

Qualifications Guide

INDIA

Undergraduate

Year 12 / 10+2

Board	AAA	AAB	ABB	BBB
CBSE (National Board)	90% average	85% average	80% average.	75% average
ISC (National Board) Reputedly broader & harder than CBSE	90% average	85% average	80% average.	75% average
West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary Education e.g. Kolkata Has a broad curriculum and higher level material some at UG level. Strict marking.	80% average	75% average	70% average	65% average
Maharashtra State Board of Higher Secondary Education e.g. Mumbai / Pune	90% average	85% average	80% average.	75% average
Tamil Nadu (Chennai) / Karnataka (Bangalore)	93% average	88% average	85% average	82% average
Other Boards (e.g. Kerala, Goa, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat)	N/a	95% average	90% average	85% average

Description / Offer making:

India has 2 national boards (CBSE and ISC) and a number of regional boards. All the boards conduct exams at the end of year 10 (GCSE equivalent) and at the end of year 12 (AS level per subject). Under some boards students have the option to follow different subject streams: Commerce (with or without Maths), Social Studies, Arts or Science.

Students normally take English plus an Indian language and a range of elective subjects. Exeter's recognition is normally on the basis of a group of 5 or more subjects excluding the Indian language and subjects like Physical Education.

1. **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. This national board conducts exams at the end of Year 10 (GCSE equivalent) and at the end of Year 12. Website <http://www.cbseacademic.in/#> and syllabus <http://cbseacademic.in/curriculum.html>
2. Council for The **Indian School Certificate Examinations**: The council was established in 1958 by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate to ensure that its examinations become adapted to the educational needs of the country and assign the ultimate control of the same on the council. The Council for the Indian School Certificate Examination conducts three examinations, namely, the Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE - Year 10); The Indian School Certificate (ISC - Year 12) and the Certificate in Vocational Education (CVE - Year 12).
 - a. **ICSE – Year 10**: The Indian Certificate of Secondary Education has been designed to provide an examination in a course of general education, in accordance with the recommendations of the new education policy 1986, through the medium of English
 - b. **ISC – Year 12**: The Indian School Certificate Examination is an examination, through the medium of English, designed in accordance with the recommendations of the new education policy 1986, after a two-year course of studies beyond the Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (Year 10) examination or its equivalent.

Subjects of Examination (ISC Year 12)

Compulsory Subject - English					
Elective Subjects					
An Indian language	Geography	Accounts	Biology	Computer Science	Physical Education
A Modern Foreign language	Sociology	Business Studies	Home Science	Geometrical & Mechanical Drawing	Environmental Science
A Classical language	Psychology	Mathematics	Fashion Designing	Geometrical & Building Drawing	Biotechnology
History	Economics	Physics	Electricity & Electronics	Art	
Political Science	Commerce	Chemistry	Engineering Science	Music (Indian or Western)	

Notes:

1. All candidate for the Pass Certificate must enter and sit for English (compulsory), with three, four or five elective subjects and must have been evaluated internally by the school and secured a pass grade in Socially Useful Productive Work and Community Service (compulsory)
2. All elective subjects are not offered at all schools
3. Statement of Marks will be issued, the pass mark for each subject is 40%

Website: <http://www.cisce.org/home.aspx>

Syllabus: ICSE Year 10 - http://www.cisce.org/icse_X_Syllabus_2012-13.html and ISC Year 12 - http://www.cisce.org/isc_XII_Syllabus_2012-13.html

c. Certificate in Vocational Education (CVE - Year 12) – Not deemed equivalent for entry to UG programmes at Exeter.

3. **Maharashtra State Board** of Secondary (Year 10) and Higher Secondary (Year 12) Education. Students studying under the Maharashtra State Board have the option to take up an Art, Science or Commerce stream (for Year 11 and Year 12) which entails a certain choice of elective subjects in the Year 12 examinations.

Compulsory Subjects (4): English, A Modern Indian / Foreign / Classical Language, Environment Education, Health and Physical Education

Elective Subjects (4): Choice of subjects dependent on Arts, Science and Commerce stream

The pass mark for each subject is 35%

Website: <http://www.msbschse.ac.in/newsite/newhome.html> and syllabus http://www.msbschse.ac.in/newsite/Syllab_PDF/Syllabus11_12th.pdf

4. **West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary (Year 12) Education**

Language subjects (2)

Compulsory subject (1) – Environmental education

Elective subjects (3 to 4)

Website: <http://www.webel-india.com/wbchse/html/index.html> and syllabus <http://www.webel-india.com/wbchse/html/syllabus.html>

5. **Tamil Nadu State Board of School Examination:** The Government of Tamil Nadu constituted the Board for School Examination viz "Tamil Nadu State Board of School Examination" by merging the existing two separate boards (1) Board of Secondary Education and (2) Board of Higher Secondary Examinations.

