

**This document will help the prospective PGPX applicant with information about IIMA and the PGPX Programme, PGPX application and admission criteria and processes and the relevant instructions to complete the application and join the programme successfully.**

**This document may be revised from time to time. Hence at the time of your application, before final submission, please do go through this document again to keep yourself up-to-date as regards the important instructions/procedures at the Institute.**

**This document was last updated on June 20, 2016.**

**Clicking on your query will lead you to the answer.**

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS RELATED TO PGPX at IIMA

### 1. ABOUT INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT AHMEDABAD (IIMA)

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#### 1.1 What is IIMA's Vision? [Back to Home](#)

To become an Institute that is globally recognized and respected as a thought leader in management.

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#### 1.2 What is IIMA's Mission?

To transform India and other countries through generating and propagating new ideas of global significance based on research and creation of risk-taking leader-managers who change managerial and administrative practices to enhance performance of organizations.

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#### 1.3 What are IIMA's Objectives? [Back to Home](#)

- a To create knowledge through applied and conceptual research, relevant to management and its underlying disciplines, and to disseminate such knowledge through publications.
  - b To establish educational facilities to prepare young men and women for careers in management and related fields in all forms of organizations.
  - c To develop teachers and researchers in management with specialization in different fields relating to management.
  - d To improve the decision making skills and administrative competence of practicing managers through innovative and cutting edge management education programmes and providing opportunities for continuing education.
  - e To provide advisory services so as to enhance the decision making skills and processes in organizations and the effectiveness of public policies.
  - f To improve the quality of management education and research in other management schools by building their capabilities through meaningful collaborations.
  - g To globalize the institute's operations and linkages in the context of any or all of the above objectives so as to emerge as the pre-eminent management school in India that is globally respected.
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#### 1.4 Where is IIMA located? [Back to Home](#)

[Ahmedabad \(Gujarat, India\).](#)

Ahmedabad is a city of tradition as well as modernity. It was adjudged the best city in India last year by the Govt. of India. It is more than 600 years old and is a candidate for the UNESCO World Heritage Cities list. The old city (on the eastern bank of River Sabarmati) is an architectural delight. The 'pol' structure of housing in this part of the city has been talked about much by UNESCO and National Geographic Society. Today it is the 7<sup>th</sup> largest city in India by way of population and the largest city of Gujarat state, on the western part of India. It used to be 'Manchester of India' with more than 100 composite textile mills. Today it has a very vibrant services based economy. Real estate sector is also good. Ahmedabad has some of the best hotels and restaurants in the country. Quality of life in Ahmedabad is one of the best. The

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Bus Rapid Transit System (BRTS) in Ahmedabad has been adjudged one of the best in India and Asia. Ahmedabad is home to some of the best institutes of higher education in India. Other than IIMA, Ahmedabad hosts [ATIRA](#), [CEPT](#), [ISRO](#), [NID](#), [PRL](#), [SAC](#), [CEE](#), [VASCSC](#), [Gujarat University](#), [St. Xavier's College](#), [VIKSAT](#), [CHETNA](#) while the nearby capital city of Gandhinagar hosts institutions like [NIFT](#), [IIT-Gandhinagar](#), [DAIICT](#), [PDP](#), [IIPH](#), [GNLU](#) and [CUG](#). People of Ahmedabad are friendly, love business and festivals.

1.5 In which year did IIMA start? [Back to Home](#)

[IIMA was established in 1961.](#)

1.6 What are the various programmes offered at IIMA?

IIMA offers various long and short duration programmes. For detailed information of all the programmes please [click here](#). These are briefly mentioned here:

- a Two Year Full-time Residential Post Graduate Programme in Management (PGP)
- b Two Year Full-time Residential Post Graduate Programme in Food and Agri-Business Management (PGP-FABM)
- c One Year Full-time Residential Post Graduate Programme in Management for Executives (PGPX)
- d Fellow Programme in Management (FPM) which is a full-time residential doctoral programme of IIMA.
- e Faculty Development Programme (FDP) which is a four month residential programme for B-School faculty who would like to master the case study pedagogy.
- f Armed Forces Programme (AFP) which is a six month residential programme for officers of the Armed Forces (Army, Navy and Air Force) who would like to take up corporate jobs after their tenure as an officer in the Armed Forces. This programme is being offered through the Armed Forces Resettlement Board
- g We also offer many short duration (3 days, 1 week and 1 month) residential [Executive Education Programmes](#) aimed at middle and top level executives from the corporate sector, Government and NGOs.

1.7 Is IIMA globally ranked? [Back to Home](#)

Yes. IIMA, the Institute as a whole and individual long duration programmes as well have been ranked prominently in several Indian and international surveys undertaken by various media such as 'Which MBA?' (Economist), [FT Global MBA Rankings \(Financial Times UK\)](#), [QS Global 200 Business School Rankings](#) (QS Group), [EdUniversal Best Master Ranking in Agribusiness/Food Industry Management Category Worldwide](#), etc.

The PGPX has been ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in 'Career Progress' surveyed by [Financial Times FT Global MBA Rankings](#) 2011, 2012, 2013 & 2016 and 2<sup>nd</sup> in 2014 & 2015.

IIMA was ranked 11th in [Top 25 Best Global MBA Graduate Business School Rankings for Senior Executives and Entrepreneurs by CEO World Magazine](#). This places IIMA alongside LBS, Harvard, Wharton, INSEAD, etc. PGPX is ranked 7th in the [CEOWORLD Magazine's Top 25 Best Graduate Business School Rankings – Masters in Management Program for Executives and Entrepreneurs](#).

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1.8 Is IIMA internationally accredited?

Yes. IIMA became the first B-School in India to receive [EQUIS](#) (European Quality Improvement System) Accreditation by the European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD) in June 2008. We are in the process of being accredited by AACSB (The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) International Accreditation as well.

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1.9 What about IIMA's International linkages? [Back to Home](#)

IIMA was set up in collaboration with Harvard Business School and supported by the Ford Foundation in the late 50s and early 60s. We have continued this tradition of having strong international relationships and today we have linkages with some of the best international institutions/universities from across the world. These [international relationships](#) have helped mutually the students and faculty through Exchange and Immersion programmes.

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1.10 How many full-time faculty members does IIMA have? Are they PhDs? How are they engaged?

As on April 20, 2015, IIMA has on its roll 102 full-time including adjunct faculty members. All are PhD holders, and many from international universities. Faculty are engaged in teaching, training, research and consultancy. Many are members of Boards of various companies and government/ministerial committees.

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1.11 Are there Visiting Faculty at IIMA? [Back to Home](#)

IIMA engages many eminent experts from industry, government and international universities and alumni as visiting faculty and guest speakers in all their long duration as well as executive training programmes. Please [click here](#) to know about the various elective courses and visiting faculty.

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1.12 What are the various teaching areas at IIMA?

The various [teaching areas](#) are (listed alphabetically):

- a Business Policy
  - b Communications
  - c Education and Innovation
  - d Economics
  - e Finance and Accounting
  - f Human Resources Management
  - g Information Systems
  - h Marketing
  - i Organisational Behaviour
  - j Production and Quantitative Methods and
  - k Public Systems Group
- 

1.13 What about Research and Publication at IIMA?

IIMA's caption (in its logo) is 'Vidya Viniyoga Vikas' which means 'Development through Application of Knowledge.' This is our core approach when we undertake research and development activities at IIMA. Very little research is aimed at esoteric publications (which

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also we do) but most of it is aimed at contributing to corporate strategies and reforming government policy formulations or reviving grassroots activities in small and medium industry or agriculture. In recent years some major government policy reforms and initiatives in India have been backed up by research done by IIMA faculty. (E.g. [Unique Identity](#) Project where every citizen will get an I-card based on bio-metric data which will be used for subsidy delivery, cash transfers, etc.) More than two-thirds of all Management Research in India is done at IIMA alone.

Research at IIMA is undertaken through its many Centres of Excellence (Please see the next FAQ) as well as through a dedicated Research and Publications (R&P) Department. Research is also done through the [Fellow Programme in Management \(FPM\)](#) which is IIMA's doctoral programme.

IIMA publishes its research through many [working papers and newsletters](#) and also in its journal '[Vikalpa](#)' which is the highest rated management journal in India.

Students are actively encouraged to take up Independent Projects/Individual Research Projects with IIMA faculty/Industry Sponsorship and even publish their own individual or club journal. The R&P department may fund student research projects based on the merit of the research proposal on case-to-case basis.

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1.14 What are the various Centres of Excellence/Research at IIMA? [Back to Home](#)

The various [Centres of Excellence](#) on the campus are:

- a Ravi J Mathai Centre for Educational Innovation (RJMCEI)
- b Centre for E-Governance (CeG)
- c IIMA-Idea Telecom Centre of Excellence (IITCoE)
- d Centre for Management in Agriculture (CMA)
- e Centre for Management of Health Services (CMHS)
- f Centre for Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship (CIIE)
- g Centre for Infrastructure Policy and Regulation (CIPR)
- h Centre for Retailing (CfR) and
- i India Gold Policy Centre (IGPC)
- j Centre for Gender Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity (GEDI)

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1.15 What about Innovation and Entrepreneurship at IIMA? [Back to Home](#)

The [Centre for Innovation Incubation and Entrepreneurship \(CIIE\)](#) is one of the best entrepreneurship facilitators in an educational institution in India. CIIE conducts many programmes/activities/seminars and workshops/contests to help the students and others on campus and outside to take up entrepreneurship in any sector. It can provide up to INR 50 lakh (5 million) seed fund with two years hand-holding/mentoring and office space. It can help in sourcing VC/PE Funds.

