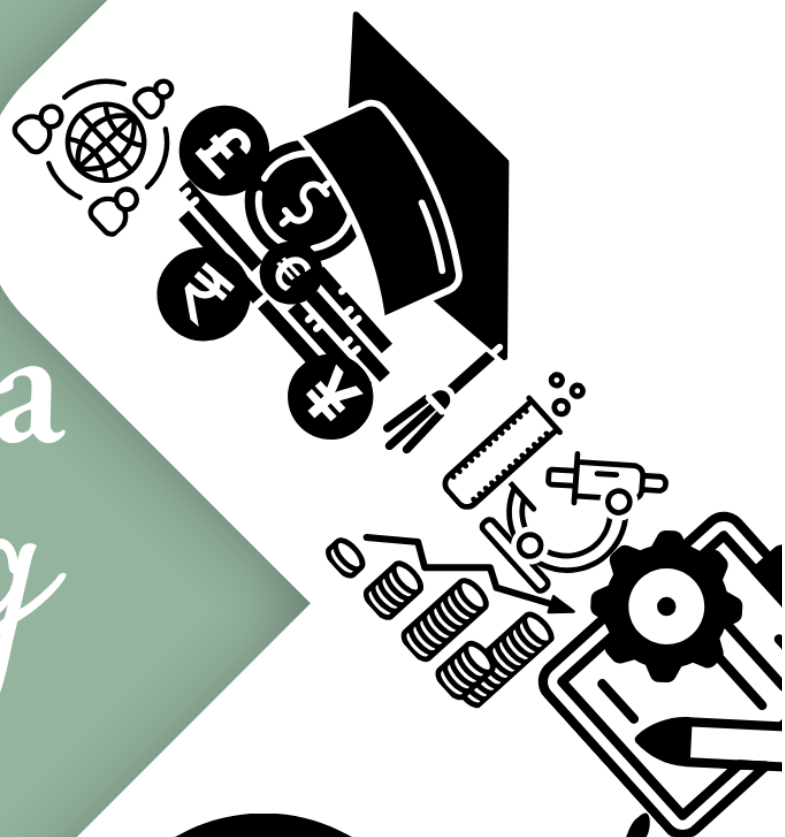




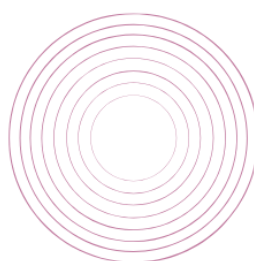
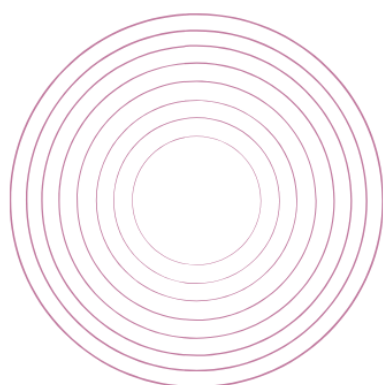
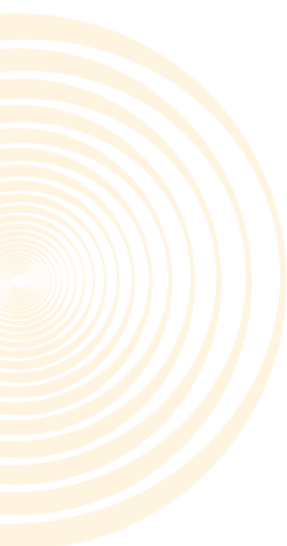
IndiaBioscience



# Means to a *Beginning*

Funding Opportunities  
for PhD Students and  
Postdocs in India

Edition II





# **Means to a Beginning**

**Funding Opportunities for PhD Students and Postdocs in India**

**Edition - II**

## Means to a Beginning

# Funding Opportunities for PhD Students and Postdocs in India

Edition II

September 2023

This publication is designed to provide accurate and authoritative information regarding the subject matter covered. The information present in the book may be updated by the individual funding bodies and agencies. Readers are encouraged to consult the website for updated information. Neither the publisher nor the authors shall be liable for any loss of profit or any other commercial damages, including but not limited to special, incidental, consequential, personal, or other damages.

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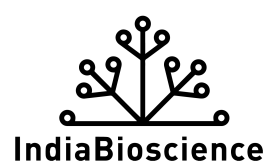
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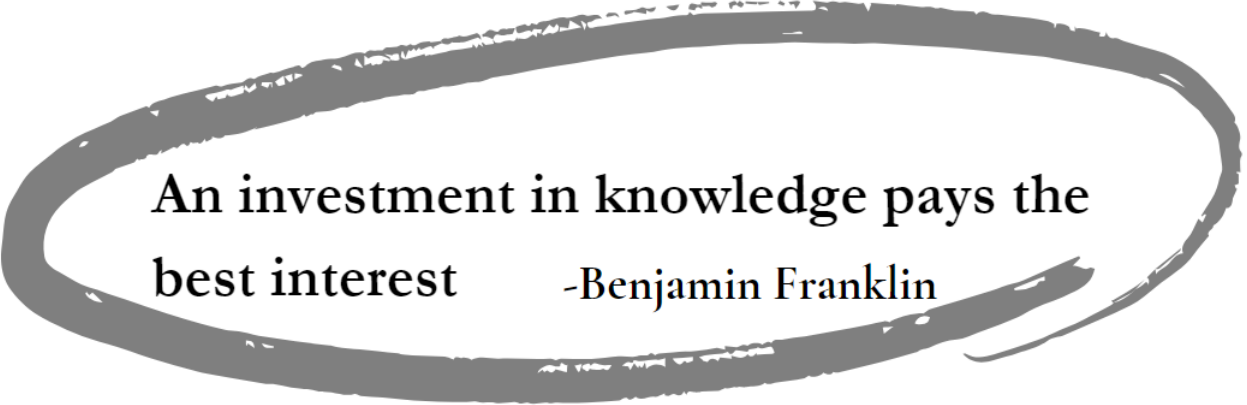
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# 1. Introduction



**An investment in knowledge pays the  
best interest      -Benjamin Franklin**

Funding support during all stages of a scientific career is crucial. Securing funding is a key step in academic development. It demonstrates independence and gives considerable leverage in one's current position. Further, since funds are awarded to a researcher to work on a proposed project for a designated period of time, they also serve as stepping stones to receive larger grants as they serve to demonstrate the individual's capacity to take a conceptualised project to completion. Importantly, such funding can cover the researcher's salary, relocation, research expenses and even travel costs.

The Indian life science research ecosystem is growing and diversifying rapidly. To empower India as a nucleus of frontier research, it is imperative to foster a world-class community through the continuous and extensive support from funding agencies. Funding agencies are the major source of individual funding; however there are several foundations, trusts and academic societies that offer funding as well. This booklet focuses on the funding opportunities available for pursuing PhD and Postdoctoral research in different areas of the life sciences in India and abroad. It covers national and international fellowships in addition to travel and skill-building grants and awards. The booklet collates relevant information from multiple reliable sources to highlight the requirements, benefits, and timelines of these fellowships and award schemes and provides relevant links for easy access to up-to-date information. Aspiring candidates can also benefit from anecdotes shared by recent awardees in the various award categories. *In case of any uncertainty, we urge you to contact the funding agency directly. Please note that deadlines and details in this booklet are subject to change - visit the agency website for the latest updates pertaining to deadlines and other terms and conditions.*

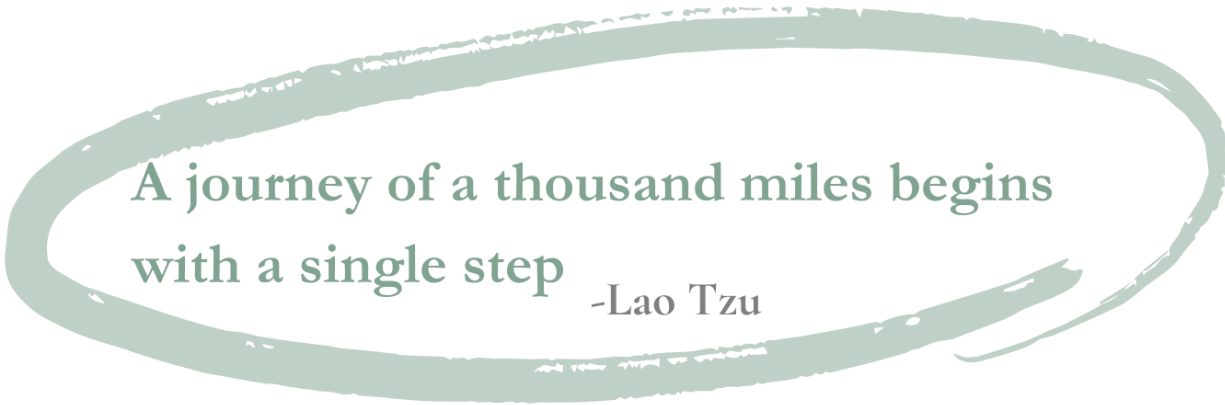
We hope that you find this resource useful in your quest for securing PhD, Postdoctoral or other award schemes. If you wish to share feedback, please write to us at [hello\[at\]indiabioscience\[dot\]org](mailto:hello[at]indiabioscience[dot]org).





# Doctoral Studies

## Fellowships for pursuing a PhD



A journey of a thousand miles begins  
with a single step -Lao Tzu

A PhD (Doctor of Philosophy) is a doctoral research degree and an advanced level of academic qualification. PhD studies are commonly considered the stepping stone to a science career. They chart the scope and progression for the subsequent stages of one's science career. It is imperative to allow for extensive growth in this initial phase. This section is meant for students who are going to embark on their PhD journey. Here you will find the details of fellowships available to Indian students to pursue a PhD in India (Section 2.1) and internationally (Section 2.2) in the area of life sciences.



# Doctoral Programmes

---

*National*



### 2.1.1. Junior/ Senior Research Fellowship Programme (DBT)

This scheme is aimed at applicants who wish to pursue research in frontier areas of **biotechnology and life sciences**. The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) Junior Research Fellows (JRFs) are selected through a national Biotechnology Eligibility Test (BET), based on which merit lists will be prepared in two categories (Category-I and Category-II).

#### Eligibility

- MSc/ MTech/ MVSc or equivalent degree/ Integrated BS-MS/ BE/ BTech in any discipline of biotechnology; MSc/ MTech in bioinformatics or computational biology; students admitted under DBT supported postgraduate teaching programs; MSc in life science/ bioscience/ zoology/ botany/ microbiology/ biochemistry/ biophysics; and Master's in allied areas of biology or life sciences; Candidates appearing for final year examinations also eligible to apply.
- Minimum 60% marks for General, EWS & OBC category, and 55% for SC/ ST/ Differently abled in aggregate (or equivalent grade).
- Age limit: 28 years for General and EWS categories (relaxed up to 5 years for SC/ ST/Differently Abled/Women candidates, and up to 3 years for OBC (Non-Creamy Layer) candidates) as on the last date of application.

#### Support

- Candidates selected under Category-I are eligible to avail fellowship under the programme. This is tenable at any University/Institute in India where the selected candidate registers for a PhD programme.
- Candidates selected under Category II are eligible to be appointed in any DBT-sponsored project and avail of the fellowship from the project equivalent to NET/GATE fellowships, subject to selection through the institutional selection process. Selection in Category II does not entitle the student to any fellowship from the DBT-JRF programme.

#### Deadline

The application opens once a year.

#### Website

<https://www.dbtjrf.gov.in/dbtJRFHome.html> 

### 2.1.2. Junior Research Fellowship (CSIR/ UGC)

CSIR and UGC provide research fellowships for training in methods of research under the expert guidance of faculty members/ scientists. Candidates are selected for the five-year fellowship after qualifying for the **Joint CSIR-UGC National Eligibility Test (NET)** conducted by CSIR twice a year in June and December.

#### Eligibility

- Candidates holding degrees from BS-4 years programme/ BE/ BTech/ BPharma/ MBBS/ Integrated BS-MS/MSc or equivalent; BSc (Hons) or equivalent degree holders; or students enrolled in integrated MS-PhD programmes.
- Minimum 55% marks for General & OBC (50% for SC/ ST candidates, Physically and Visually handicapped candidates).
- Candidates with a Bachelor's degree (science, engineering or any other discipline), eligibility contingent on getting registered/enrolled for a PhD/ integrated PhD programme within the validity period of two years.
- Candidates enrolled for MSc or having completed 10+2+3 years of the qualifying examinations listed above, are eligible under the Result Awaited (RA) category.
- Fellowships are tenable in India.
- Available only to bona fide Indian citizens residing in India.


#### Support

- JRF: The stipend of a selected JRF is ₹37,000 per month for the first two years.
- SRF (NET): On completion of two years as JRF and if the fellow is registered for PhD, the fellowship will be upgraded to SRF (NET), and the stipend will be increased to ₹42,000 per month for the third and subsequent years, based on the assessment of the fellow's research progress/ achievements.
- In addition to the fellowship, awardees are also entitled to a House Rent Allowance (HRA) component as per the rules of the host institution.
- An annual contingency grant of ₹20,000 per fellow will be provided to the University/Institution.
- CSIR research fellows will be given an extra lump sum of ₹3,000, upon submission of PhD thesis in an electronic form.

#### Deadline

Online applications for JRF-NET are invited twice a year with registrations opening in June and December.

#### Website

<https://csirhrdg.res.in/Home/Index/1/Default/3015/60> 

## AWARD ANECDOTE

### CSIR-UGC RESEARCH FELLOW

**Aparna Tiwari**



### Benefits of CSIR-UGC Research Fellowship

The fellowship provides extensive financial support, covering everything from registration fees to thesis submission.

### Things to consider while applying

Persistence and determination are the keys to cracking this prestigious fellowship.

### Mistakes to avoid when applying

It is important to read the instructions very carefully before applying.



### 2.1.3. Junior Research Fellowship (ICMR)

ICMR JRF fellowships support admission to PhD and research programmes to work in the fields of **biomedical sciences** with emphasis on **Life Sciences** (120 fellowships) and Social Sciences (30 fellowships) for a period of **five years**. The award of JRF is based on merit in a country-wide entrance examination.

#### Eligibility

- MSc/MA or equivalent degree with minimum 55% marks for General/ EWS/ OBC candidates and 50% for the SC/ST and PwBD candidates in the subjects mentioned above.
- Candidates appearing in final year examinations, or are in the final year of MSc/ MA (or equivalent) during the session of the call year — eligible as RA (Result Awaited).
- Age limit: 28 years (can be relaxed up to 5 years for SC/ ST, PwBD and female candidates, and 3 years for OBC category) as of 30 September of the call year.
- Award of JRF depends on candidates finding placement in a medical college/ hospital/ university/ national laboratory/ institution of higher learning and research as applicable.


