



NATIONAL LAW INSTITUTE UNIVERSITY BHOPAL

(Established by an Act enacted by the Madhya Pradesh State Legislature)

Detailed Admission Notification for Admission to the Ph.D. Programmes in the Academic Session 2026-27

1. Online applications are invited for admission to the Ph.D. Programme (Full-time and Part-time) for the Academic Session 2026-27 in the following Disciplines:

S. No.	Nomenclature	No. of Seats	Passed UGC-NET in the subject
(i)	Ph.D. in Law	Indian Nationals – 15 Foreign Nationals - 04	Law
(ii)	Ph.D. in Cyber Law and Information Security	Indian Nationals – 02 Foreign Nationals - 01	
(iii)	Ph.D. in Computer Science/ Information Technology	Computer Science/ Information Technology - 04	Computer Science and Applications
(iv)	Ph.D. in Cyber Security	Cyber Security - 06	Computer Science and Applications
(v)	Ph.D. in Social Sciences i.e. Political Science, Sociology, Economics, English	Political Science – 04 Sociology - 04 Economics - 04 English - 02	Political Science Sociology Economics English

2. The candidates are advised to go through the Admission Notification thoroughly to check the eligibility criteria/ other details before filling out and submitting the online application form.

3. The Rajiv Gandhi National Cyber Law Centre (RGNCLC) at NLIU stands as a distinguished Centre of Excellence in the domains of Cyber Law and Information Technology. Equipped with robust academic resources, extremely well qualified faculty and a forward-looking curriculum, the Centre is designed to guide its scholars to carry out comprehensive and contemporary research. RGNCLC is looking for research scholars who aim to address emerging challenges in Cyber Law & Information Security, Computer Science/ Information Technology and Cyber Security through rigorous training, explorative research and practical exposure.

Important Dates

4. The candidates must note the following important dates:

- (i) Availability of online application forms on the NLIU Website: 10-03-2026

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| (ii) | The last date for submission of application forms: | 30-04-2026 |
| (iii) | Date of Entrance Examination: | 10-05-2026 |
| (iv) | Date of Interview: | 14, 15 and 16-05-2026 |

Eligibility for Admission

5. The following are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. programme:

- (i) A 1-year/2-semester master's degree programme after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme or a 2-year/4-semester master's degree programme after a 3-year bachelor's degree programme or qualifications declared equivalent to the master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed.
- (ii) Or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of the educational institution.
- (iii) A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.
- (iv) Provided that a candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.
- (v) Other eligibility conditions for admission to the Ph.D. program as per the latest UGC NET notification shall also be admissible.
- (vi) In the case of admission to the Ph.D. in Cyber Law and Information Security Program, the MCLIS degree of the NLIU Bhopal or its equivalent degree, namely 'Integrated Post-Graduate Degree in Cyber Law and Information Technology' from a recognized University with at least 55% marks (50% marks in case of SC/ ST/ OBC (NCL)/ PWD/ PwBD/ EWS candidates).
- (vii) In the case of admission to the Ph.D. in Cyber Security Program, the candidate should possess a master's degree in Computer Science/ Information Technology/ Cyber Security/ Electronics & Communications from a recognized University with at least 55% marks (50% marks in case of SC/ ST/ OBC (NCL)/ PWD/ PwBD/ EWS candidates).

Reservation

6. The rules of reservation for the state of Madhya Pradesh shall be applicable.

Procedure for Admission

7. Ph.D. in Law, Ph.D. in Computer Science/ Information Technology, Ph.D. in Cyber Security, and Ph.D. in Social Sciences i.e. Political Science, Sociology, Economics, English

- (i) The University shall use the University Grants Commission's National Eligibility Test (UGC-NET/ UGC- CSIR) score for admission to these Ph.D. programmes. Based on the score, candidates shall be declared eligible by the UGC to apply in the following categories:
 - a) Category-1: Eligible for admission to Ph.D. with JRF and appointment as Assistant Professor
 - b) Category-2: Eligible for admission to Ph.D. without JRF and appointment as Assistant Professor
 - c) Category-3: Eligible for admission to Ph.D. programme only
- (ii) The JRF-qualified candidates shall be admitted into the Ph.D. programme based on an interview, as per the prevailing UGC Minimum Standards and Procedures for the Award of Ph.D. Degree Regulations.
- (iii) Those candidates who have been placed in Category-1 by UGC based on UGC-NET/ UGC-CSIR written test shall be required to score more than 50% marks in the interview conducted by NLIU as minimum qualifying marks.
- (iv) For candidates who qualify in Category-2 and Category-3 given above, 70% weightage shall be given to the test score and 30% weightage to the interview conducted by the University. The Ph.D. admission shall be based on the combined merit of the NET marks and the marks obtained in the interview. Minimum qualifying marks in the combined result shall be 50% of the total marks.
- (v) Admission shall be offered to the candidates in the respective category and specialisation, purely based on a merit list prepared according to the provisions stated above.
- (vi) The UGC-NET/ UGC- CSIR scores of the last one year shall be valid for admission to Ph.D. programmes.

8. Ph.D. in Cyber Law and Information Security programme

- (i) Candidates to this Ph.D. programme shall be admitted through an All-India Entrance Test consisting of a 'Written Test' and a 'Personal Interview' conducted by the University.