Recently with the help of IIMA Alumni, the CIIE has launched the 'IIMAVERICKS Programme' which is a step in the direction to encourage entrepreneurial activities/start-ups from the campus. Students may opt for a 'placement holiday' of two years. Successful ideas are given a

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‘subsistence allowance’ of Rs. 30,000 per month for two years, an office space at IIMA’s CIIE (or other locations in India where the IIMA Alumni sponsors are located), hand-holding and mentorship. After two years, the student can come back to the campus and request for placement support if the experiment was not successful.

#### 1.16 What about campus life at IIMA? [Back to Home](#)

IIMA is spread on 100 acres of greenery. Faculty, staff and students of various programmes stay on the campus. The office and living buildings in the Main Campus have been designed by Louis Kahn, the world famous architect. The New Campus too is an architectural delight. The two campuses are separated connected by an “Underpass”. Class-rooms, syndicate rooms, accommodations, offices are all air-conditioned and it is pleasant to stay and work even though the climate outside may be hot. Please take a virtual view of the campus at <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/institute/campus.html>. The campus is home to a large variety of flora and fauna. Please look-up

<http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/users/webrequest/files/NaturalWorldatIIMA.pdf>

IIMA campus is very safe and secure. We have 24 X 7 security and it is almost like a small township. A student would rarely have to go outside and most of his/her needs are available within campus. Please visit the [PGPX students’ blog](#) to get a peek into the campus life of the PGPX students.

PGPX and most FPM students live in Married Student Housing (MSH) in the campus. The spouses of these students have their own clubs and there are many children on campus. There are dedicated playing areas for children in the campus. Student families also get domestic help easily in the campus. Facilities to buy daily groceries, vegetables, and provisions are easily available within walking distance of campus. There are many good [schools nearby](#) for families wanting to admit their children in Ahmedabad while they stay here. For shopping and entertainment needs one could just walk over to [Alpha-One Mall](#) which is outside the campus and is one of the best shopping and entertainment mall in Ahmedabad. There you will find the best of Indian and International brands, many restaurants and a food court and a multiplex cinema as well. It also has a five star hotel.

#### 1.17 What about student activities on IIMA campus?

Student life is full of activities in the campus. There are many clubs and events organised throughout the year. Please look-up <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/institute/campus/student-activities.html> for more details.

## 2. ABOUT ONE YEAR POST-GRADUATE PROGRAMME IN MANAGEMENT FOR EXECUTIVES (PGPX)

#### 2.1 What is the nature of the PGPX? [Back to Home](#)

This is a **one year full-time residential course** which requires the candidate to stay on campus during the course of the study. Our batch size is 90. Participants with diverse backgrounds come from all over the world and today it has over 800 alumni members. Some take sabbaticals for one year (with or without pay) if possible. Others resign from their jobs to join this programme. They sit for placements at the end of the programme with a hope to change their career tracks. Some multinational companies have sponsored candidates or have nominated their employees from programme within their organisation. These nominations are executive they have chosen for fast-track leadership. About 10% are entrepreneurs. Please look-up <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/programmes/pgpx.html> for further information on the programme.

2.2 What is the basis for launching the PGPX at IIMA? [Back to Home](#)

- a The experience of IIMA in teaching exceptionally brilliant students and training senior and top management executives from the corporate sector, government and NGOs since five decades and more.
- b India's economic growth in the late 90s and early 2000s following the liberalisation and reforms in the early 1990s which created demand for highly skilled and experienced professionals at senior and mid-senior levels who could be placed laterally in organisations.
- c Opportunity for IIMA faculty to engage in reverse learning from experienced professionals bringing multi-disciplinary and international experience into the classroom through class-room participation of participants and their academic and non-academic pursuits with the help of faculty supervision on campus including 'Independent Research Projects'.
- d IIMA's core teaching pedagogy and philosophy such as case study, full-time residential programme, encouraging learning in groups, belief that much learning happens outside the class-rooms for which there needs to be a conscious structural arrangements, building up leadership skills through student bodies, that there is life after classes, etc.

2.3 What is the objective of the PGPX? [Back to Home](#)

- a Develop bright, enthusiastic and aspirational executives as management leaders and global change agents.
- b Meet the need of fast growing markets for global executives with substantial work experience.
- c To contribute to the trend of young executives occupying the corner offices in major international enterprises who are at the forefront of innovation and technology.

2.4 For whom is the PGPX at IIMA? [Back to Home](#)

- a Bright, enthusiastic and aspirational international executives who aspire to be management leaders and global change agents.  
Executives being sponsored by their employers or encouraged through sabbaticals for
- b 'Global Leadership Development' / 'Fast Track Leadership Development' or similar programmes.
- c Scions of family owned enterprises seeking general management and global business skills.
- d Professionals (e.g. from the field of Finance and Accounts, Consultancy, Law, Healthcare, Design and Architecture, Media and Communication, Government and Public Enterprises, Armed Forces Veterans, etc.) seeking training for managing professional service firms in a leadership role.
- e Technical experts (e.g. from industry verticals such as IT / IT services, Banking and Financial Services, Government and Public Policy, Infrastructure, Retail and others) who aspire to be groomed for senior management and leadership roles with global skills.
- f Executives who have been offered admission to PGPX and are nominated by the Indian Embassies/Missions for the ITEC/SCAAP/TCS of Colombo Scholarship of the Indian Govt.
- g Executives who would like to jump onto the entrepreneurial band wagon, especially in technology led innovation start-ups. (About 10% of our alumni are entrepreneurs.)

2.5 What have been the most important reasons for the students to join the PGPX at IIMA?

A survey was undertaken during Dec 2012 – Jan 2013 by the participants of the Armed Forces Programme 2012-13 at IIMA to understand the key driving forces that led to participants apply

to the PGPX programme at IIMA. Please [click here](#) to download the full report. The following reasons emerged as the most important factors:

Why PGPX? [Back to Home](#)

- a To bridge the gap between the current skill level and desired skills to play a larger role in management
- b To attain shift in career path

Why IIMA?

- a Brand Value in terms of being the best B-School in India
- b To acquire knowledge from the best faculty in India

Additionally for international students, it is important to note the following:

- a Many multinational companies, especially Fortune 500 companies, have their Asia headquarters, or Asia Pacific Headquarters in India. Almost all multinational companies have presence in India. Given the economic growth prospects of India and other BRIC countries, it is becoming important for executives from all over the world to have an India experience. PGPX at IIMA can be the best launching pad for such aspiring and hardworking executives to know about the Indian business environment from the best B-School in India. Right from the first batch in 2006-07, PGPX have international participants from China, UK, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Australia, Japan, US, Singapore, France, Germany, The Netherlands and many other international locations who are now working at senior positions in their parent companies based abroad or in India.
- b Given the world-class facilities and infrastructure in the campus, high quality of the programme, international accreditation and high international ranking, the programme fee for PGPX is quite reasonable and economical. Comparing with other international institutions ranked in the FT Global MBA Rankings, the PGPX Programme fee which includes for Tuition, Books and Materials, International Immersion, Accommodation and Food (for single students), Library, Computers and Career Services, is at least 4 times lesser.
- c For international students coming on the ITEC Scholarship Programme (please see section 6.5) it would be a great opportunity to study at India's premiere institute and also take the opportunity to travel within India which has one of the oldest histories of civilization and spirituality. India is looked upon as the 'soft super power' in the world.

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## 2.6 What is the Academic Content and the Programme Structure of the PGPX?

The programme focus is on general management orientation and global business skills with emphasis on managing across borders and cultures. Teaching content is drawn from several countries while taking into account the substantial and varied experience the participants bring to the classroom.

This programme follows a six-segment [course structure](#) taught in five academic terms, each segment seamlessly joined to the next. The segments are:

### a **Induction**

This segment helps the students to get familiar with the infrastructure, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, while tuning into the programme content and the IIMA method of learning. It also helps the student to understand the self while making the transition to the PGPX and the future.

b **Building Blocks** [Terms I (April to June) and II (June to Aug)]

The core segment gives the students a rigorous grounding in the fundamentals of management. It crystallizes and enhances their basic conceptual and analytical knowledge, pre-disposing them for managerial effectiveness.

c **International Immersion Programme (IIP)** [Term III – Sept]

Students are immersed in two intensive weeks of academics in an international location. This segment equips students with understanding of macro-level dynamics and unfamiliar economic environment in a foreign country.

d **Preparing for Top Management** [Terms IV (Sept – Dec) and V (Dec to March)]

This segment, which is the differentiating element of the PGPX, further develops the students' skills, enabling them to better understand and envision the dynamics within complex management problems. It also prepares them for visionary leadership, being change agents and playing a role at the top.

e **Electives** [During Terms IV and V]

The students are offered a wide range of elective courses including on marketing, finance, supply chain management, strategic management and various sectoral areas. While electives depend on student interest and faculty supply, this allows students the freedom of electives in areas of passion and proficiency, making every student's experience unique and customized to his or her chosen growth path. It is also an opportunity to explore new areas of learning and a chance to reflect on and leverage past experience. Students are also allowed to opt for cross-programme courses as electives.

