

Graduate Admissions Guide 2025–26

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This guide covers admission to the Veyra Graduate School for the 2025–26 academic year. It describes our degree programmes, eligibility requirements, the application process, key deadlines, required documents, and funding information. Prospective students are encouraged to read the full guide before beginning an application.

1. Degree Programmes

The Veyra Graduate School offers two research degree programmes. Both are supervised within one of five research divisions (CDS, MME, QPS, CNS, ECS) and one or more of 15 research groups.

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) — 4 Years

The PhD is Veyra's flagship research degree. Students undertake an original research project under the primary supervision of a Principal Investigator (PI) within one of the five divisions. The programme is structured as follows:

Year 1: Research foundations, mandatory Graduate School training programme (60 hr), laboratory rotation (optional, MME/QPS divisions only), and preliminary thesis proposal. A formal transfer assessment at the end of Year 1 confirms continuation to the full PhD.

Years 2–3: Substantive research, conference presentations, and peer-reviewed publication (minimum one first-author submission expected before submission).

Year 4: Thesis writing, submission, and oral examination (viva voce). Examiners include one internal and one external examiner appointed by the Graduate School.

- Duration: 4 years (48 months); extensions subject to Graduate School approval
- Stipend: 32,000 cr/yr (tax-free for eligible students)
- Fees: waived for funded students on VIAS awards
- Outcome: PhD degree awarded by the Veyra Institute Graduate School

MSc by Research — 2 Years

The MSc by Research is a supervised research degree suitable for students who wish to develop deep expertise in a specific field without committing to a four-year PhD. The programme involves a defined research project, a 15,000–20,000 word thesis, and an oral examination.

Year 1: Project scoping, literature review, initial experimental or computational work. Mandatory training programme (30 hr). Interim progress report at Month 9.

Year 2: Research completion, thesis writing, and submission. Examination timeline is the same as for the PhD: internal + external examiner, oral examination within 6 weeks of thesis submission.

- Duration: 2 years (24 months)
- Stipend: 20,000 cr/yr for students on VIAS MSc Research Awards
- Self-funded MSc by Research: tuition 14,500 cr/yr (internal) or 21,000 cr/yr (international)
- Outcome: MSc by Research degree awarded by the Veyra Institute Graduate School

2. Eligibility

Admission is competitive. Applications are assessed on academic record, research potential, suitability of proposed project, and availability of supervision.

Academic qualifications

PhD: A first or upper-second class honours degree (or equivalent) in a relevant scientific or engineering discipline. Integrated master's degrees (MEng, MPhys, MChem) with strong research components are particularly welcomed.

MSc by Research: A bachelor's degree (or equivalent) in a relevant field, with academic standing equivalent to upper-second class honours. Applicants with significant relevant industry research experience may be considered on a case-by-case basis with supporting documentation.

English language proficiency

Applicants whose first language is not English must demonstrate proficiency. Accepted qualifications: VELT Academic (score 6.5 overall, no component below 6.0); TELP Academic (score 90+ overall); or a degree taught and examined entirely in English within the last 3 years. Proficiency certificates must not be more than 2 years old at the time of application.

Research proposal

All applicants must submit a research proposal (1,500–2,500 words for PhD; 1,000–1,500 words for MSc) outlining the intended research question, methodology, and significance. The proposal should be developed in dialogue with a prospective supervisor; we encourage applicants to contact potential supervisors before submitting a formal application.

Supervisory availability

Admission is only possible when a suitable supervisor has confirmed in-principle willingness to supervise the proposed project and has available capacity. The list of groups currently accepting students for 2025–26 is maintained at veyra.example/education/graduate/supervisors.

3. Key Deadlines — 2025–26 Entry

The Graduate School operates three application rounds per year. We strongly recommend applying in Round 1 for maximum funding consideration.

Round	Applications open	Application deadline	Decision by	Entry
Round 1 (priority)	1 September 2024	15 November 2024	31 January 2025	October 2025
Round 2	1 December 2024	14 February 2025	11 April 2025	October 2025

Round	Applications open	Application deadline	Decision by	Entry
Round 3 (limited places)	3 March 2025	9 May 2025	20 June 2025	October 2025

International applicants requiring a visa are advised to apply no later than Round 2 to allow sufficient time for visa processing. Offers are conditional until all documentation is verified.

4. Required Documents

All documents must be uploaded through the Veyra Application Portal at apply.veyra.example. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Document	Notes	Required for
Online application form	Completed via apply.veyra.example	All applicants
Transcripts (official)	Sealed, signed copies or verified digital transcripts from all previous institutions	All applicants
Research proposal	1,500–2,500 words (PhD) or 1,000–1,500 words (MSc). Template: GAP-RP-01	All applicants
Personal statement	500–800 words: motivation, experience, career goals	All applicants
Two academic references	Submitted directly by referees via the portal; must include at least one research reference	All applicants
English language certificate	VELT/TELP or approved equivalent (see Section 2)	Where applicable
CV / resume	Maximum 3 pages	All applicants
Degree certificate (certified copy)	If degree already completed	Where applicable
Supervisor support letter	Confirmation from proposed supervisor of willingness to supervise	Strongly recommended
Funding evidence	If self-funded: statement of financial support or sponsor letter	Self-funded applicants

5. Funding & Stipends

The majority of PhD places are funded through VIAS Research Awards, which cover tuition fees and provide a tax-exempt stipend. Funding is competitive and is awarded primarily on the basis of academic merit and fit with the Institute's research priorities.