- (ii) The Question Paper of the 'Written Test' shall be a combination of descriptive and problem-based questions. The Entrance Test syllabus shall consist of 50% of research methodology, and 50% shall be subject-specific. The duration of the 'Written Test' shall be three hours.
- (iii) Candidates who secure 50 % marks in the 'Written Test' shall be eligible to be called for the 'Personal Interview'.
- (iv) A relaxation of 5% marks shall be allowed in the 'Written Test' for the candidates belonging to SC/ ST/ OBC (NCL)/ PWD/ PwBD/ EWS and any other categories of candidates as per the decision of the UGC from time to time.
- (v) 70% weightage shall be given to the 'Written Test' and 30% weightage to the 'Personal Interview' to calculate the total score.
- (vi) Candidates who fail to appear either in the 'Written Test' or 'Personal Interview' shall not be eligible for admission.
- (vii) Minimum qualifying marks in the combined result of the written Test' and 'Personal Interview' shall be 50% of the total marks of the All-India Entrance Test.
- (viii) Eligible candidates shall be admitted to the programme strictly according to the combined merit of the 'Written Test' and 'Personal Interview'.

Admission of Foreign Candidates

9. The conditions for admission of foreign candidates to Ph.D. Programme shall be as under:
- (i) Foreign Nationals are exempt from the UGC-NET/ UGC- CSIR or 'All India Written Test' conducted by the University.
 - (ii) Foreign Nationals shall be admitted if they possess the qualification equivalent to the qualifying examination applicable to the respective Ph.D. programme.
 - (iii) The equivalence of educational qualification awarded by a foreign university should be recognized by the University Grants Commission.
 - (iv) The candidate must have studied English language as one of the compulsory subjects in the qualifying examination. The University shall organize an English language competence test, passing which shall be a mandatory condition for admission.
 - (v) The admission of foreign nationals shall be according to the merit of marks obtained in the personal interview by a 'Personal Interview Board'.

Full-Time Ph.D. Programme

Candidates who take up the Ph.D. programme on a Full-time basis shall not be allowed to take up any employment during the period of the Ph.D. programme. However, they can receive a Scholarship/ fellowship/ stipend/ assistantship, if any, with an intimation to the University.

Part-Time Ph.D. Programme

10. The conditions for Part-Time Ph.D. Programme shall be as under:

- (i) This category refers to candidates who are regular and permanent employees of the NLIU or any Govt./ Autonomous/ PSU/ Private or any other organisation with more than 2 years of their service and having more than 3 years of service left to their retirement.
- (ii) Candidates from the NLIU specifically, while engaging a reduced academic load on request and approval of the Vice Chancellor, can pursue the research programme leading to a Ph.D. Degree.
- (iii) The candidate shall submit to the University a “No Objection Certificate” for a Part-Time Ph.D. programme from the appropriate authority in the organization/ institution, where the candidate is employed, the format of which shall be provided at the time of admission.

Fees

11. The research scholar shall have to pay the requisite fee prescribed by the University failing which his/ her registration shall be cancelled. The annual fee schedule shall be issued by the Finance Section of the University, which shall also be made available on the NLIU website. The fees shall be subject to changes as decided by the University from time to time.

Submission of Online Application Forms

12. A link to fill out the application form shall be provided on the NLIU website www.nliu.ac.in. The candidate is advised to keep the following documents ready for uploading at the time of filling up the application form:

- a) SSC/ Class X certificate in support of Date of Birth.
- b) Intermediate/ (10+2)/ Class XII certificate.
- c) Provisional certificate/ Degree certificates and Marks Memos of the qualifying Examinations.
- d) Aadhaar Card
- e) Caste certificate (in case of SC/ ST candidates).
- f) For GEN-EWS candidates, an EWS certificate issued on or after 01-08-2025 shall be acceptable.
- g) For OBC-NCL candidates, the OBC-NCL certificate issued on or after 01-08-2025 shall be acceptable.
- h) Domicile certificate for the Madhya Pradesh domicile applicants.
- i) Passport size photograph.
- j) Signature
- k) Grade/ Rank Card UGC-NET/ UGC- CSIR
- l) Score Card of UGC-NET/ UGC- CSIR
- m) Fee payment receipt with transaction number.

13. Research Proposal: The proposal shall be submitted at the time of the interview in the following format:

- a) Title
- b) Review of the literature
- c) Statement of Problem
- d) Research Questions
- e) Research Objectives
- f) Hypothesis
- g) Methodology
- h) Research Design

Important Notes:

14. The candidates should also make note of the following important instructions:

- (i) The application fee in the case of Unreserved and OBC-NCL candidates is Rs. 2000. In the case of SC, ST, PwD and EWS candidates, the fee is Rs.1000.
- (ii) In case candidates apply for more than one programme, they shall have to pay the same additional application fee for each programme (non-refundable) through online mode only.
- (iii) The candidature of the candidates who do not possess the eligibility criteria notified shall be rejected without any notice.
- (iv) The candidature of applicants who fail to upload all the required documents or pay the prescribed application fees shall be rejected.
- (v) Any query related to corrections/ uploading of the application form may be sent by email to admission@nliu.ac.in . Applicants may contact the Student Section of the University at phone numbers 0755-2696965 or 0755-2840222 during working hours.
- (vi) E-mail from the registered email ID mentioned in the application form will only be entertained.
- (vii) Candidates are advised to keep watching the University website www.nliu.ac.in for the Ph.D. programme-related updates.
- (viii) The decision of the University in all matters will be final and binding on all the applicants who respond to this admissions notification. No interim correspondence or unsolicited query will be entertained from the applicants in connection with the process of scrutiny/ selection including reasons for not being shortlisted for the written test/ interview.

(ix) Any legal dispute arising out of this admissions notification is subject to the Courts having jurisdiction over Bhopal, M.P.

(x) For any further query/ information, the candidates can email at admission@nliu.ac.in

Registrar