

NPTEL

National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning

A Complete Guide to Course Enrolment and Certification Exam Registration

Step-by-step walkthrough with illustrated screens

Prepared: August 2026

1. About NPTEL

NPTEL (National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning) is a joint initiative of the IITs and IISc Bangalore, functioning under India's Ministry of Education. It hosts free video-based online courses across Engineering, Science, Management, and Humanities, delivered through the SWAYAM platform (onlinecourses.nptel.ac.in). Enrollment in any course is completely free; learners who wish to earn a certificate can additionally register for a paid, proctored certification exam at the end of the course.

1.1 Key Facts

Aspect	Details
Course access	Free for everyone; no age limit or entrance criteria
Course duration	Typically 4, 8, or 12 weeks
Sessions per year	Two — January to April, and July to December
Certification exam fee	Approx. ₹1,000 per course (varies by course/category)
Certificate basis	25% weightage to assignments + 75% weightage to the proctored exam, subject to a minimum eligibility criterion

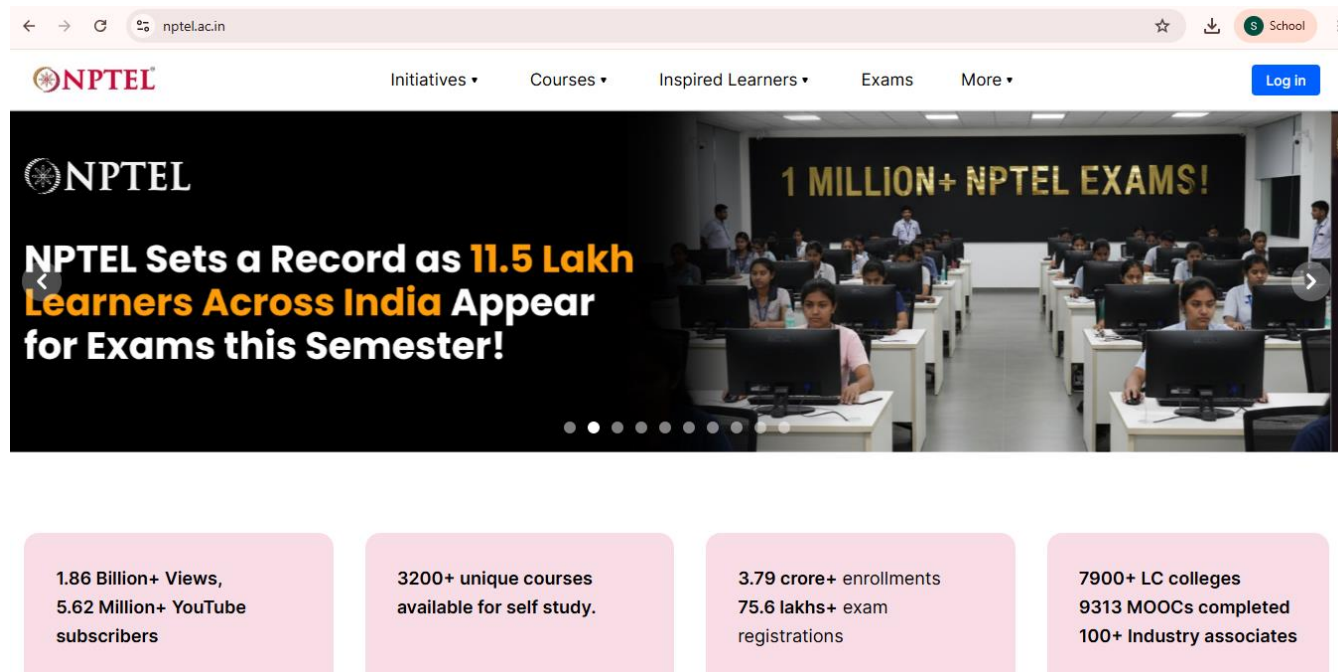
Note: Course fee, exam windows and city lists change every semester. Always confirm current dates on the official NPTEL/SWAYAM portal before proceeding.

2. Course Enrolment Process

Follow these steps to browse, select, and enrol in an NPTEL course.

