Doctorate in Business Administration

DBA Program Prospectus — A Three-Year Journey for Working Professionals

The Doctorate in Business Administration (DBA) is the pinnacle of professional education — a rigorous, practice-oriented doctoral program designed exclusively for experienced working professionals who seek to transform their industry expertise into world-class research, leadership, and applied scholarship. This prospectus outlines a comprehensive three-year program applicable across ten dynamic professional streams, from Management and IT to Engineering, Pharmacy, and Life Sciences.

☆ PRACTICE-ORIENTED DOCTORAL EXCELLENCE | 3-YEAR PROGRAM | RS. 3,00,000 TOTAL FEE

Welcome from the Academic Leadership

> "The DBA is not merely a degree — it is a transformation. We designed this program for leaders who refuse to stop learning, for professionals who believe that the most powerful research emerges from real-world challenges, and for visionaries who will define the future of their industries."

On behalf of our distinguished faculty and academic board, we extend a warm welcome to every working professional considering this program. The DBA has long been recognized globally — by institutions such as Henley Business School, Harvard, INSEAD, and the Chartered Association of Business Schools — as the highest qualification available to practicing business and industry leaders. Our program draws from these internationally respected frameworks while being purpose-built for professionals across multiple streams operating in today's complex, technology-driven, and globally interconnected environment.

You bring with you years of hard-earned professional experience, industry knowledge, and leadership wisdom. This program is designed to give you the intellectual tools, research methodologies, and scholarly frameworks to formalize that knowledge, challenge it critically, and produce work that genuinely advances your field. Every module, every assignment, every dissertation chapter has been crafted to be immediately relevant to your professional context.

We recognize that you are not a full-time student. You have organizations to lead, teams to manage, clients to serve, and families to support. Our program structure respects that reality completely. Classes are scheduled for weekends and evenings; coursework is delivered through a hybrid model combining online learning with periodic on-campus intensives; and your dissertation topic will be drawn directly from challenges you face in your own professional domain. This is doctoral education that works around your life — not the other way around.

Globally Benchmarked

Curriculum designed against world-leading DBA programs from Henley, Harvard, INSEAD, and Cranfield.

Professionally Flexible

Weekend, evening, and hybrid delivery designed around demanding professional schedules.

Industry-Anchored

Dissertation and research are grounded in real problems from your own professional domain.

What Is a DBA? Understanding the Degree

The Doctorate in Business Administration (DBA) is a professional doctorate — the highest level of academic qualification available to practitioners in business, management, technology, engineering, and applied sciences. It sits at the same level as a traditional PhD on international qualification frameworks, including the National Qualifications Framework (NQF Level 10 in many countries) and is recognized by the QAA, AACSB, EQUIS, and AMBA accreditation bodies worldwide.

The fundamental distinction between a DBA and a PhD lies in purpose and orientation. A PhD is designed for those who wish to pursue academic careers producing purely theoretical knowledge. A DBA, by contrast, is explicitly designed for experienced practitioners who wish to apply rigorous scholarly research methods to solve real, complex, and high-stakes problems in their professional environment. DBA graduates typically remain in industry — but in senior leadership, advisory, consulting, or executive roles that are dramatically enhanced by their doctoral-level research capability.

PhD vs. DBA — Key Differences

- PhD: Theory generation for academic publication
- DBA: Applied research solving real industry problems
- PhD: Full-time academic career pathway
- DBA: Senior professional and leadership pathway
- PhD: Purely academic audience
- DBA: Practitioner and organizational audience

Who Earns a DBA?

DBA graduates include CEOs, CFOs, VPs, senior engineers, department heads, management consultants, technology leaders, pharmaceutical directors, and public sector executives — professionals who want doctoral rigor applied to the world they inhabit every day.

Upon completion, graduates earn the title of **Doctor** and may append **DBA** after their name — a credential recognized internationally by industry, academia, and government bodies alike.

Program Overview at a Glance

Our DBA is structured as a three-year part-time program, carefully designed to balance intellectual rigor with professional flexibility. The program is open to professionals from ten distinct streams, ensuring that the research, case studies, and applied projects are relevant to your specific industry context. Below is a high-level overview of the program architecture.

3

Years Duration

A carefully paced three-year journey from enrollment to doctoral award.

10

Professional Streams

Management, IT/AI, Pharmacy, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Mechanical, Civil, Electrical, Electronics, Automobile Engineering.

6

Core Modules

Foundational doctoral coursework in Years 1 and 2, followed by full dissertation in Year 3.

