

## **Frequently Asked Questions (updated as on Feb 28, 2022)**

### **Q1. Who will find this program useful?**

PGP (PM/IA/RA) is ideal for Individuals with a passion for securities markets and keenness to acquire in-depth understanding of securities markets with a special focus on one of the specialization areas viz., Portfolio Management, Investment Advisory, or Research Analysis.

The relevant specializations of this program are recognized as eligible professional qualification for Portfolio Managers, Investment Advisers and Research Analysts, under SEBI (Portfolio Managers) Regulations, 2020, SEBI (Investment Advisers) Regulations, 2013 and SEBI (Research Analysts) Regulations, 2014 respectively.

Each PGP specialization is recognized under the specific regulation e.g. under SEBI (Investment Advisers) Regulations, 2013 only Post Graduate Program (PGP) in the Securities Market (Investment Advisory) is eligible, hence participants can choose the applicable specialization accordingly.

#### **SEBI (Portfolio Managers) Regulations, 2020 Page 7**

“or a professional qualification by completing a Post Graduate Program in the Securities Market (Portfolio Management) from NISM of a duration not less than one year”

Link: <https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/regulations/nov-2021/securities-and-exchange-board-of-india-portfolio-managers-regulations-2020-last-amended-on-november-09-2021-45744.html>

The PGP specialization under the specific regulation e.g. under SEBI (Investment Advisers) Regulations, 2013 only Post Graduate Program (PGP) in the Securities Market (Investment Advisory) merely fulfils part of the educational requirements laid down in the regulations.

Participants are urged to check and confirm all the technical, legal and any other requirements of the respective regulations for obtaining the said registration.

#### **SEBI (Investment Advisers) Regulations, 2013 Page 9**

"or a professional qualification by completing a Post Graduate Program in the Securities Market (Investment Advisory) from NISM of a duration not less than one year"

Link: <https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/regulations/aug-2021/securities-and-exchange-board-of-india-investment-advisers-regulations-2013-last-amended-on-august-03-2021-48742.html>

The PGP specialization under the specific regulation e.g. under SEBI (Investment Advisers) Regulations, 2013 only Post Graduate Program (PGP) in the Securities Market (Investment Advisory) merely fulfils part of the educational requirements laid down in the regulations.

Participants are urged to check and confirm all the technical, legal and any other requirements of the respective regulations for obtaining the said registration.

#### **SEBI (Research Analysts) Regulations, 2014 Page 6**

"1[(iii) a professional qualification by completing a Post Graduate Program in the Securities Market (Research Analysis) from NISM of a duration not less than one year; or]

Link: <https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/regulations/aug-2021/securities-and-exchange-board-of-india-research-analysts-regulations-2014-last-amended-on-august-03-2021-34615.html>

The PGP specialization under the specific regulation e.g. under SEBI (Investment Advisers) Regulations, 2013 only Post Graduate Program (PGP) in the Securities Market (Investment Advisory) merely fulfils part of the educational requirements laid down in the regulations. Participants are urged to check and confirm all the technical, legal and any other requirements of the respective regulations for obtaining the said registration.

Being a week-end capacity-building program, it is suitable for working professionals.

This program is also useful for Individuals with an entrepreneurial bent of mind, who would like to start their own Portfolio Management, or Investment Advisory, or Research Analysis practice. These individuals with a Graduate degree and desirous to offer their own Portfolio Management, or Investment Advisory, or Research Analysis services may find this program suitable for their knowledge requirements and skill enhancement.

Employees of PMS, Investment Advisory and Research Analyst firms who would like to enhance their skills in their respective functional areas will find this program relevant.

Employees of Mutual Funds (AMCs and Distributors), Merchant Bankers, Stock Broking firms, listed companies (employees who look after the treasury operations), Banks (employees who provide wealth and investment management services to the clients), etc. will also find this program very useful.

Individuals wanting to learn to manage their family investments will also benefit from this program.

