

Frequently Asked Questions: JoSAA 2026

1. What is JoSAA 2026?

Answer: JoSAA stands for Joint Seat Allocation Authority 2026. It is responsible for the joint seat allocation process for academic programs offered by the IITs, IISc, NITs, IEST, IIITs, and other GFTIs for the academic year 2026-27. JoSAA 2026 consists of representatives from the Joint Admission Board (JAB) 2026 and the Central Seat Allocation Board (CSAB) 2026.

2. Who is eligible to participate in JoSAA 2026?

Answer: A candidate who satisfies one or more of the following criteria is eligible for participation in joint seat allocation:

- a. Candidates qualified in JEE (Advanced) 2026 for IITs and IISc.
- b. Candidates with a rank in JEE (Main) 2026 for NIT+ system.
- c. Must meet Class XII or equivalent performance criteria [as per Annexure 4 and Annexures 2(a) (for IITs/IISc) /Annexures 2(b) (for NIT+ System) of the Business Rule].

3. Which institutes participate in JoSAA 2026?

Answer: The participating institutes are the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institute of Science (IISc), National Institutes of Technology (NITs), Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology (IEST), Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs or Triple-I-Ts), Schools of Planning and Architecture, and a few other technical institutes funded fully or partially by Central or State governments. Annexure 1 of the Business Rules lists the institutes admitting candidates through joint seat allocation.

4. What examinations are the basis for admission through JoSAA 2026?

Answer: Admission to IITs and IISc is on the basis of JEE (Advanced) 2026. Admission to NITs, IEST, IIITs, and Other-GFTIs (referred to as the NIT+ system) is on the basis of JEE (Main) 2026 B.E. / B. Tech. Paper, JEE (Main) 2026 B.Arch. / B. Plan. Paper. Qualifying in these examinations does not guarantee admission; candidates must meet all additional eligibility requirements of the institute/program and required rank.

5. Is registration on the JoSAA online portal mandatory to get a seat?

Answer: Yes, it is mandatory for candidates to register through the official JoSAA 2026 online portal to obtain seats allocated through JoSAA 2026 in any of the participating institutes. The JoSAA 2026 registration process is mandatory for any qualified candidate interested in joining any of these institutes within the purview of JoSAA 2026.

6. I qualified in JEE (Advanced) 2026, and I am interested in taking admission to one of the IITs/IISc. Do I need to register on the JoSAA portal?

Answer: Yes. It is mandatory for candidates to register through the official JoSAA 2026 online portal to obtain seats allocated through JoSAA 2026 in any of the IITs, IISc, NITs, IEST, IITs (Triple-I-Ts) and Other-GFTIs. Please refer to Clause 1 in the JoSAA Business Rules.

7. How are candidates categorized for seat allocation?

Answer: Qualified candidates are categorized based on nationality and the presence or absence of disability. Category tags assigned include GEN, GEN-PwD, GEN-EWS, GEN-EWS-PwD, OBC-NCL, OBC-NCL-PwD, SC, SC-PwD, ST, and ST-PwD. Foreign tag is assigned to candidates who are not Indian nationals and OCI/PIO (F) candidates. OCI/PIO (I) candidates are assigned the GEN category tag with certain restrictions. Candidates with category tag “Foreign” are eligible for supernumerary seats in IITs/IISc. For NIT+ system institutes, seats are further distributed into Home State quota and Other States quota (or All India and Home State, or only All India quota).

8. Can a foreign candidate participate in JoSAA 2026?

Answer: Yes, the following categories can apply for IITs/IISc only:

- Candidates who are NOT Indian nationals (by birth or naturalized)
- Candidates belonging to OCI/PIO (F) category

For details, see Annexure 9, JoSAA 2026 Business Rules.

9. Are supernumerary seats available for foreign candidates?

Answer: Yes. The total number of supernumerary seats allotted in each IIT or IISc for foreign tag candidates is limited up to 10% of the total number of seats of the respective IIT/IISc, Program-wise. Foreign candidates who qualify JEE (Advanced) 2026 with rank in the CRL within the range of opening and closing ranks for OPEN seat-category (under Gender-Neutral pool) for the respective program would be offered a supernumerary seat subject to the 10% upper limit. Foreign candidates are not eligible for seat allocation in NIT+ system through JoSAA.

10. What rank lists are used for seat allocation?

Answer: Seat allocation in IITs and IISc is based on JEE (Advanced) 2026 rank, and in NIT+ system, it is based on JEE (Main) 2026 rank. Various rank lists are used, including Common Rank List (CRL), GEN-EWS rank list, OBC-NCL rank list, SC rank list, ST rank list, and their PwD counterparts (e.g., CRL-PwD, GEN-EWS-PwD, etc.). For IITs/IISc, there are also specific rank lists for admission to preparatory courses for certain categories.

11. What are supernumerary seats for female candidates?

Answer: Supernumerary seats are created specifically for females in undergraduate programs at all IITs and NITs, IISc, IIST, and some IIITs to improve gender balance to at least 20%. These seats are in a "Female-Only" pool, separate from the "Gender-Neutral" pool. Female candidates are eligible for seats from both pools. A seat left vacant in the Female-Only pool will NOT be allocated to any non-female candidate. This is fundamentally different from reservation.

