

S. P. MANDALI**Prin. L. N. Welingkar Institute of Management Development & Research***(PGDM) — Mumbai**[AICTE Approved • NIRF Ranked • ACBSP Accredited • SAQS Accredited]***ADMISSION INFORMATION BROCHURE****Fellow Programme in Management (FPM)****(AY 2026-2027)**

Prin. L. N. Welingkar Institute of Management Development & Research (PGDM), Mumbai invites applications from outstanding graduates and working professionals for its Fellow Programme in Management (FPM) — a rigorous, research-oriented doctoral-level programme conducted in line with the norms of the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), designed to develop the next generation of management scholars, academicians, and industry researchers.

About S.P. Mandali Trust, Pune

Established in 1977, Prin. L.N Welingkar Institute of Management Development & Research, better known as WeSchool, is a self-financed, standalone Institute under the aegis of Shikshana Prasarak Mandali (SPM), Pune, one of the pioneering educational trusts in the state of Maharashtra, India. SPM was established and registered in 1888 under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 and the Bombay Public Trust Act of 1950. It has a rich legacy of contributing to the cause of education, and runs 40 institutions, from pre-primary, primary, secondary, higher secondary schools, colleges, to management institutions. Apart from WeSchool, some of the other leading educational institutions under the SPM banner are Sir Parshurambhau College, (better known as S.P. College), Pune, Nutan Marathi Vidhyalaya, Pune, Ramnarain Ruia College of Arts & Science, Mumbai, Ramniranjan Anandilal Podar College of Commerce & Economics, Mumbai.

Prin. L. N. Welingkar Institute of Management Development and Research, Mumbai

Our Institute is one of India's leading management education institutions, committed to developing socially responsible business leaders through excellence in management education. Ranked among the Top 100 B-Schools in India in the NIRF 2025 rankings, the Institute has earned prestigious international accreditations from ACBSP and SAQS, in addition to being NBA accredited, reflecting its commitment to global standards of academic quality.

The Institute's vision is to nurture thought leaders and industry-ready practitioners through innovative, future-focused education. Guided by a design-thinking approach, it fosters a dynamic

ecosystem that bridges academia and industry, promoting impactful research, experiential learning, and relevant management education that addresses contemporary business and societal challenges.

Research Ecosystem & Facilities

WeSchool's research environment includes Wi-Fi-enabled campuses, dedicated innovation and design-thinking labs, and a faculty community publishing in Scopus, Web of Science, and ABDC-indexed journals. The institute has a track record of externally funded research for bodies including ICSSR, NABARD, AICTE, AIMS, NHRD, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and maintains an active IQAC-driven quality assurance ecosystem aligned with NBA/NAAC/NIRF expectations.

1. Library & e-Resources: library with over 120000 books, 127 print journals and more than 10000 e-journals, unique audio-visual collection, and 11 online databases (EBSCO Business Source Premiere and Core E-Books; ProQuest ABI Complete and Ebrary Bus. & Eco; Harvard Business Publishing – Cases; Scopus AI; CMIE Prowess IQ; CMIE Industry Outlook; CMIE Economic Outlook; EMIS; Ace Analyser (No. of Companies-41509); Indiatat.com; Statista), and Plagiarism detection software, Turnitin, is available for use by FPM scholars.
2. IT and Bloomberg Infrastructure: The institution has well-equipped computing infrastructure to support academic and research activities. Scholars and faculty have access to a range of advanced software and analytics tools, including SPSS, ATLAS.ti, JMP, Power BI, and Tableau. The institute also have a Bloomberg Lab, a global leader in business and financial data, news, and insight. There is a wealth of data and information available on these terminals which may be used for research work and projects.

About Fellow Programme in Management (FPM)

The Fellow Programme in Management (FPM) is designed to nurture thought leaders, researchers, academicians, and practitioners through inventive education and rigorous scholarly inquiry. The programme emphasizes practical, innovative, and technology-driven research that addresses contemporary business and societal challenges. It develops managerial and academic talent with strong analytical capabilities, creative thinking, ethical values, and a passion for lifelong learning in a rapidly evolving global environment. Through high-quality research, publications, consultancy, and industry engagement, the FPM contributes to intellectual capital creation and the advancement of management knowledge. Guided by the core values of passion, breakthrough thinking, result-oriented execution, and a culture of care and collaboration, the programme prepares scholars to make meaningful contributions to academia, industry, and society while fostering a strong and enduring professional network.