1L

Fee Per Year

Rs. 1,00,000 per year — Rs. 3,00,000 total program fee.

The program progresses logically from building doctoral-level research competencies in Year 1, through deep specialization and applied project work in Year 2, to the completion and defense of an original doctoral dissertation in Year 3. Each phase is supported by dedicated faculty supervisors, peer cohort groups, and intensive residency workshops.

Eligibility & Admission Requirements

The DBA program is designed for accomplished professionals who bring substantial real-world experience to the doctoral classroom. Our admissions process is holistic — we evaluate not only academic credentials but also professional achievement, leadership potential, and the clarity of your research vision. We welcome applications from professionals across all ten streams, regardless of whether their undergraduate background was in business or not.

Academic Qualification

A Master's degree (MBA, M.Tech, M.Sc., M.Pharm., M.E., or equivalent) from a recognized university with a minimum of 55% aggregate marks. Candidates with exceptional professional records and a Bachelor's degree plus significant leadership experience may be considered on a case-by-case basis through the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) pathway.

Professional Experience

A minimum of five years of relevant post-graduate professional experience is required. Candidates in senior or executive roles are strongly encouraged to apply. The program benefits from diversity of experience, and cohorts typically include professionals ranging from mid-level managers to C-suite executives.

Research Proposal

Applicants must submit a 1,500–2,000 word preliminary research proposal identifying a real professional problem they wish to investigate, articulating its significance, and suggesting a broad methodological approach. Faculty advisors provide pre-admission guidance to help applicants refine their proposals.

Interview & Assessment

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for a personal interview (conducted online or in-person) with the DBA admissions panel. The interview assesses research readiness, professional maturity, motivations for doctoral study, and alignment with the program's applied research philosophy.

The Ten Professional Streams

One of the most distinctive features of this DBA program is its applicability across ten diverse professional streams. Candidates pursue shared doctoral foundations while conducting research that is entirely relevant to their own industry. This cross-disciplinary cohort model enriches learning — a mechanical engineer's approach to problem-solving often illuminates a marketing professional's research challenge in unexpected ways.

Management

Finance, Sales, Marketing, Supply Chain, Agriculture, IT Management, Banking, BFSI — the full spectrum of business leadership domains.

IT, Software, AI & Data Science

Artificial intelligence, machine learning, software engineering, data science, digital transformation, and emerging technologies.

Pharmacy

Pharmaceutical management, drug development strategy, regulatory affairs, healthcare supply chain, and clinical operations leadership.

Chemistry

Industrial chemistry, chemical engineering management, R&D leadership, quality assurance, and sustainable chemistry innovation.

Biochemistry

Biochemical research management, biotechnology leadership, diagnostics, biopharmaceuticals, and life sciences business strategy.

Engineering Streams

Mechanical, Civil, Electrical, Electronics, and Automobile Engineering — management, innovation, and leadership at the intersection of engineering and business.

Year 1: Doctoral Foundations & Research Design

YEAR 1

The first year of the DBA program is dedicated to building the intellectual and methodological foundations necessary for doctoral-level scholarship. Regardless of your professional stream, all DBA candidates begin together in this foundational phase — creating a powerful shared language of research and inquiry that enriches cross-disciplinary dialogue throughout the program.

Year 1 comprises six core modules delivered over two semesters. Each module is designed to be immediately applicable to your professional context, with assessments that use real organizational scenarios as the raw material for academic analysis. You will be assigned a primary academic supervisor during Year 1 who will guide your research development throughout the program.

1

Doctoral Research Methods I

Philosophy of research, ontology, epistemology, quantitative methods, qualitative methods, mixed methods design, and research ethics. Students develop their philosophical positioning as researchers.

2

Leadership Theory & Practice

Transformational, servant, adaptive, and complexity leadership theories; leadership in crisis; leading innovation; executive presence; the leader as scholar-practitioner.

3

Strategic Management & Organizational Dynamics

Corporate strategy frameworks, competitive dynamics, organizational behavior, change management, institutional theory, and dynamic capabilities — applied to each student's industry context.

4

Advanced Business Analytics

Statistical analysis, data visualization, econometrics, survey design, and analytical tools including SPSS, R, NVivo, and Python basics for research-grade data analysis.

Year 1: Additional Core Modules

YEAR 1 — CONTINUED

Alongside the four foundational modules, Year 1 includes two additional core subjects and a critical milestone: the submission and approval of the doctoral research proposal. The proposal milestone is supported by a dedicated workshop and individual supervisor guidance, ensuring every student enters Year 2 with a clearly defined, faculty-approved research agenda.