12. How are OCI/PIO candidates treated in JoSAA 2026?

Answer: OCI/PIO candidates who have obtained their OCI/PIO cards before 04.03.2021 have the option of registration for JoSAA 2026, EITHER as (a) foreign nationals OR (b) at par with Indian nationals. Accordingly, OCI/PIO candidates are divided into three categories as follows:

- (i) Those OCI/PIO candidates who have obtained their OCI/PIO cards subsequent to 04.03.2021 will be considered as foreign national candidates and will be governed by the eligibility conditions contained herein for the foreign national candidates. For ease of convenience, these candidates are referred to as OCI/PIO (F). The OCI/PIO (F) candidates will be eligible to compete only for the foreign supernumerary seats in IITs/IISc. The OCI/PIO (F) candidates are NOT eligible for seat allotment through JoSAA to the NIT+ system.
- (ii) Those OCI/PIO candidates who have obtained their OCI/PIO cards before 04.03.2021 AND choose to be considered as foreign nationals, will be governed by the eligibility conditions contained herein for the foreign national candidates and are also referred to as OCI/PIO (F). The OCI/PIO (F) candidates will be eligible to compete only for the foreign supernumerary seats in IITs/IISc. The OCI/PIO (F) candidates will NOT be eligible for seat allocation through JoSAA to NIT+ system.
- (iii) Those OCI/PIO candidates who have obtained their OCI/PIO cards before 04.03.2021 AND choose to be treated at par with Indian nationals, will be governed by the eligibility conditions contained herein for the Indian national candidates and are referred to as OCI/PIO(I). The OCI/PIO (I) candidates are eligible for seat allocation through JoSAA to the NIT+ system and also IITs/IISc, subject to qualifying the JEE (Advanced) 2026.

At the time of seat allocation, the OCI/PIO (I) candidates shall be considered for the seats in the OPEN and/or OPEN-PwD category and shall be included in the Common Rank List (CRL) and/or CRL-PwD, as also for the Female Supernumerary seats as applicable.

OCI/PIO (I) candidates are NOT entitled to the benefit of reservation under the GEN-EWS, OBC-NCL, SC or ST categories for the allocation of seats.

Please see the Annexure 9 (for candidates seeking admission to IITs/IISc) and Annexure 10 (for candidates seeking admission to the NIT+ System) of JoSAA Business Rules for details.

13. How is a seat allocated to a candidate?

Answer: A seat to the highest possible choice of academic program is allocated considering the candidate's category, position in respective rank list(s), the order of preference of selected academic programs, the availability of seats in eligible seat categories/quotas, and other business rules. The process follows a strict timeline, is online, and computer-operated.

14. What is the role of mock seat allocation?

Answer: There are two mock seat allocations on June 8 and 10, 2026 (see Annexure 3). It would help candidates to evaluate likely allotments based on the current preferences of registered candidates.

15. I locked my choices. But now I would like to make further changes to my choice list. Is it allowed? If yes, how can I exercise the option?

Answer: If a candidate wishes to edit their choices after locking but before the choice filling deadline, they can do so by first submitting a request to unlock in the online JoSAA portal. An OTP will be sent to the registered mobile number and email address, which can be used to validate the unlock request. Once validated, the candidate's choices will be unlocked for editing. Please refer to Clause 40 for the detailed procedure to unlock the choices.

16. The choice filling deadline is already over. Am I allowed to make any changes to my choice list after the deadline?

Answer: NO. You will not be allowed to edit your choice list after the deadline for choice filling, i.e. you cannot change the order of your choices OR add any more programs in OR delete any program from the choice list after the deadline for choice filling. For more details, please refer to Clause 40 for detailed guidelines.

17. I saved my last filled choice list, but I forgot to lock them. Now the choice filling deadline is over, and I cannot make any further changes. Will this affect the list of choices that will be considered for allocating a seat to me during the JoSAA?

Answer: If you do not lock your choices, the last saved choices will be locked automatically upon reaching the deadline for choice filling. The automatically locked choice list (also visible to the candidate) will be considered for allocating a seat during JoSAA.

18. What happens if multiple candidates have the same rank?

Answer: If there are fewer seats available under a category in a program than the number of candidates with the same category-wise rank seeking admission, all those candidates will be offered seats by creating the requisite number of additional seats.

19. How do I accept a seat provisionally allotted to me?

Answer: A candidate who has been allocated a seat needs to download the “Initial Seat Allotment Intimation Slip”, and the steps to be followed for seat confirmation by the candidate are

- Step 1: Choose any one of the options: ‘Freeze’, ‘Float’, or ‘Slide’
 - Step 2: Upload the documents (if not done already through document pre-upload)
 - Step 3: Pay the seat acceptance fee (if not paid already through pre-payment option)
- Please refer to clause 42 of JoSAA 2026 Business Rules for the detailed procedure.

20. What is the Seat Acceptance Fee?

Answer: The Seat Acceptance Fee (SAF) is paid to secure the seat that has been provisionally allotted to a candidate during a round of JoSAA 2026. Without paying this fee by the stipulated deadline specified in the Annexure 3 of JoSAA 2026 Business Rules, the allotted seat will be cancelled, and the candidate will not be able to participate in subsequent rounds, if any. For candidates with the category tag SC, ST, GEN-PwD, GEN-EWS-PwD, OBC-NCL-PwD, SC-PwD, or ST-PwD, SAF is Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 30,000 for all other candidates (the SAF includes Rs. 5,000 as non-refundable JoSAA processing charges).

