



Institute of Applied Sciences

Chitlang, Thaha Municipality-9, Bagmati Province

Invitation of Applications (Second Call) for Admission to Master of Applied Science and PhD Programs in

Forest Biomaterials Science and Engineering | Artificial Intelligence | Data Science | Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure

July 31, 2026

ADMISSION OPEN TO ALL NATIONALITIES

1. Introduction

Madan Bhandari University of Science and Technology (MBUST) was established through the promulgation of the Madan Bhandari University of Science and Technology Act, 2079 (2022 AD) on August 3, 2022. The University envisions becoming a *world-class university* and is committed to building *a prosperous and just Nepal* through its mission. MBUST aligns teaching and research with real industry problems, helping students develop new technologies and become “job creators,” not “job seekers.”

2. Program Intake and Duration

Program	Level	No. of Seats	100% and scholarship ^{1,2}	Fee Waiver Only			
				100%	75%	50%	25%
Forest Biomaterials Science and Engineering	MAS	14	-	Up to +2	Up to +2	Up to +2	Up to +8
Artificial Intelligence	PhD	2	Up to 2	-	-	-	-
	MAS	14	-	Up to +2	Up to +2	Up to +2	Up to +8
Data Science	PhD	1	Up to 1	-	-	-	-
	MAS	14	-	Up to +2	Up to +2	Up to +2	Up to +8
Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure	PhD	2	Up to 2	-	-	-	-
	MAS	16	Up to 2	Up to +2	Up to +2	Up to +2	Up to +8

Duration of PhD programs: 3 years; MAS programs: 2 years.

¹ Monthly scholarship of Rs. 20, 000 for up to 36 months (for PhD students) and Rs. 12,000 for up to 24 months (for MAS students) may be provided, subject to fund availability and satisfactory academic performance.

² Scholarship will not be awarded to candidates who are on a paid leave or supported by any entity towards living expenditures of the candidates during the study. The selected candidates should at the time of admission submit an affidavit certifying that they will not be on a paid leave and not receiving support from any entity towards their living expenditures during the study.

3. Admission Schedule

Event	Date
Second call for application	July 31, 2026
Application deadline*	August 19, 2026
Shortlist publication	August 21, 2026
Written examinations and interview	August 24-26, 2026
Publication of admission list together with financial assistance	August 27, 2026
Admission deadline	September 3, 2026
Selection notice	September 4, 2026
Orientation, course registration, and start of instruction	November 23, 2026

*Note: Late applications will be considered for next call(s), subject to seat availability.

4. Minimum Eligibility³

PhD Program:

Master's degree in Engineering/Technology/Science/Architecture or other relevant fields from recognized universities with CGPA of 3.0/4.0 (or international equivalent).

MAS Program:

Program	Minimum Eligibility
Forest Biomaterials Science and Engineering	Four-year Bachelor's degree in Science/ Engineering/ Technology or other relevant fields from recognized universities with CGPA of 2.75 out of 4.0 (or international equivalent)
Artificial Intelligence Data Science	Four-year Bachelor's degree in Science/ Engineering/ Technology or other relevant fields from recognized universities with CGPA of 2.75 out of 4.0 (or international equivalent) or 3-year Bachelor's degree in digital technology related field from recognized universities with CGPA of 2.75 out of 4.0 (or international equivalent) provided that the total credit is not less than 120 and the course content meets prerequisites for the applied program
Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure	Four-year Bachelor's degree in Engineering/ Technology/ Science/ Architecture from recognized universities with CGPA of 2.75/4.0 (or international equivalent) or Master's degree in Management/ Economics/ Sociology/ Tourism & Hospitality or other relevant fields with CGPA of 2.75/4.0 (or international equivalent)

5. Fee, Financial Support, and Deposit

The total tuition fee for MAS and PhD programs is **Rs. 300,000 (2 years)** and **450,000 (3 years)** respectively.

Recipients of scholarships or fee waivers must participate in university research and related activities and commit to employment or self-employment in Nepal, or service at MBUST or MBUST-assigned institutions for at least two years (one year for fee-waiver-only students, regardless of waiver amount). If recipients withdraw before completing their studies, they must repay the full scholarship amount received and the total tuition fee for the entire program. *Selected applicants must sign a pledge to complete their studies and serve MBUST or an institution assigned by MBUST in lieu of the scholarship or fee waiver provided at admission.*

³ Applicants who fall short of the CGPA threshold but demonstrate exceptional merit may be shortlisted. Such applicants are welcome to apply, with the understanding that the University may still deem them ineligible.

To ensure committed enrollment and proper care of the University property, the following non-tuition fees apply: a registration fee of Rs. 25,000; a refundable deposit of Rs. 50,000 (returned upon program completion); and a refundable security deposit of Rs. 25,000 for potential damage due to negligence. Transportation charges apply separately for students using the office shuttle service to and from Chitlang.

6. Application Submission

Online application form is available at <http://www.mbust.edu.np>. Applications must be submitted online. Applications in hard copies or scanned copies shall not be entertained.

Bank details to deposit application fee: Madan Bhandari University of Science and Technology A/C No. 33600106701870000049 Nepal Bank Limited Chitlang Branch, Thaha Municipality	 NEPAL BANK LIMITED SCAN & PAY MADAN BHANDARI UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
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In case of difficulties in applying online, please contact: Mr. Abhash Jit Maharjan. Email: abhash.jit.maharjan@mbust.edu.np. Contact number: +977 9861392313.