Programme Intake – 10

Areas of Specialisation Offered

1. Finance and Accounting
2. Marketing
3. Organisational Behaviour and Human Resources
4. Operations and Supply Chain Management
5. Information Management
6. Entrepreneurship and Innovation
7. Other allied and related specialization

FPM Programme Features

1. Industry-linked, application-oriented research topics
2. Support for conference participation and seminars
3. Support for research publication in Scopus/WoS/ABDC-indexed journals
4. Career advancement for academic and industry research roles
5. Pathway for experienced industry professionals to pursue a Professor of Practice track

How to Apply

Advertisement Inviting Application

An Advertisement in leading newspapers shall be published inviting applications for the Fellowship Programme. Information on admission shall also be displayed on the Institute's Website.

Availability of Forms and Prospects

Application forms will be made available on institute's website. Interested candidates can fill-in the form and submit the same with the relevant documents on or before the stipulated date in the advertisement.

Document Submission

Copies of the following documents shall be submitted by the candidate at the time of application

1. Bachelor's degree certificate and mark sheet all the years
2. Master's degree certificate and mark sheet all the years
3. Migration Certificate
4. Work experience certificate if any

Personal Interview and Presentation

Eligible candidates shall be called for Personal Interview and Presentation on the research topic

Admission Eligibility

1. The candidate must have successfully completed the Master's Degree or equivalent in Engineering and Technology/ Management/ Economics/Social Science/ Biological Science/ Pure Science/ Commerce/ Humanities with FIRST CLASS.
2. Those appearing for their final examination in the respective discipline can also apply. Such students if selected shall be provisionally admitted provided they complete all requirements in obtaining their Master's Degree before 30th September of the year of admission. The admission of these candidates shall remain provisional until they produce the mark sheet proving that they satisfy the eligibility criteria. The deadline for submitting the final year mark sheet is 31st December

Admission Procedure

1. Admission to the Fellow Programme shall normally be made once a year, coinciding with that of AICTE approved Post Graduate Diploma in Management or equivalent Degree/ Diploma. Accordingly, the advertisement shall be made along with such Post Graduate Degree/ Diploma.
2. Application Procedure: The application shall be made in the prescribed form available with the Institution. Attested copies of all the necessary Certificates and testimonials are to be attached with the applications. The candidate must submit an abstract of about 5000 words on the area of research interest (tentative research proposal) along with his/ her application.

Selection Criteria

1. Selection for the Fellow Programme in the Institutions approved by AICTE for the Fellow Programme shall be on the basis of the following criteria:
 - 1) Academic qualifications and work experience
 - 2) Tentative research proposal and its presentation before the Selection Committee
 - 3) Personal interview
2. The decision of the Institution Selection Committee regarding admission shall be final. Communication shall be sent only to the selected candidates. The Institution shall not entertain any queries or correspondence in respect of those not selected.
3. Approved Institution to conduct Fellow Programme in Management can admit only maximum of 10 candidates in each Academic Year after ensuring availability of the guide as per AICTE Norms/ Standards.

Course Study & Credit Requirements

A research scholar shall undergo 8 Courses of the total 30 credits in all

Module	Course	Credits
Module 1	Research Methodology	3
	Managerial Statistic	3
	General Management	3
	System Approach to Management	3
	3 Stream specific Courses of 3 credits each	9
Module 2	Credit Seminar (General)	3
	Credit Seminar (Specific)	3
Module 3	Review paper based on the literature on the Thesis related topics	3
	Total Credits	30

Registration & Progress Seminars

Pre-registration Seminar

Each research scholar shall give a pre-registration Seminar before a Committee constituted by the Director. The Committee shall include the Guide(s), experts drawn from Institution's Faculty members and Director. The Seminar shall be given after completion of the three modules.

The Research Scholar shall submit 3 copies of the pre-registration Report (in about 15-20 pages) 2 weeks before the date of the Seminar.

The Report shall include the proposed title of the Thesis, are and framework of the proposed research objectives, scope of the study, hypothesis if any, and methodology to be followed.

In case the research scholar fails to defend his/her Thesis proposal successfully, he/she shall be allowed to resubmit the modified research proposal as suggested by the above mentioned Committee. He/ she needs to give a fresh Seminar based on the modified research proposal and in case he or she fails to defend it in the second time, the research scholar shall be terminated from the Programme.

