

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Q1. What is special about this PGCM (DSFM) Programme?**

Data has emerged as a new functional requirement in modern age decision making. The Post Graduate Certificate in Management (Data Science in Financial Markets) is a unique programme that provides expertise on various data processing techniques and tools and their application in financial markets. The programme is ideal for those with a passion for data analytics and zeal to implement it for decision-making in financial markets – be it for product engineering, investment decisions, research, advisory, etc. Our data science program offers the unique opportunity to study in an environment that is deeply academic, inspiringly professional and yet refreshingly friendly.

### **Q2. What is the structure of the Programme?**

PGCM (DSFM) is a 14-month weekend Programme with classes scheduled on Saturdays (6 p.m. to 9:15 p.m.) and Sundays (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.). The Programme is divided into five trimesters. This makes it suitable for both working professionals and fresh graduates.

### **Q3. Is this Programme recognized?**

Yes. PGCM (DSFM) is approved by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). NISM is an educational institution established by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). As this course being organised by the educational institute established by SEBI and having approval from AICTE, the credibility and the scope of the Programme is very high

### **Q4. What will I learn in this Programme?**

The Programme offers a robust mix of financial markets and application of technology, which would help to improve quality of decision making in financial markets. The topics covered in the programme include , Financial Economics, Markets, Institutions & Products, Econometrics & Time Series Analysis, , Data Mining, Machine Learning, Algorithmic Trading, Big Data Processing & Visualization, Financial Analytics and much more. The Programme combines academic elegance and business relevance to facilitate the participants to learn modalities of various financial products, followed by analytical techniques and weaves them with applications for data-based decision making. For detailed curriculum, [click here](#).

### **Q5. Does this Programme provide any practical exposure?**

The Programme provides exposure to Data Science and Analytics tools where the participants get hand-on experience on R, Tableau and Python. The lectures and hands-on sessions will be delivered by eminent faculty and industry experts who provide the necessary practical exposure.

### **Q6. Where will this Programme lead to?**

PGCM (DSFM) could lead to the following job profiles, which involves the fusion of data science techniques and financial analytics:

- ✓ Credit Research and Ratings

- ✓ Investment Evaluation and Portfolio Management
- ✓ Risk Modelling
- ✓ Claim Processing
- ✓ Fraud Detection
- ✓ Analysing Financial Statements
- ✓ Equity Research

**Q7. Does NISM provide any placement assistance for this Programme?**

Yes. NISM provides placement assistance to participants who successfully complete the programme. The Institute helps the participants in finding suitable data analyst profiles in financial market intermediaries. NISM's past recruiters (from other regular academic programmes) include Investment Banks, Analytics Firms, Rating Agencies, Registered Valuers, Investment Advisory, Stock Exchanges, Depositories, Clearing Corporations, Mutual Fund Houses, Brokerage Firms, Banks, etc.

**Q8. What are the eligibility criteria for this Programme?**

Graduates from any discipline, with a minimum of 50% marks (45% in case of candidates belonging to reserved category), from a recognized University under 10+2+3 stream or equivalent are eligible for PGCM (DFSM).

**Q9. I am a working professional. Will I be able to pursue this Programme?**

Yes. The classes for PCGM (DFSM) are scheduled on weekends – Saturday (6 p.m. to 9:15 p.m.) and Sunday (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.), making it suitable for working professionals. The Academic Calendar has been designed suitably keeping in mind the requirements of working professionals.

**Q10. I am in the final year of Graduation and waiting for my results. Can I apply?**

Yes. Students in the final year of graduation and those who are waiting for their final results of graduation can also apply. Admissions will be provisional till the graduation marks are submitted. However, the applicant must secure the minimum percentage of marks as mentioned in Q8.

**Q11. I don't have prior understanding on financial markets. Will this Programme suit me?**

The curriculum has been appropriately structured to provide a basic understanding of financial markets, institutions and products. This will create a level playing field amongst participants from diverse backgrounds. The programme will feature subjects on Financial Economics, Financial Products and Institutions, Financial Derivatives, etc. to give a fundamental understanding in these areas, over and above data science related subjects.

**Q12. Is there any upper age limit for this Programme?**

No, there is no upper age limit to pursue PGCM (DFSM).

**Q13. What is the fee for this Programme?**

The consolidated program fee for PGCM (DSFM) is Rs. 2,02,000/-. The fee is payable in three instalments of Rs. 50,000, Rs.82,000 and Rs. 70,000. The fee includes tuition fees, exam fees, alumni fund and a refundable library deposit. For a detailed break-up of fee, please [click here](#).

**Q14. How can I apply for the Programme?**

The admissions for 2021-22 are now open. Candidates shall first register themselves online on [slims.nism.ac.in](https://slims.nism.ac.in). On registration, a User Id and a Password will be mailed. Candidates can use these credentials on the same link to fill up the application form. The application is complete only after the payment of the application fee of Rs. 500/-. The entire application process, including payment of application fee, is online. Click here to [APPLY NOW!](#)

**Q15. What is the application fee? Where can I pay it?**

The application fee is Rs. 500/-. The fee can be paid in [slims.nism.ac.in](https://slims.nism.ac.in), upon completion of the application form, using Debit Card/Credit Card/Net Banking. The entire application process, including payment of application fee, is online.

**Q16. What is the last date to apply?**

The last date to apply is [30<sup>th</sup> June 2021](#). The application form and the payment of the application fee – both have to be completed before this date. Click here to [APPLY NOW!](#)

**Q17. What is the selection process for admission to this Programme?**

The selection is a two-stage process. Applicants will be shortlisted for a personal interview based on their profile (application form). The admissions will be offered based on their relative performance in the personal interview (online).

**Q18. When and where will be personal interviews be held?**

The dates of the personal interviews will be communicated to the shortlisted applicants by email. The interviews will be held online (in Webex or on similar platforms)

**Q19. When will the Programme commence? Where will be classes be held?**

The Programme will commence on [11<sup>th</sup> July 2021](#). The classes will be held at NISM's facility in Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC), Mumbai. However, the classes will initially be held online in view of the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic.

**Q20. Is distance learning available for this Programme?**

Distance learning is not available as PGCM (DSFM) is a weekend programme. Classes are scheduled on Saturdays (6 p.m. to 9:15 p.m.) and Sundays (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.) over 14 months.

**Q21. Whom should I contact for my specific queries?**

You may reach our Admission Counsellors on +91 82680 02412 or write to us on [pgcm@nism.ac.in](mailto:pgcm@nism.ac.in)