#### Support

- Fellowship:
  - ICMR JRFs — ₹37,000 per month.
  - ICMR SRFs — ₹42,000 per month.
- HRA as per host institution rules.
- Annual contingency grant up to ₹20,000 per year.

#### Deadline

The ICMR JRF entrance examination is held once a year and the admission notice is published usually during March/ April on the ICMR website as well as in leading English newspapers of India.

#### Website

<https://main.icmr.nic.in/content/junior-research-fellowships-jrf> 

## AWARD ANECDOTE

### ICMR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

**Amaresh Mishra**



### Benefits of ICMR Junior Research Fellowship

The grant offers substantial financial support allowing one to dedicate themselves to advancing their research objectives. It is also a very prestigious fellowship, and the recognition associated with it boosts a researcher's academic and professional profile.

### Things to consider while applying

It is important to consider the guide/supervisor and their research profile while designing the project proposal. The institute where the project will be carried out should also be suitable for the proposed work. Any preliminary work associated with the proposed project is also advantageous.

### Mistakes to avoid when applying

It is essential to keep the eligibility criteria for the fellowship in mind while drafting the proposal.





#### 2.1.4. INSPIRE Fellowship programme (DST)

The Inspire Fellowship is part of the Assured Opportunity for Research Careers (AORC) component of the INSPIRE programme launched by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, focused on attracting students to pursue doctoral training in **basic and applied sciences** including **engineering, medicine, agriculture, veterinary, pharmacy sciences**. The scheme provides for 1000 fellowships annually for a maximum period of **five years**.

##### Eligibility

- INSPIRE Scholars who have secured a minimum 70% marks or (or CGPA equivalent) in aggregate in MSc or Integrated MS/MSc Courses.
- First-rank holders in university-level examinations in postgraduate courses in basic or applied sciences including engineering, medicine, pharmacy, agricultural sciences and veterinary sciences, from any recognized University or academic institution (excluding Autonomous Colleges) within India.
- First-rank holders in Graduate/ Postgraduate Level Examinations in Medicine conducted by a University/Institution within India.
- Not eligible — First-rank holders in colleges following the Autonomous College Examination; candidates with degree(s) through Distance Education Mode; first-rank holders in any specialization given during the second last year of MSc.
- Age group of 22–27 years.


##### Support

- JRF (For first 2 years)
  - Fellowship of ₹31,000 per month +HRA.
  - Contingency of ₹20,000 per year.
- SRF (Remaining 3 years, based on the recommendation of an assessment committee report approved by the DST).
  - Fellowship of ₹35,000 per month + HRA.
  - Contingency of ₹20,000 per year.

##### Deadline

The call for application is announced every year around September/ October. Please check the website for details.

##### Website

<https://online-inspire.gov.in/> 

## AWARD ANECDOTE

### DST-INSPIRE FELLOWSHIP

**Subhashree Bhattacharyya**



### Benefits of the DST-INSPIRE Fellowship

Timely financial support from the funding agency and the accessibility of the portal is one of the best features of this fellowship.

### Things to consider while applying

The proposed project should be well thought out with crisp objectives that are obtainable in the stipulated timeline and within the budget provided by the financial allocation.

### Mistakes to avoid when applying

A strong statement of purpose, supported by a well-planned project is essential. The proposed supervisor's publication record must also be taken into consideration while applying.



### 2.1.5. Women Scientists Scheme (DST)

Under this scheme, women scientists are being encouraged to pursue research in frontier areas of **science and engineering**, on problems of societal relevance and to take up science and technology-based internships followed by self-employment. The following three categories of fellowships, with research grants, are available for Indian citizens for **three years**:

- Women Scientist Scheme-A (WOS-A): Research in Basic/Applied Science.
- Women Scientist Scheme-B (WOS-B): S&T interventions for Societal Benefit.
- Women Scientist Scheme-C (WOS-C): Internship in Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) for Self-Employment.

#### Eligibility

The scheme is meant to encourage women in the S&T domain, preferably those having a career break and not having regular employment, to explore the possibility of re-entry into the profession.

- Women scientists holding postgraduate degrees in basic sciences, graduate or postgraduate degrees in professional courses, or PhD.
- Have a break in your career.
- Age group: 27 -57 years.
- Not eligible — Candidates in regular employment (women scientists in temporary positions in research or academics may apply, but are required to leave their earlier assignment if the WOS project is approved).

#### Support

Under WOS-A and B scheme:

- Applicants with a PhD in basic or applied sciences/ MD or equivalent degree receive a fellowship of Rs.55,000/-+HRA\* as applicable and a contingency grant of Rs.30 lakh (excluding HRA and Overhead).
- Applicants with M.Phil/ M.Tech/ M.Pharm/ M.VSc or equivalent degree Rs.40,000/-+HRA\* as applicable and contingency grant up to Rs.25 lakh (excluding HRA and Overhead).
- Applicants with M.Sc in Basic or Applied Sciences/MBBS/B.Tech or equivalent degree Rs.31,000/-+HRA\* as applicable and contingency grant up to Rs.20 lakh (excluding HRA and Overhead).


Under WOS-C scheme:

- Applicants with PhD in basic or applied sciences/ MD or equivalent degree receive Rs.35,000/-
- Applicants with M.Phil/ M.Tech/ M.Pharm/ M.VSc or equivalent degree receive Rs.30,000/-
- Applicants with M.Sc in basic or applied sciences/ MBBS/ B.Tech or equivalent degree receive Rs.25,000/-
- There is no contingency grant under WOS-C.

#### Deadline

The applications are open **throughout the year**, but there will be a break of one month for the submission of applications every two months.

#### Website

[dst.gov.in/scientific-programmes/scientific-engineering-research/women-scientists-programs](http://dst.gov.in/scientific-programmes/scientific-engineering-research/women-scientists-programs) 

## **AWARD ANECDOTE**

### **DST-WOMEN SCIENTIST**

**Garima Jain**



### **Benefits of the DST-Women Scientist**

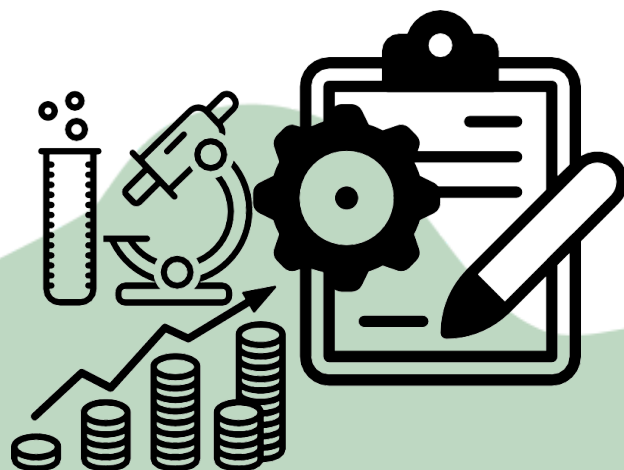
**DST-Women Scientist offers women an excellent opportunity to return to the world of research after career breaks from parental leave or other reasons.**

### **Things to consider while applying**

**It is important to draft the proposal keeping your area of expertise in mind. Institutions which help build networks and skills are the ideal places for implementing projects under the DST-Women Scientist scheme.**

### **Mistakes to avoid when applying**

**The novelty of the project proposed is essential without overlooking its implementation aspects.**



### 2.1.6. Junior Research Scholarship (Lady Tata Memorial Trust)

The Junior Research Scholarship (JRS) is offered to support candidates towards pursuing a PhD involving scientific investigations that will directly or indirectly work towards the alleviation of human suffering from a disease. The tenure of the scholarship is **five years**.

#### Eligibility

- Fresh MBBS/ MSc/ MPharm/ MTech graduates.
- Indian Nationals from select Universities/ Institutes/ Laboratories, with first-class academics (60% and above), from Class X up to date.
- Candidates with GATE / NET qualifications will be given preference.

The candidate must complete the formalities for PhD registration within 9 months to 14 months from the date of joining as a junior research scholar with the Trust, otherwise, the Trust will terminate the scholarship.

#### Support

- Junior Research Scholar (JRS):
  - Two years commencing from the date of joining the host institute for PhD work.
  - ₹31,000 per month (+HRA).
- Senior Research Scholar (JRS):
  - Three years subject to approval by the Institutional Doctoral Committee and Lady Tata Trust's Indian Scientific Advisory Committee (ISAC).
  - ₹35,000 per month.
- Annual contingency fund of ₹30,000.
- House Rent Allowance.
  - 25% of the basic value of the scholarship to scholars doing research work in the select Metro Cities.
  - 10% of the basic value of their scholarship to scholars from other small towns or cities.

#### Deadline

The applications **open every year** in December and close in January.

#### Website

<https://ladytatatruster.tatatruster.org/StaticPageIndia/Awards/7>



## **AWARD ANECDOTE**

### **LADY TATA MEMORIAL TRUST FELLOWSHIP**

**Shreyas H K**



### **Benefits of the Lady Tata Fellowship**

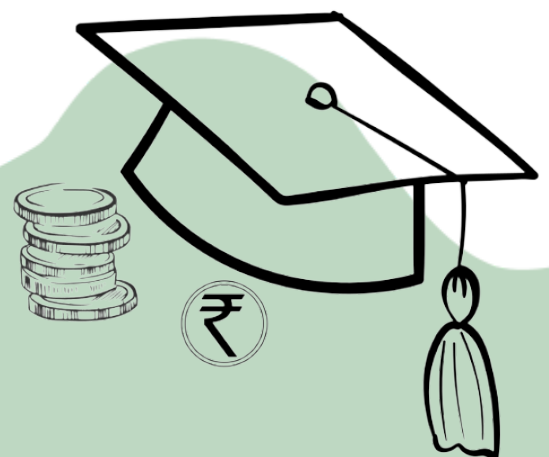
The commitment of the funding agency towards timely financial and academic support of the awardees as well as their constructive suggestions based on the candidates' progress aids in developing good researchers.

### **Things to consider while applying**

Since two stages need to be successfully cleared to be awarded this fellowship, one must dedicate efforts in terms of time and, working out the proposal carefully such that the applicant's clarity on the topic is evident.

### **Mistakes to avoid when applying**

The application for this fellowship relies heavily on having a structured and detailed proposal. Prior work experience, especially related to the topic of the proposal gives an added edge.



### 2.1.7. PhD Programme (NIBMG)

The National Institute of Biomedical Genomics (NIBMG) has launched a PhD programme for doctoral candidates interested in working on human diseases with an emphasis on gaining **genomics and biological insights into disease mechanisms** using clinical samples and appropriate models, both *in silico* and *in vivo*. The broad areas of research on which students are expected to work are listed below: **Genomics of Infectious disease/ Chronic disease/ Cancer/ Computational Biology and Statistical Genomics**

#### Eligibility

The minimum eligibility criteria for accepting students at NIBMG to pursue research leading to a PhD degree are:

- **Category A:**
  - Candidates should have a Masters (postgraduate) degree or 4 years B. Tech. in any branch of sciences with interest in pursuing research in Modern Biology, having at least 55% or equivalent Grade Point Average (GPA) (A relaxation of 5% of marks, shall be allowed for SC/ST/OBC and Persons with Disabilities).
  - An applicant must have a valid Junior Research Fellowship from UGC, CSIR, ICMR, ICAR, MeitY, DBT (Category I only), NBHM, BINC, and a valid award letter of Research Fellowship at the time of interview. Candidates who have qualified for the Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship or any other fellowship for the reserved categories may also apply.
  - Candidates who have a valid fellowship as mentioned above and are expected to complete their Post Graduate Degree by the end of July 2023 are also eligible to apply. Their selection will be provisional and subject to fulfilling eligibility criteria by the end of November 2023. Candidates who have qualified only for a Lectureship in CSIR-UGC (NET) or are recipients of the ICAR Fellowship are not eligible.
- **Category B:**
  - Candidates with an MBBS degree with at least 55% marks may apply. Selection of such candidates are subject to the approval of the competent authority.
  - Preference will be given to candidates with demonstrable research training in the form of summer training or short-term courses in established research laboratories in preparation for a research career in biomedical sciences at the time of the Interview.

#### Support

Fellowship will be activated as per the respective funding agencies' guidelines.

#### Deadline

Applications are typically accepted **twice a year**, typically during the month of April and October.

#### Website

<https://www.nibmg.ac.in/p/phd-programme> 

### 2.1.8. Integrated MS-PhD (NIBMG)

NIBMG has initiated an Integrated MS-PhD program in **Biotechnology** with a specialization in **Biomedical Genomics** from 2019. Students admitted into the program undergo a Master's program during the first two years. This includes master's projects to be carried out in a research lab(s) under the mentorship of NIBMG faculty, during the third and fourth semesters. After completion of the 4th Semester, students who have qualified a JRF from an external agency can continue in the PhD program either under the same or a different mentor.

#### Eligibility

- Indian nationals with a minimum 55 % aggregate marks (or an equivalent grade point average) in a bachelor's degree in any branch of biological sciences are eligible to apply. Students from the SC, ST, OBC (non-creamy layer), and PWD categories shall be given a relaxation of 5% marks. Students in the last year of their bachelor's degree are also eligible to apply, provided they can produce proof of having secured the minimum aggregate marks at the time of admission. Students need to have taken mathematics as a subject at 10+2 level or higher.
- Candidates who fulfil the minimum eligibility conditions and have qualified for any of the following entrance exams may apply online:
  - Joint Graduate Entrance Examination for Biology and Interdisciplinary Life Sciences (JGEEBILS conducted by NCBS/TIFR).
  - Joint Admission Test for M.Sc. JAM-2023 in Biotechnology (BT), Mathematical Statistics (MS), or Chemistry (CY) will be eligible.

#### Support

The students admitted to the program receive a fellowship of Rs. 16,000/- per month for the first 2 years of the program (MS part). Students shall undergo comprehensive evaluation for switching over to the PhD program.

Those who qualify for the comprehensive test for switching over to the PhD program and have not qualified for any national level fellowship exams (NET JRF) will be provided a fellowship as per GoI norms (Rs. 25,000/- PM and Rs. 28,000 at JRF and SRF levels respectively) for the PhD program.

#### Deadline

Applications typically open in the months of June/July.

#### Website

<https://www.nibmg.ac.in/p/integrated-phd-1> 





# Doctoral Programmes

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*International*



### 2.2.1. Doctoral Programmes (TWAS)

The World Academy of Science (TWAS) offers between 100 - 160 PhD fellowships a year at some of the most respected institutions in the developing world. These fellowships are hosted in Brazil, China, India, Pakistan and South Africa.

#### 2.2.1.1. Postgraduate Fellowship Programme (TWAS-ICCBS )

The International Centre for Chemical and Biological Sciences (ICCBS) — comprising the H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry and the Dr. Panjwani Centre for Molecular and Drug Research in Karachi, Pakistan — and TWAS offer fellowships to young scientists from developing countries (other than Pakistan) who wish to pursue research towards a PhD in **chemical and biological sciences**.

