



UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA
Department of Development Studies

ADMISSION NOTICE

Professional Master of Development Studies (MDS) Program

28th Batch (July 2026)

Bangladesh stands at the crossroads of transformation – navigating climate resilience, inclusive growth, governance reform, and the Sustainable Development Goals. The development leaders of tomorrow are being trained today at the University of Dhaka.

About the Program

The Professional Master of Development Studies (MDS) is an intensive, practice-oriented postgraduate degree offered by the Department of Development Studies at the University of Dhaka – Bangladesh's foremost institution of higher education and intellectual leadership. Designed for ambitious graduates and early- to mid-career professionals, the program prepares students to engage critically and professionally with the complex development challenges shaping Bangladesh and the broader Global South. Drawing upon cutting-edge scholarship and applied policy perspectives, the MDS program examines the economic, political, social, environmental, and institutional dimensions of development. Particular emphasis is placed on issues affecting the Global South, including poverty and inequality, governance and public policy, climate change and resilience, gender and social justice, sustainable livelihoods, and inclusive development. The MDS curriculum combines a strong foundation in development theory and research methodology with opportunities for advanced specialization.

Program at a Glance

Degree	Professional Master of Development Studies (MDS)
Duration	18 Months (3 Semesters)
Total Credits	64 Credits
Class Schedule	Weekend-compatible (designed for working professionals)
Intake	28 th Batch – July 2026
Seat Capacity	50 Students
Tuition Fee	BDT 3,00,000 (payable in installments per semester)
Application Deadline	31 July 2026, Friday
Admission Test	8 August 2026, Saturday
Classes Commence	28 August 2026, Friday

Why Choose MDS at DU?

- Prestigious University of Dhaka degree – recognized nationally and internationally
- Faculty comprising leading development scholars, researchers, and practitioners
- Curriculum integrating theory, research methodology, policy analysis, and fieldwork
- Specialization: development economics, public policy analysis, natural resource management, social development, development management
- Weekend-compatible flexible schedule accommodating working professionals
- Access to DU's research ecosystem, library, and cross-disciplinary networks
- Gateway to careers at NGOs, UN agencies, government ministries, research institutions, and the private sector

Career Prospects for MDS Graduates

MDS graduates from the Department of Development Studies, University of Dhaka are building careers across Bangladesh and the world, including:

- Program Officers and Managers at BRAC, ActionAid, Care, Plan International, World Vision
- Policy Analysts and Advisors at government ministries and planning commissions
- Researchers and Consultants at think tanks, academic institutions, and UN agencies
- Project Coordinators at UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, and bilateral development organizations
- CSR and Sustainability Managers in the private sector and social enterprises
- Climate and Environmental Development Professionals

Who Should Apply?

- Recent graduates from any discipline seeking a career in development
- NGO and development sector professionals seeking formal credentials
- Government officials seeking advanced development policy knowledge
- Corporate CSR and private sector sustainability professionals
- Climate activist and environmental development workers
- Social entrepreneurs and public health practitioners

Eligibility Criteria

- A Bachelor's degree (any discipline) from a government-recognized university
- Minimum Second Class/Division or CGPA 2.5 out of 4.0
- Applicants with relevant work experience are especially encouraged to apply

How to Apply

Applicants may apply either through the online application system or by submitting a manual application form via email or in person.

Option 1: Online Application (Recommended)

1. Complete the online application form through the official Google Form:
<https://forms.gle/BRGsptUoy9TkkfoX7>

2. Upload all required documents, including academic certificates, photograph, and payment proof
3. Pay the application processing fee through bKash as instructed in the form
4. Submit the completed online application before the deadline
5. Eligible applicants will receive their admit cards via email

Option 2: Manual Application Submission

1. Download the application form from: www.du.ac.bd/programDetails/DVS/400
2. Complete the application form and attach all required documents
3. Submit the completed form either:
 - o via email to: devstuddu@du.ac.bd
 - o OR in person at the Department of Development Studies office, Faculty of Social Sciences Building (Level 5), University of Dhaka
4. Pay the application processing fee as instructed in the application form
5. Receive/collect the admit card via email or from the office

All applicants must appear in the written admission test on the announced date.

Admission Test

All applicants are required to appear in a written admission test conducted by the Department. The admission test is scheduled to be held on 8 August 2026 (Saturday). The examination is designed to evaluate applicants' analytical and critical thinking abilities, comprehension and writing skills, general awareness of contemporary development issues, and aptitude for postgraduate study in development studies. The test may include components on English language and comprehension, analytical reasoning, general knowledge and current affairs, development issues and public policy, and short analytical writing. Sample questions and additional information regarding the admission test are available on the department website.

Contact & Inquiries

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Apply now and join the next generation of development leaders.