STEP 1 Visit the NPTEL / SWAYAM Portal

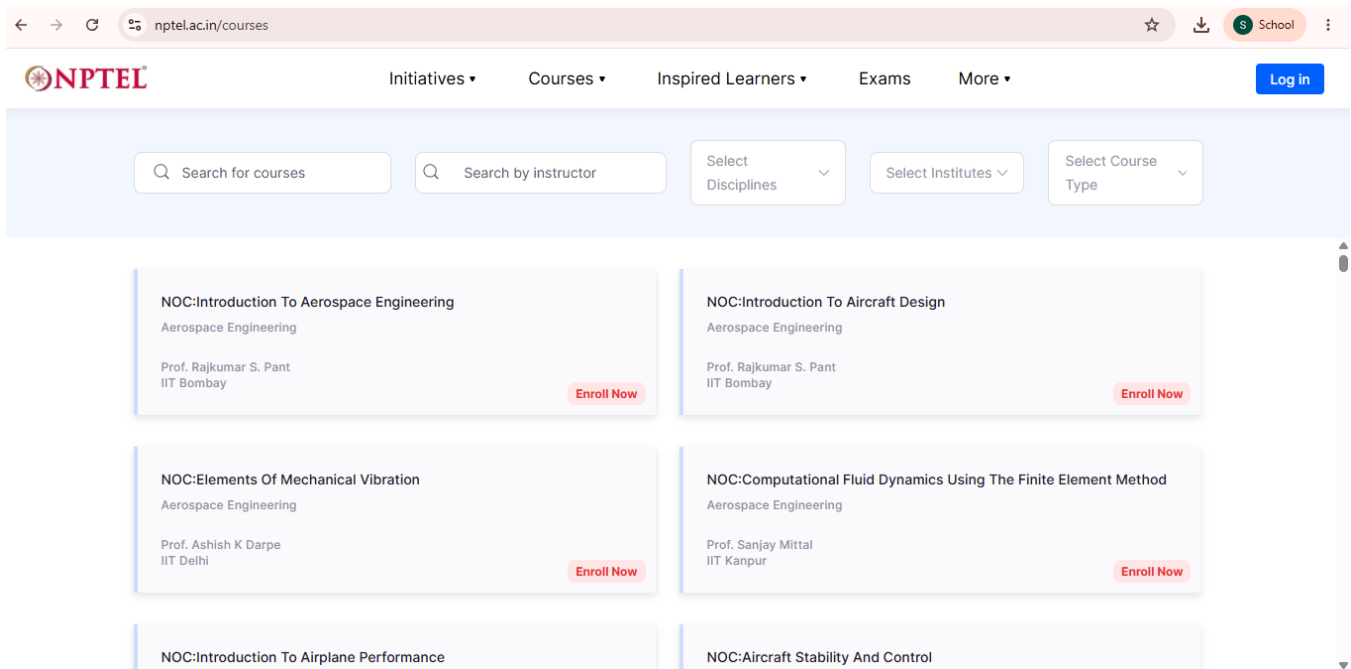
Open a web browser and go to the official portal at nptel.ac.in, or directly to onlinecourses.nptel.ac.in. The homepage displays the search bar, featured courses, and a link to browse the full course catalog by domain.



NPTEL / SWAYAM homepage

STEP 2 Search or Browse for a Course

Click “Explore Courses” or use the search bar to look up a course by name, domain, or offering institute. Results can be filtered by domain, duration, and institute. Review the course description, instructor, prerequisites, and weekly syllabus before deciding.



Course catalog / search results page

STEP 3 Open the Course Page and Click “Join Now”

On the chosen course's detail page, review the course layout (week-wise topics) and click the green “Join Now” button. Enrolment itself does not cost anything.