#### Eligibility

Applicants for these fellowships must meet the following criteria:

- be a maximum age of 35 years on 31 December of the application year.
- hold a Master's degree in the field of natural sciences.
- be nationals of a developing country.
- must not hold any visa for temporary or permanent residency in Pakistan or any developed country.
- provide a certificate of good health from a qualified medical doctor.
- be registered PhD students in their home country and provide the "Registration and No Objection Certificate" from the HOME university.
- provide an official Preliminary Acceptance Letter from ICCBS, a research proposal outline and two reference letters.
- provide evidence of proficiency in English, if the medium of education was not English.
- provide evidence that s/ he will return to her/ his home country on completion of the fellowship.
- not take up other assignments during the period of her/ his fellowship.
- be financially responsible for any accompanying family members.

#### Support

ICCBS will provide a monthly stipend which should be used to cover living costs, such as food, accommodation, local transportation and incidental minor illness. The monthly stipend will not be convertible into foreign currency.

#### Deadline

Applications typically open in ~April and close in ~June. Please consult the website for exact dates.

#### Website

<https://twas.org/opportunity/twas-iccbs-postgraduate-fellowship-programme>



### 2.2.1.2. Postgraduate Fellowship Programme (TWAS-TÜBİTAK)

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) and TWAS have established a fellowship programme for foreign scholars from developing countries in the South who wish to pursue research toward a PhD in a field of the **natural and related applied sciences**, in departments and laboratories of public and private universities of Turkey and TÜBİTAK Research Centers and Institutes.

#### Eligibility

Applicants for these Fellowships must meet the following criteria:

- Be permanent residents and nationals of a developing country in the South (<https://twas.org/developing-countries-south>).
- Candidates from Science and Technology Lagging countries (STLC) and women are especially encouraged to apply. (For the list of STLC, please see <https://twas.org/66-countries>).
- Developing countries that are not on the list are also eligible to apply.
- Must not hold any visa for temporary or permanent residency in Türkiye or any developed country.
- Applicants already on site in the host country (Republic of Türkiye) are not eligible to apply for this fellowship.
- Hold a master's or equivalent degree in natural and related applied sciences (in one of the fields specified above).
- Be a maximum age of 35 years on 31 December of the application year.
- Applicants must have successfully passed the PhD qualifying exam or be in an advanced stage of their PhD research in natural and related applied sciences (in the fields specified in the call text). Applicants must certify this criterion with an official Registration & No Objection Certificate (which can be downloaded from TÜBİTAK's online application website). This document must be issued within three months before the application date, and it should also mention briefly the timeline and research work planned.
- Provide an official Acceptance Letter (see sample that can be downloaded below or from TÜBİTAK's online application website) from an eligible department, institution or laboratory of a public or private university in Türkiye or TÜBİTAK Research Centers and Institutes.
- Requests for acceptance must be directed to the chosen host institution(s) in Türkiye, and NOT to TÜBİTAK. Without preliminary acceptance, the application will not be considered for selection. The acceptance letter must be signed by the highest authority of the chosen host institute. The maximum number of academic advisors in Türkiye can be 2 (two).
- Provide the Research proposal form prepared in the format determined by TÜBİTAK (see sample that can be downloaded below or from TÜBİTAK's online application website).
- Provide evidence of proficiency in English. If the medium of education was not English: provide evidence in English, e.g. standardized test card (TOEFL, IELTS etc.) or a University-issued letter certifying the knowledge of the language. If the medium of education was English, please write a

brief statement indicating what type of education was in English, e.g. high school, BSc or MSc degrees, this statement must be signed and dated by the applicant.

- Not take up other assignments during the period of her/his fellowship.
- Be financially responsible for any accompanying family members.
- Not have previously received or been awarded a fellowship under this programme.
- Must return to her/his home country on completion of the fellowship.


### **Support**

- TWAS will be responsible for providing travel support to Turkey and from Türkiye to the researchers' home/living country and will also cover visa-related expenses.
- TÜBİTAK will be responsible for a monthly allowance to cover accommodation and living expenses and medical facilities for minor ailments as available in Turkey at amounts to be specified by TÜBİTAK.
- The study fees, including tuition, registration and research costs, should be waived or covered by the host institutes.

### **Deadline**

Applications open in ~June and close in ~September. Please consult the website for exact dates.

### **Website**

<https://twas.org/opportunity/twas-tubitak-postgraduate-fellowship-programme> 

### 2.2.1.3. ANSO-CAS-TWAS/UNESCO PhD Scholarship

According to an agreement between the Alliance of International Science Organizations (ANSO), the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS/UNESCO) for the advancement of **science** in developing countries, up to 40 students/scholars from developing countries will be sponsored to study in China for doctoral degrees for up to **four years**.

#### Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Eligible applicants should NOT hold Chinese citizenship.
- Eligible applicants must be nationals of eligible developing countries in the South (Developing Countries in the South | TWAS).
- Eligible applicants should be proficient in English or Chinese.
- Applicants should be born after 1st January 1988 (inclusive).
- Eligible applicants should meet the admission criteria for international students of the University of Science and Technology of China (USTC)/ University of Chinese Academy of Sciences (UCAS).
- Eligible applicants should NOT take up other assignments during the period of his/her scholarship.
- If the applicant is currently pursuing a doctoral degree at any university/institution in China, s/he will NOT be eligible for the PhD program of this scholarship.
- You are NOT allowed to apply for the ANSO Scholarship in both USTC and UCAS simultaneously.


#### Support

- PhD program tuition waiver.
- Monthly stipend: 6,000 or 7,000 ¥/month (depending on whether the awardee has passed the qualification test arranged by the University), up to 48 months.
- Health insurance.
- Application fee waiver.
- International travel allowance from the awardee's home country to China (one trip per awarded candidate).
- One-time visa.

#### Deadline

The applications open in ~October and close in ~February. Please consult the website for exact dates.

#### Website

<https://twas.org/opportunity/anso-cas-twasunesco-phd-scholarship> 

### 2.2.2. Research Grants — Doctoral Programmes (DAAD)

The aim of this programme is to support doctoral projects in a state or state-recognised institution of higher education, or a non-university research institute in Germany. Tenable for a maximum of **four years**; the length of the grant is decided by a selection committee and depends on the project in question and the applicant's work schedule.

#### Eligibility

Applicant must:

- As a rule, applicants should not have graduated any longer than six years before the application deadline.
- If you have already started your doctorate, it also applies that the start of the doctorate should not be longer than 3 years ago.
- Your application cannot be considered if you have been resident in Germany for longer than 15 months at the application deadline.
- **Language skills**- The required language level depends on the applicant's study plans and subject: In the arts, social sciences and law, at least a good knowledge of German is usually expected. For the **natural sciences and engineering**, proof of good English language skills may also be accepted if English is spoken at the host institute.


#### Support

- Monthly payments for doctoral candidates during their stay in Germany: €1200.
- Payments towards health, accident and personal liability insurance cover.
- Travel allowance.
- Monthly allowance for accompanying family members.
- Monthly Rent Subsidy.
- Annual research allowance.
- Other additional benefits.

#### Deadline

The applications open **once a year** and deadlines are updated annually. Selections are made ~February.

#### Website

<https://www2.daad.de/deutschland/stipendium/datenbank/en/21148-scholarship-database/?origin=4&status=4&subjectGrps=&daad=&q=&page=1&detail=57135739#voraussetzungen> 

### 2.2.3. Research Grants — Bi-nationally Supervised Doctoral Degrees/ Cotutelle (DAAD)

This programme offers the opportunity to do a bi-national doctoral degree at your home university and at a university in Germany.

There are two possible options:

#### a) **Doctorate with bi-national supervision:**

Your doctoral project is supervised by a university teacher both at your home university and at the host institute in Germany (so-called '**sandwich model**'). Your project must be agreed with both supervisors according to the following procedure:

- You start your doctoral degree in your home country.
- This is followed by research trips to Germany.
- You complete your doctorate in your home country and are also supervised by the German academic adviser.
- Your home university awards the doctoral degree.

#### b) **Doctorate following the 'Cotutelle' procedure:**

Funding is provided for doctoral projects that are carried out at the home university and at a university in Germany according to the so-called Cotutelle model. This is based on an individual cooperation agreement which is concluded individually for your doctoral project by the participating universities. After you have completed your doctorate, the German university and your home university award the doctoral degree jointly.

Funding is provided between **7 and a maximum of 24 months**.

- **Bi-national supervision** following the '**sandwich model**': Grants are initially awarded for up to 12 months. Extensions depend on whether the selection committee considers the previous award period to have been completed.
- Doctorate following the '**Cotutelle**' procedure: Grants are initially awarded for up to 18 months; there is the possibility for an extension of the scholarship for up to 6 months.  
The grant can be used flexibly for several shorter stays during your doctoral project.

### **Eligibility**

Applicant must:

- As a rule, applicants should not have graduated any longer than six years before the application deadline
- If you have already started your doctorate, it also applies that the start of the doctorate should not be longer than 3 years ago.
- Your application cannot be considered if you have been resident in Germany for longer than 15 months at the application deadline.
- Language skills- The required language level depends on the applicant's study plans and subject: In the arts, social sciences and law, at least a good knowledge of German is usually expected. For the

natural sciences and engineering, proof of good English language skills may also be accepted if English is spoken at the host institute.

Depending on the nature of your project, you can apply for:

- a) **Bi-national supervision** based on the '**sandwich model**': You can apply if you have earned a Master's degree or Diploma (or in exceptional cases a Bachelor's degree) at the latest at the start of the funding period.
- b) '**Cotutelle model**': You can apply if you have been admitted to a doctoral programme at the start of the funding period.


### Support

- Monthly payments for doctoral candidates during their stay in Germany: €1200.
- Payments towards health, accident and personal liability insurance cover.
- Travel allowance, unless these expenses are covered by the home country or another source of funding.
- One-off research allowance.
- Travel and accommodation expenses according to the German Federal Travel Expenses Law for supervising university teachers for one trip of up to 10 days.

### Deadline

The applications open **once a year** and deadlines are updated annually. Selections are made ~February.

### Website

<https://www2.daad.de/deutschland/stipendium/datenbank/en/21148-scholarship-database/?status=4&origin=4&subjectGrps=E&daad=&intention=&q=&page=1&detail=57507783> 



## AWARD ANECDOTE

### BI-NATIONALLY SUPERVISED DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP (COTUTELLE)

**Debprasad Dutta**



### Benefits of the fellowship

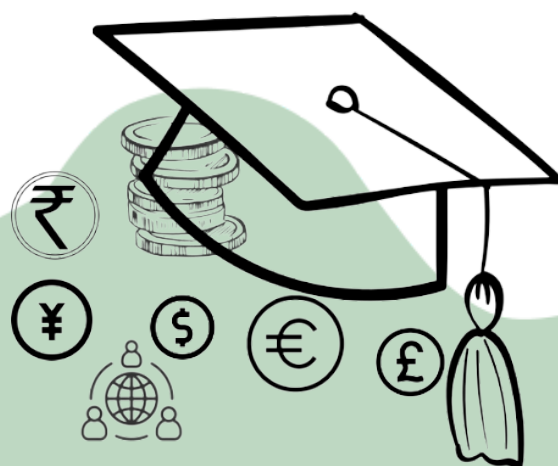
The simultaneous affiliation to 2 top-notch universities in the world makes it extremely special as it grants access to (1) wide range of resources from both universities and (2) there is a three-fold acceleration of network opportunities as you have interactions with members of not just the two universities but the multinational cohort of commonwealth awardees and former recipients of the award as well.

### Things to consider while applying

It is important to ascertain that your project benefits both nations, preferably something with a global impact. Highlight your skills and experience in cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary communications. It is vital to demonstrate your commitment to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) principles.

### Mistakes to avoid when applying

It is important to ensure that the application is tailored to this specific programme and details your personal alignment and interest towards the programme.



#### 2.2.4. MSCA Doctoral Networks

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Doctoral Networks will implement doctoral programmes, through partnerships of universities, research institutions and research infrastructures, businesses including SMEs, and other socio-economic actors from different countries across Europe and beyond.

MSCA Doctoral Networks are indeed open to the participation of organisations from third countries, in view of fostering strategic international partnerships for the training and exchange of researchers.

These doctoral programmes will respond to well-identified needs in various R&I areas, expose the researchers to the academic and non-academic sectors, and offer training in research-related, as well as transferable skills and competencies relevant to innovation and long-term employability.

##### **Eligibility**

Applicants:

- must not have a doctoral degree at the date of their recruitment.
- can be of any nationality.
- should be enrolled in a doctoral programme during the project.
- should spend at least 50% of their time outside academia, for Industrial Doctorates.
- should comply with the mobility rules: in general, they must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the recruiting organisation for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date.

##### **Support**

The EU provides support for each recruited researcher in the form of

- a living allowance.
- a mobility allowance.
- if applicable, family, long-term leave and special needs allowances.

In addition, funding is provided for:

- research, training and networking activities.
- management and indirect costs.

##### **Deadline**

The call opened on 30th May and closes on 28th November 2023. Please check the website for the updated dates.

##### **Website**

<https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/actions/doctoral-networks> 

## AWARD ANECDOTE

### MSCA DOCTORAL NETWORKS

**Subham Preetam**



### Benefits of the fellowship

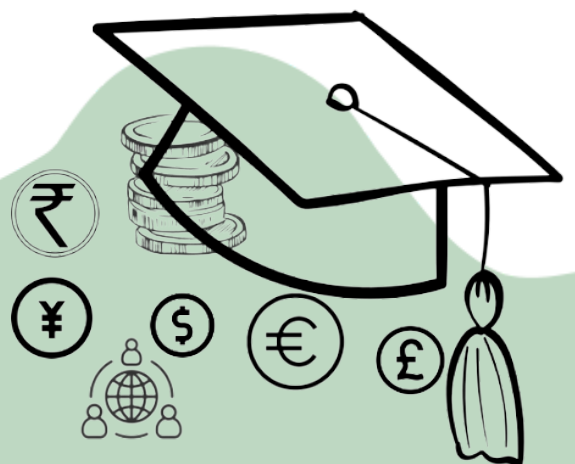
The MSCA Doctoral Networks offers advanced training and collaboration opportunities and provides the opportunity to pursue a project which has the potential to impact society.

### Things to consider while applying

It is important to develop a clear scientific question and explain it such that it is easily comprehensible in the application. Since this is a highly competitive award, persistence is the key to achieving it.

### Mistakes to avoid when applying

It is important to discuss the proposed research with the host and take the supervisor's input while drafting the application. It is also important to keep the various constituencies in mind while applying.