VIAS PhD Research Award

Covers: full tuition fee waiver + stipend of 32,000 cr/yr. Duration: 4 years, subject to annual satisfactory progress review. All VIAS Research Awards include a 2,500 cr/yr research training support grant (RTSG) for conference travel, training courses, and consumables. Available to both internal and international applicants. Funding is linked to the specific project and supervisor; available positions are advertised at veyra.example/education/graduate/positions.

VIAS MSc Research Award

Stipend: 20,000 cr/yr. Duration: 2 years. Limited in number; primarily awarded to Round 1 applicants. Does not include a RTSG; consumable costs are met by the supervisor's research budget.

Divisional Fellowship Funding

Individual research divisions may hold additional funding through grants or industry partnerships. Students should ask prospective supervisors about divisional funding availability at the time of contact. Examples: the MME Catalysis Fellowship (supported by the Arenfield Green Chemistry Trust, 3 positions/yr) and the CDS Industry Placement PhD (co-funded by industry partners, 28,000 cr stipend + 6-month industry secondment).

Self-Funded Places

A small number of self-funded places are available in each round. Tuition: 14,500 cr/yr (internal/domestic) or 21,000 cr/yr (international). Self-funded students are assessed on the same academic criteria as funded applicants.

External Scholarships

The Graduate School maintains a list of external scholarship schemes compatible with study at Veyra (government programs, foundations). We strongly encourage Round 1 applicants to apply concurrently for relevant external scholarships. Contact admissions@veyra.example for a list of current opportunities.

6. Selection Process

Initial screening

The Admissions Office reviews all applications for completeness and minimum eligibility within 10 working days of the round deadline. Incomplete applications are not progressed; applicants are notified and may reapply in a subsequent round.

Academic review

Complete applications are passed to the proposed division's Graduate Studies Committee for academic review. The committee assesses academic record, research proposal quality, reference letters, and supervisor confirmation.

Interview

Shortlisted applicants are invited to a 45-minute interview with the prospective supervisor and one independent Graduate School reviewer. Interviews are conducted in-person (Calder Mesa Campus) or by video link. Applicants are asked to present their research proposal (10 minutes) and answer questions on their scientific background and proposed approach.

Offer and acceptance

Successful applicants receive a formal offer letter from the Dean of the Graduate School within the decision timeline shown in Section 3. Offers must be accepted within 28 days and are subject to satisfactory verification of all submitted documents. Conditional offers become unconditional upon receipt of final transcripts and certificates.

7. Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can I apply without a supervisor already identified?

A: You must have an in-principle agreement from a prospective supervisor before submitting your application. We recommend contacting potential supervisors 4–8 weeks before the round deadline. The list of accepting supervisors for 2025–26 is at veyra.example/education/graduate/supervisors.

Q: Can I be considered for multiple projects?

A: Yes, but each project requires a separate application form and proposal. You may submit a maximum of two applications per round.

Q: Is part-time study available?

A: Part-time PhD study (over 6–8 years) is available on a case-by-case basis for applicants with professional commitments. Funding arrangements for part-time study vary; contact admissions@veyra.example to discuss. Part-time MSc by Research is available over 3 years.

Q: When do I need to be based on campus?

A: Full-time students are expected to be present on campus for a minimum of 3 days per week during term time. During fieldwork or HPC-intensive periods, alternative arrangements may be agreed with the supervisor. International students must comply with visa attendance conditions.

Q: Do you accept applications from applicants without a master's degree?

A: Yes. A strong bachelor's degree with relevant research experience is sufficient for PhD admission. Some divisions run a mandatory training year (Year 1 transfer assessment); all candidates proceed on the same track regardless of prior degree level.

Q: What is the Graduate School training programme?

A: All PhD students complete 60 hours of mandatory training in Year 1 covering research ethics, data management, scientific communication, and statistical literacy. MSc students complete 30 hours. Training is delivered through Veyra's Centre for Graduate Education (CGE) in modular blocks throughout the year.

Q: What happens after the PhD?

A: Many graduates continue into postdoctoral positions, including through the Veyra Fellows Programme (2–3 yr fellowships). Career support is provided through the Institute's Alumni & Careers Service (careers@veyra.example).

Q: Who should I contact with questions?

A: Graduate Admissions Office: admissions@veyra.example · +0 (200) 555-0144. Open Monday–Friday 09:00–17:00. Calder Mesa Campus, Building A, Room 114.

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