

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
Common Offer Acceptance Portal (COAP) Cooperation
between

Indian Institute of Technology Mandi, Kamand (H.P.), India
and
Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM), Chennai, India

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MANDI, having its registered office at Kamand (H.P.) (hereinafter called as "INSTITUTE")


AND

Common Offer Acceptance Portal (COAP) 2017 Coordinated by INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS, having its registered office at Chennai (hereinafter referred to as the "COAP") have agreed to the following protocols governing their collaboration on operation of COAP.

Preamble:

COAP provides a common platform for a candidate who is seeking admission to an IIT or employment at a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) using the GATE score to make the most preferred choice for admission into postgraduate (Masters) Program in participating academic Institutes (IISc & IITs) or appointment to a job in a PSU. A significant number of seats in the masters programs of participating institutes fall vacant at the end of the admission / joining process due to a GATE qualified candidate receiving multiple offers for admission / appointment from multiple Institutes / PSUs and retaining several of these till the end date(s). Seats, especially in the masters program, fall vacant as the candidates who join such masters programs in the participating academic Institutes, quit the programs after they receive offers for a job from PSUs at a later date. As a result, seats in these institutions as well as jobs in PSUs remain vacant which could have been made available to other deserving students.

To solve this problem, under the direction of MHRD, it has been agreed to open a portal called Common Offer and Acceptance Portal (COAP) which collates all the offers a candidate gets (based on the GATE score) from various institutions / PSUs and enables the candidate to select only one option thus unblocking all the other offers. Based on the meeting at IIT Bombay with PSUs held on January 9, 2017, it was suggested that IIT Madras would develop the Common Offer and Acceptance Portal (COAP).






The main objectives of COAP are:

- (i) To mitigate/ eliminate the scenarios that arise due to a candidate reserving 'multiple offers' (made by Institutions and/ or PSUs) to a single that cause vacant posts in PSUs or vacant seats in graduate programs of IISc and IITs.
- (ii) To be able to provide admission or appointment offers to candidates who get deprived of seats (in the academic Institutions) or jobs (in the PSUs) due to multiple offers held by a few high ranked candidates till the last minute.

Scope

The scope of cooperation on COAP activities in this Memorandum of Agreement includes following broad aspects of mutual interest.

- I. The participating Institute, INSTITUTE, or PSU will follow the selection procedure as per the norms, guidelines and procedures applicable to the respective Institute. COAP would not disturb the selection process of any of the Institutes / PSUs.
 - II. Once the selection process is over, the participating Institute, INSTITUTE will provide information on selected applicants (Name of applicants, Application number (local), GATE score (out of 1000), date of birth, Email ID, Mobile contact number and related scholarly information to the COAP coordinating institute. COAP coordinating institute will upload the same at the COAP portal.
 - III. COAP operation will be performed as per the pre-agreed number of rounds of offers and time windows. The participating, INSTITUTE, can decide to provide offer details from any particular round of offers.
 - IV. The participating Institute, INSTITUTE, will ask each applicant to register on the COAP Portal using the applicants GATE registration number.
 - V. The registration on the COAP portal will involve additional details such as Name, Email ID and Mobile number in a pre-agreed time window.
 - VI. The participating Institute, INSTITUTE, will upload details on offer made to applicants (GATE registration number, Candidate Name, Offered program, Offered category), during an offer-round as per the pre-agreed time window at COAP. Each applicant will be asked to make decision on available offer(s), if any, through the COAP only.
 - VII. The participating Institute, INSTITUTE, will preferably upload offers as per the pre-agreed round of offers. However, because of some reasons, if the participating Institute, INSTITUTE, decides to provide offer(s) to applicants in
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advance then each applicant will still be asked to make decision on available offer(s), if any, at COAP only during the common pre-agreed time window of COAP. This is to enable Institutes or PSUs to make "Advance Offers" while at the same time avoid applicants blocking multiple offers by multiple institutes or PSUs.

- VIII. The participating Institute, INSTITUTE, will direct the applicant to follow the admission procedure, as per the guidelines of the respective Institute but accept the offer only on COAP.
- IX. The participating Institute, INSTITUTE, can download, the respective Institute related candidate decision during each round of offers. The COAP coordinating Institute will provide consolidated list of all applicants with their decision on offer(s) made during each round of offers.
- X. The details of Institute responsible for sending email(s) and SMS message(s) to respective applicants is as follows.

Item	Action	Responsible Institute
1	Generic email and SMS for Informing about COAP Registration	INSTITUTE
2	Confirmation of registration (email, SMS)	IITM
3	Intimating the candidates that you have been offered during a particular round of offers (email, SMS)	INSTITUTE
4	Applicant's decision making event in any particular round of offers (email, SMS)	IITM
5	Intimation to Applicants not responding to offers made (24 hours before the closing of a particular round of offers) (email, SMS)	IITM

- XI. The participating Institute -INSTITUTE and the coordinating Institute -IITM, both will provide details of a representative person from the respective organization, who will ensure COAP related communication and cooperation.
- XII. Both the parties agree to follow the pre-agreed schedule of rounds of offers and ensure smooth operation of COAP.
- XIII. COAP is only a portal where offers will be posted and applicants will make decision on available offer(s), if any. Hence, in case of any claims by any applicant or disputes arising in respect of admissions and admission procedures, the participating Institute, INSTITUTE will alone be responsible to act and resolve the claims or disputes.

- XIV. This MOA will come into force upon affixing of the signatures of the representatives of the participating institutions and will remain in effect for a period of two admission cycles (up to July 2018). Subsequently, another participating Institute, among participating Institutes, can coordinate on a rotation basis which may be agreed by mutual consent.
- XV. If either partner institution wishes to terminate the MOA it must notify the other institution not less than six months prior to the expiry of the MOA.
- XVI. Modifications may be made by mutual agreement and any amendment or extension to the agreement may be formalized by the exchange of letters between the two parties.
- XVII. The initial development cost and operational expenses for COAP (until July 2017) will be supported by the GATE 2017 Organizing Institute. However, from the next year admissions (Year 2018 onwards) the COAP related developmental cost (if any) and operational cost will be shared by the Participating Institutes which may be agreed by mutual consent.
- XVIII. At the end of common time window, **COAP** displays FINAL offers for all successful candidates and this list is shared with all stake holders.
- XIX. After the final round of offer-acceptance, the participating Institute, INSTITUTE can release additional offers through 'wait list' or spot admissions or any other mode they deem fit.

Signed:

SIGNATURE:

प्रो. वी. जगदीश कुमार
Prof. V. Jagadeesh Kumar
डीन, शैक्षिक पाठ्यक्रम

Name of the person signing MoA
Designation
Indian Institute of Technology Madras
Chennai, 600036, Tamil Nadu.

DATE : 20/4/2018

Signed:

SIGNATURE:

Name of the person signing MoA
Designation
Indian Institute of Technology
Mandi, Kamand
Mandi, 175005, H.P.

Dean Academics
Indian Institute of Technology Mandi
Kamand - 175005 (H.P.)

DATE : 20/4/2018