### 2.2.5. Newton Bhabha Fund PhD Program

Newton Bhabha Fund's PhD Placements programme provides funding to support short-term PhD placements between UK and Indian institutions. The grant is presented by the Department for Business Energy & Industrial Strategy in the UK and the Ministry of Science and Technology in India, along with the British Council in India, the Department of Science and Technology (DST), the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR).

#### Eligibility

In India, the scheme is open only for Indian PhD scholars enrolled at Indian higher education institutions with the following criteria:

- INSPIRE PhD Senior Research Fellows (SRFs) of Batch 2017 are eligible to apply for STEM and life sciences subjects.
- PhD Scholars (other than INSPIRE Fellows) pursuing PhD in the mid-second or third year of life sciences are eligible to apply.

#### Support


The program supports

- Visa fees, economy-class international airfares and overseas travel insurance for PhD scholars.
- In-country costs including accommodation and stipend for PhD scholars.
- Bench fees (if applied for) by UK host university.

#### Deadline

Call opens in ~June and closes in ~August.

#### Website

<https://www.britishcouncil.in/programmes/higher-education/newton-fund/phd-placements> 

### 2.2.6. Inlaks Shivdasani Scholarship

Inlaks Shivdasani Scholarships have been granted to Indian students to read at top-rated American, UK, and European institutions in a full-time Masters, MPhil, or Doctoral programme.

#### Eligibility

- Inlaks Shivdasani Scholarships are open to all Indian passport holders who are resident in India at the time of application. Candidates are normally expected to hold a good first from previous degrees from a recognised university in India.
- Indian passport holders who hold a good undergraduate degree from a recognised university abroad must have resided continuously, been employed, or have been studying in India for at least two years after their under-graduation.
- Candidates having a postgraduate qualification (e.g. Master's or PhD) from an institution abroad are not eligible to apply.
- Candidates who are already studying or have started their postgraduate education at an institution abroad are not eligible to apply.
- It is essential to have prior admission to the institution and course chosen at the time of the application. The Foundation will not consider candidates without evidence of admission.
- Candidates who have an English language certification as a conditional part of their offer letter need to attain that certification before applying for the scholarship.
- Candidates who have received a deferred offer of admission must have a valid offer for the academic year 2023-24 to be eligible for the 2023 scholarships.
- Candidates must not be over 30 years of age at the time of application.
- Candidates must have a minimum academic grade of 70%, CGPA of 7.2, or GPA of 2.8 from a recognised university/institution.
- A candidate must have a valid passport to apply.
- Only one submission per candidate will be accepted.
- Two letters of reference are mandatory and one must be from an academic referee; candidates must provide official email addresses for both referees.

#### Support

- The maximum funding given by the Foundation is USD 100,000. If the total funding required to complete the proposed course of study exceeds this amount, at the time of application candidates must show evidence that they can cover the additional costs on their own.
- Applications made to Imperial College, London, the Royal College of Art (RCA), London, the University of Cambridge (Cambridge Trust), Sciences Po, Paris and King's College London will benefit from additional funding through the Foundation's joint scholarships with these institutions. They can exceed the USD 100,000 limit while making an application.

- Acceptance of other awards, teaching assistantships, and part-time jobs are welcome even if your application to the Foundation is successful; applicants are required to report additional funding sources to the Foundation when they are received.
- A candidate's proposed course of study cannot require field trips to India during the study tenure. Applications made under the King's College London collaboration are exempted from this condition.
- If the scholarship does not commence within nine months of award, it will be forfeited.

**Deadline**

The online application portal opens in January/February each year and closes in late March/ early April.

**Website**

<https://www.inlaksfoundation.org/scholarships/how-to-apply>



### 2.2.7. ADB-Japan Scholarship Programme

The Asian Development Bank–Japan Scholarship Program (ADB–JSP) was established in April 1988 with financing from the Government of Japan. It aims to provide an opportunity for well-qualified citizens of ADB's developing member countries to undertake graduate studies in economics, management, science and technology, and other development-related fields at participating academic institutions in the Asian and Pacific regions.

#### Eligibility

The candidate should:

- be a national of an ADB borrowing member and a Japanese ODA scholarship-eligible country.
- not hold dual citizenship of any developed country.
- have gained admission to an approved master's course at a Designated Institution.
- hold a bachelor's degree or its equivalent with a superior academic record.
- have at least two (2) years of full-time professional working experience (acquired after a university degree) at the time of application. The candidate must have proficiency in oral and written English communication skills to be able to pursue studies.
- not be more than 35 years old at the time of application, unless waived in exceptional cases with the expressed endorsement of the Government of Japan.
- agree to return and work in his/her home country for at least two (2) years after completion of studies under the Program to contribute to its development.
- not be an Executive Director, Alternate Director, management, staff and consultants of ADB, or the close relatives of the aforementioned by blood or adoption with the term "close relative" defined as spouse, mother, stepmother, father, stepfather, sister, stepsister, brother, stepbrother, son, daughter, aunt, uncle, niece, or nephew; not be staff of ADB–JSP Designated Institutions;
- not be living or working in a country other than his/her home country and
- not be already enrolled in graduate degree programs.

#### Support

The ADB–JSP provides the following:

- full tuition fees.
- a monthly subsistence and housing allowance.
- an allowance for books and instructional materials.
- medical insurance.
- travel expenses.
- for scholars engaged in research, a special grant may be available for thesis preparation.

#### Deadline

Applications should be submitted at least six months before the planned time that studies commence. Please refer to the website for the latest updates on the deadline for application.

#### Website

<https://www.adb.org/work-with-us/careers/japan-scholarship-program> 

### 2.2.8. NUS Research Scholarship

The National University of Singapore (NUS) Research Scholarship is awarded to outstanding graduate students for research leading to a higher degree at the University.

#### Eligibility

The Scholarship is open to candidates who meet the following criteria:

- have graduated with an undergraduate degree with at least Second Class Honours (Upper division) / Honours (Distinction) or equivalent.
- have been offered admission to / or already admitted to a full-time graduate research programme at NUS.
- must be eligible for MOE Subsidy.

#### Support

A monthly stipend of Singaporean \$2,200 will be granted to successful candidates. Scholars in PhD programmes may be eligible for an additional stipend of up to Singaporean \$500 per month upon passing the PhD Qualifying Examination (QE), which is normally held 12 to 18 months after registration of candidature. The additional stipend is renewable each semester subject to good performance. The quantum and duration of the additional stipend may vary between faculties and schools.

The Scholarship is tenable for one year in the first instance and thereafter may, subject to the scholar's satisfactory progress, be renewed each semester at the University's discretion. The maximum period of the Scholarship is four years for PhD candidates, as determined by the relevant faculty or school in each case.

#### Deadline

Please check the website for the latest updates on the deadline for application.

#### Website

[fass.nus.edu.sg/prospective-students/graduate/research/scholarships/nus-research-scholarship/](https://fass.nus.edu.sg/prospective-students/graduate/research/scholarships/nus-research-scholarship/)





### 2.2.9. Commonwealth Scholarship

The Commonwealth Scholarships are awarded to outstanding graduate students from Commonwealth countries for research leading to a higher degree at the University.

#### Eligibility

The Scholarship is open to candidates who meet the following criteria:

- Nationals from any Commonwealth countries except for Singapore Citizens and Singapore Permanent Residents.
- have graduated with an undergraduate degree with at least Second Class Honours (Upper division)/ Honours (Distinction) or equivalent.
- have been offered admission to/ or have already been admitted to a full-time graduate research programme at NUS.
- must be eligible for MOE Subsidy.

#### Support

A monthly stipend of Singaporean \$2,200 will be granted to successful candidates. Scholars in PhD programmes may be eligible for an additional stipend of up to Singaporean \$500 per month upon passing the PhD Qualifying Examination (QE), which is normally held 12 to 18 months after registration of candidature. The additional stipend is renewable each semester subject to good performance. The quantum and duration of the additional stipend may vary between Faculties and Schools.

The Scholarship is tenable for one (1) year in the first instance and thereafter may, subject to the Scholar's satisfactory progress, be renewed each semester at the University's discretion. The maximum period of the Scholarship is four (4) years for PhD candidates, as determined by the relevant faculty or school in each case.

#### Deadline

Incoming graduate students should indicate their interest in the scholarship in their application for admission. Please check the website for details.

#### Website

<https://nusgs.nus.edu.sg/scholarships-list/#::~text=The%20Commonwealth%20Scholarship%20>



### 2.2.10. President's Graduate Fellowship

The President's Graduate Fellowship is awarded to PhD candidates who show exceptional promise or accomplishment in research. A number of PhD candidates are selected each semester by the University for the award. The following Fellowships are donor-funded: the President's Graduate Fellowship (funded by the Lee Kong Chian Scholarship) and the President's Graduate Fellowship (funded by the Jasmine Scholarship).

#### Eligibility

The Fellowship is open to new, incoming PhD candidates who meet the following criteria:

- Exemplary academic record. Top performance in undergraduate/postgraduate studies, graduation from top programs, and other academic/research achievements.
- Strong research potential. Potential to be a future leader in their respective fields based on the strength and originality of research proposal, and credible signs of research ability.
- expertise/interests that might lead to a path-breaking piece of work. Research interests that are aligned and/or complementary with the strengths of NUS faculty is a plus.
- Strong ethical character and high potential to succeed in our PhD program.


#### Support

- President's Graduate Fellowship recipients receive a monthly stipend of S\$3,100. The Fellowship is tenable for one (1) year in the first instance and thereafter may, subject to the awardee's satisfactory progress, be renewed each semester at the University's discretion. The maximum period of the Fellowship is four (4) years.
- President's Graduate Fellowship awardees are also eligible for the NUSGS Research Incentive Award, which is a supplement to PGF. This comprises
  - A monthly allowance over 4 years.
  - A one-time research allowance, upon passing of the PhD Qualifying Examination in the 2nd year of PhD candidature.
- Tuition fees at the University.
- A one-off air travel allowance for the one-way ticket of up to S\$750 on economy class and up to 20 kg baggage per trip (only for newly registered international students' trip from their home country to Singapore to commence study) President's Graduate Fellowship.
- A one-off settling allowance of S\$1,000.

#### Deadline

To be considered, excellent PhD applicants have to be nominated by the Faculty/ Department; so, individuals should be enrolled in the graduate programs at NUS.

#### Website

<https://nusgs.nus.edu.sg/scholarships-list/> 

### 2.2.11. NUS-SINGA Scholarship

The Singapore International Graduate Award (SINGA) is a collaboration between the Agency for Science, Technology & Research (A\*STAR), the Nanyang Technological University (NTU), the National University of Singapore (NUS), the Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD) and the Singapore Management University (SMU).

#### Eligibility

- Open for application to all international graduates with a passion for research and excellent academic results. Note: SINGA is intended primarily for international students studying for the first time in Singapore. Singaporeans, Singapore Permanent Residents and International students studying/who have studied in Singapore tertiary institutions are not eligible.
- Good skills in written and spoken English.
- Good reports from the academic referee.

#### Support

The award provides support for up to 4 years of PhD studies including:

- Tuition fees.
- Monthly stipend of S\$2,200 which will be increased to S\$2,700 after the passing of the Qualifying Examination.
- One-time airfare grant of up to S\$1,500.
- One-time settling-in allowance of S\$1,000.

#### Deadline

Applications close in ~December for next year's August intakes. Please check the website for details.

#### Website

[www.a-star.edu.sg/Scholarships/for-graduate-studies/singapore-international-graduate-award-singa](http://www.a-star.edu.sg/Scholarships/for-graduate-studies/singapore-international-graduate-award-singa)



### 2.2.12. PhD Industrial Exposure Fellowship (IGSTC)

Indo-German Science & Technology Centre (IGSTC), established by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Government of Germany facilitates Indo-German research, development and innovation networking through substantive interactions among government, academia/ research system and industry to foster innovation for the overall economic and societal developments of both the countries.

#### Eligibility

- The applicant must be an Indian citizen.
- The application should be submitted online using the portal on IGSTC website at [www.igstc.org](http://www.igstc.org). Submissions by other mechanisms will not be accepted.
- The applicant must define a detailed activity plan containing the objective, execution strategy and expected outcome for the fellowship duration.
- In both the Fellowships, the awardee will be hosted by the industry/industrial research organization for the duration of the Fellowship. Choice and acceptance from the industry/industrial research organization is the sole responsibility of the applicant. The applicant should ensure an endorsement/consent letter from the host industry/organisation at the time of the application.
- The applicant having institutional affiliation shall submit NOC from the Head of the institution at the time of application.
- Applicants shall submit a recommendation letter from the mentor at the parent organisation.
- Postdoctoral Industrial Fellowship applicants not having affiliation with an institution may submit 2 letters of reference.
- Applicants must be under the age of 35 years at the time of the submission of the proposal.

#### Support

The financial support will be limited to:

- PhD Industrial Exposure Fellowship: € 1500 per month.
- Single round trip economy class airfare including visa fees and travel insurance: up to € 1000.
- Health Insurance: As per actuals with a maximum limit of € 100/month.

#### Deadline

Fellowships open **once a year**, please check the website for details.

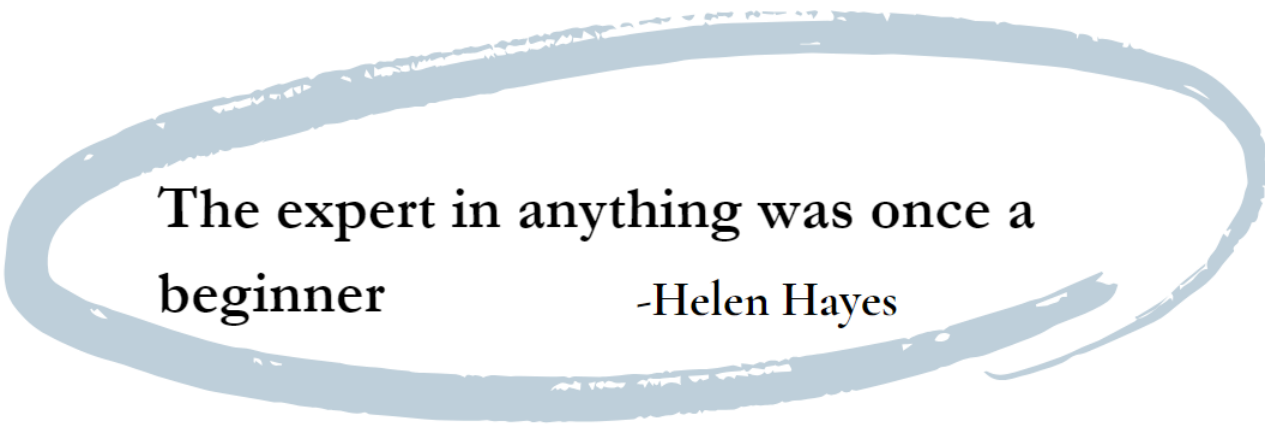
#### Website

[https://www.igstc.org/home/industrial\\_fellowships](https://www.igstc.org/home/industrial_fellowships) 



# Postdoctoral Studies

## Fellowships for pursuing Postdoctoral research

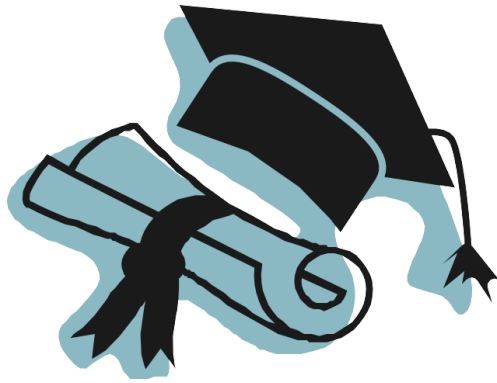


**The expert in anything was once a  
beginner**

**-Helen Hayes**

Postdoctoral positions act as a stepping-stone between the student experience and a full-time professional experience by offering in-depth training. It often marks the transition from being a student to reaching a position of independence such as a faculty position. For this, researchers should augment their professional growth while developing independence - in research questions, financial aspects, and the ability to mentor or coordinate teams. This section is meant for researchers who are going to embark on Postdoctoral positions or are current Postdoctoral fellows. Some of the fellowships listed here allow for migration - to move to a different country for Postdoctoral research. This gives Postdoctoral fellows the scope to network and imbibe the best practices in science from other countries, which is important for developing a well-rounded portfolio.