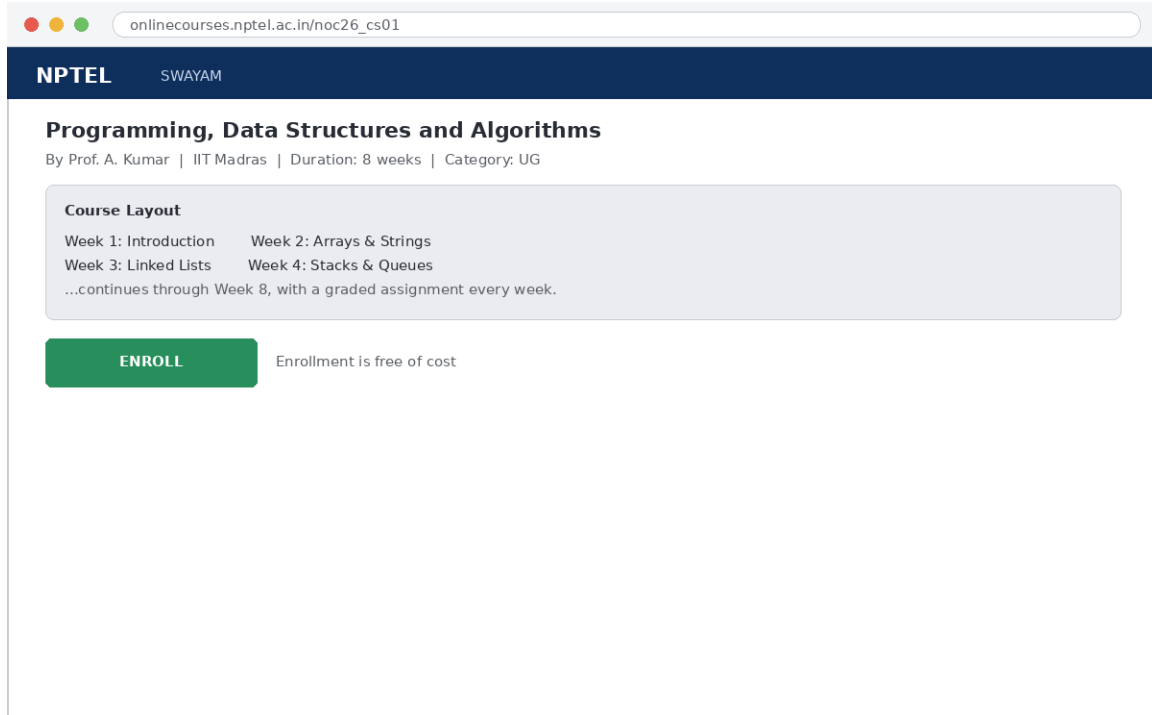
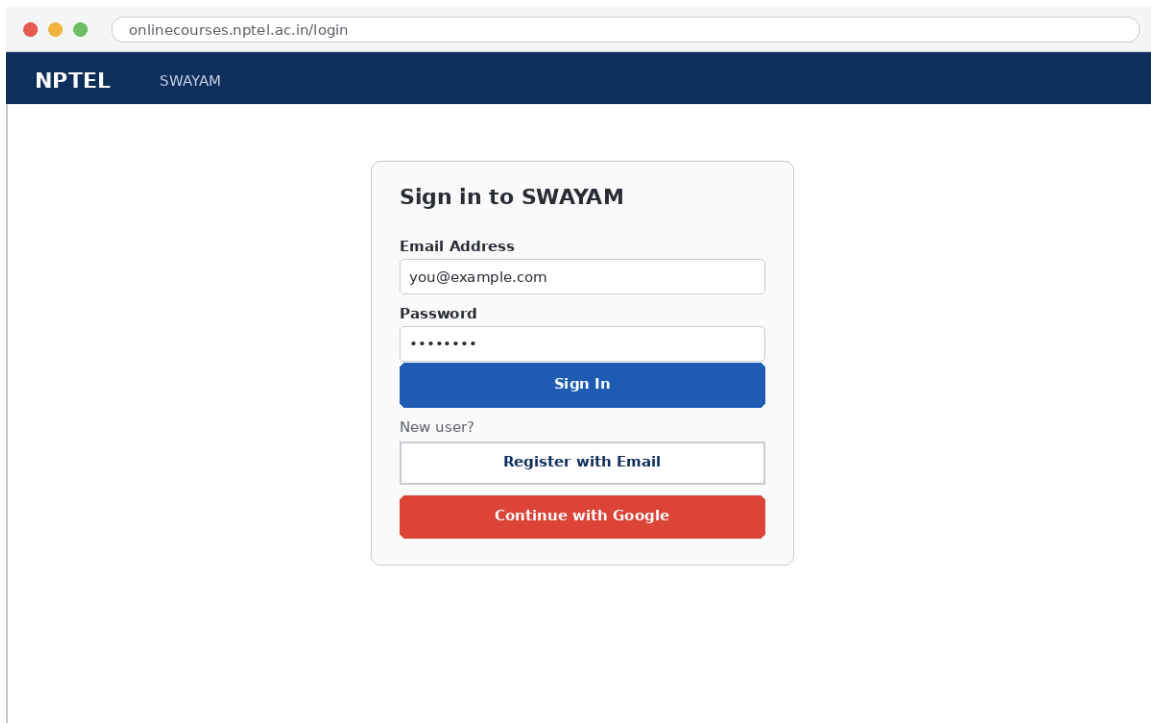


