) and an entrance examination. The M.Pharm. offers various specializations, such as pharmaceuticals, pharmacognosy, pharmacology, pharmaceutical chemistry, etc.

### Conclusion

The Master's degree (4+1.5/2) requires a four-year bachelor's degree or M.Sc. in the same or a related field for admission. In Canada, a master's degree program involves one to two years of fulltime study, with entry based on a four-year bachelor's degree, or a three-year bachelor's degree plus at least one year of additional university study. The Master's degree (4+1.5/2) allows an individual to seek employment or admission into M.Phil and doctoral programs. Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS compares the master's degree (4+1.5/2) to the completion of a Master's degree with a focus in xxx.

### Grading:

Most bachelor's and master's degrees are classified into divisions or classes based on the marks students obtain in the major examinations at the end of each year or semester. Grading scale varies from institution to institution. The Indian system is low marking, with minimum pass mark generally ranging between 33 and 40%, though some institutions or programs adopt a 50% pass. Students who have failed in one or more subjects in a major examination but who have achieved institution-designated minimum marks (e.g. 25%) in the aggregate may be allowed to proceed with their study and make up the failed subjects at a subsequent examination. The following table shows a common grading scale along with conversion to Alberta grades.

<b>Indian Marks (%)</b>	<b>Descriptor</b>	<b>IQAS (%)</b>
87-100	First Class/Division	96
74-86		88
60-73		82
57-59	Second Class/Division	77
53-56		74
51-52		70
47-50	Third Class/Division	66
45-46		62
40-44		58
33-39		52
<33	Fail	<50

Agricultural universities generally adopt the 10-point system prescribed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. For more information on Indian grading scales, please refer to the chapter *Grading Scale* in *International Education Guide for the Assessment of Education from the Republic of India*.

**Country: INDIA (Republic of India)**  
**Postgraduate Certificates and Diplomas**

**Category:** University-level and other accredited postgraduate certificate and diploma programs

**Credential Actual Name:**

Postgraduate Certificate  
Postgraduate Diploma

**Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

Postgraduate Certificate in xxx  
Postgraduate Diploma in xxx  
Certificate in xxx  
Diploma in xxx

*Note: These are just examples of names for postgraduate certificates and diplomas and may not constitute a complete list of possible terminology.*

**Time Period Credential Offered:** Current

**Issuing Body:** Universities, university-level institutions and other institutions with appropriate program accreditation

**Admission Requirements:**

- Bachelor's degree (3 or 4 years)

**Program Description:**

- Postgraduate certificate or diploma program [usually one year but length may vary from six months to two years]

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment
  
- Further education (e.g. admission into university graduate degree programs)

**IQAS Recommendations:**

**Postgraduate Certificate or Diploma from university-level institutions or institutions with appropriate program accreditation (such as AICTE)**

- Generally compares to the completion of a University Diploma or University Certificate [Shorter programs (e.g. 1 year) are generally compared to certificates while longer programs (e.g. 2 years) can be compared to diplomas].

**Postgraduate Diploma in Management (PGDM) from institutions whose PGDM is equated with MBA by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) [See the list on next page]**

- Generally compares to the completion of a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree.

**Postgraduate Diploma in Medicine approved by the Indian Medical Council**

- Generally compares to the completion of xx years of postgraduate training in a medical specialization (e.g. ophthalmology, etc.).

**IQAS Rationale:**

**General Program Description**

Postgraduate diploma programs generally require one to two years of fulltime study, with entry based on the completion of a bachelor's degree (three or four years) and, in some cases, a specified period of work experience. Postgraduate certificate programs have similar entry requirements but are shorter in duration, usually from six months to less than two years.

Postgraduate certificate and diploma programs provide advanced training in a range of technical and specialized fields. Many of the fields fall under the purview of the AICTE (All India Council for Technical Education):

- Engineering & Technology
- Management
- Computer Applications
- Architecture & Town Planning
- Pharmacy
- Hotel Management & Catering Technology
- Applied Arts and Craft

Management is one of the most popular fields for postgraduate certificates and diplomas. Such programs cover a wide range of management areas including general management, financial management, human resource management, international management, etc. They last one, one and a half, or two years fulltime or up to three years on a part-time basis. Entry is based on a bachelor's degree in any discipline, though some specialized programs such as Postgraduate Diploma in Agricultural Business Management (PGDABM) and Postgraduate Diploma in Materials Management (PGDMM) require a bachelor's degree in a related area of specialization.

