



**Application invite for Admission to
Executive PhD, IIM Sambalpur
DBA, IAE Bordeaux University School of Management
(Dual Degree /Co-Diplomation) program
(2026-29)**



For further details please contact program directors:

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

The Executive PhD & DBA Program, a collaboration between Bordeaux University School of Management & IIM Sambalpur, stands as India's pioneering dual-degree doctoral initiative. Designed specifically for working professionals aiming for advanced academic qualifications, the program offers a unique pathway to pursue a doctoral degree without disrupting their careers. Tailored for individuals with significant work experience, it emphasizes practical applicability and interdisciplinary approaches. This program delivers rigorous, world-class training across various areas of business management, enabling students to conduct cutting-edge research of international standards.

Participants are equipped with the skills to critically access and influence organizational landscapes, fostering leaders ready for impactful roles in both academia and industry. Moreover, it supports industry executives in transitioning to research-oriented careers, whether in academic institutions or research positions within the public and private sectors.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS;

To be eligible for the Executive PhD & DBA program, applicants typically need to meet the following requirements:

- 1. Work Experience:** Candidates should have minimum five years work experience, in a professional setting with post graduate degree. This requirement ensures that participants bring practical insights and real-world knowledge to their doctoral studies.
- 2. Educational Background:** Applicants are typically required to hold a relevant master's degree, such as an MBA/ Masters or equivalent qualification or a 4 year Bachelor's degree from a recognized institution. This educational background provides the foundational knowledge necessary for advanced doctoral-level research.
- 3. Academic Record:** A strong academic record is usually expected, demonstrating the candidate's ability to excel in rigorous academic pursuits. This may include transcripts, GPA scores, and any relevant academic achievements or honors.
- 4. Language Proficiency:** Proficiency in the language of instruction (often English) is essential, as the program involves intensive academic study, research, and communication in this language.
- 5. Research Interest:** Applicants should have a clear research interest or topic of study within the field of management or a related discipline. They should be able to articulate their research goals, interests, and potential contributions to the academic community.
- 6. Statement of Purpose:** Applicants may need to submit a statement of purpose outlining their academic and professional background, research interests, career goals, and reasons for pursuing a doctoral degree in the Executive PhD & DBA program.



PROGRAM DETAILS;

1. The Executive PhD & DBA program spans a minimum of three years, equivalent to 36 months.
2. During the first year, students are required to complete a minimum of 8 core courses relevant to their chosen research area. This initial year also encompasses Epistemology and Methodology courses, providing an introduction to Management Research along with qualitative and quantitative techniques.
3. At the culmination of the first year, students defend their research proposal, a pivotal step leading to the validation of a research certificate (Research in Management). Failure to pass this stage necessitates re-registration for an additional year.
4. Throughout the subsequent second and third years, students are guided in writing their thesis and undergo preliminary thesis presentations.
5. Each student is assigned a Research Supervisor/Co-Supervisor from both collaborating institutions.
6. As part of the program, students have the opportunity to attend a three-day Academic Writing Workshop at Cambridge/Bordeaux/Dubai/Any other partner institute in Europe.
7. It is mandatory to attend face-to-face class, spanning two weeks, at Bordeaux campus.
8. The program follows a hybrid mode of delivery, blending face-to-face sessions with flexible learning. In-person sessions are conducted at regular intervals across multiple locations, including IIM Sambalpur, IIM Sambalpur Delhi Campus, and Bordeaux University School of Management.
9. Admission to the program is overseen by IIM Sambalpur, adhering to its minimum entry requirements. The composition of core courses and the allocation of contact or non-contact hours may be adjusted by the doctoral committee to accommodate students' needs.
10. The program predominantly features instruction by international faculty, with emphasis not limited to Bordeaux Business School.
11. Students will be charged on a pro rata basis for any additional years required to complete the program.
12. Minimum three face-to-face classes of three days duration will exclusively take place at the Sambalpur or Delhi campus.



Program Structure

First Year – Course Work

Themes
Principles of Business Research
1. Sustainability Finance & Financial Markets
2. Financial Information, Accounting, Reporting and Control
3. Corporate Governance
4. Management of Business Models, Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Strategy
5. Intercultural & Project Management
6. Human Resources and Organizational Behaviour
7. International Business Economics
8. Marketing and Commerce in an International Context

Epistemology and Methodology

• Introduction to Management Research
• Quantitative Methods Applied to Management Science + use of software R
• Qualitative Methods Applied to Management Science + software Nvivo
• Crafting Research Output/Academic Writing &
• Case Writing

Second Year- Research Project and writing

Themes
Practice in Business Research
1. Research proposal
2. Verification of progress with the research
3. Preliminary presentation of thesis

Third Year - Thesis

Themes
Presentation of Thesis
1. Dissertation
2. Oral presentation

Program - Important Dates

Last date of submission of CV and Self attested Academic Credentials, Statement of Purpose -15th April 2026

Selection Process

Academic Profile -Graduation Score/percentage

Personal Interview

Preparation of Merit list will be based on resume and personal interview

Program Fee Structure

Proposed fee structure				
2026-29	Year – I	Year – II	Year – III	Total
IIMS Tuition Fee	Rs 5,25,000	Rs 2,00,000	Rs 2,00,000	Rs 9,25,000
Bordeaux Tuition Fee	Euro 6000	Euro 6000	Euro 3000	Euro 15000

Candidates will have to pay campus accommodation fee when they stays at IIMS campus. The candidate has to deposit one-time refundable caution money of Rs. 25000/- along with the first semester fees. Any dispute concerning admissions would be subject to the jurisdiction of the competent courts within the territorial jurisdiction of the city of Sambalpur only.

Award of Degree

All participants who in the judgment of the Academic Council have successfully completed all the conditions and requirements for this program will be awarded the degree of Executive PhD, IIM Sambalpur & DBA, IAE Bordeaux University School of Management