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

PGP (PM/IA/RA) is a 15-month weekend Program with classes scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays. This makes it suitable for working professionals.

## **Q3. What will I learn in this Program?**

The pedagogy of this program will be practice oriented with an objective of bringing real-life perspectives alongside giving a robust conceptual foundation to the students.

The curriculum is designed in consultation with the Industry to ensure that the curriculum is in-line with the current Industry practices and requirements.

The program covers the concepts, tools and techniques pertaining to both the foundational aspects of the securities markets as well as in their chosen specialization area: Portfolio management, Investment advisory, or Research Analysis.

Lectures and hands-on workshop sessions will be conducted by eminent faculty and industry leaders and experts. Students will gain the research-based inputs and industry insights from a team of academicians, market experts and policy makers.

## **Q4. Where will this Program lead to?**

PGP (PM/IA/RA) program offers three specializations to the students viz., Portfolio Management,

Investment Advisory and Research Analysis. The program could lead the successful participants to the following career pathways:

**Portfolio Management:** Employment opportunities in Portfolio Management Services firms, PMS distributors, Asset Management Companies, Family Offices, etc. and also the scope to start own Portfolio Management Services for the aspiring entrepreneurs.

**Investment Advisory:** Employment opportunities in Investment Advisory firms, Retirement and Estate Planners, Banks, Family Offices, etc. and also the scope to start own Investment Advisory Services for the aspiring entrepreneurs.

**Research Analysis:** Employment opportunities as sell-side analysts (in Equity Research Firms, Stock Broking Firms, etc.), as buy-side analysts (in Asset Management Firms, Portfolio Management Services, Pension Fund Management Firms, Insurance Firms, Family Offices, etc.) and also the scope to start own Equity Research Services for the aspiring entrepreneurs.

**Q5. What are the eligibility criteria for this Program?**

Graduates from any discipline (completed with final degree certificates and mark sheet at the time of application) from a recognized University under 10+2+3 stream are eligible to apply for this program.

**Q6. I am a working professional. Will I be able to pursue this Program?**

In the academic year 2022-23, the program will be offered on weekends (for three weekends every month) in hybrid model i.e., the classes will be held in physical class room located in NISM's Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC) facility in Mumbai and will be delivered online simultaneously. \*

Indicative class timings would be as follows:

Day	Indicative Timings	Teaching Hours
Saturday	6:00 pm to 9:15 pm	3 hours
Sunday	10:00 am to 5:00 pm	6 hours

\* Students can attend the classes either online or in classroom mode (Offline classes in physical mode). Classes in physical mode will be held subject to the developments in Covid-19 situation and till the situation improves classes will be conducted in online mode. Further, it is to be noted by those opting for physical classes that limited number of seats are available for physical mode and it will be allocated on a first in first serve basis.

**Q7. I am in the final year of Graduation and waiting for my results. Can I apply?**

As the program commences on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022, candidates joining this program are expected to complete their Graduation requirements and submit their academic credentials to NISM on or before 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022. Hence, it is advised that only those students who can produce their academic certificates (Graduation final mark list and degree certificate) by the aforementioned date should apply for this program.

**Q8. Is there any upper age limit for this Program?**

No, there is no upper age limit to pursue PGP (PM/IA/RA)

### **Q9. What is the fee for this Program?**

The consolidated program fee for PGP (PM/IA/RA) is Rs. 2,75,000/-+ G.S.T. For the detailed break-up of fee, please go through the prospectus. Further, for a group of two or more students joining from the same organization, group discounts are available as mentioned below:

10% discount on Tuition Fee for groups of 2 participants from the same organization

15% discount on Tuition Fee for groups of 3 participants or more from the same organization.

Group discounts will be adjusted in the second instalment fee payment.

### **Q10. What is the criteria for organisation to qualify for the discount?**

**Participants seeking the group discount shall fulfill the following requirements:**

1. Participants seeking group discounts have to submit the registration/ incorporation certificate of the firm. The registration certificate/ incorporation certificate of the firm must be dated before the last date of application of the PGP program.
2. Participants from Govt organizations/ PSU/ Autonomous organizations/ Listed Companies may avail the group discounts after submitting the ID proof of the company/organization.
3. Participants seeking group discounts have to submit an application along with the aforementioned documents at the time of the documents verification process.

### **Q11. How can I apply for the Program?**

The admissions for 2022-23 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 to the registered email id. Candidates can use these credentials on the same link to fill up the application form. The application is considered complete only after the payment of the application fee of Rs. 500/-. The entire application process, including payment of application fee, is online.

### **Q12. 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 filling of the application form, using Debit Card / Credit Card / Net Banking. The entire application process, including payment of application fee, is online.

### **Q13. What is the last date to apply?**

The last date to apply is 30th April 2022. The application form and the payment of the application fee – both have to be completed before this date.

### **Q14. What is the selection process for admission to this Program?**

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 the relative performance in the personal interview (online).

### **Q15. When and where will be personal interviews be held?**

Online interviews will be held starting from 7<sup>th</sup> May 2022. The dates of the personal interviews

will be communicated to the shortlisted applicants by email. Online interview will consist of a panel consisting of industry experts, faculty members, etc. Candidates passionate and willing to learn more about capital and financial markets with or without experience are welcomed to apply. The interviews will be held online (via Webex, GoToWebinar or on similar platforms)

**Q16. What is the medium of instruction during the program?**

The medium of instruction for all classes and examinations is English

**Q17. If I can't attend online classes regularly??**

Participants are required to have a minimum attendance of 80% in each course. Detailed guidelines will be shared with participants before classes commence. Please note that internal assessment has marks for class participation and all participants are required to submit assignments, complete quiz, etc. Therefore, attendance and participation is required to enhance learning.

**Q18. Is there placement assistance?**

This PGP program is meant for working professionals and is in weekend format hence there is no placement assistance. However, program offers opportunities to connect with industry experts, cohort of working professionals etc. to explore career opportunities.

**Q19. Currently I am not in India, can I pursue PGP program?**

Yes, since the course is delivered in hybrid format participants outside India can attend sessions online.

**Q20. Can I pursue Dual Specializations?**

Yes, dual specializations are permissible

e.g. participant enrolled for NISM Post Graduate Program (PGP) in Portfolio Management in 2022-23 can pursue NISM Post Graduate Program (PGP) in Research Analysis in 2023-24 and NISM Post Graduate Program (PGP) in Investment Advisory 2024-25

- Dual specializations will be allowed provided the candidates communicate their preferred track in writing before the commencement of subsequent batch and complete the application process laid down by NISM.
- Candidates desiring to pursue dual specialization will be exempted from taking the courses of the common (I, II & III) terms. There will be no separate interview and selection process for dual specialization.
- Due to limited seats available for dual specialization candidates, an early intimation and commitment is desirable.
- They are required to take only the Term-IV courses and dissertation in another specialization track with the subsequent batches, within a period of three years.

- Fees for dual specialization will be Rs. 85,000/- plus Rs. 15,300/- (18% GST) payable at the time of securing admission.

**Q21. How will the participants be evaluated?**

Evaluation may also include one or more of the following:

- Online Assessment (using remote proctoring platform)
- Case Study Discussions
- Quiz
- Individual and/or Group Assignments (along with presentations)
- Offline Assessment (Paper-pencil test)
- Class Participation

**Q22. Nature of the certificate awarded for PGP program**

On successful completion of the course requirements participants will be awarded either:

- Post Graduate Program in Portfolio Management OR
- Post Graduate Program in Research Analysis OR
- Post Graduate Program in Investment Advisory

**Q23. When will the Program commence?**

The Program will commence on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022.

**Q24. Whom should I contact for my specific queries?**

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