Module 5: Global Business Environment

Macroeconomics, international trade policy, geopolitical risk, ESG frameworks, sustainability strategy, digital globalization, and the implications of emerging economies for multinational and domestic enterprises. Case studies are drawn from BRICS nations, Southeast Asia, the EU, and North America to provide truly global perspective.

Module 6: Innovation Management & Technology Leadership

Open innovation, disruptive technology management, technology adoption frameworks (TAM, TOE), digital transformation strategy, R&D management, intellectual property strategy, and the management of creative and technical teams. Particularly relevant for Engineering, IT, and Science stream candidates, though mandatory for all streams given the universality of technological disruption.

Year 1 Key Milestone: The Doctoral Research Proposal (DRP) — a 5,000-word document that identifies your research problem, reviews relevant literature, positions your theoretical framework, and outlines your methodological approach. This must be approved by your supervisory panel before you progress to Year 2.

Year 2: Advanced Specialization & Applied Research

YEAR 2

Year 2 marks the transition from foundation-building to deep specialization. Candidates now diverge into their respective stream-specific tracks while continuing to develop their doctoral research skills through advanced methodology training and applied research projects. This year is the intellectual heart of the DBA — where professional experience meets scholarly rigor in the most direct and generative way.

Stream-specific modules are delivered by faculty who combine academic expertise with direct industry experience. Guest lecturers include industry leaders, senior consultants, and international visiting professors. The applied research project — a major Year 2 assessment — requires students to conduct original research within their own organization or sector, producing a substantial practitioner-facing report alongside an academic paper.

1

Semester 3

Stream Specialization Module I + Advanced Research Methods II (Doctoral)

2

Semester 4

Stream Specialization Module II + Applied Research Project (Organization-based)

3

Year 2 Milestone

Confirmation of Candidature Review — formal panel assessment of dissertation readiness

The Confirmation of Candidature Review at the end of Year 2 is a formal milestone — a presentation before a faculty panel that evaluates the quality, originality, and viability of your dissertation research plan. Successful confirmation officially advances you to doctoral candidate status and authorizes commencement of the full dissertation in Year 3.

Stream Specialization: Management & Business

STREAM 1 MANAGEMENT

The Management stream encompasses Finance, Sales, Marketing, Supply Chain Management, Agriculture Business, IT Management, Banking, and BFSI (Banking, Financial Services & Insurance). This is the broadest and most diverse stream in the program, reflecting the expansive nature of the modern management discipline. Students in this stream may orient their research toward any of these sub-disciplines, with supervisor matching based on specialization.

Finance & Banking Research Areas

- Corporate governance and financial performance
- Fintech disruption of traditional banking models
- Risk management frameworks post-COVID
- ESG investing and stakeholder value creation
- Microfinance impact in emerging markets

Marketing, Sales & Supply Chain Research Areas

- Digital marketing effectiveness and ROI measurement
- B2B sales force transformation in digital era
- Sustainable supply chain innovation
- Agricultural value chain development
- Customer experience management at scale

Stream Specialization: IT, AI, Machine Learning & Data Science

STREAM 2 TECHNOLOGY & AI

The IT, Software, AI, Machine Learning, and Data Science stream attracts technology professionals who wish to research the management, strategic, organizational, and ethical dimensions of advanced technology. This stream is unique in the DBA landscape — it sits at the intersection of computer science, data engineering, organizational behavior, and business strategy, producing research that is both technically sophisticated and managerially relevant.

Doctoral research in this stream may address topics such as the strategic adoption of AI in enterprises, the organizational change management challenges of digital transformation, the ethics of algorithmic decision-making, data governance frameworks, machine learning explainability in regulated industries, or the business models emerging from platform economies and cloud-native enterprises.

AI Strategy & Governance

Responsible AI deployment, algorithmic bias, AI ethics policy, and governance frameworks for enterprise AI systems.

Digital Transformation

Organizational change in digital transitions, legacy modernization, cloud adoption strategy, and workforce reskilling.

Data Science Leadership

Building data cultures, managing data science teams, MLOps strategy, and monetizing data assets at enterprise scale.

Cybersecurity Management

Cyber risk governance, incident response leadership, security operations strategy, and cyber resilience frameworks.

Stream Specialization: Pharmacy, Chemistry & Biochemistry

STREAMS 3–5 | LIFE SCIENCES

The Life Sciences cluster — encompassing Pharmacy, Chemistry, and Biochemistry — represents one of the most exciting frontiers for applied doctoral research. Professionals in these streams bring deep technical expertise and occupy increasingly strategic roles in organizations that balance scientific rigor with commercial imperatives. The DBA gives them the tools to research and address the managerial, strategic, and organizational dimensions of their highly regulated, innovation-driven industries.