As part of the 'electives' segment, students can opt for an Individual Research Project (IRP). The project is executed by PGPX students with a faculty advisor. The result is a high quality written output, which could be any of

- (1) A case with analysis
- (2) An Industry Note
- (3) A paper on "Bridging the Divide" (focusing on a socio economic divide affecting the world)
- (4) A business plan for an entrepreneur

(Students are encouraged to use the Institute's R&P resources/Centres for undertaking their IRPs.)

f **Capstone** [Term V]

A finale as an encapsulation of the learning experience, this segment provides an opportunity to integrate learning from the entire programme, reflect on one's own experience as an executive and understand what it means to work in large, multidisciplinary teams facing tough deadlines.

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2.7 What is the pedagogy at PGPX?

IIMA's unique style of case study analysis encourages the participants to bring in the classroom all the aspects of the case rather than focusing only on the issue at hand. This helps them to be equipped with the requisite knowledge and skill sets to perform at leadership positions. Simulation exercises, games and role plays, meditation, outdoor field trips, international immersion, projects and written assignments are also used throughout the programme. It is a rigorous course with above 700 hours of classroom and requiring another 1500 hours of self/group study.

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2.8 Who is the faculty teaching in the PGPX programme?

IIMA's faculty members who have distinguished themselves as teachers, policy makers, researchers, theoreticians and consultants of extra ordinary calibre. Eminent practicing industry leaders and faculty from leading international B-schools also teach as visiting faculty.

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2.9 Where is the venue? What about accommodation arrangements for the PGPX participants?

The Programme will be held at the IMDC Complex of the new campus of IIMA. Participants get full-board and air-conditioned single accommodation on the Institute campus. This is answered in detail in section 10 later.

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2.10 Which are the various international institutions/universities where the PGPX students have been to for the International Immersion Programme (IIP)?

The International Immersion Programme is a major component where our students go out to various international universities. For a particular year, the international institutions available for the IIP depends on many factors such as student interest, current active relationship, availability of key faculty during the IIP dates, IIP fees, and logistics. The Institute has had arrangements with many foreign institutions in the past which include:

- a Amsterdam Business School, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- b Boston University, Boston, USA
- c Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China
- d Columbia Business School, New York, USA
- e Frankfurt School of Finance & Management, Frankfurt, Germany
- f School of Management, Fudan University, Shanghai, China
- g University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
- h University of Leeds, Leeds, UK
- i Warwick Business School, University of Warwick, Coventry, UK
- j ESCP, Paris, France
- k National University of Singapore, Singapore

(\* All the expenses related to International Immersion Programme-IIP, approx. INR 2,50,000, will be borne by the student)

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2.11 What degree is offered at the end of the PGPX? [Back to Home](#)

On successful completion, students are given a One Year Post-Graduate Diploma in Management for Executives. (Govt. of India is contemplating enacting a Law to empower the IIMs to award degrees which may be tabled this year in the Parliament.)

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2.12 What are the various compulsory and elective courses and specializations available at PGPX?

Since this is a general management programme preparing the students for top management the focus is on leadership positions, strategic training and general management. The programme, however, offers a wide selection of [elective courses](#) for those wanting to pick up skills in a particular area.

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2.13 Which elective courses are available to the PGPX students?

Please [click here](#) to look-up the list of elective courses on our website.

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2.14 How is the PGPX different from the other programmes at IIMA? [Back to Home](#)

While all are full-time and residential programmes, PGPX has the following differentiators:

- a PGPX is a one year programme whereas PGP and PGP-ABM are two year programmes. FPM is a doctoral programme. FDP and AFP are certification programmes.
  - b The PGPX orientation is to give general management perspective for a management executive, whereas the PGP and PGP-ABM are focussed on functional and operational management. PGPX achieves this through a set of courses under a theme called 'Preparing for Top Management' (PTM) where the focus is on leadership and change agency at the global level. This culminates in 'Capstone' exercise which is a business game aimed at integration of all that has been learned over the year.
  - c To address preparedness for the global arena, an 'International Immersion Programme' (IIP) is organized which includes an academic in-class component in a foreign university. This is a mandatory requirement for all PGPX participants. PGP / PGP-ABM students may go abroad on voluntary exchange basis.
  - d Since the participants are mostly married and have substantial work experience, they need to make a 'disruptive' shift from a work environment to an academic environment. This is done through an 'Induction' segment at the start of the programme.
  - e Also since all the participants have substantial work experience, the 'Individual Research Project' (IRP) – an elective course – is an opportunity for reverse learning through crystallizing that experience in an academic environment.
- 

2.15 The title of the programme is very confusing. Usually Executive MBA programmes are part-time or week-end programmes. Why have you kept the word 'Executives' in your title when it is actually a one year full-time residential MBA?

IIMA's forte is in offering full-time and residential programmes on campus. The PGPX is a PGP for Executives – i.e. it is a full-time post-graduate programme for experienced professionals. IIMA has undertaken a lot of marketing and branding exercises to promote the PGPX. We have now completed nine successful batches and the tenth batch is currently on. There is now a good acceptability of this programme in India. Most top ranking B-Schools in India follow this same structure. Perhaps you may want to go through a series of articles published in Business Standard – one of the leading Business Newspapers in India – "[Don't Mistake it for an Executive MBA.](#)"

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2.16 Would the PGPX enable students to go for higher studies like PhD? [Back to Home](#)

Yes! They are eligible to apply for the Fellow Programme in Management (FPM) at IIM, Ahmedabad, after successful completion of the PGPX, subject to certain academic standards. Some past PGPX alumni have gained admission in the FPM at IIMA. Some have also gone on to do PhD at places such as the HBS.

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2.17 What are the various Industry-Academia interaction opportunities at the PGPX?

There are many avenues for Industry-Academia interactions for PGPX students during the year as follows:

- a Participating in [student clubs](#) such as [FII-SOMA](#)
- b Speaker Series – where PGPX students invite eminent leaders from Industry and Government to the campus.

- c Regular interactions with over 4000 EEP participants who come to the campus for executive training. Executives at senior, mid-senior and top management levels come from all over the world to IIMA.
- d Industry visits during International Immersion Programme, student projects, off-campus courses, etc.
- e Student activities such as [ConneXion](#).
- f Industry Exhibitions.
- g Various Seminars and conferences in and off-campus.
- h Placement/Career Services Activities.

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2.18 Can you share some PGPX student testimonials?

Please look-up <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/programmes/pgpx/placements/career-impact/student-testimonials.html>

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3. ABOUT PLACEMENT/CAREER SERVICES FOR PGPX

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3.1 Does the school provide Placement/Career Services? [Back to Home](#)

We have a Placement Office to assist the Student Placement Committee in providing administrative and logistical support in arranging for campus placements. We also have full-time staffs that help to coordinate this activity. Please note that placements are not guaranteed and it is [not an entitlement](#) of the student. However IIMA's approach is to build up a career services network with the help of a robust Alumni network over time rather than to provide only a placement at the end of the course. To know further please look-up <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/programmes/pgpx/placements/recruitment-process.html>

Incidentally we are ranked either first or second in the 'Career Progress Rank' of the FT Global MBA Rankings since our debut. Recently the 'Which MBA' portal of the Economist ranked IIMA's [career services as the best in the world](#).

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3.2 What % of the batch finds jobs within 3 months of graduation? What is the mean starting salary of a class after graduation? What are the key sectors represented in recruiters for this programme?

Our [audited placement data](#) is put up on our website as per the Indian Placement Reporting Standards. (IPRS.)

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3.3 What about IIMA's Alumni Network? [Back to Home](#)

IIMA has a very strong and large [alumni network](#) consisting of who's who from Industry, Government as well as Academia spread all over the world which is one of the most powerful assets built over the years. The alumni family is an important component for realising the Institute's goals – Creation, Application and Dissemination of Management Knowledge. Our alumni are the crucial change agents who transform leadership across the globe. A vast number of IIMA alumni have distinguished themselves in almost every aspect of management across the world. As per international consultancy company EMA Partners' 2009 March report, more than 66% of the Professional CEOs in India are IIMA alumni.

You may look up the details of the PGPX Alumni at the LinkedIn Group [PGPX@IIMA](#) and Facebook Group [IIM Ahmedabad PGPX \(all batches\)](#)

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- 3.4 My profile is different from the average profile of past PGPX students. Will any company show interest in hiring me after finishing the programme?

Information mentioned is 'average profile.' Most candidates have been placed so far. However this is an activity that is significantly driven by students themselves and lateral placements depend on vacancies in the senior positions in the target companies during the PGPX placement season from Oct/Nov.

- 3.5 Any ideas of what kind of student profiles find it difficult to get placements?