Illustration: Course detail page with Enroll button

STEP 4 Sign In or Register on SWAYAM

If you already have a SWAYAM account, sign in with your registered email and password, or continue with your Google account. First-time users should register with a valid email address — the same email must be used for all future NPTEL courses and the certification exam, so choose one you can access long-term.

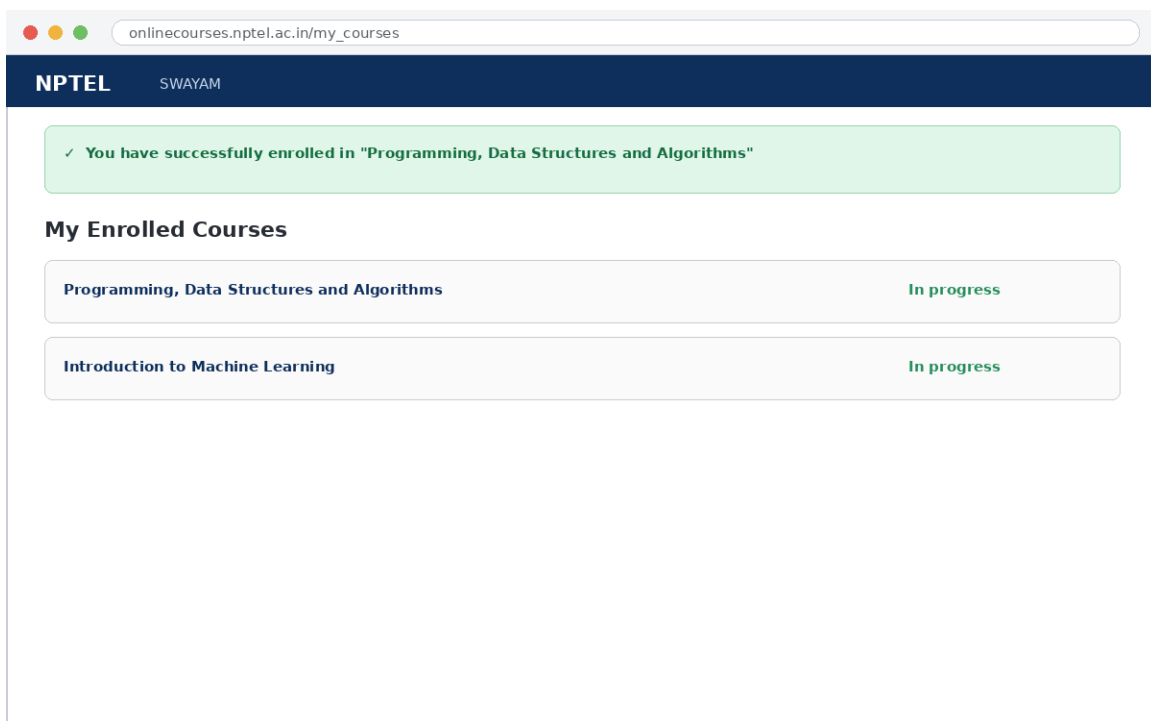


The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying 'onlinecourses.nptel.ac.in/login'. The page has a dark blue header with 'NPTEL' and 'SWAYAM' text. The main content area is white and contains a central grey box titled 'Sign in to SWAYAM'. Inside this box, there are two input fields: 'Email Address' with the placeholder 'you@example.com' and 'Password' with masked characters '.....'. Below these fields is a blue 'Sign In' button. Underneath the button, it says 'New user?' followed by two buttons: 'Register with Email' (white) and 'Continue with Google' (red).