Pharmacy Research Focus Areas

- Pharmaceutical supply chain resilience and drug shortage management
- Regulatory strategy and market access in emerging economies
- Pharmacovigilance management systems
- Generic drug market competition strategy
- Hospital pharmacy operations and clinical governance
- Patient adherence and health behavior management

Chemistry & Biochemistry Research Focus Areas

- Green chemistry adoption in industrial manufacturing
- R&D project management in chemical enterprises
- Quality management systems (ISO, GMP) implementation
- Biotechnology commercialization strategy
- Biosimilar market entry and lifecycle management
- Laboratory leadership and scientific team management

Cross-Stream Opportunity: Pharmacy, Chemistry, and Biochemistry candidates frequently co-supervise with faculty from the Management stream, enabling rich interdisciplinary dissertations that combine scientific expertise with strategic management insight — a combination that is in extremely high demand globally.

Stream Specialization: Engineering Disciplines

STREAMS 6–10 | ENGINEERING

The Engineering cluster of the DBA program is a truly pioneering educational offering. Very few doctoral programs worldwide provide engineering professionals with a structured pathway to integrate their deep technical mastery with doctoral-level business and management research. Our program bridges this gap, producing engineering leaders who can speak both the language of technical excellence and strategic organizational scholarship.

Mechanical Engineering

Lean manufacturing, Industry 4.0 adoption, maintenance management, product lifecycle management, engineering operations strategy, and automation impact on workforce.

Civil Engineering

Infrastructure project governance, PPP (Public-Private Partnership) models, smart city management, sustainable construction strategy, and built environment policy.

Electrical Engineering

Smart grid management, renewable energy business models, power sector reform, energy storage strategy, and electrical utility transformation.

Electronics Engineering

Semiconductor supply chain strategy, IoT deployment management, electronics manufacturing governance, and embedded systems commercialization.

Automobile Engineering

EV transition strategy, automotive supply chain disruption, connected vehicle ecosystems, ADAS commercialization, and sustainable mobility business models.

Year 3: The Doctoral Dissertation

YEAR 3

Year 3 is dedicated almost entirely to the completion of the doctoral dissertation — the defining and most significant intellectual achievement of the DBA program. The dissertation is an original, independent research contribution of approximately 50,000–70,000 words that makes a genuine and substantial contribution to knowledge in your professional field. It is supervised by a primary academic supervisor and a co-supervisor (often an industry expert), and is formally examined by two external examiners at the end of the program.

Unlike a PhD dissertation, which is oriented toward theoretical novelty, the DBA dissertation is explicitly evaluated on its practical significance — the degree to which it generates actionable insights for practitioners, organizations, or policy-makers in the candidate's field. Both criteria matter: the dissertation must be rigorous in its methodology and grounded in relevant scholarly literature, but it must also be clearly applicable to the real world.

Months 25–28

Data collection, fieldwork, interviews, surveys, experiments, or archival analysis — the primary research phase.

Months 28–32

Data analysis, findings development, discussion of implications, and iterative draft writing with supervisor feedback.

Months 32–35

Final dissertation writing, internal review, pre-submission seminar, and preparation for Viva Voce examination.

Month 36

Viva Voce (oral defense) before external and internal examiners. Award of DBA upon successful examination.

Research Methodology Framework

Doctoral research in the DBA program is methodologically pluralist — we equip candidates with a comprehensive toolkit of research methods drawn from business management, social sciences, engineering research, and life sciences, enabling them to select the approach that best suits their research question and professional context. All candidates develop competency in both quantitative and qualitative methods; most dissertations employ a mixed-methods design that leverages the strengths of both paradigms.

Our research methods curriculum is delivered across Years 1 and 2, progressing from foundational philosophical positioning through to advanced analytical techniques. All students have access to statistical software including SPSS, AMOS, STATA, R, and NVivo. Dedicated research methodology workshops are held during each residential intensive, and one-to-one methodology coaching is available from our research support team.

Program Fee Structure & Financial Planning

We believe that investment in a doctoral education is one of the most transformative financial decisions a professional can make. The DBA program fee has been structured to be comprehensive, transparent, and accessible — covering all tuition, supervision, library access, software licenses, and residential intensive fees. We offer multiple payment plans to ensure that the program is financially manageable alongside your professional commitments.