As explained before, this is a student body driven activity and hence a lot depends on the kind of companies the students target and solicit for campus interviews. However we have observed that for students who face placement problems they may have particular niche profiles or because they themselves are not clear about their career goals and objectives in participating in the PGPX. Typically participants, who have only technical backgrounds without any major people leading experiences or are from industries which are now being phased out or on the decline due to technological advancements may face placement problems. These participants would do well, if they first get a couple of years' experience in new roles/careers involving people skills and some managerial/supervisory experience before they apply to the PGPX. This will also help them to fully appreciate the PGPX experience and leverage it for better career prospects.

#### 4. PGPX APPLICATION PROCESS

- 4.1 What are the eligibility criteria to apply for the PGPX at IIMA? [Back to Home](#)

Following are the basic criteria for the PGPX:

- A Bachelor's Degree or equivalent in any discipline. (Minimum 15 years of study as per the education system in India 10 + 2 + 3 or 4 as the case may be.)
- Minimum Age of 27 years as on 31<sup>st</sup> March of the year in which the PGPX programme commences. (E.g. For PGPX 17-18 commencing in April 2017, the candidate should have completed 27 years of age by March 31, 2017, i.e. must be born on or before March 31, 1990.) There is no upper age limit.

Please note that we cannot accept any deviation from this date range since our computerised application system cannot be re-configured to suit any particular individual's situation.

- A GMAT ([www.mba.com](http://www.mba.com)) score obtained within the last five years of start of programme (refer point 4.4). If there is more than one test report for the valid range, the report with the highest total score (including the components of that report only) will be considered. (We will NOT pick up highest scores of various components from different reports.)

Please note that we cannot accept any deviation from this date range since our computerised application system cannot be re-configured to suit any particular individual's situation.

To ensure that your scores are sent directly to IIMA, please select "[Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad - One Year Post-Graduate Programme in Management for Executives \(PGPX\)](#)" as one of the five programmes to which the GMAT results have to be sent from the menu provided by GMAT before the start of the test.)

- 4.2 What about the Work Experience requirement? [Back to Home](#)

We **do not** ask for any minimum work experience as criteria for application but a minimum age of 27 years at time of application. Adhering to a minimum age of 27 years at the start of the

programme, a normal graduate\* may have 5 to 7 years of post-qualification, full time work experience. Similarly, a post graduate should have 5 to 6 years of experience. A PhD/MPhil can be evaluated on case to case basis. **We do not consider any part-time work experience.** However, since the PGPX is a 'get-ready-for-top-management' programme the Admissions Committee looks for relevant work experience in the candidates who would be a good fit for top management roles. (\* Assuming SSC/Std X at age 15, HSC/Std XII at age 17 and a three/four year graduation by age 20/21 without any breaks in between.)

4.3 What is the minimum marks/grade a candidate should have at the Bachelors' level to apply for the PGPX?

There is no minimum requirement of Bachelor's level scores as eligibility to apply. However, selected candidates are likely to have had a consistently good academic record.

4.4 How does one apply to the PGPX at IIMA? [Back to Home](#)

To apply for the PGPX please undertake the following:

- Please register at <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/pgpx/register.php> (Application window usually opens by the end of April/First week of May.)
- For 2017-18 season we will have **two rounds of application**:
- For those who would like to submit during the first round, the completely filled-in applications should be submitted online by 6:00 pm Indian Standard Time (IST) of September 12, 2016.
- For those who would like to submit during the second round, the completely filled-in applications should be submitted online by 6:00 pm Indian Standard Time (IST) of Nov 15, 2016.
- At the time of submission of application, you will be prompted to pay the PGPX Application Fee (**Rs. 3500/- during Round 1 and Rs. 5000/- in Round 2.**)

**f Please note that a candidate can apply only once for a given batch.**

4.5 What are the 2017-18 application seasons' important dates?

The dates are as follows:

Event	Round #1	Round #2
Application Fee	Rs. 3500/- (~US\$ 53/-)	Rs. 5000/- (~ US\$ 75/-)
Last date to apply (6:00 pm of)	Monday, Sept. 12, 2016	Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2016
GMAT Validity Dates	Sept. 11, 2011 to Sept. 11, 2016	Nov. 14, 2011 to Nov. 14, 2016
Shortlisting for interviews	Oct. 10, 2016	Dec 12, 2016
Personal Interviews	Nov. 2016	Jan. 2017
Result Announcement	End of Nov. 2016	End of Jan. 2017
Last date to accept offer	Mid Dec. 2016	Mid Feb. 2017
Programme Starts		April 13, 2017
Programme Ends		March 15, 2018
Convocation		Last Saturday of March 2018.

4.6 When does the application process start? [Back to Home](#)

The application process usually starts by the end of May/first week of June.

4.7 Do you need an English Proficiency certificate?

The candidate must be well-versed with the English language. We gauge this from the Analytical Writing Analysis (AWA) scores from the GMAT. We prefer a minimum of 3.5 AWA

score. TOEFL/IELTS/PTE test scores are not applicable here.

4.8 Do you need Letters of Recommendations/ Essays? [Back to Home](#)

We do **not** ask for any letters of recommendation. Shortlisted candidates would be asked to submit two essays – the topics of which will be announced along with the shortlisting for personal interviews. However, successful candidates are required to give three references.

4.9 What are the documents required to be submitted along with the online application?

No documents are required to be submitted at the time of online submission or separately. **Only those candidates who are shortlisted for a personal interview will be asked to provide the following documents** within one week of being shortlisted:

- a GMAT score report (of your highest score if you have taken multiple tests.)
- b Academic qualifications (starting from graduation onwards only.)
- c Employment history (including details of entrepreneurship, if any)
- d Undertaking to submit letter of Sabbatical or Relieving Letter at time of joining
- e Certificates of Achievements in Sports, Arts, Extra-curricular activities, etc. at regional, national or international levels.
- f Passport details as requested. (Please ensure that your Passport validity is at least upto April 2018.)

Please note that for certificates which are not printed in English, Hindi or Gujarati languages, the candidates are requested to submit certified translations of these certificates in English language.

4.10 What are the other documents that you may need later? [Back to Home](#)

We will need the following documents at the time of your joining the institute:

- a **Medical Health Insurance** for self and accompanying family members for at least Rs. 1,50,000/- for at least one year stay in the campus. Please note that sometimes, candidates are covered under the group insurance provided by employers to self or the spouse. This is acceptable as long as the amount of insurance and the period of coverage are as per our requirement.
- b **Medical Fitness Certificate** (the format of which will be provided in January end. Candidates have to arrange to get the medical fitness certificate on their own cost as per this format from a qualified consulting physician un-related to them.)
- c **Passport:** Please ensure that your passport validity is at least for one more year from the time you join the programme. This is important since as part of the programme, students have to mandatorily travel to other international universities/institutions for the International Immersion Programme for which the students have to obtain a visa. Some countries have a requirement of a minimum validity period of 6 months to 1 year of the passport.
- d Any other document/information that the PGPX Office may request for.

4.11 What care should one take while filling in the online application form? [Back to Home](#)

Please ensure that all data such as your Date of Birth, Academic Qualifications (Degree Titles, Names of the Institution/University, Grades/Marks, GMAT ID, GMAT Scores, etc.) and work experience are correctly entered. Please remember that **all** the details mentioned in the online application form will have to be supported by relevant documents later. Important: The admission (if offered) will automatically stand cancelled if the data you enter and the data on the documents are found to be different.

Please take note the following to help you during the online application:

- a Please keep all your documents in front of you before you start applying through the online application form.
- b Kindly mention the exact marks/grades/GPA of all the years or cumulative GPA of all academic terms as applicable in the section related to academic qualifications. (E.g. If you mention BE/B.Tech. course of four years (or eight terms) as your graduation, then please enter the marks/grades obtained from all four years (or eight terms). Please do not enter only the last year's or last term's marks/grades.). When asked for, please provide your roll number/seat number of your examination as mentioned in your mark sheet/grade sheet.
- c Please do not mention any part-time work experience or work experience for which you do not have any documentary evidence.
- d While entering your work experience details, please write the names of the organisations you have worked for correctly. E.g. If the document has been issued by organisation named M/s ABC in which it is mentioned that while you were employed by M/s ABC you were working on a project for client M/s XYZ, please enter the name of the organisation as M/s ABC only in the online application form. When asked for, please provide the date on which the certificate/document was issued to you as mentioned there.
- e Similarly while entering the dates of the work experience; **please enter the dates of joining and leaving the organisation as mentioned in the documents only.** There should not be any discrepancy between the dates mentioned by you in the application form and the documents issued by the organisation. Please remember to justify both the joining date **AND** the exit date. For this you will need to provide the following: (i) a copy of the Joining Letter (ii) Copy of the Acceptance of Resignation or Last Salary Certificate (iii) an experience certificate/relieving letter from your employer which states both the joining and exit dates. You may want to supplement these with copies of your Employer's Salary Certificate issued to the Income Tax Department (e.g. F-16 in India) detailing the dates of employment and salary details. **Please note: If you do not have the documents as mentioned above please do not mention this work experience in your application.**
- f Please note that, for female applicants, if you are on the family way (pregnancy) and expecting a baby within 6 months of the start of the programme or during the course of the programme (between April and March), kindly do not apply. The course is extremely rigorous with more than 700 contact hours requiring 1500 hours of preparation time including international travel.
- g **Applications found with any kind of discrepancy will be rejected at any stage of the application process.**
- h Even if somebody manages to get selected and join the programme, and at any stage later we discover that there was a discrepancy in any document, **the candidate will be asked to leave the programme.**

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4.12 Why is this requirement of supporting documents essential? [Back to Home](#)

Our application processing is based on a computerized system which rates applications based on various parameters such as GMAT score, age, work experience, international work experience, educational qualifications, industry, gender, etc. Hence it is essential that every data is correct.