Illustration: SWAYAM sign-in / registration form

STEP 5 Confirm Enrollment

Once signed in, the enrollment is confirmed and the course appears under “My Courses” on your dashboard. A confirmation message and email are typically generated at this point.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying 'onlinecourses.nptel.ac.in/my_courses'. The page has a dark blue header with 'NPTEL' and 'SWAYAM' text. The main content area is white and features a green success message at the top: '✓ You have successfully enrolled in "Programming, Data Structures and Algorithms"'. Below this, the section 'My Enrolled Courses' is displayed. It contains two course entries, each in a light grey box. The first entry is 'Programming, Data Structures and Algorithms' with a status of 'In progress' in green text. The second entry is 'Introduction to Machine Learning' also with a status of 'In progress' in green text.

STEP 6 Access Lectures and Complete Assignments

Open the enrolled course to access week-wise video lectures, transcripts, and downloadable notes. Each week typically includes a graded assignment that must be submitted before its deadline — assignment scores contribute to the final certificate score, so regular participation matters.

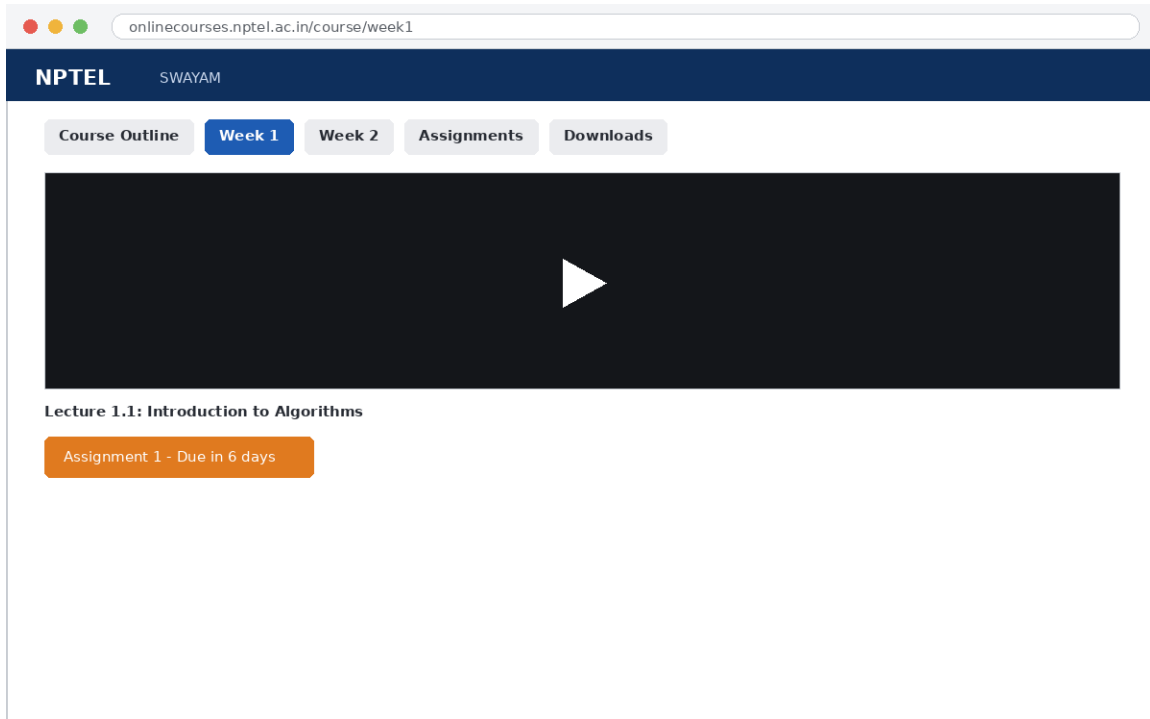


Illustration: Course dashboard with lectures and assignments

Note: You cannot withdraw from a course once enrolled, and only one email ID should be used to enroll in and manage all your NPTEL courses.