Year 1 Fee

Rs. 1,00,000/-
One Lakh Rupees
Covers: All Year 1 modules, supervisor allocation, library & software access, and Residential Intensive 1.

Year 2 Fee

Rs. 1,00,000/-
One Lakh Rupees
Covers: Stream specialization modules, advanced research methods, applied project supervision, and Residential Intensive 2.

Year 3 Fee

Rs. 1,00,000/-
One Lakh Rupees
Covers: Full dissertation supervision, Viva Voce examination, pre-submission seminar, and graduation ceremony.

Fee Component	Included	Notes
Annual Tuition	Rs. 85,000	Per year, all streams
Examination & Viva Fee	Rs. 8,000	Year 3 only
Library & Software	Rs. 5,000	Per year
Residential Intensive	Rs. 2,000	Years 1 & 2
Total Per Year	**Rs. 1,00,000**	All inclusive
Total Program Fee	**Rs. 3,00,000**	3-year complete

Payment Plans & Financial Support

Recognizing that Rs. 3,00,000 represents a significant investment, we have designed multiple payment options to accommodate different financial circumstances. We also offer a limited number of merit-based fee concessions and early bird discounts for applications submitted in the first enrollment window each academic year.

Annual Payment Plan

Pay Rs. 1,00,000 at the start of each academic year — the simplest and most common payment arrangement. Many candidates arrange employer-sponsored tuition reimbursement aligned to this annual schedule.

Early Bird Discount: Applications submitted by March 31st receive a 5% discount on Year 1 tuition (Rs. 5,000 saving).

Semester Payment Plan

Split each annual fee into two semester installments of Rs. 50,000 each, payable at the start of Semesters 1 and 2. This plan suits candidates who prefer to align tuition payments with professional bonus cycles or salary increments.

Corporate Sponsorship: We provide invoicing directly to employers or corporate HR departments for professionally sponsored candidates.

Employer Sponsorship Tip: The DBA is widely recognized by Indian and multinational corporations as a qualifying expenditure under professional development budgets. We provide all necessary documentation — including program accreditation details, learning outcomes, and letter of enrollment — to support your corporate sponsorship application. Many of our current students have their DBA fully or partially funded by their employers.

Residential Intensives & Delivery Model

The DBA program is delivered through a carefully designed hybrid model that combines the convenience of online learning with the irreplaceable depth of face-to-face interaction. We recognize that our candidates come from across the country — and in some cases, from overseas — and have designed our delivery model to minimize required travel while maximizing the quality of doctoral learning experiences.

1 Online Weekly Sessions

Live online classes are held on Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings (3 hours per session), ensuring minimal disruption to your Monday-through-Friday professional commitments. All sessions are recorded and available on-demand for candidates who cannot attend live due to professional obligations. Interactive breakout rooms, case discussions, and peer critique sessions are integral to each online class.

2 Residential Intensive Workshops

Two residential intensive weekends are held annually — one in each of Years 1 and 2. These three-day on-campus events are the intellectual highlight of each year: they combine deep-dive research workshops, dissertation masterclasses with visiting international professors, networking dinners, peer dissertation critiques, and one-to-one supervisor meetings. Accommodation and most meals are included in the program fee.

3 Supervisor Meetings

Each candidate meets with their primary supervisor at minimum once per month — alternating between one-to-one video calls and asynchronous feedback on written drafts. Supervisory relationships are the cornerstone of doctoral success, and we invest heavily in our supervision culture. Our supervisor-to-student ratio is capped at 1:8 to ensure personalized, high-quality guidance throughout the program.

Faculty & Supervision Excellence

The quality of supervision is the single most important determinant of doctoral success. Our faculty team comprises distinguished academic researchers, accomplished industry practitioners, and international visiting professors — all united by their commitment to applied doctoral education and their genuine passion for professional practice-based research.

Academic Supervisors

Doctoral-qualified faculty with PhDs or DBAs from world-leading institutions including IIMs, IITs, NIT, and international universities. All academic supervisors hold active research portfolios with recent peer-reviewed publications and conference presentations in their specialist fields.

Industry Co-Supervisors

Senior practitioners from each professional stream — CEOs, CFOs, Chief Engineers, VPs, and industry consultants — serve as co-supervisors, ensuring that every dissertation maintains direct grounding in real professional challenges and remains relevant to current industry practice.

International Visiting Professors

Distinguished visiting faculty from partner institutions in the UK, USA, Europe, Australia, and Singapore enrich the program with global perspectives. They lead masterclasses during residential intensives and serve as external dissertation examiners, ensuring international standards of doctoral excellence.