21. What are the options after being provisionally allocated a seat?

Answer: After a seat is allocated in a round, the candidate must complete ALL steps of “Online Reporting” to accept it. These steps include accepting the seat and choosing one of the options: ‘Freeze’, ‘Slide’, or ‘Float’. Accepting the allocated seat by choosing one of these options is mandatory to continue in the JoSAA process. If the allocated seat is the candidate’s first choice, only the ‘Freeze’ option is available. If it’s not the first choice and the candidate wants to be considered for higher choices, they MUST choose ‘Float’ or ‘Slide’.

22. What do 'Freeze', 'Float', and 'Slide' options mean?

Answer:

- Freeze:** The candidate accepts the offered seat and is content with it, indicating she/he does not want to participate in further rounds while retaining the same seat. Such candidates are NOT considered in subsequent rounds.
- Float:** The candidate accepts the offered seat but indicates that if admission to an academic program of higher preference in her/his choice list is offered in subsequent rounds, she/he will accept that higher choice. The candidate will be considered for allocation in any academic program higher up in their preference list across any institute.
- Slide:** The candidate accepts the offered seat but indicates that if admission to an academic program of higher preference *within the same institute* is offered in subsequent rounds, she/he will accept that higher choice.

Please see clause 48 (A)-(C) of JoSAA 2026 Business Rules for more details.

23. Can I change my chosen option (Freeze/Float/Slide)?

Answer: A candidate can change from **Float to Slide/Freeze** and **Slide to Freeze** in the online portal during all rounds of Seat Allocation EXCEPT the last round. Once a candidate opts for 'Freeze', the option cannot be changed in subsequent rounds under any circumstances. Please see clause 48-53 of JoSAA 2026 Business Rules for detailed guidelines.

24. I belong to a reserved category and have been allocated a seat under the same category. I completed online document verification and opted for "Freeze" willingness. In the next round, I observed that my seat allocated category has been updated to OPEN. Do I need to worry about my birth category?

Answer: There is no change in the institute/academic program allocated to you. Only, the seat allocated category is updated to OPEN. However, the candidate's birth category remains unaltered.

25. I got a seat allocated in a certain round of JoSAA for the first time, but I am not interested in this seat. I would like to wait for further rounds of JoSAA to possibly get a better seat in my preference order. Do I need to do anything in the current round?

Answer: If you are allocated a seat in a certain round of JoSAA, you need to follow steps for online reporting that include (i) acceptance of the seat, (ii) uploading of documents (if you have not already uploaded through the document pre-upload provision) and (iii) payment of the seat acceptance fee (if you have not already paid using the pre-payment provision). You need to accept the seat and choose an option of Float/Slide if you wish to be considered for a seat of higher preference in any Institute/within the allocated Institute in the subsequent rounds (other than the last round). If you fail to complete any of the three steps of online reporting for seat acceptance, your allocated seat will be CANCELLED, and you will no longer be able to participate in the seat allocation process. For more details, please refer to Clauses 41 and 42 of the JoSAA Business Rules for details of online reporting.

26. I was allocated a seat in one of the previous rounds and now I have been allocated another seat of higher preference in my choice list. Can I go back to the seat allotted to me in the previous round?

Answer: NO. Once you are allocated a seat of higher preference based on your float/slide option, your accepted seat from the earlier round will be automatically cancelled, and you cannot get the previously allotted seat. For more details, please refer to Clauses 47 & 48 of the JoSAA Business Rules.

- 27. I got allocated a seat of my preference in my choice list in a certain round, and I am satisfied with the allotted program. I do not want to participate in further rounds of seat allocation. What should I do to keep the allocated seat?**

Answer: If you are satisfied with the allotted seat and do not wish to participate in further rounds of seat allocation, you need to choose the option “**Freeze**” while accepting the seat and complete all the three steps of the online reporting process. Not choosing any option in this case will be considered as a rejection of the offered seat, and the candidate will not be considered for seat allocation in the further rounds (if any). Please refer to Clause 48 of JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

- 28. I got allocated and accepted a seat in a certain round. I would like to wait for further rounds of JoSAA to possibly get a seat of higher preference in any Institute. Which option should I choose to be considered for further rounds of JoSAA?**

Answer: If you have accepted a seat in a certain round and would like to be considered for a seat of higher preference in any Institute, you need to choose the option of ‘**Float**’. Further, if you are allocated a seat of higher preference in a subsequent round of seat allocation, your earlier accepted seat will be automatically cancelled and you will have to accept the newly allocated seat. If you are not allocated a seat of higher preference in a subsequent round, you will continue in the already accepted seat, and you will also be considered for seat allocation in any Institute (based on your preference in the choice list) in the subsequent rounds (if any) if you continue with the ‘**Float**’ option. Please refer to Clause 48 of JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

- 29. I got allocated and accepted a seat in a certain round. I would like to wait for further rounds of JoSAA to possibly get a seat of higher preference within the same Institute. Which option should I choose to be considered for further rounds of JoSAA?**