3. Certification Exam Registration Process

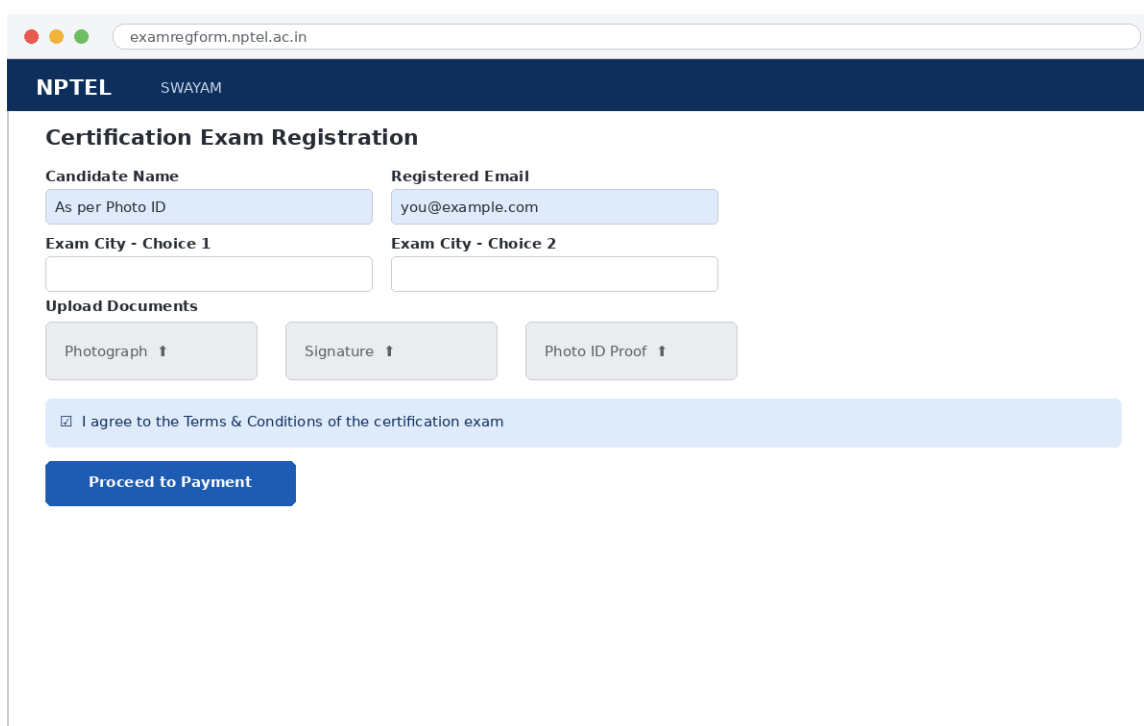
Registering for the proctored certification exam is a separate, paid step that opens later in the course and is required only if you want an official certificate.

STEP 1 Open the Exam Registration Form

From your course dashboard or the NPTEL exam registration announcement, click “Register for Certification Exam.” This becomes available a few weeks before the course ends, within a specific registration window.

STEP 2 Fill in Candidate Details

Enter your name exactly as it appears on your photo ID, along with your registered email address. Select your preferred exam city (usually two choices, in order of preference); NPTEL allots the final centre based on availability.



The illustration shows a web browser window with the URL `examregform.nptel.ac.in`. The page has a dark blue header with the NPTEL logo and the text "SWAYAM". Below the header, the title "Certification Exam Registration" is displayed. The form contains several input fields: "Candidate Name" (with a placeholder "As per Photo ID"), "Registered Email" (with a placeholder "you@example.com"), "Exam City - Choice 1", and "Exam City - Choice 2". There are three buttons for uploading documents: "Photograph", "Signature", and "Photo ID Proof". A checkbox labeled "I agree to the Terms & Conditions of the certification exam" is checked. At the bottom, there is a blue button labeled "Proceed to Payment".