Assessment Structure & Academic Rigor

The DBA assessment framework is designed to mirror the realities of professional doctoral scholarship — combining academic rigour with practical applicability at every stage. Assessment methods are deliberately varied to develop and evaluate different dimensions of doctoral competency: analytical writing, oral communication, research design, critical thinking, and original scholarship. All assessments are designed around authentic professional scenarios drawn from your own industry context.

The dissertation constitutes 40% of the total program grade and is the primary vehicle through which doctoral candidates demonstrate original scholarly contribution. The Viva Voce examination — conducted by two external examiners — is the culminating assessment event, typically lasting two to three hours, in which candidates must defend every aspect of their research to expert scrutiny. Successful candidates who demonstrate the required standard of doctoral scholarship are awarded the degree of Doctor of Business Administration (DBA).

Learning Outcomes & Graduate Competencies

Upon successful completion of the DBA program, graduates will have demonstrated mastery of a distinctive and highly valuable set of competencies that position them as true scholar-practitioners — professionals who combine executive leadership capability with doctoral-level research expertise. These outcomes have been mapped against international frameworks including the QAA Doctoral Characteristics, the ABS Learning Goals, and the AACSB Doctoral Education Standards.

1

Original Research Contribution

Ability to design, conduct, analyze, and report original doctoral-level research that makes a genuine contribution to knowledge and professional practice in the candidate's field. Demonstrated through the doctoral dissertation and peer-reviewed publication.

2

Advanced Critical Analysis

Capability to critically evaluate complex bodies of knowledge, identify theoretical gaps, and situate original research within established scholarly frameworks. Demonstrated through literature reviews, written assignments, and Viva Voce defense.

3

Strategic Leadership Excellence

Enhanced capacity to lead at the highest organizational levels with evidence-based decision-making, scholarly rigor, and the confidence that comes from doctoral-level mastery of one's professional domain.

4

Research Communication

Ability to communicate complex research findings to both academic and practitioner audiences through written reports, scholarly papers, conference presentations, and executive briefings.

Career Impact & Professional Outcomes

A DBA opens doors that simply were not accessible before — not merely because of the credential itself, but because of the transformation in thinking, capability, and confidence that the doctoral journey produces. DBA graduates consistently report significant career advancement, increased professional authority, and a dramatically expanded professional network as direct outcomes of their doctoral study.

99%

Career Advancement

Of DBA graduates report significant career advancement within two years of graduation (Henley Business School DBA Impact Study 2023).

98%

Salary Increase

Of DBA graduates receive a substantial salary increase or promotion within 18 months of graduation.

55%

Board Appointments

Of DBA graduates take on board-level, advisory, or non-executive director roles within five years of graduation.

3X

Research Impact

DBA-generated organizational research projects yield on average three times the measurable business impact of non-doctoral consulting engagements.

Beyond individual career outcomes, DBA graduates create value for their organizations. Research projects and dissertations routinely identify new revenue streams, operational efficiencies, risk mitigation strategies, and innovation opportunities that generate measurable organizational returns. The DBA pays for itself — many times over.

Global Recognition & Accreditation

Our DBA program is designed and delivered against the highest international standards of doctoral education. The curriculum has been benchmarked against the world's leading DBA programs — including those at Henley Business School (UK), INSEAD (France/Singapore), Cranfield University (UK), Southern Cross University (Australia), and Case Western Reserve University (USA) — and is structured to meet the requirements of major global accreditation bodies.

AACSB Alignment

Curriculum and research standards aligned with the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) doctoral education standards — the world's most prestigious business school accreditation.

QAA Doctoral Characteristics

Learning outcomes mapped to the UK Quality Assurance Agency's Doctoral Degree Characteristics Statement, ensuring global equivalence of doctoral standards and facilitating international recognition.

UGC India Recognition

Program structured to meet the requirements of the University Grants Commission (UGC) of India, ensuring domestic recognition of the DBA qualification for academic, government, and regulatory purposes.

Industry Body Recognition

Recognized by CII, FICCI, IMA, and NASSCOM as a qualifying doctoral credential for senior professional certification pathways, continuing professional development points, and leadership development recognition.

The DBA Community: Your Cohort & Network

One of the most enduring and professionally valuable aspects of the DBA experience is the cohort — the group of fellow doctoral candidates who journey through the program alongside you. DBA cohorts are deliberately kept small (maximum 25 candidates per intake) to foster genuine intellectual community, deep peer relationships, and a collaborative rather than competitive learning culture.