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4.13 If I am now based abroad and do not have my documents with me, what should I do?

Kindly arrange to obtain the necessary documents/information from the place where it is kept to the place where you are now residing. It is essential to provide the correct information in the application form. We will not entertain any explanation for incorrect data entry.

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- 4.14 The company in which I had worked some years ago does not exist anymore. And I do not have any letter/certificate with me about this work experience. What should I do?

As explained before, it is essential that you provide the relevant documentary support. Therefore in such a case, please do not enter this information in your application form.

Imagine you have applied for a new job and you need to justify your past work experience. Without the necessary documents, do you expect the organisation to accept your application and offer you a job? If you cannot justify the work experience it is better not to mention it rather than risk losing the job.

- 4.15 How will the international work experience be counted? [Back to Home](#)

We will consider your experience letters issued from your companies wherein dates of international work experience are mentioned. Please note that visits to international locations for participation in any conference/meetings/workshops or business trips are not considered as international work experience. Only full-time work in a foreign location (other than your home country) on legitimate documents which include offer letter/appointment letter and based on salary/consideration is considered international work experience. Hence as mentioned in sections 4.12.c to e, the international work experience need to be supported by similar documents.

- 4.16 How is the online application system for PGPX 2016-17 designed?

The online application system for PGPX 2016-17 has three components:

- Registration** (For registration you will have to provide the following information: - Email id, First/Given Name, Last Name, GMAT ID (which you will get when you register for the GMAT on [www.mba.com](http://www.mba.com)), Gender, Date of Birth, Your Address and Contact Details and the Country of your Citizenship (i.e. name of country which has issued your passport.)
- Online Application** (In the application you will need to fill-in details regarding your academic background starting from Graduation only, current and previous work experience, international work experience, GMAT scores. You can also provide information related to any regional/national/international awards/recognitions you would have received, extra-curricular activities/hobbies that you would have participated in the past or currently, language proficiency, interview location preference, areas of expertise and source of information about the PGPX.)
- Payment of application fee** at the time of submission of your application as per section 4.5 mentioned above.

- 4.17 Can you please tell us more about the online application system? [Back to Home](#)

After you complete the registration you will get a new page providing you information about your successful registration and the online application link. (If the login id and password does not work immediately please try to 'refresh the page' or remove the cookies or try a different web browser.

Please remember that after clicking on the option 'save' at each section of your online application form, you will see the status of that section with edit and delete options. To go to another section click on the 'online application' link on the left corner.

On the online application page you will see the following sections:

- Contact Details – Please fill-in your addresses, contact details and alternate e-mail id.
- Academic Background – start entering from Graduation/Bachelor's Degree onwards. Once you complete this section and you have more academic qualifications to enter, then, pages

related to Post Graduation, Masters, PhD will open. Professional Courses (e.g. CA) or Diploma can be entered in 'Others' section. Please note that Diploma should be at least 3 years course after 10+2 / K-12 level of studies. Please remember that we will ask for additional information related to your academic qualifications over email/phone/couriers later. If there is any discrepancy in the information, your application/admission will automatically stand cancelled.

- c Current Employment – Please enter details of your current employment. **Please mention all the work experience – including different assignments/promotions - of the same company here.** Please ensure that you enter the date of joining the company (and not as per the date of Offer Letter/Appointment Letter.) Please ensure that you enter your current salary details as per your last salary certificate only. You will be asked to write a brief note (upto 500 words only) about your contribution in this work.
- d Previous Work Experience – Please recall the guidance as provided in section 4.12 given above. **Please mention all the work experience – including different assignments/promotions - of the same company here.** Every time you fill-in data about a past work experience, you will be prompted for further experience. If you have more data to enter, please choose the correct option. Remember to enter data only as per the work experience documents that you have. Please do not mention any work experience for which you cannot provide documents of both the joining and the exit dates. **Please do not mention part-time jobs or internships as work experience. (However full-time 'Articleship' for CA students or PhD research as full-time Phd Student are acceptable as work experience.)** Please remember that we will ask for additional information related to your work experience over email/phone/couriers later. If there is any discrepancy in the information, your application/admission will automatically stand cancelled. You will be asked to write a brief note (upto 500 words only) about your contribution your last work experience (which is different from the 'current' experience.)  
**Important:** If any part of your current or previous work experience is an international work experience, please enter it in the 'International Exposure' section again.
- e International Exposure – In this section please fill-in details of your international work experience. Please note that 'international country' means a country other than the country of your citizenship and nationality. Trips to a foreign country for seminars/workshops/conferences or business trips are not considered as international exposure. Only a full-time work for which a salary/consideration is provided will be considered as an international work experience.
- f General Information – this section will ask for your interview location preference, GMAT scores and list of areas of your expertise. You will also be asked about the mode of financing of your studies at the PGPX – whether through company sponsorship, own funds, bank loans or ITEC Scholarship (if applicable.)
- g Media Source – This section will ask you about the source of information from where you learnt about the PGPX. This information will help us design our communications and marketing campaigns.
- h Awards/Prizes – In this section please fill-in information of all awards and recognitions you would have received during both your academic as well as professional career. Please note that these awards/recognitions should be at the **regional/national/international** levels. It can be in the area of sports, arts, academics, profession, etc.
- i Extra-Curricular Activities – In this section please provide information about your participation/contribution to any activity/club/association during your academic or professional careers. E.g. NCC, Sports, NGO, etc. You can also mention about your present and past hobbies.
- j Self-Career Improvement – In this section you can mention about any professional qualifications/certifications/training/etc. that you would have received. (e.g. PMP)

- k Language Proficiency – In this section please fill-in the details related to your native language and the proficiency level (Speaking, Reading and Writing) of all the language that you know.
- l You can also view your application status anytime. After submission you can only view the application and not add/delete/edit any information later.

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## 5. PGPX ADMISSION CRITERIA

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### 5.1 Do you have Group Discussions and /or Personal Interviews?

About 3 times the number of candidates to be selected gets shortlisted for personal interview. The shortlisted candidates are interviewed by a panel consisting of faculty members nominated by the PGPX Admissions Committee. We do not conduct any Group Discussions.

### 5.2 How are candidates shortlisted for personal interview? [Back to Home](#)

The candidates are shortlisted in the descending order of the Total Application Rating (TAR) based on criteria such as GMAT score, educational qualifications with due consideration for professional degrees, masters and doctoral degrees, total work experience including international work experience, functional areas of work experience and gender.

### 5.3 How are candidates selected after the personal interview? Can you please tell us the weights attributed to each criterion?

Based on TAR and Personal Interview score, a final combined score is arrived at to prepare the final merit list. While we do have uniform criteria that we define internally for consistency, our selection criteria evolve over time. Disclosing them may turn out to be misleading because going forward into successive years they may be modified in the light of changing circumstances and in the light of our own experience over time.

### 5.4 What does the PGPX Admissions Committee look for in a candidate? [Back to Home](#)

A potential candidate should have a:

- Good GMAT score (We do not ask for a minimum cut-off score. The average GMAT scores of the selected candidates of the past batches have been in the range of 695 to 728.)
- Good academic record (Candidates of the past batches have had varied educational backgrounds including in Accounts, Architecture, Arts, Banking, Civil Service, Commerce, Computers, Defence, Design, Education, Engineering, Finance, Literature, Medicine, Pharmacy, Police, Public Policy and Administration, Research, etc. Many have had professional qualifications and some also have had PhDs.)
- Substantial work experience that shows evidence of a supervisory/managerial role in an organization that he/she has worked for.
- A clear idea of why he/she prefers IIMA for doing the one year full-time programme and a leadership potential will also help.

### 5.5 What is 'substantial' work experience?

Please note that the PGPX is a 'get-ready-for-top-management' programme. Hence the Admissions Committee looks for relevant work experience in the candidates who would be a good fit for top management roles. A PhD/MPhil can be evaluated on case to case basis. We do not consider any part-time work experience.

### 5.6 Should the experience be in a for-profit organization?

Not necessary. PGPX training helps to take-up leadership positions in all kinds of organisations. Past PGPX candidates have come from various types of organisations – Academics/Education,

Armed Forces, Corporate, Entrepreneurial Roles/Start-ups, Government Services, NGOs, Public Sector, Police, Research and Development, etc.

5.7 How is the 'Leadership Potential' judged? [Back to Home](#)

Leadership potential will be judged from what you have mentioned about your career in the application form, essays and personal interview.

5.8 I have already completed a Post Graduate Diploma in Management/MBA and have been working since then. Will this earlier education be considered as a disqualification for the PGPX?

No. On the contrary, every educational qualification already achieved will help.

5.9 Can you share the profile of the earlier batches of PGPX? [Back to Home](#)

We have completed nine batches so far successfully. Profiles vary from batch to batch. The average profile information of the current batch is available at <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/programmes/pgpx/programme/current-batch-profile.html>

The average details of various parameters of the past PGPX batches are available at: <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/programmes/pgpx/programme/all-batch-comparative-stats.html>

5.10 My profile is different. Will I be considered for the next PGPX?

The profile information the batch is the 'average' of the batch.