Illustration: Exam registration form

STEP 3 Upload Required Documents

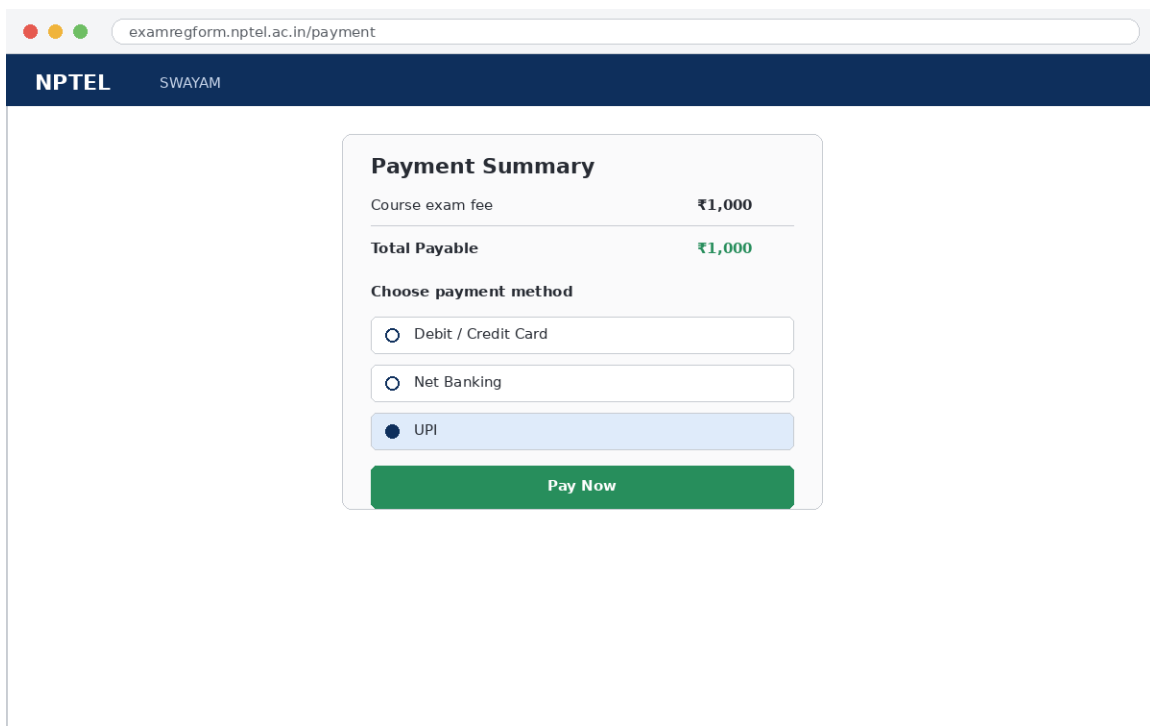
Upload a recent passport-size photograph, your signature, and a valid photo ID proof (Aadhaar, PAN, passport, driving licence, or voter ID). Candidates claiming a reserved-category or disability concession must also upload the relevant certificate.

STEP 4 Review and Accept Terms

Read the exam terms and conditions carefully, including rules on permitted ID proofs, reporting time, and conduct during the proctored exam, then check the consent box to proceed.

STEP 5 Make the Payment

Pay the exam fee online using a debit/credit card, net banking, or UPI. If registering for more than one course exam, you can add each course and pay together or separately before the registration window closes.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying 'examregform.nptel.ac.in/payment'. The page has a dark blue header with 'NPTEL' and 'SWAYAM' text. The main content area is white and contains a 'Payment Summary' box. Inside this box, the 'Course exam fee' is listed as ₹1,000, and the 'Total Payable' is also ₹1,000. Below the summary, there is a section titled 'Choose payment method' with three radio button options: 'Debit / Credit Card', 'Net Banking', and 'UPI'. The 'UPI' option is selected, indicated by a filled blue circle. At the bottom of the box is a green button labeled 'Pay Now'.

Payment Summary	
Course exam fee	₹1,000
Total Payable	₹1,000

Choose payment method

- ☐ Debit / Credit Card
- ☐ Net Banking
- ☒ UPI

Pay Now

Illustration: Payment summary and payment methods

STEP 6 Download the Hall Ticket (Admit Card)

The hall ticket is typically released about two weeks before the exam date. Log in with your registration number and download it yourself — NPTEL advises checking spam/promotions folders for the notification email, since delivery is not guaranteed. The hall ticket confirms your exam date, session (forenoon or afternoon), and allotted centre; none of these can be changed after allotment.

examregform.nptel.ac.in/admitcard

NPTEL SWAYAM

NPTEL ONLINE CERTIFICATION - ADMIT CARD

Photo

Candidate Name: As registered

Roll Number: NPTEL26CS0100XXXX

Course: Programming, DSA

Exam Date: 26 Oct 2026

Session: Forenoon (9:00 AM - 12:00 PM)

Exam Centre: Allotted city & address

[Download PDF](#)

Illustration: Hall ticket / admit card

STEP 7 Appear for the Proctored Exam

Reach the allotted exam centre well before the reporting time with a printed hall ticket and the original photo ID used during registration. The exam is objective-type and proctored on-site.

