

B.Cyber. Admissions 2026

The Wadhvani School of AI and Intelligent Systems (WSAIS), IIT Kanpur has received several queries regarding the shortlisting process for the B.Cyber Admission Test. The following clarification is provided in the interest of transparency.

1. The number of applicants and shortlisted candidates:

S.No.	Category	Applied	Shortlisted
1	Gen, OBC	978	45
2	OBC-NCL, EWS	1349	47
3	SC, ST	416	28
4	PwD	21 [*]	2
	Total	2743	122

* The 21 PwD applicants are already included in the category-wise application count above.

2. Shortlisting criteria and the number of shortlisted candidates:

The original intent of the admissions committee was to shortlist about 300-400 candidates for the test based on the physical infrastructure available for conducting a hackathon.

As a first stage filter, the two conditions of JEE mains qualification, and prior cybersecurity experience were imposed. After this, only 573 candidates were left. Detailed analysis of the documents related to prior cybersecurity work of these 573 applications was done by a team of domain experts and a score on a scale of 0-100 was assigned. Final shortlisting was done on the basis of this score.

Note that the website of the program clearly mentions the following: **“This program is meant only for students with a background and a deep interest in Cybersecurity. Other students may find the program challenging.”** Hence, the focus was on shortlisting candidates with evidence of prior work in the domain of Cybersecurity.

The following cutoffs were used for various categories:

- General category: 6
- OBC-NCL, EWS: 5
- SC/ST, PwD: 3

Based on this criterion, **120 candidates** initially qualified for the admission test.

3. Change in the number of shortlisted candidates

After the initial shortlist was published, the institute team discovered that one application was not downloaded due to some technical problems with the application portal. Once this issue was identified, this application was evaluated. The candidate's score was found to be above the cutoff, and the candidate was therefore included in the shortlist. This increased the number of shortlisted candidates to 121. Note that this modification was done within a few hours of the initial list being published.

After this technical issue was noticed, the admission committee decided to evaluate all the remaining ($573-121 = 452$) applications once again. Among the remaining candidates, one more candidate was found to be qualifying the criteria. Hence this candidate was also shortlisted.

Accordingly, the final shortlist contains **122 candidates**.

The shortlist of 122 candidates published on the website is final. No further changes will be made to the list.

Further notes related to shortlisting:

- Submitting evidence of prior work in cybersecurity **did not automatically guarantee shortlisting**. Each submission was evaluated on its **technical quality, relevance, originality, impact, and verifiability**. Only those applicants whose evaluation score met or exceeded the cutoff were shortlisted for the admission test.
- The B.Cyber admission process **does not evaluate candidates solely on Capture The Flag (CTF) participation**. Hence some of the candidates who have been shortlisted may not have participated in prior CTF competitions.
- Applicants were assessed based on the overall strength of their cybersecurity work, which included cybersecurity exposure, competitive cybersecurity experience, technical learning & certifications, security research & responsible disclosure, technical portfolio on cybersecurity community and online platforms.
- Therefore, candidates with limited or no CTF participation may still be shortlisted if they demonstrated strong cybersecurity aptitude through other forms of relevant work.

5. Detailed shortlisting criteria

The detailed shortlisting criteria are available on the **B.Cyber webpage** under the **Selection & Policies** section.

6. Admission Fee

The admission fee of all the candidates who have not been shortlisted will be refunded. The process of refund will be notified to the candidates on the email id provided in the application form in a few days.

7. IIT Madras joins the selection process for their B.Cyber. program

We are happy to report that IIT Madras has also decided to offer a Bachelor in Cybersecurity program from the current academic session (2026-27). The admission to their UG program will also be by the same test being conducted by IIT Kanpur on 5th July 2026. The modalities of selection between these two institutions will be declared later.