Here you will find the details of fellowships available to Indians to pursue Postdoctoral research in India (Section 3.1) and internationally (Section 3.2) in the area of life sciences.



# Postdoctoral Programmes

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*National*



### 3.1.1. Research Associateship Program (DBT)

The DBT Research Associateship program offered by the Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, aims to train Postdoctoral students in frontier areas of research in **biotechnology** and **life sciences** at premier institutions in India. The fellowship is initially awarded for a period of two years and support can be extended for **1–2 years** in exceptional cases based on review of progress.

#### Eligibility

- Applicants should hold a PhD degree in Science, Engineering or MD/MS degree in any area of medicine with a good academic record, and have research interests in biotechnology and life sciences.
- Applicants who have already submitted the PhD/MD/MS thesis, are also eligible to apply.
- Applicants should preferably be below the age of 40 years, and 45 years in case of women candidates.
- Persons already employed are also eligible to apply. However, their applications should be routed through their employers.


#### Support

- Stipend in the range of ₹47,000–54,000 per month.
- Research contingency grant of ₹50,000 per year, payable to the host institution.
- HRA (8%–24% depending on the city).
- Other benefits as per the GOI guidelines applicable to research fellowship/associateships.

#### Deadline

Applications are invited **twice a year**. Advertisements are released in national English newspapers, including in the North East, in the months of February and August every year.

#### Website

<https://ra.dbtindia.gov.in/> 



## **AWARD ANECDOTE**

### **DBT RESEARCH ASSOCIATESHIP**

**Ritam Chatterjee**



### **Benefits of the DBT Research Associateship**

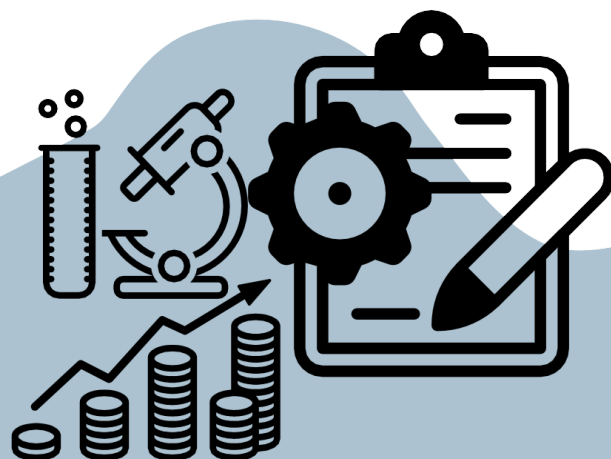
DBT Research Associateship has an unbiased, merit-based selection procedure. Since my tenure was during the COVID pandemic, the clarity of communication from the funding agency was reassuring amidst the uncertainty caused by the lockdown.

### **Things to consider while applying**

Since there is a two-stage selection procedure, it is important to edit the presentation carefully to include only the most pertinent details and adhere to the time limit strictly. Objectives of proposed projects must be attainable in a time-dependent manner.

### **Mistakes to avoid when applying**

Uncertainty regarding the proposed projects are frowned upon, the candidate should be able to inspire confidence among reviewers about their capacity to implement the proposed project.



### 3.1.2. SERB-National Postdoctoral Fellowship

The SERB-National Postdoctoral Fellowship (N-PDF) is aimed at identifying and supporting motivated young researchers to do research in frontier areas of science and engineering for a period of **two years**. The fellow will work under a mentor, providing them a platform to develop as an independent researcher.

#### Eligibility

- The applicant should be an Indian citizen.
- The applicant must have obtained a PhD/MD/MS degree from a recognized university.
- Applicants who have submitted their PhD/MD/MS thesis and are awaiting the award of the degree are also eligible to apply.
- The upper age limit for the fellowship is 35 years at the date of the application deadline. Age relaxation of 5 years will be given to candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/Physically Challenged and Women candidates.
- NPDP can be availed only once by a candidate in his/her career.

#### Support

- Fellowship — ₹55,000 per month + HRA (₹35,000 per month + HRA for candidates who have submitted the thesis but the degree is not awarded).
- Research Grant — ₹2,00,000 per year.
- Overheads — ₹1,00,000 per year.

#### Deadline

Calls for proposals for SERB-NPDF will be notified through <https://serbonline.in/SERB/HomePage> and [www.serb.gov.in](http://www.serb.gov.in).

#### Website

<https://serbonline.in/SERB/npdf> 

# AWARD ANECDOTE

## SERB NATIONAL POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

**Shalini Sanyal**



### Benefits of SERB N-PDF

SERB N-PDF gives early career researchers the chance to work on a topic of their choosing, which gives them the benefit of being able to expand on their expertise and hone their skills in a targeted manner.

### Things to consider while applying

Being a single-step selection protocol, it is vital to have a strong application that builds on the candidate's existing strengths while adding elements that expand their skill set.

### Mistakes to avoid when applying

Proposed experiments must align with the objectives listed. While expanding beyond expertise acquired during PhD tenure is appreciated, it is advisable to ensure that the existing skill set is not overlooked while drafting the proposed research plan.



### 3.1.3. Dr. D. S. Kothari Postdoctoral Fellowship

Dr. D. S. Kothari Postdoctoral Fellowship (DSKPDF) Scheme provides an opportunity for 500 young researchers so that they can continue their research and academic careers through the implementation of this scholarship. The PhD holders will be able to get the opportunity so they can master their skills and knowledge. The basic aim of this scholarship scheme is to encourage and popularize the research culture in India for a maximum duration of **three years**.

#### Eligibility

- The candidate must have a doctorate in the relevant subject preferably with published research work to their credit.
- Only the PhD awarded unemployed candidates will be eligible for the award of a Postdoctoral Fellowship.
- The upper age limit for applicants is 35 years, and relaxation in age for SC/ST/OBC/Women candidates is applicable as per Government of India Norms.
- Candidates must identify a Mentor (affiliated with a University/ Institute wherein DSK Fellowship is tenable) for Postdoctoral research work and obtain his/her consent for the mentorship.

#### Support

- ₹ 43,800/- pm for I year
- ₹ 45,000/- pm for II year
- ₹ 46,500/- pm for III year
- Contingency at ₹ 1,00,000/-p.a.
- The candidates' applicable HRA as per rules would be paid in case hostel accommodation is not available in the institution.

#### Deadline

There are no deadlines, and applications are received **throughout the year**.

#### Website

<https://dskpdf.ugc.ac.in/>



### 3.1.4. Early Career Fellowships (DBT/ Wellcome Trust India Alliance)

The DBT/ Wellcome Trust India Alliance offers funding for biomedical science from fundamental molecular and cellular studies through clinical and public health research for researchers at early, intermediate and senior stages of their careers for a period of **five years**.

#### 3.1.4.1. Basic Biomedical Research Fellowship

Basic Biomedical Fellowships are grouped into three categories:

- **Early Career Fellowship:** For Postdoctoral scientists who wish to undertake high-quality research and establish themselves as independent researchers in India.
- **Intermediate Fellowship:** For researchers who wish to establish an independent laboratory with a high-quality research programme in India.
- **Senior Fellowship:** For researchers who have demonstrated their ability to lead an independent research project and group.

#### Eligibility

- Applicants with Post-PhD experience ranging between 1 to 4 Years for Early Career and 4 to 15 Years for Intermediate Fellowships and Senior Fellowships are eligible.

#### Support

- Total Project Budget Limited to ₹1.7 / 3.6/ 4.5 Crores (for Early/Intermediate and Senior Fellowship respectively).
- Salary — ₹10.3 Lakhs / 13.8 Lakhs/ 16.1 Lakhs per year (for Early/Intermediate and Senior Fellowship respectively).
- Contingency — ₹2.5/ 7.5/ 10 Lakhs (for Early/Intermediate and Senior Fellowship respectively).
- Provision for recruiting one technical support staff, expenses for which have to be borne from the total project budget allotted.
- Additional expenses
  - consumables
  - support for work outside the host institution up to 24 Months (\$3000 per month subsistence in addition to personal support)
  - funding for travel to meetings up to ₹1.5 Lakhs/year

#### Deadline

The applications launch during July and close in the month of August.

#### Website

<https://indiaalliance.org/fellowshiptype/basic-biomedical-research-fellowships>



### 3.1.4.2. Clinical and Public Health Research Fellowship

Clinical and Public Health Research Fellowships (CPH) Fellowships in the Early Career category are open only to applicants who are clinicians and public health researchers starting their independent research career but require a fellowship supervisor to acquire skills, training and resources to complete their project. The duration of the fellowship is **five years**.

#### Eligibility

- Applicants must be in the final year of MD/MS/MPH/PhD studies or have up to four years of Postdoctoral/post-MD/post-MS/post-MPH or equivalent research experience.
- Applicants do not require a PhD to apply but must demonstrate commensurate research experience for the particular scheme.
- Qualifying clinical degrees must be recognised by the Medical Council of India.

#### Support

- Total Project Budget — Up to ₹1.9 / 3.8/ 4.7 Crores (for Early/Intermediate and Senior Fellowship respectively)
- Salary — Up to ₹13.4/ 16.8/ 19.5 Lakhs per year (for Early/Intermediate and Senior Fellowship respectively)
- Contingency — ₹2.5 / 7.5/ 10 Lakhs (for Early/Intermediate and Senior Fellowship respectively)
- Additional expenses:
  - consumables
  - support for work outside the host institution up to 24 Months (\$3000 per month subsistence in addition to personal support)
  - funding for travel to meetings ranging between ₹1.5- 2 Lakhs/year

#### Deadline

Applications open in the month of January and close in the month of February/March.

#### Website

<https://indiaalliance.org/fellowshiptype/clinical-and-public-health-research-fellowships>

Common link for both the categories- <https://www.indiaalliance.org/fellowships-at-a-glance> 

### 3.1.5. Fellowship Programmes (DHR)

The Human Resource Development Scheme of the Department of Health Research aims to create a pool of trained health research personnel in the country through programmes such as scholarships, fellowships and career advancement schemes targeting faculty, young medical doctors, and other scientists, to encourage them to take up medical and health research as a career.

The scheme also aims to create and support trainees from medical colleges to forge linkages with scientists from other universities and research institutes to develop **multidisciplinary** and multi-sectoral teams necessary for addressing critical national and local health problems.

Components of schemes for early career researchers are given below:

#### 3.1.5.1. Fellowship Programme for Young Scientists

The Human Resource Development Scheme of the Department of Health Research focuses on the creation of a cadre of trained medical or health researchers in specific identified priority areas of health research, including clinical trials, toxicology, biotechnology, stem cells, genetics.

As part of this scheme, the fellowship programme for Young Scientists offers opportunities to young researchers to work in cutting-edge areas of health research on a year-to-year basis, not exceeding three years, based on satisfactory progress and research output.

#### Eligibility

- Students pursuing a postgraduate degree such as MD/ MS/ MDS/ MBBS/ MPharma/ MTech/ MSc or PhD with a good academic record.
- Age limits: 35 years for Category A; and 30 years for Category B, calculated on the date of submission of the application.

#### Support

- **Category A** — Fellows who hold MD/ MS/ MDS/ or PhD in **biomedical** sciences
  - Stipend of ₹70,000 per month for Medical applicants
  - Stipend of ₹60,000 per month for Non-medical applicants
  - Contingency grant up to ₹10 lakhs per year
- **Category B** — Fellows who are MBBS/BDS/ MVSc Or MSc in bio-medical sciences and having at least 2 years working experience in biomedical field
  - Stipend of ₹55,000 per month for Medical applicants
  - Stipend of ₹50,000 per month for Non-medical applicants
  - Contingency grant up to Rs 10 lakhs per year

#### Deadline

Applications can be submitted online **throughout the year**.

#### Website

<https://dhr.gov.in/schemes/human-resource-development-health-research-hrd> 

### 3.1.5.2. Fellowship Programme for Women Scientists

Short/Long Term Training in Indian Institutes is awarded to women candidates (30-50 years) who have had a recent career break of at least 1 year in their career. The fellowship programme supports women scientists who have had a break in their careers to bring them into the mainstream of health research. This scheme encourages women scientists to pursue research in identified areas of **biomedical** or **health research**. The fellowship is tenable for a period of **three years**.

#### Eligibility

- Indian women citizens who are presently unemployed.
- Qualifications for Category-A: MD/ MS/ MDS or MBBS/ BDS/ MVSc/ MSc/ MPharma/ MTech or equivalent, with a PhD in a topic related to health research.
- Qualifications for Category-B: MBBS/BDS or MSc/ MPharma/ MTech or equivalent with a minimum of two years experience after the degree.
- Age group: 30-50 years, as of last date of receipt of application (Age relaxation of 5 years for candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC and physically challenged category).
- Minimum of 1 year break in career.

#### Support

##### Category A:

- Fellowship of ₹70,000 per month for Medical applicants.
- Fellowship of ₹60,000 per month for Non-medical applicants.
- Contingency grant up to ₹10 lakhs per year.

##### Category B:

- Fellowship of ₹55,000 per month for Medical applicants.
- Fellowship of ₹50,000 per month for Non-medical applicants.
- Contingency grant up to ₹10 lakhs per year.

#### Deadline

Applications can be submitted online **throughout the year**.

#### Website

<https://dhrrschemes.icmr.org.in/hrd>





### 3.1.6. Har Gobind Khorana Innovative Young Biotechnologist Fellowship (DBT)

This is an attractive, career-oriented scheme to identify and nurture outstanding young scientists, including Postdoctoral fellows, with innovative ideas, desirous of pursuing research in frontier areas of **biotechnology**, normally for a period of **three years**.