7. Documents to be Submitted

Mandatory documents

- 1) Academic transcripts
 - a. Bachelor's level
 - b. Secondary school transcript (grade 12)
 - c. Secondary Education Examination transcript (grade 10)
- 2) Research statement (Attachment 2)
- 3) Personal statement (Attachment 3)
- 4) Citizenship certificate/Passport
- 5) CV
- 6) Bank voucher/evidence of the deposition of application fee of Rs. 500.

Optional documents

- 1) Publication list
- 2) Experience certificates
- 3) Additional transcripts
- 4) Other documents (not more than five).

8. Criteria for Selection

The applicants will be selected based on the following set of criteria.

Criteria	Transcripts	Research statement	Personal statement	Special skills	References	Essay writing	Interview	Total
Weightage, %	20	10	15	10	10	10	25	100

Applicants are encouraged to submit documents showing special achievements/skills which could enhance the chances of their success in the studies.

Applicants should submit the names and contact details of **three referees** who can provide the firsthand reference on the students. The students should name only those referees who agree to be interviewed by the University.

Applicants with publication records in peer-reviewed journals and conferences will have an advantage in the selection. Therefore, students are encouraged to provide a list of publications (see Attachment 4).

Essay writing and interview will take place at the University premise in Chitlang.

Shortlisting. Applicants will be shortlisted based on the cumulative score of the first five criteria. The number of students shortlisted will not exceed the double of the planned intake.

Final selection. The final selection for admission will be based on the cumulative score of all criteria.

9. Briefing on the Programs

Those interested to know more about the programs are requested to send an email to info@mbust.edu.np or contact respective Program Coordinators:

Program	Coordinator	Phone	Email
Forest Biomaterials Science and Engineering	Dr. Sudip Pandey	9841683077	sudip.pandey@mbust.edu.np
Digital Technology (AI/ Data Science)	Dr. Ritu Raj Lamsal	9804437197	rituraj.lamsal@mbust.edu.np
Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure	Dr. Kishor Timsina	9849147792	kishor.timsina@mbust.edu.np

Visiting MBUST. Interested applicants are welcome to visit MBUST in Chitlang. They can make their own travel arrangement or request to use the university bus service (Rs. 150 for a one-way trip and Rs. 300 for a round trip) subject to seat availability. The bus departs from Pulchowk at 8:00 AM and travels through Kalanki and Thankot. For seat reservation, please contact: Binod Adhikari (9851119749).

Kirti Kusum Joshi, PhD

Director

Attachment 1

Priority Research Topics

Forest Biomaterials Science and Engineering

- Biomaterials and composites: Natural fiber composites, sustainable biomaterials from forest waste, biodegradable packaging, bamboo and timber engineering, computational design, mechanical characterization, and life cycle assessment.
- Carbon materials and environmental remediation: Carbon-based nanomaterials for pollutant removal and metal recovery, biochar applications, sustainable forest biomass energy, and computational adsorption studies.
- Forest waste as bioresources for economic growth.
- Computational chemistry and molecular design: In silico drug discovery, phytochemical-based nutraceutical development, and molecular databases for virtual screening.
- Functional foods and bioproducts: Herbal beverages, phytochemical profiling, encapsulated biopesticides, seed oils, and residue analysis of natural products.
- Food aroma and quality: Aroma profiling and quality assessment of Himalayan coffee and Nepali tea; chemical and sensory characterization of food products.
- Forest ecology and growth: Tree-ring analysis, growth dynamics, and resin formation in agarwood.

For program details, visit <https://mbust.edu.np/academics/courses/forest-biomaterials>.

Digital Technology

- Human-centered AI and data science: Local language NLP; healthcare analytics; fintech applications; AI agents
- AI, UAVs, and remote sensing: Environmental monitoring; disaster resilience; forestry applications; modeling of lake-water contamination.
- Edge AI and embedded AIoT: Smart agriculture sensing; wildlife monitoring; energy management; urban planning and management; waste and air quality monitoring
- Computer vision, autonomous systems, and urban intelligence: Structural health monitoring; intelligent transportation; urban planning and management; robotics; crowd management
- Optical and digital communication technologies.

For program details, visit <https://mbust.edu.np/academics/courses/artificial%20intelligence> and <https://mbust.edu.np/academics/courses/data-science>.

Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure

- Rural tourism infrastructure: Trails and trekking routes, homestays.
- Seismic performance and resilience: Stone/brick masonry buildings; bamboo structures systems; timber and mass timber structures
- Sustainable and innovative building materials: bamboo, timber.
- Heritage and traditional structure resilience: Structural health monitoring; assessment and retrofitting techniques
- Indigenous traditional knowledge of bamboo use in CBFT.
- Land use planning in traditional settlements

For program details, visit <https://mbust.edu.np/academics/courses/sustainable-resilient-infrastructure-masters>.

Attachment 2

Framework for Research Statement

Research statement of up to 600 to 800 words related to the program the student has applied for shall be developed by the applicant. The statement shall include

- Title
- Research problem definition
- Importance of the selected research problem in terms of contribution to national economy
- Research plan
- Expected results and impact

Attachment 3

Framework for Personal Statement

A personal statement shall be a concise description of the personal background, academic journey and research interests of the applicant of up to 800 to 1,000 words. It shall also highlight specific qualities and special skills of the applicant which may be helpful for the successful completion of the studies and research. He/she shall also describe the reasons for selecting MBUST and the program.

Attachment 4

Format for Publication List

In chronological order based on the year of publication

No.	Title of the publication	Author/s	Name of Journal/Book/Others	Web Reference/ DOI	Year