Your Cohort Advantage

Each cohort is drawn from across all ten professional streams, creating an extraordinarily rich diversity of industry perspectives. When a pharmaceutical professional discusses supply chain research with a mechanical engineer and a banking executive, new intellectual frameworks emerge that none could have developed in isolation. This cross-disciplinary dialogue is one of the DBA's most distinctive and valued features.

Cohort members form peer supervision groups — meeting monthly to critique each other's dissertation drafts — a practice that significantly improves dissertation quality and dramatically reduces the isolation that doctoral candidates can feel in more traditional programs.

DBA Alumni Network

Upon graduation, DBA alumni join a growing global network of doctoral-level professional leaders. The alumni community holds annual reunion conferences, maintains active online forums by stream and research interest, and facilitates introductions for career opportunities, consulting engagements, research collaborations, and board appointments.

Alumni also serve as mentors to new DBA cohorts, guest lecturers in the program, and co-supervisors for subsequent dissertation candidates — creating a virtuous cycle of professional doctoral excellence that grows stronger with each graduating class.

Research Publications & Knowledge Dissemination

The DBA program places significant emphasis on disseminating research beyond the dissertation — transforming doctoral scholarship into published knowledge that benefits the wider professional and academic community. All candidates are guided and encouraged to submit at least one peer-reviewed journal article or conference paper during the program, with strong support from supervisors and our dedicated research publications team.

→ Journal Publication Pathway

Our faculty team provides structured support for journal submission — identifying appropriate target journals (including ABDC-listed, Scopus-indexed, and UGC-CARE approved journals), providing pre-submission manuscript reviews, advising on response to reviewer comments, and celebrating every acceptance with the full DBA community. Publication is not a requirement for the award of the DBA, but it is strongly encouraged and supported.

→ Annual DBA Research Conference

The program hosts an annual internal DBA Research Conference at which candidates present their research-in-progress to peers, faculty, and invited industry guests. This provides an invaluable rehearsal for the Viva Voce examination and builds the oral presentation skills that doctoral graduates are expected to deploy in executive and academic settings. Selected presentations are published in our annual DBA Research Proceedings.

→ Industry White Papers & Executive Reports

Many DBA dissertations generate findings of immediate practical value to industry. Our program encourages candidates to produce professionally formatted executive summary reports and white papers from their research — documents designed for practitioner audiences — which are distributed through our industry partner network and published on the program website, maximizing the real-world impact of doctoral scholarship.

Technology & Learning Resources

Our DBA candidates have access to a world-class suite of digital learning resources, research tools, and academic support systems — everything you need to conduct doctoral-level research and engage deeply with the program from wherever you are in the world. All resources are available 24/7 through our dedicated doctoral learning management system.

LMS & Online Platform

A purpose-built doctoral learning management system hosting all course materials, lecture recordings, assignment submissions, discussion forums, and supervisor communication tools.

Digital Library Access

Full institutional access to JSTOR, Emerald Insight, Science Direct, IEEE Xplore, PubMed, EBSCO, ProQuest, and Google Scholar Premium — comprehensive coverage of all disciplines represented in our ten streams.

Research Software Suite

Licensed access to SPSS, AMOS, STATA, R Studio, NVivo, ATLAS.ti, Mendeley reference manager, and MATLAB — all the tools needed for quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods doctoral research.

Academic Support Tools

Turnitin plagiarism detection, AI-assisted writing support (for editing, not generation), language editing services for non-native English writers, and 24/7 access to our doctoral research support helpdesk.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in the DBA

We are committed to building a DBA program that is genuinely inclusive and reflective of the extraordinary diversity of professional life in India and globally. We actively recruit candidates from diverse gender, geographic, cultural, linguistic, and professional backgrounds — believing that this diversity is not merely a social good but a direct contributor to the intellectual richness and practical relevance of doctoral research.

Women in Doctoral Leadership

We are particularly committed to increasing the representation of women in doctoral education and senior professional leadership. We offer a dedicated Women in Leadership scholarship — a 10% fee concession for eligible female candidates — and host a Women in the DBA peer network that provides mentoring, community, and professional development throughout the program and beyond graduation. We are proud that women constitute 44% of our current DBA cohorts — significantly above the national average for doctoral programs in management and engineering.

Geographic Accessibility

Our hybrid delivery model means that a working professional in Tier 2 or Tier 3 cities has exactly the same quality of doctoral education as a candidate in Mumbai or Delhi. We are committed to democratizing doctoral education — ensuring that the intellectual and career benefits of a DBA are not limited to those in major metropolitan centers or those who can afford to take a sabbatical from their careers. Candidates from any part of India — or indeed, from the Indian diaspora internationally — are warmly welcomed and fully supported.