Language subject (1)

English (1)

Elective subjects (4)

Check if the student has studied in the English medium

Students must secure 70 marks each in all six subjects out of 200 to be eligible for award

Website: <http://www.tn.gov.in/dge/aboutus.htm>

6. **Department of Pre University Education, Karnataka:** The Department of Pre-University, Government of Karnataka is the organization for implementation of Higher Secondary (Year 12) Education in the state

Website: <http://pue.kar.nic.in/>

7. **Other State Boards for Year 12:** Assessed on individual merit, and excellent results
- Higher Secondary Education, Government of Kerala - the department conducts courses in Science, Humanities and Commerce streams in the Higher Secondary Schools - <http://www.dhsekerala.gov.in/>
 - Board of Intermediate Education, Andhra Pradesh - <http://bieap.gov.in/aboutus.html>
 - Goa Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education - <http://www.gbsmse.gov.in/>
 - Gujarat Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Board - <http://gseb.org/gseb/default.aspx>

Individual year 12 subjects are not directly equivalent to an A level subject but rather somewhere between AS & A2 depending on the board. The table below is therefore provided for indicative guidance only and assessments should be made based on e.g. the relevance of the pathway and combination of subjects studied where specific subjects are a pre-requisite

AS level equivalence or better	CBSE / ISC / West Bengal / Maharashtra / Tamil Nadu / Karnataka	Kolkata	Other Boards
A	91-100 / A1 / 10	81-90 / A2/ 9	Not possible to provide an assessment
B	81-90 / A2/ 9	71-80 / B1 / 8	
C	71-80 / B1 / 8	61-70 / B2 / 7	

For enquiries from holders of (usually more vocational) **diplomas** – please see Appendix 2.

English Language

Students who achieve the following minimum grades in their year 12 English subject at the first attempt are exempted from IELTS / TOEFL test requirement:

Year 12 Board	IELTS 6.5 equivalent	IELTS 7.0 equivalent
CBSE / ISC / West Bengal	65	75
Maharashtra	70	80
Tamil Nadu / Karnataka	75	85
Other state boards	Not accepted	Not accepted

CBSE board is often taught in English/Hindi, ISC board in English only. Top schools all teach in English and generally students with the funding to study overseas will regard English as their first language.

Postgraduate

Bachelors degree types	Institution	State	1st equivalent	2:1 equivalent	2:2 equivalent
(across all)	University of Delhi University of Calcutta	Delhi W Bengal	60%+	55%+	50%
BA	University of Mumbai University of Pune (Engineering degrees)	Maharashtra Maharashtra	65%+	60%+ in <i>final year</i> (as long as also min 50% in first 2 years of study)	55% in <i>final year</i> (as long as also min 50% in first 2 years of study)
BSc BCom (Commerce) BBA (Business Administration) BE (Engineering) BTech (usually Engineering / Biosciences)	Anna University (if expressed as a %) University of Pune University of Madras University of Bangalore Panjab University Guru Nanak Dev University Jadavpur University Karnatak University Tata Institute of Social Sciences Punjabi University Birla Institute of Technology (BIT) (if expressed as a %)	Tamil Nadu Maharashtra Tamil Nadu Karnataka Punjab Punjab W Bengal Karnataka Maharashtra Punjab Jharkhand	65%+	60%+	55%
Universities using GPA system (out of 10)					
LLB (Law: 3 or 5 yrs)	any Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) – <i>see Appendix 3</i> Birla Institute of Technology (BIT), Ranchi Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Pilani AMITY University	Various Jharkhand Rajasthan	6.8+ 7.3+	6.5+ 7.0+	5.5 6.5

	<p>any National Institute of Technology (NIT) – see <i>Appendix 3</i> SASTRA University West Bengal Institute / University of Technology Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) Jaypee Institute of Information Technology ANNA University (if expressed as gpa) Karnatak University (if expressed as gpa) any National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) – see <i>Appendix 3</i></p> <p>SRM University Dr M.G.R Educational and Research Institute Bharath University KIIT University Marathwada Krishi Vidyapeeth Uni Manipal Institute of Technology / Manipal University Dr D.Y. Patil University Nirma University Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University</p> <p><u>Universities using GPA system (out of 4):</u> Manipal University (<i>if twinning programme with US partner</i>) Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS) Symbiosis International University</p>	<p>Delhi/Lucknow/ Jaipur Various</p> <p>Tamil Nadu</p> <p>W Bengal Tamil Nadu Uttar Pradesh Tamil Nadu Karnataka</p> <p>Various</p> <p>Tamil Nadu Tamil Nadu</p> <p>Tamil Nadu Orissa Maharashtra Karnataka</p> <p>Maharashtra Gujarat Maharashtra</p> <p>Karnataka</p> <p>Maharashtra Maharashtra</p>	<p>8+</p> <p>8.3+</p> <p>3.7+</p> <p>3.5+</p> <p>3.5+</p>	<p>7.5+</p> <p>8.0+</p> <p>3.3+</p> <p>3.2+</p> <p>3.2+</p>	<p>7.0</p> <p>7.5</p> <p>2.8</p> <p>2.7</p> <p>2.7</p>
All other recognised universities / institutions					
Insufficient information upon which to differentiate degree class. Therefore:	Various	Min 60%			