Answer: If you have accepted a seat in a certain round and would like to be considered for a seat of higher preference within the same Institute, you need to choose the option of ‘**Slide**’. Further, if you are allocated a seat of higher preference in a subsequent round of seat allocation, your earlier accepted seat will be automatically cancelled, and you will have to accept the newly allocated seat. If you are not allocated a seat of higher preference in a subsequent round, you will continue in the already accepted seat, and you will also be considered for seat allocation within the same Institute (based on your preference in the choice list) in the subsequent rounds (if any) if you continue with the ‘**Slide**’ option. Please refer to Clause 48 of JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

- 30. I was allocated a seat in one of the previous rounds, and I had chosen the option of Float/Slide for the choice of academic program for subsequent rounds. I do not wish to participate in further rounds of seat allocation. Can I change my option from Float/Slide to Freeze?**

Answer: Except in the last round of seat allocation, you can change your option from float to slide/freeze and slide to freeze in the online portal. Please refer to Clauses 48 to 50 of JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

31. I was allocated a seat in one of the previous rounds, and I had chosen the option of Freeze for the choice of academic program for subsequent rounds. Can I change my option to Float/Slide in a subsequent round?

Answer: NO. You cannot change the option to **Float/Slide** if you choose the option 'Freeze' while accepting the allocated seat. Further, you will not be considered for seat allocation in subsequent rounds (if any) of JoSAA while your accepted seat remains allocated to you. Please refer to Clauses 48 and 52 of JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

32. I have been allocated a seat in JoSAA for the first time. I have accepted the seat, uploaded the documents and chosen my willingness, but I have not yet paid my fees for the allocated seat. Will the allocated seat be confirmed to me by the reporting officials?

Answer: You **MUST** pay the seat acceptance fee and complete all the steps of the online reporting process in the same round of seat allocation for continuing with the JoSAA process to avail the seat in IITs/IISc or NIT+ system. Your allocated seat will be **CANCELLED**, and you will no longer be able to participate in the subsequent rounds of the seat allocation process (if any) if you do not complete all the steps of the online reporting process, including the payment of the seat acceptance fee. Please refer to Clauses 42 and 45 of JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

33. What is Online Reporting?

Answer: Online Reporting involves completing several steps after a seat is allocated in a round. These steps include accepting the seat and opting for Freeze/Float/Slide, uploading required documents, remitting the seat acceptance fee, and responding to any queries raised by the verifying officers within the stipulated time as mentioned in Annexure 3 of JoSAA Business Rules.

34. What happens if I fail to complete the Online Reporting steps?

Answer: Failing to complete ALL steps of "Online Reporting" within the specified timeline of the round in which the seat is allocated will lead to the cancellation of the allocated seat, and the candidate will NOT be able to participate in subsequent JoSAA rounds. This is considered as a rejection of the offer, and the candidate forfeits eligibility for admission to any institute through JoSAA 2026. Please refer to Clauses 41, 42 & 45 of JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

35. What documents are required for online reporting/registration?

Answer: A suggested list of documents includes Proof of Date of Birth (Birth Certificate or Class X Certificate), Class XII Marksheet (or equivalent), Certificate of category (SC/ST/OBC-NCL/GEN-EWS) if applicable, State of Eligibility Proof (Please refer to Clause 8 of JoSAA Business Rule or Section 3.4 of JEE(Main) Information Bulletin) for seats in NIT+system, OCI certificate/ PIO card if applicable, Passport/Citizenship certificate if applicable, Medical Certificate, Original Certificate for persons having less than 40% disability and having difficulty in writing if applicable, UDID if applicable. Please refer to Annexure 3, which includes the List of

Documents to be uploaded by Candidates for Registration/Online Reporting (for Admission to IITs/IISc) and Suggested List of Documents to be uploaded by Candidates for Registration/Online Reporting (for Admission to NIT+ System).

36. I was allocated and confirmed a seat in a certain round in an IIT/IISc. I have now been allocated another seat of higher preference in my choice list in another IIT/IISc. Do I need to report again online?

Answer: NO, if you have already completed all the steps of online reporting process in a certain round in an IIT/IISc reporting centre and you have been allocated another seat of higher preference in your choice list in another IIT or IISc, you don't have to repeat the online reporting process.

37. I was allocated and confirmed a seat in a certain round in an Institute of NIT+ system. I have now been allocated another seat of higher preference in my choice list in another Institute of NIT+ system. Do I need to report again online?

Answer: NO, if you have already completed all the steps of online reporting process in a certain round in reporting centre of NIT+ system and you have been allocated another seat of higher preference in your choice list in another Institute of NIT+ system, you don't have to repeat the online reporting process.

38. I was allocated and confirmed a seat in an IIT/IISc in a certain round. I have now been allocated another seat for the first time in an Institute of NIT+ system. Do I need to report again online?

Answer: YES. You must report online again. If you were allocated and confirmed a seat in an IIT in a certain round and are allocated another seat in an Institute of NIT+ system for the first time, your documents and the eligibility criteria will be verified again by the NIT+ system. You are advised to check for any queries raised by the admitting Institute of NIT+ system by logging into the JoSAA portal and respond to the queries before the last date specified for the given round. Please refer to Clause 47A of JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

39. I was allocated and confirmed a seat in an Institute of NIT+ system in a certain round. I have now been allocated another seat for the first time in an IIT/IISc. Do I need to report again online?