Postgraduate certificate and diploma programs are available at universities, university-affiliated colleges, private institutes, and professional associations. Institutions offering programs in technical fields must have AICTE approval, which ensures minimum standards have been met. AICTE also grants program-level accreditation, through its National Board of Accreditation (NBA). NBA accreditation is voluntary and indicates quality among peers. The NBA website (<http://www.nba-aicte.ernet.in/>) contains a list of over 1,000 accredited programs.

Many postgraduate diplomas are for employment purposes and do not provide advanced standing for further academic studies. Two exceptions, the postgraduate diplomas in medicine approved by the Indian Medical Council, and postgraduate diplomas in management (PGDM) offered by institutions whose PGDM is equated with MBA by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU),

are described below.

### **Programs in medicine approved by the Indian Medical Council**

Postgraduate diplomas in medicine approved by the Indian Medical Council involve two years of fulltime study following the completion of a Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS or BMBS). Students can choose from 28 fields of specialization such as clinical pathology, obstetrics & gynaecology, ophthalmology, orthopaedics, paediatrics, psychiatry, and radio therapy. Holders of a postgraduate diploma receive one year's advanced standing when admitted to the three-year Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) or Master of Surgery (M.S.) program in the same area of specialization.

### **Management programs from institutions whose PGDM is equated with MBA by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU)**

The Association of Indian Universities (AIU) provides a list of institutions (including the prestigious Indian Institutes of Management) whose two-year Postgraduate Diploma in Management (PGDM) has been equated with MBA degree for the purpose of admission into doctoral-level management programs:

1. Amity Business School, Noida (UP)
2. Amrita Institute of Management, Coimbatore
3. Centre for Management Development, Modinagar (UP)
4. Fore School of Business Management, New Delhi
5. Graduate School of Business Administration, Noida (UP)
6. Indian Institutes of Management, Ahmedabad
7. Indian Institutes of Management, Lucknow
8. Indian Institutes of Management, Indore
9. Indian Institutes of Management, Bangalore
10. Indian Institutes of Management, Kolkata
11. Indian Institutes of Management, Kozhikode
12. Indian Institute of Health Management, Jaipur
13. Institute of Public Enterprise, Hyderabad
14. Institute of Management Technology, Ghaziabad
15. Institute of Technology & Science, Mohan Ngr, Ghaziabad
16. Institute for Integrated Learning in Management (IILM), N. Delhi
17. Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal
18. Institute of Rural Management, Anand
19. Institute of Finance and International Management, Bangalore
20. Institute of Management Studies, Ghaziabad
21. International Management Institute, New Delhi
22. Jagan Institute of Management Studies, Delhi
23. Loyala Institute of Business Administration, Chennai
24. Management Development Institute, Gurgaon
25. Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies, Mumbai
26. NIILM Centre for Management Studies, New Delhi
27. School of Communication & Management Studies, Cochin
28. S P Jain Institute of Management & Research, Mumbai



29. T A Pai Management Institute, Manipal
30. Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Mgt, Pune
31. Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar
32. Xavier Labour Relations Institute, Jamshedpur

Note: The above list was from 2006. The updated list (2015) is available on the AIU website at [http://www.aiu.ac.in/evaluation/list\\_of\\_Institute\\_of\\_PGDM\\_with\\_address\\_as\\_on\\_22.12.2015.pdf](http://www.aiu.ac.in/evaluation/list_of_Institute_of_PGDM_with_address_as_on_22.12.2015.pdf).

### **Conclusion**

Postgraduate certificate and diploma programs involve six months to two years of fulltime study. While the general entry requirement is the completion of a bachelor's degree in any discipline (3 or 4 years), programs in some specialized and professional fields require a bachelor's degree (4 years) in the same or a related field for admission. The certificate/diploma allows an individual to seek employment and, in some cases, admission into a master's degree program with advanced standing.

In comparison, universities in Canada offer certificate and diploma programs in a variety of disciplines at both undergraduate and graduate levels. For undergraduate-level programs, admission is typically based on high school graduation. For graduate-level programs, admission is typically based on a bachelor's degree (4 years) and, in some cases, related work experience. There are also post-baccalaureate programs with entry requirement and program level similar to those of after degrees. Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS makes the following comparisons:

### **Postgraduate Certificate or Diploma from university-level institution or institutions with appropriate program accreditation (such as AICTE)**

- Generally compares to the completion of a University Diploma or University Certificate [Shorter programs (e.g. 1 year) are generally compared to certificates while longer programs (e.g. 2 years) can be compared to diplomas].

Postgraduate Diplomas in Management (PGDM) offered at institutions on the AIU list involve two years of fulltime study, with entry based on the completion of a bachelor's degree. This translates into a minimum of five years (3+2) of postsecondary study in total. The PGDM, equated with MBA by the AIU, allows an individual to seek employment and admission into doctoral-level programs in management. In comparison, MBA programs in Canada usually involves at least one year of fulltime study, with entry based on the completion of a four-year bachelor's degree.

Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, **IQAS compares the Postgraduate Diploma in Management (PGDM) from the institutions on the AIU list to the completion of a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree.**

Postgraduate diplomas in medicine approved by the Indian Medical Council involve two years of fulltime study following the completion of a Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS or BMBS). Students can choose from 28 fields of specialization. **IQAS compares the Postgraduate Diploma in Medicine approved by the Indian Medical Council to the**

completion of \_\_\_years of postgraduate training in a medical specialization (e.g. ophthalmology etc.).

**Grading:**

Most bachelor’s and master’s degrees are classified into divisions or classes based on the marks students obtain in the major examinations at the end of each year or semester. Other programs such as certificates, diplomas and research-based degrees (M.Phil and Ph.D.) are usually awarded without classification. Grading scale varies from institution to institution. The Indian system is low marking, with minimum pass mark generally ranging between 33 and 40%, though some institutions or programs adopt a 50% pass. Students who have failed in one or more subjects in a major examination but who have achieved institution-designated minimum marks (e.g. 25%) in the aggregate may be allowed to proceed with their study and make up the failed subjects at a subsequent examination. The following table shows a common grading scale along with conversion to Alberta grades.

**Higher Education Grading Scale**

Indian Marks (%)	Descriptor	IQAS (%)
87-100	First Class/Division	96
74-86		88
60-73		82
57-59	Second Class/Division	77
53-56		74
51-52		70
47-50	Third Class/Division	66
45-46		62
40-44		58
33-39		52
<33	Fail	<50

For more information on Indian grading scales, please refer to the chapter *Grading Scale* in *International Education Guide for the Assessment of Education from the Republic of India*.

**Country: INDIA (Republic of India)**  
**Master of Philosophy (M.Phil)**

**Category:** University

**Credential Actual Name:**

Master of Philosophy (M.Phil)

**Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

M.Phil in Chemistry

M.Phil in Commerce

M.Phil in Computer Science

M.Phil in Economics

M.Phil in English

M.Phil in Library Science

M.Phil in Population Studies

M.Phil in Sociology

M.Phil in Statistics

M.Phil in Zoology

*Note: These are just examples of possible majors of master of philosophy degrees and do not constitute a complete list of such programs.*

**Time Period Credential Offered:** Current

**Issuing Body:** Universities and university-level institutions

**Admission Requirements:**

- Master's degree

**Program Description:**

- One-year (or one-and-one-half-year, two-year) graduate degree program

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment
- Admission to doctoral programs

**IQAS Recommendations:**

A Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) degree [in combination with the previous Master's degree] generally compares to the completion of a two-year Master's degree with a focus in xxx.

Or assessed individually.

**IQAS Rationale:**

### **Program Description**

The Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) is a pre-doctoral research degree that involves one to two years of fulltime study, with entry based on the completion of a master's degree in at least the Second Division/Class. Some M.Phil programs consist mainly of directed research leading to the completion of a thesis, while others require substantial coursework. Following are a couple of sample program structures for M.Phil:

#### **Sample Program Structure: M.Phil in Statistics, University of Delhi (a central university)**

Duration: One year of fulltime study

Entry requirements: First or second high class Master degree in statistics

M.Phil Part I (six months): Choose three from ten courses (with each course worth 100 marks):

1. Stochastic Processes
2. Applied Probability Models
3. Design of Experiments
4. Design and Inference in Survey
5. Bayesian Inference
6. Order Statistics
7. Bio-Statistics
8. Multivariate Analysis
9. Non-Parametric Methods
10. Reliability and Life Testing

M.Phil Part II (six months): Write a dissertation pertaining to one of the three courses completed in Part I. (Written dissertation: 150 marks; viva voce: 50 marks.)

#### **Sample Program Structure: M.Phil (English Literature), Jamia Millia Islamia (a central university)**

Duration: One and a half years (three semesters) of fulltime study

Entry requirements: Minimum 55% marks in MA (English)

Semester I

(1) Research Methodology (Compulsory)

(2) MP 1: Introduction to Literary Theory (Compulsory)

(3) Choose any one of the following courses:

MP 2: Renaissance Studies

MP 3: Life, Literature and Thought in the Eighteenth Century

MP 4: Texts of Modernism

MP 5: Continental Fiction

MP 6: Indian Writing in English

MP 7: Theory and Practice of Translation

MP 8: Seminar I (a flexible course based on teachers' academic interests)

Semester II: Choose any two of the following courses:

MP 9: Shakespeare

MP 10: Life, Literature and Thought in the Nineteenth Century

MP 11: Twentieth Century Fiction/Poetry

MP 12: Australian/Canadian Literature

MP 13: Twentieth Century American Literature

- MP 14: Indian Literatures in English Translation
- MP 15: English in India
- MP 16: Colonial Discourse Theory
- MP 17: Readings in Theory
- MP 18: Semiotics
- MP 19: Texts of Popular Culture
- MP 20: Seminar II (a flexible course based on teachers' academic interests)
- Semester III: Dissertation

The M.Phil degree gives access to employment such as lectureship at a higher education institution, and admission to doctoral programs. Some institutions require an M.Phil for entry into their doctoral programs. An M.Phil holder may complete a Ph.D. program in a minimum of two years, compared with three or more years for a master's degree holder.

### Conclusion

The M.Phil program requires a master's degree for admission and involves at least one year of fulltime study consisting of coursework, directed research and the completion of a thesis. It represents a total of six or more years of postsecondary study. In comparison, master's degrees in Canada involve one to two years of fulltime study following the completion of a four-year bachelor's degree, or a total of five to six years of postsecondary study. The M.Phil degree gives access to further education in doctoral programs. Based on the above information and placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS compares the M.Phil degree from the Republic of India, in combination with the preceding Master's degree, to the completion of a two-year Master's degree.

### Grading:

Most bachelor's and master's degrees are classified into divisions or classes based on the marks students obtain in the major examinations at the end of each year or semester. Research-based degrees such as M.Phil and Ph.D. are usually awarded without classification. Grading scale varies from institution to institution. The Indian system is low marking, with minimum pass mark generally ranging between 33 and 40%, though some institutions or programs adopt a 50% pass. Students who have failed in one or more subjects in a major examination but who have achieved institution-designated minimum marks (e.g. 25%) in the aggregate may be allowed to proceed with their study and make up the failed subjects at a subsequent examination. The following table shows a common grading scale along with conversion to Alberta grades.

**Higher Education Grading Scale**

Indian Marks (%)	Descriptor	IQAS (%)
87-100	First Class/Division	96
74-86		88
60-73		82
57-59	Second Class/Division	77
53-56		74
51-52		70
47-50	Third Class/Division	66
45-46		62
40-44		58
33-39		52

<33	Fail	<50
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For more information on Indian grading scales, please refer to the chapter *Grading Scale* in *International Education Guide for the Assessment of Education from the Republic of India*.

**Country: INDIA (Republic of India)**  
**Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D. or D.Phil)**

**Category:** University

**Credential Actual Name:**

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D. or D.Phil)

**Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

**Time Period Credential Offered:** Current

**Issuing Body:** Universities and university-level institutions

**Admission Requirements:**

- Master's degree (e.g. MA, M.Com and M.Sc.) or Master of Philosophy (M.Phil)

**Program Description:**

- Advanced research-based graduate degree program

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment
- Post-doctoral studies

**IQAS Recommendations:**

A Doctor of Philosophy degree generally compares to the completion of a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree.

**IQAS Rationale:**

**Program Description**

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D. or D.Phil.) involves at least two years of fulltime study following the M.Phil or three or more years following a master's degree, and is normally completed within five years after registration. Entry is based on the completion of a master's degree with minimum marks (e.g. 55%), and applicants may be asked to take a qualifying test such as the National Educational Test (NET) conducted by the University Grants Commission (UGC). Some programs require applicants to hold an M.Phil or prescribe additional coursework in research methodology for those who do not have the M.Phil. Ph.D. study consists mainly of research, though some programs include substantial coursework. Students must complete a substantial thesis based on original research and undergo evaluation and oral examination by a board of examiners. Following is a sample Ph.D. program structure:

**Program Structure, Ph.D. in International Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia (a central**

**university)**

Duration: Ten semesters. The candidate shall submit the thesis not earlier than two years and not later than five years from the date of registration.

Entry Requirements: Minimum 55% marks in M.Phil, and an interview. Individuals with MA who have done high quality research may also apply.

Coursework: Students with MA must complete one compulsory course and one optional course in the first two semesters. Students with M.Phil are exempted from coursework.

**Conclusion**

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D. or D.Phil) programs in the Republic of India require applicants to have an M.Phil or a master's degree with minimum marks (e.g. 55% on the Indian scale) and pass an entrance exam and/or an interview. They usually require three or more years of fulltime study consisting mainly of the completion and defence of a dissertation. A Ph.D. gives an individual access to academic, research and other employment opportunities as well as post-doctoral studies. Based on the above information and the placement recommendations of other evaluation resources, IQAS compares the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D. or D.Phil) to the completion of a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree.