

INSTITUTE OF INFRASTRUCTURE TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT- AHMEDABAD

Plagiarism Policy



Definitions pla·gia·rism (noun \ 'plā-jə- ,ri-zəm \): the act of using another person's words or ideas without giving credit to that person pla·gia·rize (verb \ 'plā-jə-,rīz \): to use the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own words or ideas (<http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/plagiarize>). Students copying from each other or from any other sources (including Internet, books, monographs, research papers, computer program, etc.) for their academic activities without giving proper reference to the original source fall under plagiarism.

Self-plagiarism is defined as the reproduction, in part or whole, of one's own previously published work without adequate citation and proper acknowledgment, and claiming the most recent work as new and original for any academic advantage. If the contents of own published, accepted or submitted work are used in a thesis, the same should be clearly specified at the beginning of the adopted material in the thesis. If the publication involved multiple co-authors, the role of other authors should be clearly specified.

1. Curbing Plagiarism

- A student has to check the document through **Institute approved** software to ensure that documents such as thesis, dissertation, publications or any other such documents are free of plagiarism at the time of their submission.
- Every student submitting a thesis, dissertation, project report or any other such documents to the institute shall submit an **undertaking** indicating that the document has been prepared by him / her and that the document is his/her original work and free of any plagiarism. The undertaking shall include the fact that the document has been duly checked through a Plagiarism detection tool approved by the institute.
- Plagiarism check report generated through software along with the certificate of plagiarism check (mentioning level of plagiarism) shall be attached while submitting the document to the Institute.
- The student shall submit soft copy of B. Tech. Project report / masters' / research program's dissertation / Ph. D. thesis to the Institute so that the same can be submitted to INFLIBNET within a month after the award of degrees for hosting in the digital repository under the "Shodh Ganga e-repository".

2. Severity of Plagiarism

The plagiarism is quantified into the following levels in ascending order of severity for the purpose of its definition:

- 1) Level 0: Similarities upto 10%
- 2) Level 1: Similarities above 10% to 40%
- 3) Level 2: Similarities above 40% to 60%
- 4) Level 3: Similarities above 60%

3. Detection / Reporting / Handling of Plagiarism

If any member of the academic community suspects with appropriate proof that a case of plagiarism has happened in any document, he or she shall report it to the Department Program and Performance Appraisal Committee (DPPAC). Upon receipt of such a complaint or allegation, the DPPAC shall investigate the matter and submit its recommendations to the Program and Performance Appraisal Committee (PPAC) of the Institute.

The authorities of the Institute can also take suomotu notice of an act of plagiarism and initiate proceedings under these regulations. Similarly, proceedings can also be initiated by the Institute on the basis of findings of an examiner. All such cases will be investigated by the PPAC.

4. Penalties

Penalties in the cases of plagiarism shall be imposed on students pursuing studies at the level of Masters and Research programs and on researcher, faculty & staff of the Institute only after academic misconduct on the part of the individual has been established without doubt, when all avenues of appeal have been exhausted and individual in question has been provided enough opportunity to defend himself or herself in a fair or transparent manner.

5. Penalties in case of plagiarism in submission of thesis and dissertations

Program and Performance Appraisal Committee (PPAC) shall impose penalty considering the severity of the Plagiarism.

- 1) Level 0: Similarities up to 10% - Minor Similarities, no penalty.
- 2) Level 1: Similarities above 10% to 40% - Such student shall be asked to submit a revised script within a stipulated time period not exceeding 6 months.
- 3) Level 2: Similarities above 40% to 60% - Such student shall be debarred from submitting a revised script for a period of one year.
- 4) Level 3: Similarities above 60% -Such student registration for that programme shall be cancelled.

Note 1: It is the duty of submitter i.e. student / researcher of the Institute to ensure that each paper publication / thesis / dissertation is checked for plagiarism at the time of forwarding/submission.

Note 2: Penalty on repeated plagiarism - Such student shall be punished for the plagiarism of one level higher than the previous level committed by him/her. In case where plagiarism of highest level is committed then the punishment for the same shall be operative.

Note 3: Penalty in case where the degree/credit has already been obtained - If plagiarism is proved on a date later than the date of award of degree or credit as the case may be then his/her degree or credit shall be put in abeyance for a period recommended by the PPAC and approved by the Director / Director General.