Answer: YES. You must report online again. If you were allocated and confirmed a seat in an Institute of NIT+ system in a certain round and are allocated another seat in an IIT/IISc for the first time, your documents and the eligibility criteria will be verified again by the IITs/IISc. You are advised to check for any queries raised by the admitting IIT/IISc by logging into the JoSAA portal and respond to the queries before the last date specified for the given round. Please refer to Clause 47A of JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

40. I was allocated and confirmed a seat in a certain round in IITs/IISc. I am not interested in joining the allocated academic program. What should I do to be eligible for appearing in JEE (Advanced) in subsequent year?

Answer: If you were allocated and confirmed a seat in a certain round in IITs/IISc and you are not interested in joining the allocated academic program, you need to withdraw the seat before the last round of seat allocation (last date of Initiation of Withdrawal: July 14, 2026, 17:00 IST) to be eligible for appearing in JEE (Advanced) in the subsequent year provided you meet all other eligibility criteria for that year. Note that withdrawal of the allocated seat will result in cancellation of the allocated seat, and you will be out of the JoSAA process for any further rounds of seat allocation (if any). You will not be able to withdraw the seat in the final (5th) round of seat allocation for IITs/IISc. Please refer to Clauses 77-82 of the JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

41. What is the state code of eligibility?

Answer: State code of eligibility (applicable to NIT+ system) means the code of the state from where the candidate has first appeared Class XII (or equivalent) examination. Please refer to Clause 8 for detailed guidelines.

42. What happens if my category documents are found to be invalid during verification?

Answer: If documents like category certificates (GEN-EWS, OBC-NCL, SC, ST, PwD) are found invalid or not produced, the candidate's category tag may be changed for seat allocation purposes. If a seat was allocated based on an invalid document (e.g., a PwD category seat with an invalid PwD certificate), the allocated seat would be cancelled. Please see clauses 74 and 75 of JoSAA 2026 Business Rules for detailed guidelines. However, if the invalidity is not due to wilful forgery/cheating and the candidate still meets the requirements for an OPEN category seat that was allocated, the admission may be provisionally confirmed. Moreover, if a category seat is allotted and the candidate is unable to produce the required document, the seat will be cancelled, and in the next round (if any), the candidate will be eligible for an OPEN seat. If a candidate has submitted a valid OBC-NCL, SC, or ST category certificate but NOT a valid PwD certificate, then, after cancellation of that seat, in the next round (if any), the candidate would be eligible for the respective category seat without PwD status.

If a candidate wrongly declares gender and is allocated a seat they are not eligible for, the allocated seat will be cancelled, but they may be considered in subsequent rounds with corrected data. For IITs/IISc, if a foreign tag candidate fails to provide proof of foreign nationality, their seat is cancelled, but they may be considered in subsequent rounds under the OPEN category for IITs/IISc if eligible as Indian Nationals. For NIT+ system, if an OCI/PIO (I) candidate fails to produce a valid OCI/PIO card issued before 04.03.2021, their nationality status changes; if changed to OCI/PIO (F) or foreign, their current seat is cancelled, and they are only considered for IIT/IISc seats in subsequent rounds. Please see clause 83 for detailed guidelines.

43. I am a PwD candidate and have UDID card mentioning temporary disability. Do I need to physically visit the verification centre for PwD status verification?

Answer: No. In case of possession of a valid UDID card, irrespective of temporary or permanent disability, the PwD status will be verified ONLINE from the uploaded UDID card. Candidates are not required to visit the verification centre physically. However, even if the candidates have UDID card indicating disability, they will be required to appear for physical verification if either (i) online verification of UDID card fails or (ii) the candidate was allotted a seat in an academic program with special restrictions given in the JoSAA portal. Please refer to Clause 47.B (only for IITs/IISc) and Clause 47.C (only for NIT+ system) of JoSAA 2026 Business rule for details. Further, a person with less than 40% disability having difficulty in writing and who availed compensatory time/scribe also requires physical verification. These verification processes start from June 02, 2026, and must be completed latest by the end of the seat allocation round in which the candidate is allocated a seat. Please see clause 47.D (only for IITs/IISc) and 47.E (only for NIT+ System) for detailed guidelines.

44. I am a PwD candidate and have a PwD certificate only (I do not have a valid UDID card). Do I need to physically visit the verification centre for PwD status verification?

Answer: Yes, candidates with PwD certificate (without a valid UDID card) are required to visit the verification centre physically for PwD status verification. Please refer to Clause 47.B (only for IITs/IISc) and Clause 47.C (only for NIT+ system) of JoSAA 2026 Business rule for details on the schedule and the procedure.

45. I am a PwD candidate and have availed scribe facility and/or compensatory time. What will happen if I can't justify my PwD status?

Answer: If a candidate has availed scribe facility and/or compensatory time in JEE (Main and / or Advanced) and if her/his PwD status is found to be invalid, then her/his candidature will be cancelled, and the candidate will not be considered for subsequent rounds (if any).

46. I am a JEE (Advanced) 2026 qualified PwD candidate and interested in taking admission in an IIT/IISc. What is the procedure for verification of my PwD status?