5.11 Is there any reservation for people working outside India? Is there any reservation for company sponsored candidates?

No. We do not have reservation for any category. However the programme seeks diversity in terms of domestic and international students.

## 6. PGPX ADMISSION PROCESS

6.1 What are the various components of the PGPX Admissions Process? [Back to Home](#)

The PGPX Admission Process involves the following:

- Please refer to section 4.5 to know the important dates and processes.
- Interviews are held by IIMA faculty members at Newark (US), London (UK), Ahmedabad and Bangalore (new name - Bengaluru (India) only. In the last few years we have conducted video conference interviews for candidates based in Australia, Singapore, China and Africa.
- Candidates have to pay Rs. 2.0 lakh as commitment fee within dates specified during admission offer. Balance payment of fee can be paid in lump-sum or in instalments.
- Loan is available upto Rs. 30/- lakh from public sector banks. Details can be checked on our website at <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/programmes/pgpx/how-to-apply/fee-financialaid/financial-aid.html>

6.2 Will feedback on my application or interview be provided on request? [Back to Home](#)

IIMA has no mechanism to provide any feedback on individual applications or interviews. The results of shortlisting for interviews or final selection are given by the PGPX Admissions Committee which is put up on the web-site. On the day after the due date for result declaration, candidates are encouraged to login to the PGPX Application system and view their results.

6.3 Is the admission process different for sponsored candidates? [Back to Home](#)

No. All candidates, whether sponsored or not, will go through the same PGPX admission process.

6.4 I am a foreign (non-Indian) citizen. If admitted, will I need a visa? What are the other formalities that I need to fulfil? Are there any special facilities that I am entitled to?

PGPX is an international programme and candidates from all over the world are welcome. Non-Indian (foreign) participants will need to apply for a student visa at the appropriate Indian Embassy designated visa centre in the country of your stay/domicile. Please see the rules related to an Indian visa at <http://passportindia.gov.in/AppOnlineProject/online/visaServices>. For a list of Indian Embassies abroad, please visit <http://www.mea.gov.in/indian-missions-abroad.htm>. Please note that once you are offered an admission, you need to start early for processing your visa. You may have your own internal (your own country's) rules and regulations you need to comply with for obtaining various documents which you may have to submit as part of your visa application at the Indian Embassy. Sometimes this may take a long time.

As a measure of special gesture for foreign candidates who get admissions to the PGPX, the Admissions Committee has agreed to refund the fees of such candidates whose visa application is rejected. For such cases, the candidate must submit relevant proof such as copy of application letter and acknowledgement receipt, rejection letter from embassy or rejection stamp in passport, etc.

If selected, and once you arrive in Ahmedabad, there may be some other formalities that you would need to complete such as registering at the 'Foreigners' Regional Registration Office' which is usually the office of the local Police Commissioner. You can see the details at [http://mha.nic.in/pdfs/ForeignD-FRRO\\_version223.6.11.pdf](http://mha.nic.in/pdfs/ForeignD-FRRO_version223.6.11.pdf).

6.5 I am a foreign (non-Indian) citizen. Is any international scholarship available?

Yes. The PGPX at IIMA has been empanelled in the Govt. of India's 50 year old scholarship scheme of the 'Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation' (ITEC) Scholarship Programme as well as the Special Commonwealth Africa Assistance Programme (SCAAP) and Technical Cooperation Scheme of Colombo Plan (TCS of Colombo Plan) under which candidates who are citizens of 162 Partner Countries would be eligible for full scholarship from the Department of Programme Administration (DPA), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Govt. of India. The partner countries include countries from Asia, Africa, East Europe and Latin America. International participants who qualify and are admitted to the scholarship courses would be eligible for a return air-fare, full programme fee, monthly subsistence allowance, a stationery allowance and allowance for traveling in India.

6.6 What is the process for the ITEC Scholarship? [Back to Home](#)

- a Please study the scholarship details and the rules and regulations of application on the website at [www.itec.mea.gov.in](http://www.itec.mea.gov.in)
- b Apply online through the ITEC application portal at [www.itecgoi.in/meaportal/registerApplicant](http://www.itecgoi.in/meaportal/registerApplicant)
- c Take a print out (hard copy) of this online application and submit it to the nodal agency/institution of your country for ITEC/SCAAP/TCS of Colombo Plan for onward submission to the Indian Embassy/Mission. (Please check with the Indian Embassy/Mission of your country for the contact details of the Nodal Agency/Institution.)

- d Get nominated for the scholarship by the Indian Embassy/Mission of your country.
- e Get acceptance from IIMA.
- f Indian Embassy/Mission will arrange for your travel to India.

6.7 Once admitted, is deferment possible? If yes, what are the deferment rules and procedure? [Back to Home](#)

We do not have a stated deferment policy. However, based on the situation and requirement of the candidate deferment is given on a case-to-case basis only. **Deferment will be granted only for prime list candidates** The procedure followed in the past for a few deferment cases has been as follows:

- a The candidate has to justify his/her request for a deferment. (This will be placed before the Admissions Committee and they may approve or reject on a case-to-case basis.)
- b If the above is approved, the candidate pays the Commitment fee and an additional deferment fee of Rs. 2.0 lakh. These are non-refundable.
- c The total amount paid is adjustable against the fee of the next year. The applicable fee would be the fee of the new batch.
- d Deferment is only for one year and if the candidate fails to join the next year, total fee paid would be forfeited.
- e Once the application season for the next batch commences, confirmation from deferred candidates are once again taken in the last week before the close of the application season for the new batch.
- f The deferred candidate may be asked to pay an additional commitment fee of Rs. 1.0 lakh by the due date of 1st Commitment Fee for the next batch.
- g Once a deferral admission is granted, the deferred candidate will not be able to come back to the previous batch from which he/she has deferred to the next batch.
- h All rules and regulations, as amended from time to time, related to the admissions for the new batch will be applicable.

## 7. GMAT RELATED QUESTIONS

7.1 How does one take the GMAT test? [Back to Home](#)

Please register yourself at [www.mba.com](http://www.mba.com). GMAT is an international test conducted throughout the year at many locations. You can choose a convenient date and location which suits you.

7.2 How does one prepare for GMAT?

[www.mba.com](http://www.mba.com) provides many tips. For those who have registered at their site, there is a free online coaching facility at <http://newscenter.gmac.com/press-releases/graduate-management-admission-council-updates-free-1000047>. You can download the free coaching application at <http://www.mba.com/the-gmat/download-free-test-preparation-software/>

You can also look-up the free apps and questions banks such as <http://www.veritasprep.com/gmat-question-bank/> or <https://www.manhattanprep.com/gmat/resources/> or <http://www.discoverbusiness.us/education/online-mba/resources/gmat/> or <http://www.qsleap.com/>, <https://gmataconomist.com/>, etc.

Registering on blogs such as [www.GMATClub.com](http://www.GMATClub.com) may also help. They provide many good tips through free webinars on how to prepare for the GMAT Tests. IIMA page on [GMATClub.com](http://www.GMATClub.com) is available at <http://gmatclub.com/forum/iim-ahmedabad-290/>

By the way, PGPX students have over the years put up a lot of information on their blog. Take a look: <http://insideiimapgpx.wordpress.com/general-resources/>

You can also look at <http://mymbastory.com/> which is a blog started by a PGPX Alumnus – Mr. Anurag Singal of PGPX 2014-15 which publishes the stories of MBAs from all over the world. These stories, among other things, also contain tips on how they prepared for the MBA including the GMAT and/or other entrance tests.

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7.3 How does one select the PGPX on the GMAT website? [Back to Home](#)

Please go to <https://registration.mba.com/testtaker/asr/SchoolSearch/GMAC> and type in the search box or (select from drop-down menu) “Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad - One Year Post-Graduate Programme in Management for Executives (PGPX)”

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7.4 What is a valid GMAT score for the PGPX? [Back to Home](#)

For those applicants applying for the PGPX 2017-18 in **Round 1**, the valid GMAT score is score obtained for test taken between September 11, 2011 and September 11, 2016.

For those applicants applying for the PGPX 2017-18 in **Round 2**, the valid GMAT score is score obtained for test taken between November 14, 2011 and November 14, 2014.

If there is more than one test report for the valid range, the report with the highest total score (including the components of that report only) will be considered. (We will NOT pick up highest scores of various components from different reports.)

You need to ensure that you have selected ‘Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad’ as one of the Institutes to which GMAC will send the GMAT score. Otherwise you will have to pay them ([www.mba.com](http://www.mba.com)) additional US\$28/- to enable us receive your official score.

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7.5 What is the range of GMAT scores for accepted students?

The average GMAT scores of the past batches/intakes have been in the range of 695 to 728. This compares very well with the average [GMAT scores of top ranking international B-Schools](#).

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7.6 Will any separate/special entrance test be conducted for the PGPX other than the GMAT? [Back to Home](#)

IIMA does not conduct any separate/special entrance test for the PGPX. Only GMAT score is accepted.

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7.7 Is there a minimum GMAT score as an eligibility criterion for application?

