



NATIONAL LAW SCHOOL OF INDIA UNIVERSITY

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NOTIFICATION

ADMISSIONS TO THE MASTERS IN PUBLIC POLICY (MPP) PROGRAMME

NLSIU announces admission to its 2-year MPP programme for the academic year 2026-27. The Academic Year will commence on July 1, 2026.

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

The University offers the Master's Programme in Public Policy – a two-year interdisciplinary programme focusing on the interface between policy, social sciences, and the law. Introduced in 2014, this programme provides comprehensive training in designing public policies for the complex societal problems, translating policies into deliverable programmes, and in evaluating the efficacy of policies. Through this programme, NLSIU trains young professionals to become policy practitioners capable of supporting inclusive and sustainable development. Students of this programme have gone on to work with leading consultancies, corporations, policy think tanks, NGOs, inter-governmental institutions, research organizations and with the Government. Now in its second decade, the programme has gone through a comprehensive multi-stakeholder curriculum review process this year, incorporating recent developments in the field such as multi methods research, experiential learning engagements and stronger foundations in econometrics, law, project management and policy communication.

ELIGIBILITY

Any person holding a Bachelor's degree in any discipline from a recognized national or international University is eligible to apply to the programme. Applicants in the General Category should have graduated with an aggregate of not less than 45% of total marks. Applicants in the SC or ST or OBC-NCL or PWD category should have graduated with an aggregate of not less than 40% of total marks. Students in the final year of their Bachelor's degree are also eligible to apply. However, their final offer of admission shall be contingent upon successful completion of their Bachelor's degree with the minimum aggregate marks specified above. Proof of completion of the qualifying degree has to be submitted no later than December 31, 2026.

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

The maximum intake for the MPP programme in the Academic Year 2026-27 is 60 and ONLY students qualifying as per the criteria set out below will be admitted. Admission to the programme will be through an all-India written admissions test, the NLSAT-MPP.

NLSAT-MPP

All candidates seeking admission to the programme shall appear for the National Law School Admission Test for Masters in Public Policy (NLSAT-MPP). The NLSAT-MPP will have a single question paper comprising two parts – Parts A and B. All candidates shall be required to attempt both parts of the question paper. The examination shall be for a duration of 150 minutes.

Part A

Part A will consist of Multiple-Choice Questions and shall be for a maximum of 75 marks. Each question will be of one mark. 0.25 marks shall be deducted for each wrong answer, and for each unanswered question.

Part A will constitute the first stage of the admissions process. A rank list of candidates will be prepared based on their performance in Part A of the NLSAT-MPP. To be eligible for evaluation of Part B of the NLSAT-MPP paper, a candidate should have secured more than zero marks in Part A of the paper.

From amongst these eligible candidates, Part B of the NLSAT-MPP answer scripts will be evaluated in a ratio of 1:5 based on performance in Part A. That is, five candidates per seat available will qualify for the evaluation of Part B of the examination.

Part B

Part B will consist of questions related to policy, and quantitative skills which shall be for a maximum of 75 marks. A fresh and final rank list shall be prepared based on the cumulative performance in Parts A and B of the NLSAT-MPP.

Offers of admission shall be made according to this final rank list subject to the candidate satisfying the following conditions:

- (a) The candidate should have secured more than zero marks in both Parts A and B of the NLSAT-MPP.
- (b) A candidate seeking admission in the General Category or EWS categories must secure a score above the 75th percentile of the eligible candidates in the aggregate score of Parts A and B. A candidate seeking admission in the SC or ST or OBC-NCL or PWD category

must secure a score above the 40th percentile of the eligible candidates in the aggregate score of Parts A and B.

In cases where more than one candidate obtains the same aggregate score of Part A and Part B, the marks obtained in Part B shall be used to break the tie between them and determine their rank.

Note: The applicable reservations policy shall be applied at each stage of the admissions process.

IMPORTANT DATES

The NLSAT-MPP will be held on **April 26, 2026 between 10.00 am to 12.30 pm** in centres across the country. Application forms for the programme will be available on NLSIU's website from November 15, 2025. Application fees of Rs. 2500 (Rupees Two thousand five hundred only) shall be payable at the time of submission of the application. Candidates belonging to the SC or ST or OBC-NCL or PWD or EWS shall be required to pay Rs. 2000 (Rupees Two Thousand only). Applications shall be accepted till 11:59 pm on **March 23, 2026**.

The final admissions list will be published by the end of May 2026. A candidate's provisional admission will become final only after verification of the originals of documents and payment of fees. The Academic Year will commence from July 1, 2026.

NLSAT will be held in several centres across the country. The list of centres will be available on the application portal. The syllabus for the NLSAT-MPP will be available on the website of the University in the first week of January. Fees and other details of the programme are also available on the website of the University.

INTAKE AND RESERVATION

Seats shall be reserved as follows:

Category	Percentage of seats reserved
Scheduled Caste	15%
Scheduled Tribe	7.5%
Other Backward Classes (NCL)	27%
Economically Weaker Sections	10%

5% of the total intake shall be reserved horizontally for Persons with Disabilities (PWD). 30% of the total intake shall be reserved horizontally for Women. 25% of the total intake shall be reserved horizontally (compartmentalised) for Karnataka Students*.

*** Karnataka Students Category:**

1. Candidates who have studied for not less than 7 years in a recognized educational institution in Karnataka shall be eligible to be considered as 'Karnataka Students.'
2. Candidates who have not completed seven years of study in Karnataka shall be eligible to apply under the Karnataka Students category if they fall under any of the below categories:
 - a) Children of defence personnel/ex-servicemen, who at the time of joining service, have declared their hometown to be in the State of Karnataka, and who have served or are serving outside Karnataka, corresponding to the candidate's years of study outside Karnataka.
 - b) Children of employees of the Karnataka State Government who have served or are serving outside Karnataka corresponding to the candidate's years of study outside Karnataka.
 - c) Children of serving or retired employees belonging to the Karnataka cadre of the All India Services (IAS/IFS/IPS), who have served or are serving outside Karnataka corresponding to the candidate's years of study outside Karnataka.
 - d) Children of working or retired employees in the Central Armed Police Force service, who upon joining service declared their hometown to be in the State of Karnataka, and who have served or are serving outside Karnataka, corresponding to the candidate's years of study outside Karnataka.

Illustration: If the candidate has studied in Karnataka for three (3) years, they must prove that their parent/s were serving outside Karnataka for at least four (4) years corresponding to their own period of study outside Karnataka.

If the candidate has not studied in Karnataka continuously for at least one (1) year, they must prove that their parent/s were serving outside Karnataka for at least seven (7) years corresponding to their own period of study outside Karnataka.

3. Eligible candidates must keep their Study Certificates issued by their School/s and other relevant documents ready to be submitted at the time of counselling/admission.

NS Nigam

Registrar I/C

Date: 14.11.2025