Answer: All JEE (Advanced) 2026 qualified PwD candidates, who DO NOT possess a valid UDID card indicating disability, seeking to get a seat in IITs/IISc through JoSAA, are required to visit any of the IITs or IISc for physical verification along with a copy of the PwD certificate(s) issued by a competent authority in the prescribed format. The JEE (Advanced) 2026 qualified PwD candidates with a valid UDID card indicating disability are NOT required to report physically for verification. For the candidates with a valid UDID card, their PwD status will be verified online by the reporting officer of the IIT or IISc which the candidate chooses as a reporting centre. However, even if the candidates have UDID card indicating disability, they will be

required to appear for physical verification if online verification of UDID card fails. Please refer to Clause 47B of the JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

47. I am a JEE (Advanced) 2026 qualified PwD candidate interested in taking admission in an IIT/IISc. I have opted for compensatory time and/or scribe in JEE (Main) 2026. However, I did not opt for compensatory time and/or scribe in JEE (Advanced) 2026. What is the procedure for verification of my status?

Answer: If you DO NOT possess a valid UDID card indicating disability, seeking to get a seat in IITs/IISc through JoSAA, you are required to visit any of the IITs or IISc for physical verification along with a copy of the PwD certificate(s). If you have a valid UDID card indicating disability, you need not report physically for verification. However, in case the online verification of UDID card fails, you are required to appear for physical verification even if you have a UDID card indicating any other disability.

48. I am a JEE (Advanced) 2026 qualified candidate having less than 40% disability and having difficulty in writing interested in taking admission in an IIT/IISc. I have opted for compensatory time and scribe in JEE (Advanced) 2026. What is the procedure for verification of my disability status?

Answer: If you are interested in taking admission in an IIT/IISc, you are required to visit any of the IITs or IISc for physical verification of your “having less than 40% disability and having difficulty in writing” status along with the original copy of your “having less than 40% disability and having difficulty in writing” certificate. Please visit the online JoSAA portal, book an appointment at any of the IITs or IISc by choosing the date and time (FN/AN) and upload a copy of the above-mentioned certificate for physical verification. Each JEE (Advanced) 2026 qualified “having less than 40% disability and having difficulty in writing” candidate is required to complete this process latest by the end of the counselling round in which they are allocated a seat (if any), failing which the allocated seat will be cancelled and they will not be considered for seat allocation in further rounds of JoSAA. However, a candidate “having less than 40% disability and having difficulty in writing” will not be eligible for GEN-PwD, GEN-EWS-PwD, OBC-NCL-PwD, SC-PwD, or ST-PwD category seats. Please refer to Clause 47D of the JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

49. I am a JEE (Advanced) 2026 qualified candidate “having less than 40% disability and having difficulty in writing” interested in taking admission in an IIT/IISc. I did not opt for compensatory time and/or scribe in JEE (Advanced) 2026. What is the procedure for verification of my disability status?

Answer: If you are a candidate “having less than 40% disability and having difficulty in writing”, but you have not opted for compensatory time and/or scribe in JEE (Advanced) 2026, physical verification is not necessary. Candidate “having less than 40% disability and having difficulty in writing” will not be eligible for GEN-PwD, GEN-EWS-PwD, OBC-NCL-PwD, SC-PwD, ST-PwD category seats.

50. I am a JEE (Main) 2026 qualified candidate, “having less than 40% disability and having difficulty in writing”, interested in taking admission in the NIT+ system. I did not opt for compensatory time and/or scribe in JEE (Main) 2026. What is the procedure for verification of my disability status?

Answer: If you are a candidate “having less than 40% disability and having difficulty in writing”, but you have not opted for compensatory time and/or scribe in JEE (Main) 2026, physical verification is not necessary. Candidate “having less than 40% disability and having difficulty in writing” will not be eligible for GEN-PwD, GEN-EWS-PwD, OBC-NCL-PwD, SC-PwD, ST-PwD category seats.

51. I belong to SC/ST category and also have PwD certificate. I have paid SAF amount ₹15,000 after seat allocation. However, my PwD status verification failed but the allocated seat is not cancelled. Do I need to pay any additional/balance SAF?

Answer: No. In case the PwD status verification fails but the SC/ST category certificate is valid as confirmed by the document verifying officer, the candidate does not need to pay any balance SAF as the SAF is ₹15,000 for SC/ST category with or without PwD certificate.

52. I am an OCI/PIO card holder, and I mistakenly entered my nationality as Indian while filling up the forms for JEE (Advanced). Can I change my nationality in the JoSAA portal, and if I change, what are its implications?

Answer: You can change the nationality status in JoSAA portal. If your OCI/PIO card has been issued subsequent to 04.03.2021, you would be able to change the nationality status from Indian to OCI/PIO (F). If your OCI/PIO card has been issued before 04.03.2021, you would be able to change your nationality status from Indian to OCI/PIO (I) or OCI/PIO (F).

If you change the nationality status to OCI/PIO (F), after the change in the nationality status, you would be eligible for the seats in IITs/IISc under GEN category only. The female candidate will not get the benefit of female supernumerary seats. Such candidate(s) will be considered for **seat allocation similar to a Foreign national**, provided the candidate produces a proof of passport/certificate of nationality. Please refer to Clause 83A and 83E of the JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

If you change the nationality status to OCI/PIO (I), after the change in nationality status, you would be eligible for the seats in IITs/IISc under GEN or GEN-PwD category only. Such candidate(s) will be considered for seat allocation for IITs/IISc under OPEN or OPEN-PwD category of seats provided they (a) produce a proof of valid OCI/PIO card (issued before 04.03.2021), (b) meet all other eligibility criteria for qualifying for JEE (Advanced) 2026 in GEN category or GEN-PwD category. Please refer to Clause 83B of the JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

53. I am an OCI/PIO card holder, and I mistakenly entered my nationality as Foreigner while filling up the forms for JEE(Advanced). Can I change my nationality in JoSAA portal and if I change, what are its implications?