#### Eligibility

- The applicant should be an Indian Citizen.
- The applicant should have secured First Class in all academic degrees from the graduate level onwards.
- The applicant must have a PhD in any branch of life sciences, computational sciences (applied to biotechnology, medicine or biological sciences), veterinary sciences, pharmaceutical sciences and agricultural sciences. Master degree holders in medicine or dentistry (MD/MS/MDS or IMC designated equivalent) and engineering or technology (MTech or AICTE designated equivalent) are also eligible to apply.
- The applicant should have an excellent track record with at least a total of 4 journal publications as the first or corresponding author, two granted Indian patents, or one granted International patent.
- Age limit: 35 years of age on the last date of submission of application. Age relaxation of 5 years for Candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC, Women and Physically Handicapped Category.
- Fresh PhD scientists are strongly encouraged to apply if they meet the mandatory requirements.

#### Support

- The award shall cover both non-recurring and recurring financial grants for executing the innovative research plan proposed by the awardee.
- This includes equipment, computational and communication facilities up to ₹10 lakhs; consumables, contingencies and travel up to ₹10 lakhs per year; and manpower for one JRF or SRF or one Project Assistant/Associate Level I/II as per DBT rules.
- Additionally, a fellowship of ₹75,000 per month will be provided to awardees who do not have regular employment or are not drawing any other fellowship. Awardees having regular employment or availing of another fellowship will receive a cash award of ₹1,00,000 per year.

#### Deadline

The application opens once a year and closes in the month of June.

#### Website

<https://www.indiascienceandtechnology.gov.in/nurturing-minds/s-and-t-awards/national/innovative-young-biotechnologist-award-iyba>



### 3.1.7. Nehru Science Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (CSIR-HRDG)

CSIR-Nehru Science Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Scheme has been instituted to identify promising young researchers with innovative ideas and provide them with training and research opportunities in CSIR laboratories with state-of-art research and development facilities in niche areas of **basic science, engineering, medicine and agriculture**.

#### Eligibility

- Indian nationals, Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) and Overseas Citizens of India (OCI)
- Up to 20% of fellowships offered to foreign nationals.
- PhD degree holders within three years of award of PhD degree, or those who have submitted PhD theses.
- Applicants with research publications in high-impact factor SCI journals.
- Age limit: 32 years (can be relaxed up to 5 years for SC/ST/Physically handicapped or women candidates, and 3 years for OBC candidates).
- Eligible candidates must route their applications through the sponsoring CSIR laboratory. Applications of the employed (Permanent/Temporary) candidates from outside the CSIR system will only be considered provided that:
  - Director of the sponsoring laboratory recommends the application, citing the reasons of mutually benefitting the research in the CSIR laboratory vis-à-vis the organization of the applicant where he/she is a permanent/temporary employee.
  - Undertaking from the organization where employed that Extraordinary Leave (EoL) without pay will be granted for the entire tenure of the CSIR-Nehru Science Postdoctoral Research Fellowship if selected.


#### Support

- Fellowship of ₹65,000 per month, plus HRA (as admissible).
- Contingency grant of ₹3 lakhs per year (25% of contingency can be used for domestic and international travel including per diem expenses).
- CSIR offers 100 such fellowships every year for a period of **two years** (extendable for a maximum of one more year based on outstanding performance and recommendation from the Director of the CSIR lab where one is working).

#### Deadline

Applications are open throughout the year. However, the selections are made twice a year in the months of June and December.

#### Website

[HRDG- Nehru Science Postdoctoral research Fellowship](#) 

### 3.1.8. INSPIRE Faculty Fellowship Scheme (DST)

To provide attractive opportunities to young achievers for developing independent scientific profiles and launch them towards fulfilling long-term careers and, augment high-quality scientific manpower in scientific and educational institutions, especially the Central and State universities. INSPIRE Faculty Fellowship provides an opportunity to doctorates for carrying out independent research for a maximum period of **five years** however; it does not guarantee a regular position after 5 years.

#### Eligibility

##### Essential Criteria

- Indian citizens and People of Indian origin with PIO status having PhD degrees (in science, mathematics, engineering, pharmacy, medicine and agriculture-related subjects) from any recognized university in the world.
- Candidates should possess a minimum of 60% (or equivalent CGPA) marks throughout their academic profile starting from the Senior Secondary Examination (Class 12 onwards).
- Those who have submitted their PhD thesis and are awaiting the award of their degree shall also be eligible. However, selection for the Fellowship will be confirmed only after the PhD degree is awarded.
- The upper age limit as of 1st January of the respective year of advertisement, is 32 years for General Category. However, for SC, ST and Women candidates, the upper age limit will be 37 years. For persons with benchmark disabilities (Divyangjan with not less than 40 percent of a specified disability), the upper age limit will be 42 years.
- Publication(s) in highly reputed journals demonstrating outstanding research potential of the candidate.
- Those applicants who apply by choosing the new subject area ‘Translational Research in S&T’ need to have at least one patent granted.
- In case, ‘Translational Research in S&T’ is chosen as the subject area of research work, the research proposal must clearly outline the novelty of the deep-tech idea, the breakthroughs that the idea can create, the technology problems it can solve, the markets it can address, and its commercialization potential.
- In case of selection under the new subject area ‘Translational Research in S&T’, it is mandatory that the Host institution must be chosen as those S&T institutions which have Central/State Govt supported Technology Business Incubators (TBIs) so that the deep-tech research can be mentored and carried out in conjunction with the TBI. (For reference, applicants may visit <https://www.nstedb.com/List-NSTEDB-TBIs.htm>).
- Candidates who are employed in regular/contractual positions in India may also apply for INSPIRE Faculty Fellowship for improvement and enhancement in their career prospects but, upon selection, the candidates will need to resign (no lien or deputation or any type of leave would be accepted) from the current job and organization before taking up the INSPIRE Faculty

Fellowship. Candidates who get selected for regular positions in any institute/university after submission of the IFF application would be entitled to receive the Research Grant only as INSPIRE Faculty Fellows.

**Desirable Criteria:**

- Candidates who are within the top 1% in Class 12 examination, IIT-JEE rank holders, NEET etc., 1st rank holders either in graduation or post-graduation level university examinations.


**Support**

- Fellowship of ₹1,25,000 per month with ₹2000 increment every year at the time of entry. The consolidated amount of Rs.1,25,000/- per month is an all-inclusive fellowship and taxable as per the Indian IT Act.
- Research grant of ₹35 lakhs for 5 years (at the rate of ₹7 lakhs per year).

**Deadline**

Calls for applications are advertised once every year. Please check the website for details.

**Website**

<https://online-inspire.gov.in/> 

### 3.1.9. Research Associateship (CSIR)

The CSIR- Research Associateship supports bright young men and women for training in methods of research under the expert guidance of faculty members/ scientists working in University Departments/ Institutes of National Importance/National Laboratories and Institutes of CSIR in various fields of Science & Technology and Medical Sciences for a period of **three years**.

#### Eligibility

- Only Indian citizens residing in India are eligible for the award of research Fellowship/Associateships.
- Candidates with PhD (in any science or engineering subject) or MD/ MS/ MDS (in any medical science subject) or ME/ MTech/ MPharm/ MVSc with three years R&D experience as of the last date of application, evidenced from RAship or date of registration of PhD.
- Candidates who have submitted PhD thesis (science/ engineering) are also eligible for Research Associateship. Selection in such cases will be subject to the condition that PhD viva voce will be done and the candidate be either declared qualified for the award of PhD or awarded PhD degree, before the expiry of the validity of the award offer.
- The candidate applying for a Research Associateship must have at least one research publication in a standard refereed journal as listed in Journal Citation Reports (JCR).
- The upper age limit for applying for the award of RA is 35 years. The upper age limit can be relaxed up to 5 years in the case of applicants belonging to scheduled castes/ scheduled tribes, physically handicapped and women applicants, and 3 years in the case of OBC (Non-Creamy Layer candidates).


#### Support

- The consolidated stipend of RA will be one of the following:
  - a) ₹58,000 (fixed)
  - b) ₹61,000 (fixed)
  - c) ₹67,000 (fixed)
- An annual contingency grant of ₹20,000 per associate provided to the host University/ Institution.
- Stipend normally is fixed at ₹58,000, but selected RA may be provided with a higher stipend upon ample justification and recommendation from the discipline-wise Selection Committee with approval from the DG, CSIR.
- For maintaining and timely submission of the accounts of CSIR grants, the beneficiary University/Institution is entitled to claim from CSIR the overhead charges at the following rates.
  - For RAs: ₹500/- per year per fellow without any ceiling on the total amount.

#### Deadline

Calls for online applications are advertised **once every year** on an all-India basis through press advertisement; please check the website for details.

#### Website

<https://csirhrdg.res.in/Home/Index/1/Default/2683/56> 

## AWARD ANECDOTE

### CSIR RESEARCH ASSOCIATESHIP

**Aritri Dutta**



### Benefits of CSIR Research Associateship

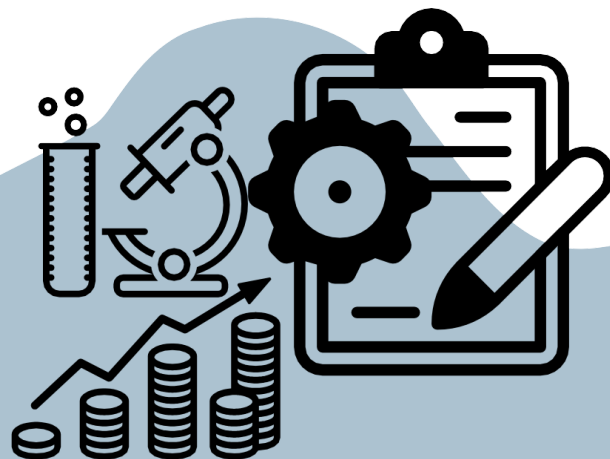
CSIR RA allowed me to develop my proposal with my prospective supervisor and gave me the independence to choose the lab and project that I was interested in. The yearly evaluation served as an additional source of motivation for me as my performance was judged to be “outstanding”.

### Things to consider while applying

Identifying a prospective lab that aligns with your interests at least 6 months before the call for applications opens gives one the time to develop a rigorous project- this is important since there is only one month before the deadline from the time the call for proposal opens.

### Mistakes to avoid when applying

The proposal should be drafted with attainable objectives in mind that can be demonstrated during yearly evaluations of progress.



### 3.1.10. Research Associateship (ICMR)

The Indian Council of Medical Research awards fellowships to young scientists to enable them to carry out research as Research Associates in the field of **biomedical sciences** at the permanent Institutes of the Council, other biomedical research institutes, medical colleges and Universities in India where adequate laboratories and other facilities to carry out research are available for a period of **three years**.


#### Eligibility

- Doctorate in Medicine MD/MDS, or PhD in any field with at least one publication in a Science Citation Indexed (SCI) journal or,
- Three years of research, teaching and design and development experience after M.VSc. /M. Pharma/ME/M.Tech with at least one research paper in a Science Citation Indexed (SCI) journal.
- Age limit is 40 years (Relaxed by 2 years in case of women candidates).

#### Support

- Stipend is 58,000/, 49,000/ and 54,000/ respectively for the first, second and third years.
- Candidates are eligible for HRA at 8%, 16% and 24% rate based on the city/ location of work in cases where hostel accommodation is not an option.
- Candidates are not eligible for DA.
- Candidates are eligible for medical allowance as applicable in implementing institutions.

#### Website

<https://epms.icmr.org.in/fellowshippage> 

### 3.1.11. Centenary Postdoctoral Fellowship (ICMR)

ICMR PDF Scheme is being instituted to foster high-quality research opportunities for promising fresh PhD/ MD/ MS holders in the cutting-edge areas of basic science, communicable and non-communicable diseases, and reproductive health including nutrition at ICMR Institutes/ Centers. Special focus will be on fundamental research in areas of science and other priority areas identified by ICMR.

#### Eligibility

- Fresh PhDs/ MD/ MS within three years of completing their PhD/ MD/ MS degree (awarded) as on the last date of the application and also those who have received their provisional PhD/ MD/ MS degree can apply. A degree copy is to be submitted on the last date of the application form.
- Note: Result notification/certificate or Viva-voce/ Thesis submitted notification will not be considered.
- The Postdoctoral proposed research work should be the continuation of the PhD or MD/MS research work. If not, then the application will not be considered.
- PDF Guide should have the minimum designation of Scientist-C grade.
- Postgraduate medical students are also permitted to carry out ICMR's PDF in MCI-recognized postgraduate medical colleges wherein a minimum of three batches have obtained their postgraduate degree.
- ICMR PDF is open to Indian nationals only.

#### Support

- ICMR PDFs will be paid a consolidated fellowship of ₹ 65,000/- per month w.e.f. 31-07-2020 (Order No. 1/2/2020-Admin-II, Dated, 31-07-2020) plus House Rent Allowance (HRA) as per Govt. of India rule, Non-Practicing allowance (NPA) as admissible and a contingency grant of ₹ 3.0 lakhs per annum.
- 25% of the contingency grant can be used for travel including per diem expenses (only for National travel, related to ICMR-PDF proposed research work only).

#### Deadline

The last date for application is 30th June and 31st December every year.

#### Website

<https://main.icmr.nic.in/content/Postdoctoral-research>





### 3.1.12. Biotechnology Career Advancement & Re-orientation Programme (DBT)

The Biotechnology Career Advancement and Re-orientation Programme (BioCARE) aims to build capacities for women scientists employed full-time in Universities and small research laboratories or unemployed women scientists after a career break to help them undertake independent R&D projects. The scheme is open for all areas of **life sciences** including **agriculture, veterinary science and medicine** and is awarded for a period of **three years**, with the possibility of an extension for two years after review.

#### Eligibility

- MD/ MTech/ PhD/ Equivalent degree in any branch of Life Sciences.
- Women scientists who are employed, unemployed, or are desirous of coming back after a break.
- Women scientists for whom it is the first grant. (Women scientists who have already availed any grant as a Principal Investigator from any Government funding agency including WOS -Women Scientists Scheme (A and B), and the Fast Track Scheme of DST are not eligible to apply).
- The age limit is 45 years.

#### Support

DBT-BioCARE provides support under two schemes:

- **Research Grant Opportunity (RGO):** A research grant is provided under this category for candidates having post PhD experience of more than 2 years.
- **Early Career Scientists (ECS) category:** Scientists having experience less than two years post PhD are eligible to apply for this research grant.