Application Process & Key Dates

Applying to the DBA program is a straightforward process designed to be manageable alongside a demanding professional schedule. Our admissions team provides dedicated support throughout the application journey — from initial inquiry through to enrollment. We intake new candidates once per year, with the academic year beginning in July.

January 1

Applications Open. Early bird discount window begins.

March 31

Early Bird Deadline. 5% Year 1 tuition discount for applications submitted by this date.

April 30

Final Application Deadline. All documents must be submitted.

May–June

Faculty Review, Shortlisting & Admissions Interviews.

July 1

Program Commencement. Orientation Week begins.

Required Application Documents: (1) Completed online application form; (2) Certified copies of all academic certificates and transcripts; (3) Updated CV/Resume highlighting professional experience and achievements; (4) Preliminary Research Proposal (1,500–2,000 words); (5) Two professional references (letters or contact details); (6) Copy of valid ID proof; (7) Payment of non-refundable application processing fee of Rs. 2,500.

Frequently Asked Questions

We understand that committing to a three-year doctoral program is a major decision. Below are answers to the most frequently asked questions from prospective candidates. If you don't find the answer you need here, our admissions team is always available for a personal conversation.

Can I pursue the DBA while working full-time?

Absolutely — the program is specifically designed for this. All live sessions are held on weekend mornings and evenings, all content is available on-demand, and supervisor meetings are scheduled around your professional calendar. The expected time commitment is approximately 15–20 hours per week, including study, reading, and writing. Most candidates maintain their full-time professional roles throughout the program and many report that the program actually enhances their professional performance by giving them new analytical frameworks and research skills they apply immediately at work.

What if my undergraduate degree is not in business or management?

That is perfectly fine — and in many ways, an advantage. Candidates from engineering, pharmacy, chemistry, and life sciences bring highly valued technical expertise to the program. The DBA is designed to add the business, management, and research dimensions to your existing technical mastery — not to replace it. Your technical depth will be the foundation of a uniquely powerful and distinctive doctoral research contribution.

Is the DBA recognized for academic positions in universities?

Yes. The DBA is formally recognized as a doctoral qualification by UGC India and is accepted for faculty positions in many universities and business schools — particularly for applied, industry-oriented teaching roles, executive education, and professional programs. An increasing number of business schools actively prefer DBA graduates for positions in executive MBA and industry-linked programs. For purely research-focused academic careers, a traditional PhD remains the conventional pathway, but the DBA opens more professional teaching doors than many candidates expect.

What happens if I need to take a break from the program?

We understand that professional life can be unpredictable — a major project, a health issue, a change in family circumstances may require a temporary pause in your studies. The program offers a formal Leave of Absence policy that allows candidates to suspend their studies for up to one year (once during the program) without academic penalty. We also offer part-time extension options for Year 3 dissertation candidates who need additional time to complete their research. Your doctoral journey is protected — we are invested in seeing you through to graduation.

Begin Your Doctoral Journey Today

The decision to pursue a Doctorate in Business Administration is one of the most significant and rewarding choices a professional can make. It is a commitment — to your intellectual growth, to your professional field, to the organizations and communities you serve, and to the leader you know you can become. The DBA does not just give you a title; it gives you a new way of thinking, a new level of confidence, and a new capacity to shape the world around you through evidence-based, rigorous, original research.

Across ten professional streams — from Management and Finance to Artificial Intelligence, from Civil Engineering to Biochemistry — our program has been designed to meet you exactly where you are in your professional journey and take you to a place you have not yet been. We have built this program from the finest international educational frameworks, designed it for the realities of Indian professional life, priced it to be genuinely accessible, and staffed it with faculty who are as invested in your success as you are.

Apply Now

Submit your application online. Early Bird Deadline: March 31st for a 5% Year 1 discount. Final Deadline: April 30th. Program starts July 1st every year.

Request Information

Contact our DBA Admissions Office for a personal consultation, program brochure, or information session registration. We respond to all inquiries within 24 hours.

Attend an Open Day

Join us for a virtual or in-person Open Day to meet faculty, current candidates, and alumni. Open Days are held every quarter and are the best way to experience the DBA community firsthand.

> "Your professional experience is the raw material. Our program is the crucible. The DBA is what you will forge — and the world will know your name, Doctor."

TOTAL PROGRAM FEE: RS. 3,00,000 (THREE LAKHS ONLY)

NEXT INTAKE: JULY 2025

APPLY BY APRIL 30, 2025