Answer: You can change the nationality status in JoSAA portal. If your OCI/PIO card has been issued subsequent to 04.03.2021, you need not change your nationality from foreign as OCI/PIO candidates with OCI/PIO card issued subsequent to 04.03.2021 will be treated at par with Foreign nationals. If your OCI/PIO card has been issued before 04.03.2021, you would be able to change your nationality status from Foreign to OCI/PIO (I) or OCI/PIO (F).

If you change the nationality status to OCI/PIO (F), after the change in the nationality status, you would be eligible for the seats in IITs/IISc under GEN category under foreign national supernumerary seats only. The female candidate will not get the benefit of female supernumerary seats. Please refer to Clause 83G of the JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

If you change the nationality status to OCI/PIO (I), after the change in nationality status, you would be eligible for seats in IITs/IISc under GEN or GEN-PwD category only. Such candidate(s) will be considered for seat allocation for IITs/IISc under OPEN/OPEN-PwD category of seats provided the candidate (a) produces a proof of valid OCI/PIO card (issued before 04.03.2021), (b) meets all other eligibility criteria for qualifying for JEE (Advanced) 2026 in GEN/GEN-PwD category (if applicable). Please refer to Clause 83D of the JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

54. I am an Indian citizen, and I mistakenly entered my nationality as an OCI/PIO card holder while filling up the application form for JEE (Advanced). Can I change my nationality to Indian in JoSAA portal and if I change, what are its implications?

Answer: You can change the nationality in JoSAA portal from OCI/PIO (I) or OCI/PIO (F) to Indian. After the change in the nationality status, you are eligible for the seats in IITs/IISc under GEN or GEN-PwD category only. You will be considered for seat allocation in IITs/IISc under OPEN/OPEN-PwD category of seats, provided you (a) produce a proof of Indian nationality, (b) meet all other eligibility criteria for Indian Nationals including satisfying the JEE (Main) 2026 cut-off marks for qualifying for JEE (Advanced) 2026 in GEN/GEN-PwD category if applicable. Please refer to Clause 83E and 83C of the JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

55. I am an Indian citizen, and I mistakenly entered my nationality as a foreigner while filling up the application form for JEE(Advanced). Can I change my nationality to Indian in JoSAA portal and if I change, what are its implications?

Answer: You can change the nationality in JoSAA portal from foreign national to Indian. After the change in the nationality status, you are eligible for the seats in IITs/IISc under GEN category only. You will be considered for seat for IITs/IISc under OPEN category of seats, provided you (a) produce a proof of Indian nationality, (b) meet all other eligibility criteria for Indian Nationals including satisfying the JEE (Main) 2026 cut-off marks for qualifying for JEE (Advanced) 2026 in GEN category. Please refer to Clause 83C of the JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

56. I am a Foreigner, and I mistakenly entered my nationality as Indian or OCI/PIO card holder while filling up the application form for JEE(Advanced). Can I change my nationality in JoSAA portal and if I change, what are its implications?

Answer: You can change the nationality in JoSAA portal from Indian or OCI/PIO (F) or OCI/PIO (I) to foreigner. After the change in the nationality status, you are eligible for the seats in IITs/IISc under GEN category only. The female candidate will not get the benefit of female supernumerary seats. Such candidate(s) will be considered for seat allocation in IITs/IISc based on updated credentials as a Foreign candidate, provided the candidate produces a proof of passport/certificate of nationality. Please refer to Clause 83A and 83F of the JoSAA Business Rules for more details.

57. Can I withdraw from the seat allocation process after accepting a seat?

Answer: Yes, a candidate who has accepted/allotted a seat can withdraw from the process starting from the 2nd round up to the 4th round (last date of Initiation of Withdrawal: July 14, 2026, 17:00 IST) for IITs/IISc. For NIT+ system, withdrawal is possible up to Round 5 (last date of Initiation of Withdrawal: July 20, 2026, 17:00 IST). The withdrawal process involves logging into the JoSAA portal, submitting a request with a signed declaration form, confirming with OTP, and verification by a reporting officer. If the withdrawal request is accepted, the allocated seat is cancelled, and the candidate will not be considered for subsequent rounds. If the request is rejected, the candidate can resubmit before the deadline.

58. Can I exit the seat allocation process if I have NOT been allotted a seat?

Answer: Yes, a candidate who has NOT been allotted a seat can EXIT the process (last date of Initiation of EXIT: July 14, 2026, 17:00 IST). This also involves logging into the portal, submitting a request, and confirming with OTP. After exiting, the candidate will not be allowed to participate in further JoSAA rounds.

59. How many rounds of seat allocation are there?

Answer: There are a total of five rounds of seat allocation in JoSAA2026. This would be followed by the CSAB Special round for NIT+ system. Please see Annexure 3 of JoSAA Business Rules for details.