#### 1. For unemployed women scientists:

Provision for fellowship amount as a lump sum in the following 3 slabs (based on post PhD experience) under the Research Grant Opportunity (RGO):

- Grade-I (more than 2 years research/industrial experience) — ₹50,000 per month.
  - Grade II (more than 5 years of research/industrial experience) — ₹55,000 per month.
  - Grade III (more than 10 years of research/industrial experience) — ₹60,000 per month.
  - Early Career Scientists (ECS) category (less than 2 years of experience) — ₹50,000 per month.
2. **For employed grantees:** ₹10,000 per month as an incentive, in addition to the salary being received from the parent institute/university.
  3. The budget is restricted to ₹60 lakhs for 3 years for RGO and ₹40 lakhs for ECS (inclusive of manpower to be hired). Equipment costs should not exceed 30% of the total cost of the project.

#### Website

<https://rcb.res.in/DBTBioCARE/> 

## **AWARD ANECDOTE**

### **DBT-BioCARE**

**Rabia Hamid**



### **Benefits of DBT-BioCARE**

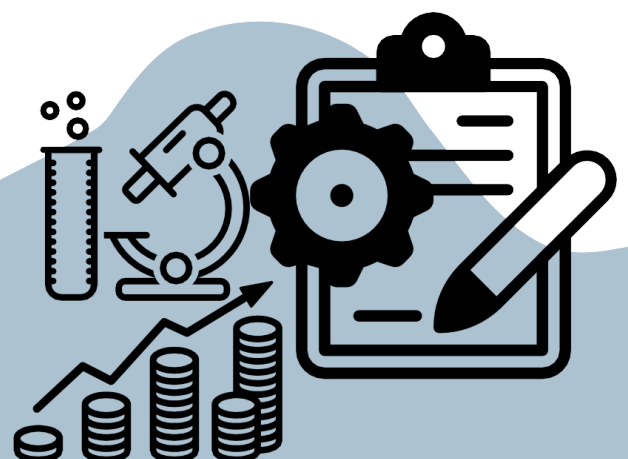
**DBT-BioCARE played a pivotal role in allowing me to establish my independent research team in terms of equipment and human resources.**

### **Things to consider while applying**

**Being a highly competitive fellowship, it is prudent to be logical and justify your hypothesis with scientific evidence.**

### **Mistakes to avoid when applying**

**Clarity of aims and objectives, methodology and expected outcomes are crucial for a successful application. A thorough review of the literature and goal-oriented timelines should be clearly mentioned in the proposal.**



### 3.1.13. Women Scientist Scheme (DST)

Under this scheme, women scientists are being encouraged to pursue research in frontier areas of science and engineering, on problems of societal relevance and to take up S&T-based internships followed by self-employment. Following three categories of fellowships, with research grants, are available for Indian citizen:

- **Women Scientist Scheme-A (WOS-A):** Research in Basic/Applied Science
- **Women Scientist Scheme-B (WOS-B):** S&T interventions for Societal Benefit
- **Women Scientist Scheme-C (WOS-C):** Internship in Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) for the Self-Employment

#### Eligibility

##### WOS-A and WOS-B:

- Minimum Post Graduate degree, equivalent to M.Sc. in Basic or Applied Sciences or B.Tech. or MBBS or other equivalent professional qualifications.
- M.Phil/M.Tech/M.Pharm/M.VSc or equivalent qualifications.
- PhD in Basic or Applied Sciences.

##### WOS-C:

- PhD in Basic or Applied Sciences.
- Age group: 27–57 years; Age relaxation of 5 years for candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC and physically challenged category candidates.
- Minimum 2 years of break in career.

#### Support

Support offered by Women Scientist Scheme depends on the candidate's qualifications and the scheme they are applying to:

| Scheme                           | Qualification  | Fellowship/month             | Project Cost                             |
|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| Women Scientist Scheme (WOS-A)   | PhD in Basic or Applied Sciences/MD or equivalent degree           | ₹55,000/-+HRA* as applicable | ₹30 lakh<br>(excluding HRA and Overhead) |
| and                              |  |                              |  |
| Women Scientist Scheme-B (WOS-B) | M.Phil/M.Tech/M.Pharm/M.VSc or equivalent degree                   | ₹40,000/-+HRA* as applicable | ₹25 lakh<br>(excluding HRA and Overhead) |
|                                  | M.Sc in Basic or Applied Sciences/MBBS/B.Tech or equivalent degree | ₹31,000/-+HRA* as applicable | ₹20 lakh<br>(excluding HRA and Overhead) |

|                                  |  |           |     |
|----------------------------------|--|-----------|-----|
| Women Scientist Scheme-C (WOS-C) | PhD in Basic or Applied Sciences/MD or equivalent degree           | ₹35,000/- | ... |
|                                  | M.Phil/M.Tech/M.Pharm/M.VSc or equivalent degree                   | ₹30,000/- | ... |
|                                  | M.Sc in Basic or Applied Sciences/MBBS/B.Tech or equivalent degree | ₹25,000/- | ... |

### Deadline

The scheme is open **throughout the year.**

### Website

<https://dst.gov.in/scientific-programmes/scientific-engineering-research/women-scientists-programs>



### 3.1.14. C V Raman Post-Doctoral Program (IISc)

The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) has been recognised as an Institution of Eminence (IoE) by the Government of India. As a part of the IoE initiative, IISc has created the Raman Post-Doctoral Program, a highly selective Postdoctoral program with 50 positions. A candidate applies for a specific Department or Centre at the Institute. The departments to which a candidate can apply in the **biological sciences** are Biochemistry; Centre for Ecological Sciences; Centre for Neuroscience; Microbiology and Cell Biology; Molecular Biophysics Unit; and Molecular Reproduction, Development and Genetics. The duration of the fellowship is for **one year**. In exceptional cases, the duration may be extended by one more year.

#### Eligibility

- PhD, with First Class or equivalent (in terms of grades etc.) in the preceding degree and a good academic record throughout.
- Candidates who are expecting to submit the PhD thesis shortly; applications will be considered only after thesis submission.
- Candidates less than 32 years of age at the time of application.
- Overseas Citizens of India (OCI), Persons of Indian Origin (PIO), and foreign nationals.

#### Support

- Consolidated monthly package of ₹1 lakh (inclusive of HRA).
- Research grant of ₹8 lakhs per year.

#### Deadline

- Candidates can apply any time during the year.
- All applications are reviewed once every three months around 31 March, 30 June, 30 September, and 31 December of a calendar year.

#### Website

<https://www.iisc.ac.in/post-docs/> 

### 3.1.15. IISc Institution of Eminence Postdoctoral Program (IoE)

The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) has been recognised as an Institution of Eminence (IoE) by the Government of India. The departments to which a candidate can apply in the **biological sciences** are Biochemistry; Centre for Ecological Sciences; Centre for Neuroscience; Microbiology and Cell Biology; Molecular Biophysics Unit; and Molecular Reproduction, Development and Genetics. The duration of the fellowship is for **one year**. In exceptional cases, the duration may be extended by one more year.

#### Eligibility

- PhD, with First Class or equivalent (in terms of grades etc.) in the preceding degree and a good academic record throughout.
- Candidates who are expecting to submit the PhD thesis shortly; applications will be considered only after thesis submission.
- Candidates less than 32 years of age at the time of application.
- Overseas Citizens of India (OCI), Persons of Indian Origin (PIO), and foreign nationals.

#### Support

- Selected candidates will receive ₹55,000 + HRA.
- Research grant of ₹2 Lakhs per year (Consumables, Contingency and Domestic Travel up to ₹50,000).

#### Deadline

- Candidates can apply any time during the year.
- All applications are reviewed once every three months around 31 March, 30 June, 30 September, and 31 December of a calendar year.

#### Website

<https://www.iisc.ac.in/post-docs/>



### 3.1.16. Campus Fellows Program (NCBS-TIFR)

The Campus Fellows Program is targeted at Postdoctoral scientists of exceptional talent, and supports them to drive new research directions in their host laboratories at NCBS or inStem, and to establish themselves as independent scientists. Campus Fellows are appointed for a maximum period of **four years**, contingent on a successful annual review every year.

#### Eligibility

- Candidates should not have more than 4 years of Postdoctoral research experience.
- Fellows must be sponsored by a local host who is a member of NCBS/ inStem Faculty.


#### Support

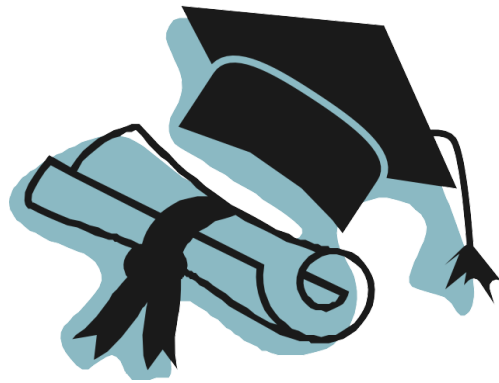
- The Fellowship provides a consolidated salary of ₹90,000 per month as well as campus housing.
- The program is flexible: Fellows may choose to hold a part of their fellowship off-campus for collaborative work and training relevant to their research. During their tenure, Fellows are also eligible to apply for external competitive awards.

#### Deadline

Applications are open **throughout the year**.

#### Website

<https://www.ncbs.res.in/academic/postdoc-cfp> 



# Postdoctoral Programmes

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*International*





### 3.2.1. Postdoctoral Fellowship (EMBO)

EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships are awarded to support excellent Postdoctoral researchers in laboratories throughout Europe and the world. International exchange is a key requirement. EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships also support the career development of the fellows through leadership courses and networking opportunities. EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships are awarded for a period of **two years**.

#### Eligibility

Applicants must:

- hold a doctorate degree or equivalent at the start of the fellowship.
- have obtained a PhD during the two years prior to the last date of application.
- have at least one first-author publication accepted in or published in an international peer-reviewed journal at the time of application (a first-author preprint with in-depth peer reviews publicly available from a trusted independent preprint peer review platform is also sufficient for eligibility).
- must apply to projects that involve movement between countries. All applications must involve a change of country.

#### Support

Within EMBC member countries, EMBO provides grants to the host institution that should be used to cover the cost of an employment contract to be issued by the host institution to the awardee. These costs include the employer's social contributions, the awardee's social contributions, taxes as required by national and local laws and regulations, and the net salary of the awardee.

EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships are awarded for a period of two years although shorter durations can be requested. The minimum fellowship duration that can be requested is one year. Fellowships must be started within one calendar year from the relevant evaluation cut-off.

**Childcare allowance:** For children under the age of six, fellows can claim support for incurred childcare costs up to the amount of €2500 per fellowship year for each child.

#### Relocation allowance:

Travel costs are based on a tiered system via an approximate distance travelled from the fellow's country at the time of application to the country in which the fellow's hosting laboratory resides, as indicated in the table below:

| Tier | Maximum Approximate Distance (in km) | Allowance (in euros) |
|------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1    | 1300                                 | 175                  |
| 2    | 4100                                 | 350                  |

|   |       |     |
|---|-------|-----|
| 3 | 7500  | 530 |
| 4 | >7500 | 700 |

EMBO will also pay for the travel cost of the fellow's legal partner and the fellow's children up to a maximum of 2000 euros (or equivalent local currency) per family.

### Deadline

Applications for EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships are accepted **throughout the year** and enter one of two evaluation cycles depending on the time of submission.

**Spring evaluation:** includes all eligible applications submitted by the second Friday of February, 14:00 Central European Time. Results for this round will be announced at the end of May or the beginning of June.

**Autumn evaluation:** includes all eligible applications submitted by the second Friday of August, 14:00 Central European Summer Time. Results for this round will be announced at the end of November or the beginning of December

### Website

<https://www.embo.org/funding/fellowships-grants-and-career-support/Postdoctoral-fellowships/applications/>



### Note:

As of 2023, five additional EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships are reserved for researchers applying to work in one of the following countries: Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Poland, Slovenia, and Türkiye.

### 3.2.2. Human Frontier Science Program Postdoctoral Fellowships (HFSP)

The Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP) fellowship program supports proposals for frontier, potentially transformative research in the **life sciences**. The projects should be **interdisciplinary** in nature and should challenge existing paradigms by using novel approaches and techniques. Scientifically, the projects should address an important problem or a barrier to progress in the field, and high-risk projects are encouraged. HFSP Postdoctoral fellowships encourage early career scientists to broaden their research skills by moving into new areas of study while working in a new country. The HFSP fellowships are for **three years**, with no possibility for renewal.

Two different fellowship programs are available:

#### 3.2.2.1 Long-Term Fellowship (LTF)

Long-Term Fellowships for applicants with a PhD in a biological discipline, who will broaden their expertise by proposing a project in the life sciences which is significantly different from their previous PhD or Postdoctoral work.

#### 3.2.2.2 Cross-Disciplinary Fellowship (CDF)

Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships are for applicants with a PhD from outside the life sciences (e.g. in physics, chemistry, mathematics, engineering or computer sciences).

### Eligibility

- **Nationality**

- A candidate who is not a national from one of the HFSP member countries may apply to work only in a research institution in one of the member countries.
- A candidate who is a national of one of the member countries can apply to work in a research institution in any country.
- Applicants must propose to work in a country different to the one where they did their previous PhD work or Postdoctoral studies. For those institutions that are not classified as national, i.e. international or extraterritorial institutions such as EMBL, ICPT or ICGEB, the country in which the laboratory is located will be considered the host country.

- **Doctoral degree**

A research doctorate (PhD) or a doctoral-level degree comparable to a PhD with equivalent experience in basic research (e.g. a research-based MD or medical PhD) must be conferred by the start of the fellowship. It is not required at the time of submission. The “conferral date” is the date on the official PhD document.

- **Research publications**

Applicants must have at least one lead author, full-length research paper - either accepted for publication, in press or published - in an international peer-reviewed journal or published on a pre-print server such as bioRxiv by the stipulated deadline in order to be eligible to apply.

Only publications written in English are taken into account. Review articles and patents are not taken into account. Electronic copies of lead author publications must be uploaded while preparing the application. They cannot be uploaded after the applicant has submitted.

### **Support**

Each fellowship is worth about ~ USD 225,000 spread over three years. Fellows are granted a living allowance as well as a research and travel allowance. Depending on their specific situation, fellows may also qualify to receive a child allowance, a parental leave allowance and a relocation allowance.

### **Deadline**

Applications for the HFSP Long-Term and Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships follow a two-step submission process via their online submission platform. Firstly, applicants submit a Letter of Intent (~May) from which the review committee selects the best proposals. In a second step, successful applicants are invited to submit a Full Proposal (~September). Applications are invited **once a year**.

### **Website**

<https://www.hfsp.org/funding/hfsp-funding/Postdoctoral-fellowships>



### 3.2.3. Newton International Fellowships

The Newton International Fellowships provides support to outstanding early career researchers for **three years** of funding to attract international early career researchers to establish and conduct their research in a UK host organisation. Newton International Fellowships are made available by The Royal Society and British Academy.