STEP 8 Download the Certificate

If you meet the minimum eligibility criterion (combined assignment and exam score), an e-certificate is issued and made available for download from the NPTEL website, along with a physical copy sent by post in most cases.

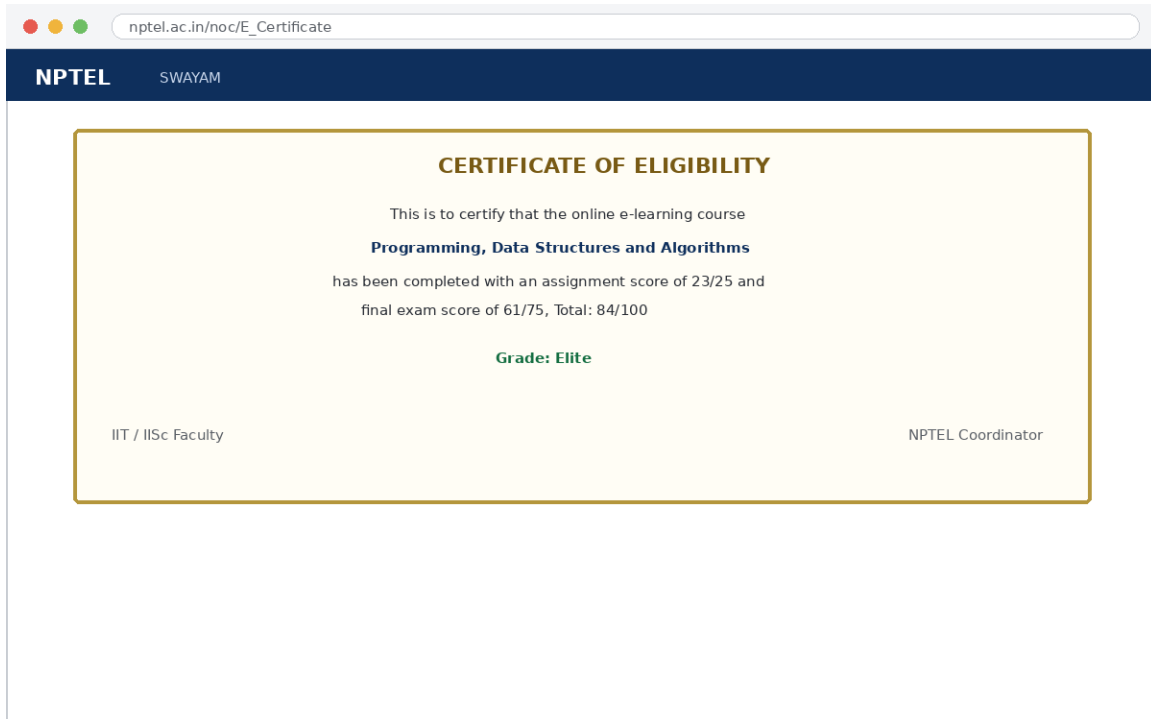


Illustration: Sample e-certificate

4. Important Points to Remember

- Use only one email ID for all NPTEL enrolments and exam registrations — a mismatch can cause enrolment or certificate issues.
- Enrolment is free; only the certification exam carries a fee.
- Once enrolled, you cannot withdraw from or switch out of a course.
- Exam city, date, and session allotted on the hall ticket are final and cannot be changed on request.
- You can register for at most two exams on the same day (one per session).
- Cancellations with a refund are allowed only before the stated last date; late cancellations are not refunded.
- Keep the payment receipt and confirmation emails as proof of registration in case of discrepancies.

5. Quick Reference Checklist

1. Visit npTEL.ac.in or onlinecourses.npTEL.ac.in
2. Search and select the desired course
3. Sign in / register with a valid, permanent email ID
4. Click Enrol (free of cost)
5. Watch weekly lectures and submit assignments on time
6. Open the exam registration form when it becomes available
7. Fill details, upload photo/signature/ID, and select exam city choices
8. Pay the exam fee online
9. Download and print the hall ticket before exam day
10. Appear for the proctored exam with hall ticket + original photo ID
11. Download the e-certificate after results are declared