No there is no minimum GMAT score requirement to be eligible to apply. Because of the high competition for an admission in the PGPX, the asking score gets pushed up. Therefore, higher the GMAT score, better the chance of being shortlisted for an interview.

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7.8 If I have more than one GMAT score, which will be considered? [Back to Home](#)

The highest score amongst the tests taken during the valid period will be considered.

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7.9 Is it sufficient to submit the application with the test centre score or do you need the official score from GMAT before the last date?

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We will accept the test centre (unofficial) GMAT score from candidates up to the last date of application period (Sept 12) which is the deadline for receiving the application forms. Candidates are required to have the official score sent from GMAT to IIMA soon after their submission of scores/application. The application will be considered incomplete unless the GMAT score is received by us.

- 7.10 Will the IIMA's Combined Admission Test (CAT) scores instead of the GMAT be considered?

No. For the PGPX, we do not consider CAT scores. Since PGPX is an international programme, we consider only the GMAT scores which allow international candidates to apply for the PGPX.

## 8. PGPX FEES & OTHER EXPENSES

- 8.1 What is the estimated cost for the PGPX? [Back to Home](#)

*For PGPX 2017-19 batch, the fee will be announced before admission offers are made. Currently PGPX fee is Rs. 26.5 lakhs (inclusive of taxes).* PGPX fee is usually a packaged/bundled fee which includes, for every student, tuition, books and course materials, library, internet charges, placement, alumni, international immersion, and boarding and lodging charges for the period of stay on the campus. However no fee/part of fee is refunded if any student chooses not to consume/utilise any facility. The food includes breakfast, lunch and dinner. However, for those students staying in Married Students Housing (MSH) food charges are not included in the Programme Fee. Utilities such as electricity, telephone, laundry, etc. are additional and to be paid as per usage charges.

- 8.2 Are there other costs to be taken into consideration? If yes what? [Back to Home](#)

Students have to pay caution money of Indian Rs. 35000/- for single accommodation and Rs. 70000/- for MSH to be paid before you arrive at the campus. This non-interest bearing caution money will be returned within 3 months after the completion of the programme, adjusting for pending recoveries on account of utilities and other services or infrastructure (if any).

- 8.3 Are there any job opportunities on campus that can be pursued while the programme is on, to lower the overall cost impact?

No. However spouses of PGPX participants are encouraged to apply and work in the campus on any temporary assignments if available.

## 9. FINANCIAL SUPPORT OPTIONS FOR PGPX

- 9.1 What are the scholarship options available for the students? [Back to Home](#)

There are no scholarships associated with the Programme Fee. However on completion of the programme, following awards have been given in the past:

- The ITEC Scholarship for Non-Indian participants from ITEC Partner Countries as described in point 6.5 and 6.6 above.
- Gold Medal for the top ranked student.
- The top 5% (including the Gold Medallist as mentioned above) will receive a certificate and a cash award Rs. 30000/- each.
- Arun Duggal ward of All Round Excellence for PGPX Student instituted by Mr [Arun Duggal](#) based on the criteria such as Academic Excellence, Leadership Qualities, Extracurricular Activities and Popularity. The award is a Certificate and Cash Prize of Rs. 1,00,000/-

- e The Rising Star Award of Academic Merit for PGPX Students which is sponsored by the Shapoorji Pallonji group. This is given to the batch topper. The Award consists of a Plaque/Certificate and Cash Prize of Rs. 1,00,000/-

9.2 What are the options of availing a loan? [Back to Home](#)

Normally many nationalised and private banks are interested in offering students loans. Upto Rs. 30 lakh loan is available without collateral for IIMA's PGPX candidates.

9.3 What is the amount of loan that a student is eligible for and what are the documents required? At what rate of interest is the loan available? What is the date from which loan repayment begins? What is the maximum period in which a loan is to be repaid?

State Bank of India gives collateral free loan of upto Rs. 30 lakh and Central Bank gives upto Rs. 25 lakh. Please [click here](#) for the details of loan schemes from banks available for PGPX. For exact details, please contact the bank/s directly since the interest rates change from time to time.

International students, apart from their own banking sources, can approach bank branches of Indian banks in their countries.

**10. PGPX INTAKE/HOSTEL/ACCOMMODATION/OTHER FACILITIES**

10.1 How many intakes/batches of the PGPX do you admit in a year and when?

There is only one intake/batch in a year. The programme starts in April and ends in the following March.

10.2 What is the size of the PGPX intake/batch? [Back to Home](#)

Our aim is to take 90 students per intake/batch.

10.3 What is the % of foreign students in an average class/intake?

The course is open to participants from all countries. So far the number of foreign (those with non-Indian passports/citizenships) students have varied from 1 to 10 in the various batches. We have another 8 – 12 Indian citizens with permanent residencies in foreign countries. However more than half the batch comes from foreign locations.

10.4 Is staying on the institute campus mandatory?

Yes, this is a fully residential programme. Accommodation will be available for both single and married students. Much course work and group assignments are involved in the programme due to which it is imperative that the students live on the campus and study and work together. The programme is quite rigorous and has more 700 contact hours and requires preparation time of more than 1500 hours.

10.5 What will be the nature of the Single Room Accommodation? [Back to Home](#)

One room + bath (total built up area: 203 sq. ft.) Each room has furniture including single bed with mattress, pillow, bed sheet, blanket (to be subsequently maintained by student), teapoy, computer chair, soft board, wooden cabinet, TV table, single sofa and wardrobe, air conditioner with remote, a mini refrigerator, TV with remote (Cable connection available on payment basis), telephone point with one instrument, internet connection point, drinking water through RO unit in floor pantry, hot water facility is available in the bathroom (through solar heating system), common washing machine facility is also available, wall clock and dressing mirror. Please look up

<http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/institute/campus/tour/imdc.html> for a 360° view of the single room accommodation at the IMDC, New Campus, IIMA. Please do not bring any of your own stuff such as refrigerators, TV, cooking stoves, cabinets, etc. to the campus.

10.6 What will be the nature of the Married Students' Housing Accommodation?

Two rooms + kitchen + bath + balcony (total built up area: 676 sq. ft.) Both the rooms are fully furnished with One double bed, one single bed, dining table with four chairs, side tables, wardrobe, TV table, two kitchen storage cabinets in the modular kitchen, two single sofa, center teapoy, wall clock, bathroom mirror, book shelf, shoe rack, dressing mirror, computer unit drawer, table & chair, soft board, chick blinds, bed sheet sets for double and single bed, three pillows, six pillow covers and one blanket each for double and single bed (to be subsequently maintained & laundry charges to be borne by the students), internet connection point, window air conditioner in bed room with remote, refrigerator 180 Ltr, two-burner gas stove and a piped gas connection, TV with remote (Cable connection available on payment basis), telephone point with one instrument, geyser in the bathroom, towel rack, drinking water is available through a contractor on payment basis, electric point and space in the bathroom for personal washing machine (common washing machine is available). Please look up <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/institute/campus/tour/mshs-living-room.html> for a 360° view of the living room and <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/institute/campus/tour/mshs-bedroom.html> for a 360° view of the bedroom for the Married Students Housing. Please do not bring any of your own stuff such as refrigerators, TV, cooking stoves, cabinets, etc. to the campus.

10.7 Can I change my accommodation later during the year, if need be? **[Back to Home](#)**

Yes. You are allowed only one change during the year, if there is vacancy. Also various other conditions apply.

10.8 What are the other facilities available to the students in the campus?

There are many other facilities for the IIMA community, especially students on campus such as:

- a World-class, state of the art amphitheatre styled air conditioned classrooms which have Wi-Fi, and fitted with computers, over-head projectors and screens and wire-less public address system.
- b Syndicate rooms for each study group (The PGPX batch is divided into 15 small study groups with 5 – 6 students in a group—called syndicate groups) for group studies/projects/assignments. Each room will have a locker, printer and table and chairs and Wi-Fi/LAN connectivity.
- c Vegetarian and non-vegetarian meals are served in the dining hall. Please look-up <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/institute/campus/facilities/food.html> for information on the food available for the students on campus.
- D Facilities for indoor/outdoor games and recreation activities are available on subscription basis for self and family. Games such as Badminton, Basketball, Cricket, Football (Soccer), Hockey, Table Tennis, Tennis and Volleyball are very popular among the student community. Further, fitness conscious students can enrol on payment basis in the air-conditioned gymnasium or go for a jog around the scenic campus. For those who prefer to stay indoors, there is Snookers, Chess, Carom or Bridge. Please look up at <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/institute/campus/facilities/infrastructure/sports-complex.html> for more information.
- e There is a Student Activity Block (SAB) in the new campus which has facilities such as lounge, gymnasium, snacks counter, indoor games (caroms, chess) facilities, dance pit, etc.