	60% / 8.0 GPA / 4.0 GPA / 3.0 GPA minimums as a safeguard equivalent to 2.1		8.0 GPA (out of 10) 4.0 GPA (out of 5) 3.0 GPA (out of 4)		
	IILM, offering <i>University of Bradford (UK) BA degrees</i> Welingkar Institute, offering <i>London External BA/BSc degrees</i>		70%+ = 1:1	60-69% = 2:1	50-59% = 2:2

Description / offer making: Indian Bachelors degrees are normally 3 years, but Engineering 4 years, and Law can be 5 years post-year XII, or 3 years after any other degree.

Degree classification for the majority of universities is based on the final two years of study. The University of Delhi assesses all three years. The University of Mumbai (and University of Pune *Engineering* degrees) take only the final year into account, hence a need to check minimum 50% performance in previous years.

Many universities have multiple colleges affiliated to them. Whilst an over-simplification, consider only the *awarding institution* (i.e. the *university*) when making an offer.

Indian Masters are equivalent to UK Masters. They are normally 2 years (4 semesters) in duration. Entry to MPhil / PhD appropriate subject to performance (benchmark = 60%+)

Post-graduate Diploma courses exist in various subjects, but vary significantly in quality and alone are unlikely to compensate for poor undergraduate performance.

Appendix 1:

Useful resources:

NARIC: Institution listing for a full list of recognised *universities* see India; Note – individual *colleges* will not be given here, but a college should be affiliated to a recognised university, or if autonomous, should be accredited by the relevant regulatory authority for the programme it offers.

Association of Indian Universities: Provides a comprehensive university listing: www.aiuweb.org
Click on 'Members Listing' tab.

University Grants Commission: Lists institutions including 'deemed universities' and autonomous colleges (and also regulatory authorities): www.ugc.ac.in/index.html. Click on 'Inside HE' then see: 'State Universities', 'Deemed Universities' or 'Colleges'.

National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC): Includes a *quality assessment*, at: <http://www.naacindia.org/> Hover on "Assessment & Accreditation" (top of page) then click "Accredited Institutions", then search by the relevant Indian state. Please note - this is not a full list of Indian universities / colleges because assessment is on a voluntary basis.

Appendix 2:

Enquiries from Diploma holders for entry to Bachelors:

The Diplomas are usually awarded by the State Board of Technical Education, or increasingly, by Edexcel with a local partner. These are mostly in Science or Engineering and vary in length from 1 to 4 years. Academic students are less likely to follow this route. Check if the qualification was post year 10 or 12. Maximum entry-point to Bachelors degree post-year 10 + diploma is first year.

- One year diploma = equiv to Vocational GCSE Grades A* to C.
- Two year diploma = equiv to BTEC National Diploma / (AVCE).
- Three year diploma = comparable to BTEC Higher National Certificate (HNC) standard, provided standard XII was the entry qualification.

Grading is by a percentage system similar to degree level.

- EdExcel HND - second year entry may be possible if post standard 12 and good grades
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Appendix 3:

Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT): The IITs are a group of autonomous public engineering institutes of higher education. The IITs are governed by the *Institutes of Technology Act, 1961* which has declared them as "institutions of national importance". The Institutes of Technology Act, 1961

lists sixteen institutes located at Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Delhi, Gandhinagar, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Indore, Jodhpur, Kanpur, Kharagpur, Mandi, Mumbai, Patna, Ropar, Roorkee and Varanasi. Each IIT is an autonomous institution, linked to the others through a common IIT Council, which oversees their administration. The Indian Institutes of Technology offer many degrees starting from B.Tech to Ph.D.

National Institutes of Technology (NIT): The NITs are a group of public engineering institutes of India. NITs were founded to promote regional diversity and multi-cultural understanding in India. Comprising thirty autonomous institutes, they are located in each major state/territory of India. In 2007, through NIT Bill, the Indian government declared these schools as Institute of National Importance.

Birla Institute of Technology: Reputed institutions for engineering and science

BITS (Birla Institute of Technology and Science) Pilani - <http://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/> (presence in Dubai, Goa, Hyderabad)

BIT Mesra - <http://www.bitmesra.ac.in/>

BIT, Extension Centre, Noida - <http://www.bitmesra.ac.in/default.aspx?this=10>