Duration of the Programme

1. A Candidate shall submit his/ her Thesis only after a minimum period of two years after registration. However, the maximum period allowed for the submission of the Thesis is five years from the date of admission to the Programme. If a candidate fails to submit the Thesis within the prescribed upper time limit due to reasons beyond his/her control, he/she shall apply to the Director for an extension. If the Institution is satisfied with the candidate's justification, the Director shall permit him/her to re-register to the Programme subject to the payment of re-registration Fee. This re-registration shall, however, be effective only for a period of two years beyond which no extension shall be permitted.

2. Any break or unauthorized absence from the Programme before registration shall lead to the cancellation of admission. Any authorized break or leave of absence shall not be counted for the minimum period of 2 years stipulated for submission of Thesis but shall be counted in the maximum period of 5 years permissible for submission of the Thesis.

Thesis Journey — From Synopsis to Award

Submission of the synopsis

Five copies of the synopsis with necessary modification incorporated shall be submitted within a period of one month from the date of pre-synopsis seminar to the institution.

Submission of Thesis

The Thesis shall be submitted in six typewritten / printed copies and soft copy with necessary certificates and clearance within a period of 6 months from the date of submission of synopsis.

Acceptance / Rejection of Thesis

The thesis shall be accepted if all the examiners make positive recommendations. If recommendations for rejection of inconclusive recommendations are made by anyone of the examiner, Director shall refer the Thesis to another examiner(s) from the panel. If such a panel of examiner(s) rejects the thesis, its shall stand rejected

Re-submission of the thesis

A thesis which needs modification/revision shall be resubmitted after revision within a period of one year. Rejection of the thesis after re-submission shall normally disqualify the candidate of further consideration for the awards of the fellow in management

Viva-Voce

On acceptance of the thesis, the director shall appoint a panel of examiners to conduct a viva-voce examination and open defence at which the candidate shall be required to defend his/her Thesis.

The panel of examiners shall consist of

1. The Chairman, Dean (Academic or Research) or his /her nominee not below the rank of Professor of the institution nominated by the director
2. The guide (s)
3. Indian external examiner who examined the thesis and accepted it.
4. The panel of examiners shall submit their report to the director of the institution

If a thesis has been accepted, but the candidate fails to defend it successfully at the viva-voce examination, he / she shall reappear for the viva-voce examination within six months.

Award of Fellow in Management

On successful completion of the viva-voce and on the recommendations of the Institution's Governing Board, the Institution shall award "Fellow in Management" to the Research scholar. The title of the Thesis shall be mentioned in the Certificate of award.

General Regulations

Research Guidance

1. Selection of Guide(s) Each candidate shall have one/ two Guide(s) under whose supervision the research work in relation to the Programme shall be carried out. The Guide(s) shall be nominated by the Director of the Institution. All Guides shall be internal. In exceptional cases, where external guidance shall be required, recognized Guides from reputed Institutions shall be allowed as co-guides with the permission of AICTE. Research Guides shall be allotted to the selected candidates after completion of the necessary course work and related formalities. The research Programme and areas of research shall be finalized by respective Guides after discussion with the candidates and should be forwarded to the Director for concurrence.
2. Faculty with Ph.D and with at least 2 publications in recent times (within 3 years) in high quality journals of repute are eligible to Guide the Fellow Programme candidates. Each such Faculty shall be assigned a maximum of 2 candidates in each admission year.

Course Study/ Credit Requirements

Details of Courses and Seminar

The stream specific Courses and Seminars shall be decided as approved by the Director on the recommendation by the candidate's Guide(s) and the Research Advisory Committee.

Duration for earning Credit

All the credits specified above shall be earned within a maximum of two years from the date of admission to the Programme. Extension after the three years shall be approved by the Director for a period of one year with a review of progress every six months. Final approval shall be given by the Director of the Institution.

Grading System of Credit Courses/Seminar

The minimum of CGPA of 6.5 on a 10 point scale or 60% is required for passing Course/ Seminar. A candidate getting less than 60% shall be given one more opportunity to repeat the Course/ Seminar. If he/ she still does not pass in the Course/ Seminar, he/ she shall be terminated from the Fellow Programme.

Fee Structure

Fees payable is Rs. 1,50,000/- per annum from the date of admission.

Contact & Further Information :

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