60. I was NOT allocated a seat during the first 4 Rounds of JoSAA. However, I got allocated a seat in an IIT in the 5th (last) Round of JoSAA. If I do not join the allocated seat, am I eligible to appear for JEE Advanced next year?

Answer: If you are allocated a seat in an IIT for the first time in the 5th (last) round of JoSAA, you need to either complete the online reporting process of JoSAA or report to the admitting Institute (including payment of seat acceptance fee) to confirm your seat. If you do not complete the reporting process, you will be eligible for appearing in JEE (Advanced) in the subsequent year provided you meet all other eligibility requirements.

61. What is the difference between “Withdraw” and “Exit” options in JoSAA?

Answer: If a candidate who has not been allotted any seat during the rounds of JoSAA, and if (s)he does not want to participate in further rounds of JoSAA, then the candidate should choose “EXIT” option. If a candidate is allotted a seat in a certain round in JoSAA and (s)he is not interested in the allotted program and does not want to participate in further rounds of JoSAA, then the candidate should choose “Withdraw” option up to the penultimate round of JoSAA for IITs/IISc (last date of Initiation of Withdrawal: July 14, 2026, 17:00 IST) and up to the last round of JoSAA for NIT+ system (last date of Initiation of Withdrawal: July 20, 2026, 17:00 IST). In both the cases, the candidate will not be considered for seat allocation in subsequent rounds (if any) of JoSAA and they will be out of the JoSAA system.

62. I was allocated a seat in one of the Rounds from 1st to 5th Round of JoSAA; however, I am not interested in pursuing the allotted program in IITs. If I withdraw at this stage, will I be automatically considered for NITs?

Answer: No, you will not be automatically considered for NIT+ system through JoSAA as withdrawal from JoSAA means withdrawal from both IITs/IISc and NIT+ system.

63. Will there be any spot round of seat allocation at any of the IITs after the completion of the 5th round of seat allocation?

Answer: NO. There will be no spot round of seat allocation at any of the IITs/IISc after the completion of the 5th round (final round) of seat allocation.

64. Can I simultaneously get one seat in IIT and another seat in NIT+ system through JoSAA?

Answer: No. In each JoSAA round, a candidate is allotted “only one” seat based on the rank and preference order filled in by the candidate during the choice filling stage.

65. What if my Class XII results change after choice locking?

Answer: If a candidate becomes ineligible due to revised Class XII results not meeting the performance requirement, any offered/confirmed seat will be cancelled at online reporting/document verification or later. If a candidate becomes eligible due to revised results, they must contact the organizing institute (IIT Roorkee for JEE Advanced) by sending an email to josaa@iitr.ac.in with the new certificate before the end of fourth round. They will be considered for seat allocation only in subsequent rounds (if any), provided they had registered and filled choices before the deadline.

66. Will I get a refund if I withdraw?

Answer: Seat acceptance fee, once paid, is not refundable. However, if a candidate later validly withdraws from the seat allocation process, then the seat acceptance fee paid will be refunded after deducting the JoSAA withdrawal processing charges of Rs. 7000. If a candidate’s seat is cancelled due to not meeting the eligibility criteria or due to unresolved discrepancy(ies) in the uploaded document(s), then the seat acceptance

fee paid will be refunded after deducting the JoSAA processing charges of Rs. 5000. For NIT+ system, the Partial Admission fee paid at the end of 5th round of JoSAA 2026 is NOT refundable. The partial admission fee will be adjusted against the Institute admission fee.

67. What is Partial Admission Fee (PAF)?

Answer: At the end of the 5th round of JoSAA 2026, candidates having a provisionally allocated seat (allocated in any round of JoSAA 2026 and which has not been cancelled or withdrawn) in NIT+ System are required to pay the Partial Admission Fee (PAF) in addition to the Seat Acceptance Fee from their JoSAA portal (Please see Annexure 3 for the timeline). Non-payment of the partial admission fee will be treated as a rejection of the offered/allocated seat. Candidates are thus strongly advised to be vigilant and make the payment well within the stipulated time. Please refer Section XXIII of JoSAA 2026 Business Rule.

68. Do I need to pay PAF?

Answer: Yes, you need to pay PAF if you are allotted a seat in NIT+ system. Non-payment of the partial admission fee will be treated as a rejection of the offered/allocated seat. Candidates are thus strongly advised to be vigilant and make the payment well within the stipulated time. Please refer Section XXIII of JoSAA 2026 Business Rule.

69. What if I do not pay PAF?

Answer: Non-payment of the partial admission fee will be treated as a rejection of the offered/allocated seat in NIT+ system. Candidates are thus strongly advised to be vigilant and make the payment well within the stipulated time. Please refer Section XXIII of JoSAA 2026 Business Rule.

70. I have secured a seat in JoSAA after online document verification. I want to participate in CSAB-Special. Do I need to pay PAF?

Answer: The answer is YES, if you would like to retain your seat allocated in JoSAA rounds (allocated in any round of JoSAA and which has not been cancelled or withdrawn) in NIT+ System. When you fill your choices for CSAB-Special or DASA, the retained seat would be your last choice.

The answer is NO, if you would not like to retain your seat allocated in JoSAA rounds (allocated in any round of JoSAA and which has not been cancelled or withdrawn) in NIT+ System.

71. Can I participate in CSAB after JoSAA?

Answer: Yes. Please visit <https://csab.nic.in> for details.