

MA Program @ MSE – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What are Unique Features of MA program in Economics at MSE?

Madras School of Economics (MSE) invites applications for admission to 2-Year (4 Semesters) M.A. Programmes in (i) General Economics, (ii) Applied Quantitative Finance, (iii) Financial Economics (iv), Actuarial Economics and (v) Environmental Economics.

These programmes are designed to develop well trained (i) Economists equipped with a wide range of skills and tools for *quantitative* analysis and give a better understanding of the basic theory and how it is being played out in real economies; (ii) Financial practitioners with a good foundation in economics, mathematics, statistics and also well trained in the emerging theoretical and empirical tools for a better understanding of the sector (iii) Financial Analysts with strong training in quantitative economics and finance, (iv) Actuaries with a strong background in economics, insurance, finance, and actuarial mathematics, (v) Environmental Economists with training in applied quantitative techniques for addressing environmental issues.

The successful candidates will cater to the growing demand for actuaries, financial practitioners, environmental managers, financial analysts/analytics, and economists in the fast-growing insurance, health, national/multi-lateral environmental agencies, and financial services.

2. What is the duration of the program?

The duration of MA program is 2 years.

3. Is MSE part of CUET?

No.

4. What is the Basis of Selection Process?

Admission will be based on the entrance test score. The exam is conducted in designated centres across India. It is administered by an independent agency on behalf of MSE.

5. What is the pattern of MSE entrance test?

The entrance test pattern is different from the previous years, so please take note of the same.

Entrance Test Pattern

Number of parts	Two Parts Part-A (compulsory) Part-B (to choose between Mathematics/Statistics stream and Economics stream)
Total number of questions	100; Part-A: 60; Part-B: 40
Test duration	120 minutes (2 hours)
Coverage of topics and Number of Questions	

Part-A	Basic Mathematics & Statistics – 30 questions Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning – 15 questions Language & Reading Comprehension – 15 questions Total – 60 questions
Part-B (Mathematics/Statistics stream)	Advanced Mathematics – 20 questions Advanced Statistics – 20 questions Total – 40 questions
Part-B (Economics stream)	Microeconomics – 10 questions Macroeconomics – 10 questions Indian Economy & Related Topics – 20 questions Total – 40 questions

6. Can candidates who have not done mathematics in school apply?

Some students have done Mathematics as complementary subject at bachelor's level. Will they be eligible?

Maths knowledge at the +2 level is compulsory. We expect students to be familiar with Integral and Differential Calculus, Trigonometry, Linear Algebra, Probability and Statistics.

The students who have not done mathematics at +2 level, but have completed mathematics from National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) at Senior Secondary level, or have done mathematical economics course(s) at under-graduate level are also eligible.

7. Important dates to be noted:

S.No	Description	Date
1.	Online Application Form - Opening	10th April 2026
2.	Online Application Form - Closing	11th May 2026
3.	Issue of Admit Cards (Download)	19th May 2026
4.	Entrance Test	31st May 2026
5.	Result Declaration (Score Card Download)	17th -18th June 2026
6.	Counseling	2nd and 3rd July 2026
7.	Commencement of Classes	3rd August 2026

8. Is it an online computer-aided test?

Yes, it is an online computer-aided test.

9. On-screen calculator is allowed?

No.

10. What are the admission criteria for NRI candidates?

Foreign Nationals seeking direct admission through self-financing scheme for different M.A. Programmes of MSE are required to submit their application along with bio-data and academic qualification on the prescribed format to the Students Office of MSE – studentsoffice@mse.ac.in. Complete information on admission guidelines can be found from M.A. Ordinance at www.mse.ac.in.

11. Where can I find sample questions for the entrance test?

The sample question paper is posted on MSE website (www.mse.ac.in)

12. What are the fees for MA program?

Fee Structure for Indian Students (AY 2026-2027)

• **General Category Students:**

The total fees per semester constitute **Rs. 1,21,341/-** as semester fee and **Rs. 30,000/-** towards infrastructure development fee. Additionally, students must pay a **one-time admission fee of Rs. 5,000/-, which is non-refundable.**

• **SC/ST Category Students:**

The total fees per semester constitute **Rs. 97,073/-** as semester fee and **Rs. 30,000/-** towards infrastructure development fee. Additionally, students must pay a **one-time admission fee of Rs. 5,000/-, which is non-refundable.**

Fee Structure for NRI Students (AY 2026-2027)

- The total fees per semester constitute **\$3,178 (INR 2,93,774)** as tuition fee and **\$750 (INR 69,330)** towards infrastructure development fee. Additionally, students must pay a **one-time admission fee of \$500 (INR 46,220), which is non-refundable**

Thus, the total fee for NRI students is **\$4,428 (INR 4,09,324).**

Note: Based on the exchange rate as of **18 March 2026**, where **\$1 = INR 92.44.**

Fee Structure for Foreign National Students (AY 2026-2027)

- The total fees per semester constitute **\$4,333 (INR 4,00,543)** as tuition fee and **\$750 (INR 69,330)** towards infrastructure development fee. Additionally, students must pay a **one-time admission fee of \$500 (INR 46,220), which is non-refundable.**

Thus, the total fee for Foreign National students is **\$5,583 (INR 5,16,093).**

Note: Based on the exchange rate as of **18 March 2026**, where **\$1 = INR 92.44.**

Programme Fee Refund Policy (for Indian students)

- For students withdrawing from the Programme before the commencement of 1st- semester classes
- The Infrastructure Development Fee will be fully refunded.

Category	Percentage of Refund of Semester Fees	Point of time when notice of withdrawal of admission is received in the HEI
(1)	100%	15 days or more before the 31 st October, 2026
(2)	90%	Less than 15 days before the 31 st October, 2026
(3)	80%	15 days or less after the 31 st October, 2026
(4)	50%	30 days or less, but more than 15 days after the 31 st October, 2026
(5)	00%	More than 30 days after the 31 st October, 2026

Note: Please note that hostel fees are not included in the semester fees.

13. How many students would be admitted to the program?

The intake under each of the five M.A. Programmes will be 47, including a 35% quota for the resident students of Tamil Nadu. Reservation Policy of Government of Tamil Nadu will be followed.

14. Is MSE an autonomous institution?

Yes. In view of MSE's significant contribution to Postgraduate Teaching and Research in Economics, the Government of Tamil Nadu has recognized MSE as an Institution of Special Importance in Economics, Allied Subjects, and Management with degree granting power through the Madras School of Economics Act, 2020.

15. When do classes start?

1st semester classes typically start around **1st August 2025**.

16. Can I get an educational loan?

Yes. MSE has a tie-up with IDFC First Bank to offer Educational Loan to students seeking admission in MSE through their PAN India Network branches. Please approach the Administrative Officer of MSE in this regard.

17. Is there a hostel facility?

Yes. There are 4 hostels in total. 3 girls hostel and 1 Boys hostel provide accommodation for 300+ students. Hostellers are usually accommodated in twin sharing rooms.

18. Is there a Cafeteria?

Yes. One that provides both vegetarian and non-vegetarian food.

19. What are the security arrangements at MSE?

There is 24 Hours security with Surveillance Cameras throughout the campus.

20. What are the employment opportunities (including internship)?

Please refer

<https://www.mse.ac.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/MSE-Placement-Brochure-2024-25.pdf>

<https://www.mse.ac.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/MSE-Internship-Brochure-2024-25.pdf>

<https://www.mse.ac.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/MSE-batch-profile-2023-2025.pdf>

21. If I have more queries who can I write to?

Send a mail to mamission@mse.ac.in

22. How to get to MSE?

From the airport, you can directly take a metro till Nandanam. From Nandanam, take an auto and tell the driver Kotturpuram Signal or Anna Centenary Library. (The auto drivers will start from a very high fare but Rs 80-100 should be the ideal fare). Once you reach the Kotturpuram Signal/ Anna centenary library, you will see the college gate. And voila, you've reached your destination. Total transit time: Approximately 45 minutes. From the central railway station also, you follow the above-mentioned route. If you wish, you can take an auto directly from the airport/station as they are plentiful but fares are relatively expensive and rarely charged as per the meter. App-based cabs such as Uber and Ola are the most convenient way of getting around.