- f Many PGPX and most FPM students live in Married Student Housing (MSH) in the campus. The spouses of these students have their own clubs and there are many children on campus. There are dedicated children playing areas as well as a crèche in the campus. Student families also get domestic help easily in the campus. Facilities to buy daily groceries, vegetables, and provisions are easily available within walking distance of campus.
- g There are many good [schools nearby](#) for families wanting to admit their children in Ahmedabad while they stay here.
- h There is a dispensary on the campus with resident doctors including a Gynaecologist.
- i There is also a Provision Store
- j There is also an India Post Office situated on the campus. We also have tie-ups with reputed national and international courier service companies such as Blue Dart, DHL, DTDC, which provide door-step pick-up and delivery services within the campus.
- j There is a branch of the State Bank of India with ATM facility as well as an AXIS Bank ATM
- k There are various food cafes on campus.
- l Car/Two wheeler parking facilities. You may bring your vehicles to the campus if you love traveling across the city or region during breaks. However, if you do not have your own vehicle, you can always use the BRTS, which has a bus-stop just outside the campus gate or you can use the Auto Rickshaw which are quite economical.

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10.9 How about Network Connectivity? [Back to Home](#)

IIMA has one of the best computer and internet networks of the country. High-speed servers, running on a variety of platforms to suit all kinds of requirements, support the entire network. The Institute's network is linked to the Internet via a dedicated leased line enabling round the clock Internet connectivity on the campus. Every classroom has a computer connected to this network that allows faculty to retrieve relevant information from their desktop or the central database. This connectivity helps both the students and the faculty considerably in their research and projects. Students are expected to bring their own lap-tops. Wi-Fi has also been introduced at various places in the campus. You can know more about our IT infrastructure at <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/institute/campus/facilities/infrastructure/information-technology-infrastructure.html>

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10.10 Can I get additional internet connectivity for my spouse or other family members staying with me in the MSH?

The Institute will not be able to arrange for one with an IIMA email id. However, you can arrange to have your own private set-up for which various conditions apply.

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10.11 How about Library Services? [Back to Home](#)

With more than 170,000 books, over 41,500 bound volumes of periodicals, over 1,000 subscribed journals, more than 1,800 educational CDs and over 2,000 working papers and dissertations; and more than 70 electronic databases, the Vikram Sarabhai Library is an invaluable resource. It is committed to providing widest possible access to information and this commitment is reflected in the range of services provided by it. Its website <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/library/> is linked to various online databases that are available from any networked PC within the library and the Institute. The library spares no efforts to fulfill its mission by selecting, acquiring, organizing, reserving, maintaining, and providing access to a collection of materials (both print and non-print) and electronic resources that address the interest and needs of the members such as company/industry/country databases,

E-journal databases, back files of E-journal databases, legal and other databases, specialized search software and services. The library has also been publishing two quarterly information bulletins since 1998 (a) Current Contents in Management: Marketing and (b) Current Index of Management: Marketing. It has started NICMAN (National Information Centre for Management) Membership in order to help/facilitate business/management related researchers in their research. Recently it has also started documenting research in marketing in the context of emerging economies. Some of the data bases that our library subscribes to are as follows:

#### Company/Industry/Country Databases

Datamonitor 360, CAPITALINE, CMIE - Alpha, Business Beacon, Capex, EIS, First Source, IAS, IECO, India Harvest, India Trades, M & A, Prowess and SAS, CRISINFAC, Datastream (Incorporating Worldscope), DSI Data Service, EIU Country Reports (Brazil, Russia & China), Euromonitor (GMID), FT.com, FT Archive (1888-2006), Gartner, INDIASTATS, INDICUS (District GDP 2007), InfraLine - Coal Sector, Oil & Gas Sector, and Power Sector, Invest India, Insight, ISI Emerging Markets – Asia, NASSCOM, Prime Database, Reuters 3000 Extra Hosted Terminal and Reuters Knowledge, Venture Intelligence, Economic Outlook-CMIE

#### E-journal Databases

ABI / Inform Complete (2000+ Titles), ACM Digital Library (40+ Titles), EBSCO Academic Search Premier (4500+ Titles), EBSCO Business Source Complete (1200+ Titles), EBSCO Psycarticles (66 Titles), EBSCO Econlit (Abstracts), Elsevier - Business Management & Accounting, Decision Science Economics, Econometrics Finance & Computer Science (400+ Titles), Emerald Management Extra (170+ Titles), IEEE Electronic Library (IEL), IGI Full-Text (50+ Titles), INFORMS (12 Titles), Indian Journals.com – Business/Economics/Management Package (30 Titles) JSTOR (1300+ Titles), Kluwer - Springer Link (33 Titles), Oxford University Press (86 Titles), Project Muse (296 Titles), Sage (400+ Titles), Taylor and Francis (41 Titles), Wiley-Blackwell (500+ Titles), c-balance footprint reporter

#### Back-Files of E-Journals

Elsevier (Agriculture & Biological Science; Social Science; Pharmacology, Toxicology & Pharmaceuticals, Business Management & Accounting, Decision Science Economics, Econometrics and Finance) (550+ Titles), Emerald Management Extra (170+ Titles)

#### Legal & Other Databases

AIR (All India Reporter) High Court (1965-2010), Criminal Law (1960-2010), Supreme Court (1950-2010), Privy Council (1930-1950), ISI Web of Knowledge (Citation), J-Gate, Papers-Invited, Westlaw (including INDLAW), World Bank E-Library, World Development Indicators, Global Development Finance, Global Economic Monitor

#### Specialized Search Software

360 Core A-Z, 360 Federated Search and Remote Login for internal users, Library Press Display\_Newspaper Direct

- 10.12 What are the preparations I need to put in before coming to the campus? What are all the documents that I need to bring? Is there anything else I need to bring? [Back to Home](#)

Please note the following suggestions carefully before you embark for IIMA:

- a While we do send some basic preparatory course materials to the students in the areas of Quantitative Techniques, Finance and Accounts and MS Excel, it would be good if you can brush up these skills on your own as well. Perhaps, you may want to purchase the 'ESSENTIAL Prep' from GMAC which helps you to get acquainted with the fundamental concepts and skills related to Accounts, Finance, Quantitative Skills and Statistics. (This is entirely voluntary.) Please see [http://www.essential-prep.com/school.html?utm\\_source=lm\\_16&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=apr14-](http://www.essential-prep.com/school.html?utm_source=lm_16&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=apr14-)

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- b Please bring all original documents related to your educational and work experience with you such as your mark sheets/transcripts, degree certificates, offer letters, work experience certificates, relieving/sabbatical letters, etc.
- c Please bring your other personal documents such as address proofs, date of birth proof, income proofs (Income Tax returns, income certificates, bank pass-books, etc.) which you may need at the time of visa applications for your international immersion programme when you will be going to any international university. **You may not get the time/opportunity to go back home later to collect these. Neither is it wise to arrange to courier these to avoid risk of losing important documents in transit.**
- d Please also bring your passport (along with old passports if any). Please ensure that your passport is valid upto April of the next year. (E.g. for PGPX 2017-18 batch, your passport should be valid upto April 2018. For international candidates especially on ITEC Scholarship validity upto Sept 2018 would be ideal. **Please arrange to get your passport renewed or a fresh one issued before you come to the campus.**
- e Please arrange for Medical Health Insurance for self and accompanying family members for at least Rs. 1,50,000/- for at least one year stay in the campus. Please note that sometimes, candidates are covered under the group insurance provided by employers to self or the spouse. This is acceptable as long as the amount of insurance and the period of coverage are as per our requirement. A 'cash-less' insurance policy is preferable and please ensure that (God forbid) nearby hospitals (such as Sterling Hospitals, SAL Hospital, Sanjeevni Hospital, are included in the cashless hospital network.) 'Family Floater' policies are also acceptable.
- f Medical Fitness Certificate. (As per the Proforma/Format provided.) Please remember to bring medicines etc. which you may be currently using, if any.
- g Please bring your own laptop/notebook computers which will be good enough for MS Word, Excel and other study and research purposes. Please note carefully the suggested configurations of your laptops in the admissions pack. Sometimes particular software/applications may not work on your machine if you do not have a particular minimum configuration. It may also happen that if your laptop has a very high-end/latest configuration or if the settings are for a different region/country, then also it may not work properly/completely when you bring it here. Hence you need to ensure that your machine should be compatible with all environments.
- h Finally, please do bring all necessary personal things that you would need to stay comfortably as per your own standard of living (but not furniture and accessories as explained in the previous question.)
- i There is no formal dress code for daily classes. However some faculty may not like students being too casual in the class-room and hence it would be good if sleeveless shirts/tops and half pants are avoided inside class-rooms. International students may please note local cultural sensitivities when moving within and outside campus.

For participation in conferences and placement interviews you may need formals. For convocation, the Institute will provide the gowns for a nominal charge.

It would be good to wear dresses which keep you fully covered to protect against insect bites.

- j Please note that Ahmedabad being situated on the Tropic of Cancer, weather is at most times, hot and dry with temperatures going up to 47.00 C / 116.60 F during the summer

season (April – June). Hence light cotton dresses are most comfortable. Winter (Dec to Feb) temperatures may fall up to 8 – 9 C / 48.20 F. June/July to Sept/Oct is Monsoon (rainy) season.

Please note that all classrooms, syndicate rooms, accommodation, offices are air-conditioned. Most things are available inside the campus and very rarely do students go out of campus.

- k If you need to send your stuff/luggage to the campus prior to your arrival, we suggest that you take the services of any reputed courier companies or private packers such as [Writer Relocations](#).

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#### 11. CONTACT PGPX [Back to Home](#)

PGPX In-charge,  
Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, New Campus, IMDC Block,  
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