#### Eligibility

- Applicants should have no more than seven years of active full-time Postdoctoral experience at the time of application, including teaching experience, time spent in industry on research, honorary positions and/or visiting researcher positions. Career breaks must be detailed and explained in the application, for example, “Start and end dates - career break – maternity/paternity leave”.
- Applicants should be working outside the UK and should not hold UK citizenship at the time of application.
- Applicants who are not currently employed are still eligible but will need to provide details of their previous supervisor.
- Individuals already living, working or undertaking research in the UK are not eligible to apply. Individuals who have lived, worked or undertaken research in the UK in the 12 months prior to the application deadline are not eligible to apply, with the exception of short-term visits of less than three months in total and applicants who are refugees in the UK according to the Geneva Convention. Individuals working outside the UK but employed by a UK organisation are also not eligible to apply. Applications from individuals who have not studied or worked in the UK previously are encouraged as the scheme aims to establish new links between the applicant and the UK.
- Applicants who completed their PhD at a UK organisation must have been working and based outside the UK for at least one year at the deadline for the application.
- Research topics must fall under the Royal Society’s remit of natural sciences, which includes but is not limited to biological research, chemistry, engineering, mathematics and physics.


#### Support

Applicants are permitted to apply for up to £420,000. This is a maximum value over **three years** (i.e. the total contribution requested from the Society may not exceed £420,000).

#### Deadline

The Newton International Fellowship is a single-step application with the call opening ~January and closing in ~March, with the results announced in ~September.

#### Website

<https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/grants/newton-international/> 

### 3.2.4. Humboldt Research Fellowship

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation enables highly qualified scientists and scholars from abroad who are just embarking on their academic careers and who completed their doctorates less than four years ago to spend extended periods of research in Germany. A Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral researchers allows you to carry out long-term research (6-24 months for Postdoctoral Fellows) and (6-18 months for Experienced Fellows) in Germany. Scientists and scholars from all disciplines and countries may apply.

#### Eligibility

- Candidates with a Doctorate or comparable academic degree (PhD, CSc, or equivalent), completed less than four years prior to the date of application.
- Candidates who have nearly completed their doctoral degrees (at the earliest, 6 months prior to the completion of their dissertation), provided that they submit a brief summary of their dissertation or publications containing the results of their dissertation.
- Candidates with academic publications reviewed according to international standards and printed in journals and/or by publishing houses.
- Confirmation that research facilities are available and mentoring agreement and a detailed expert's statement by an academic host at a research institution in Germany.
- Expert reviews from the doctoral supervisor and one other academic qualified to give well-founded comments on the applicant's qualification, preferably including reviewers not working at the applicant's own institute.
- Necessary language skills:
  - humanities or social sciences and medicine: good knowledge of German if it is necessary to carry out the research successfully; otherwise a good knowledge of English.
  - natural sciences and engineering: good knowledge of German or English.

#### Support

- The fellowship provides €2,670 ( per month for Postdoctoral Fellows) or €3,170 (for Experienced Fellows, which may be divided in up to 3 stays within 3 years). This includes a mobility lump sum and a contribution towards health and liability insurance.
- The fellowship provides for additional expenses including a lump sum for travel, family allowance, and extensive alumni support.

#### Deadline

Applications are invited throughout the year and reviewed every March, July and November.

#### Website

[www.humboldt-foundation.de/en/apply/sponsorship-programmes/humboldt-research-fellowship](http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/en/apply/sponsorship-programmes/humboldt-research-fellowship)



### 3.2.5. MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship

Part of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) are meant for experienced researchers looking to boost their careers by working abroad. These fellowships last for **one to two years**. The Horizon Europe (2021-2027) scheme has MSCA-PFs classified under two major types:

#### European Postdoctoral Fellowship

- are open to experienced researchers interested in developing their own research project.
- researchers of any nationality who wish to engage in R&I projects by either coming to Europe from any country in the world or moving within Europe.
- can restart a research career after a break, such as parental leave.
- The standard duration of these fellowships must be between 12 and 24 months.
- researchers will need to develop an application jointly with the chosen host organisation and submit it before the deadline.

#### Global Postdoctoral Fellowship

- open to European nationals or long-term residents who wish to engage in R&I projects with organisations outside EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries.
- have an outgoing phase of 12 to 24 months in a non-associated Third Country,
- have a mandatory 12-month return phase to a host organisation based in an EU Member State or a Horizon Europe Associated Country.

#### Eligibility

- Experienced researchers from across the world.
- Applicants with a doctoral degree and a maximum of eight years post-PhD research experience by the time of the call deadline.
- Applicants should not be residing/ have resided for a total of one year (in the three years leading up to the application) in the country they are planning to move to.

#### Support

- The grant provides an allowance to cover living, travel and family costs based on the country. In addition, the EU contributes to the training, networking and research costs of the fellow, as well as to the management and indirect costs of the project. The grant is awarded to the host organisation, usually a university, research centre or a company in Europe.
- Fellowships are to the value of €5,080 per month gross (depending on the host country), plus €600 mobility allowance and (if applicable) a €660 family allowance, as well as management and indirect costs (overheads).

#### Deadline

It is a single-screening application that opens once a year (~April/May) and closes ~September.

#### Website

<https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/actions/Postdoctoral-fellowships>



# AWARD ANECDOTE

## MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

**Rachana Acharya**



### Benefits of MSCA-PF

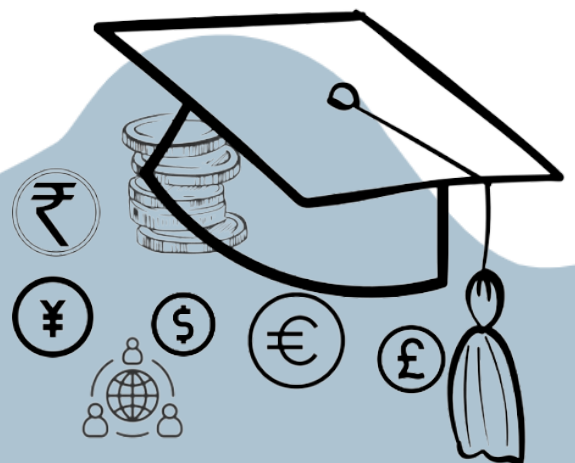
The MSCA-PF has an extensive budget and expense provision, it also gives full academic and research freedom.

### Things to consider while applying

MSCA focuses heavily on interdisciplinary research, so it's essential to enhance every proposal point with references and details to demonstrate preparedness.

### Mistakes to avoid when applying

MSCA-PF places considerable importance on knowledge transfer between the supervisor and researcher. It is important that you bring your own expertise and value addition to the existing host institution, but also simultaneously use their resources to your benefit. Furthermore, this needs to be clearly detailed in your proposal.





### 3.2.6. Postdoctoral Intramural Research Training Awards (NIH)

Postdoctoral training in the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Intramural Research Program (IRP) provides the opportunity for recent doctoral degree recipients to enhance their research skills in the resource-rich National Institutes of Health (NIH) environment while pursuing **basic, translational, and clinical research**.

#### Eligibility

- U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents, and **international applicants** are eligible for the program. In addition, you must have received your doctoral degree (PhD, MD, DDS, or equivalent) within five years of starting the program.
- One must also be able to pass a federal background check.

#### Support

- The stipends for Postdoctoral trainees at the NIH are adjusted yearly; with supplements for prior experience, multiple degrees, and expertise in areas of current interest to the NIH such as mathematics, engineering, chemistry, and bioinformatics.
- Benefits include health insurance for the trainee and his/her family, and support for coursework related to the trainee's research and travel to meetings is often available.

#### Deadline

The applications are accepted **year-round**. It is recommended to apply at least nine months prior to your preferred start date.

#### Website

<https://www.training.nih.gov/Postdoctoral/vf.asp>



### 3.2.7. Sydney Horizon Fellowships

The fellowships by the University of Sydney intended to empower up to 40 of the world's best and brightest emerging academics to undertake innovative research that will build our understanding of, and resilience to, climate change; improve health outcomes; and create a more sustainable world.

#### Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Have less than ten years since the award of their PhD (or equivalent) at the closing date of the application, relative to opportunity.
- Commit to working on the Fellowship from the agreed start date of the award.
- Applicants need ORCID (not mandatory).

#### Support

Each successful applicant will receive:

- a continuing position (subject to confirmation) that starts with a **five-year** research-focused fellowship, which includes training and mentorship to develop academic leadership skills and up to Australian\$100,000 per annum in research funding.
- a competitive salary, ranging from Australian \$113,000-\$160,000 + 17% superannuation (pension fund).

#### Deadline

Closes early ~July. Please check the website for details.

#### Website

[sydney.edu.au/research/research-funding/research-fellowships/sydney-horizon-fellowships.html](https://sydney.edu.au/research/research-funding/research-fellowships/sydney-horizon-fellowships.html)



### 3.2.8. Life Science Research Foundation Fellowship

The Life Science Research Foundation (LSRF) fellowship provides **three years** of support to a named Postdoctoral researcher at a non-profit university or research institution. The award is paid to the university or research institution where the researcher is carrying out their project and is solely for the benefit of the named researcher.

#### Eligibility

- U.S. citizens are eligible to work in any geographic location. Non-U.S. citizens must carry out their proposed Postdoctoral research in a U.S. laboratory.
- Applicants must apply within 5 years of receiving their PhD (or MD/DVM whichever was awarded later).
- You must have begun (or will begin) working in your proposed postdoc lab within the stipulated time.
- The application requires a letter of acceptance from your proposed Postdoctoral supervisor (the Principal Investigator of the lab where you will conduct your Postdoctoral training).
- You must complete your Postdoctoral training in a lab different from that of your graduate (thesis) lab.

#### Support

The total award amount effective August 2023 is \$231,000 (\$77,000/year). The awardee's salary/stipend total is \$198,000 (\$66,000/year) and a research allowance of \$33,000 (\$11,000/year) is provided. The award is not activated until LSRF receives the signed Institutional Agreement from the institutional officer who will administer the award. The award activation date is August 1st.

#### Deadline

The application submission deadline is ~September/October of each year. Please check the website for details.

#### Website

<https://lsrf.org/> 

### 3.2.9. Research Grants and Fellowships Program (Prevent Cancer Foundation)

The Prevent Cancer Foundation supports research that demonstrates potential for impact on **cancer prevention and early detection**. The Foundation defines cancer prevention as the “reduction of cancer incidence through research, education and early detection”.

#### Eligibility

- Applicants must submit proposals electronically through ProposalCENTRAL, an electronic grant management system by Altum, Inc.
- Proposals must fall within the scope of the Foundation’s mission and funding priorities to be considered; specifically review the criteria outlined in the Important Information for Applicants section (above).
- Fellowship support should be requested by the potential Fellow (who is considered the applicant for the project) and not by the Mentor.
- The Fellow should have only one primary Mentor. A letter of support from the Mentor is required. The letter should describe the support that the Mentor will provide in all aspects of the Fellowship, including supervision of coursework, the career development plan for the next 3 years and the benefits that the training environment will offer to the Fellowship applicant. Letters of support from fellowship mentors are required to address the independent contributions of the fellowship applicant.


#### Support

Grants will be awarded for two years at \$50,000 per year, for a total of \$100,000.

#### Deadline

The application deadline is ~July. Please check the website for details.

#### Website

<https://www.preventcancer.org/research/grants-fellowships/> 

### 3.2.10. Alfred Deakin Postdoctoral Research Fellowship

The Alfred Deakin Postdoctoral Research Fellowships (ADPRF) are intended to build research and innovation capability and excellence and create impact in strategic priority research strengths at Deakin University.

#### **Eligibility**

Applicants for 2024 must have been awarded a PhD on or after 1st January 2020. (Please check the updated eligibility criteria on the website)

#### **Support**

The Fellowship provides 2 years of salary support from Level A, Step 6 up to the top level of Level B classification, commensurate with experiences (ranges from \$92,891- \$123,739 per annum)

Successful Fellows also receive a one-off research support grant of \$15,000, to be used throughout the fellowship.

#### **Deadline**

Applications open in ~July and close in ~August. Please check the website for details.

#### **Website**

[deakin.edu.au/research/support-for-researchers/project-funding/deakin-university-funding/adprf](https://deakin.edu.au/research/support-for-researchers/project-funding/deakin-university-funding/adprf) 

### 3.2.11. Postdoctoral Fellowships (Beckman Institute)

Three annual Postdoctoral fellowship programs that support outstanding scientists offer a unique opportunity for selected scholars to engage in a three-year fellowship of interdisciplinary research at the Beckman Institute:

- The Beckman Institute Postdoctoral Fellows Program recruits four to six outstanding scientists annually to work at the Beckman Institute. The program was established in 1991 by the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation.
- The Beckman-Brown Interdisciplinary Postdoctoral Fellows Program selects one outstanding researcher annually. The program was initiated in the fall of 2015 when the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation provided an endowment in honour of Dr. and Mrs. Arnold Beckman and the founding director of the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology, Dr. Theodore “Ted” Brown.
- The Cancer Center at Illinois – Beckman Institute Postdoctoral Fellows Program supports up to two fellows who would like to pursue projects bridging basic cancer sciences and engineering. Fellows work with faculty mentors from CCIL and Beckman Institute to develop trans-disciplinary skills that support their career development.

#### Eligibility

- PhD degree or equivalent within the last 10 years.
- Relevance of the proposed research plan to the portfolio of the Beckman Institute.
- Application package includes four letters of reference:
  - Two letters regarding the applicant’s prior work experience.
  - Two letters from the proposed Beckman Institute faculty mentors/collaborators, with at least one being a full-time or part-time member of the Beckman Institute faculty.
  - Letters from proposed Beckman Institute faculty mentors/collaborators should explain how the faculty member intends to support the applicant’s research plan.

#### Support

Funding for a Beckman Institute Postdoctoral Fellowship consists of an annual salary starting at \$63,000 and a one-time \$25,000 research budget to cover:


- Relocation expenses (\$2,000 maximum, first year only).
- Research supplies.
- Facility use/service charges.
- Equipment.
- Training workshops.
- Support for interdisciplinary collaborations.
- Travel between collaborating institutions.
- Travel to scientific/technical meetings.

Additionally, Beckman Institute Postdoctoral fellows are hired as Postdoctoral research associates and therefore may be eligible for University of Illinois health insurance benefits through the state of Illinois. The Beckman Institute would also provide H-1B or J-1 visa sponsorship for those individuals who are selected to the Beckman Institute Postdoctoral Fellowship Program and are eligible for said sponsorship

**Deadline**

Applications open in the Fall. For 2024 the deadline to apply is 5 p.m. CST Monday, Nov. 20, 2023. Please check the website for details.

**Website**

<https://beckman.illinois.edu/research/fellowships-and-awards/Postdoctoral-fellows-program> 

### 3.2.12. Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships

Each year the Swiss Confederation awards Government Excellence Scholarships to promote international exchange and research cooperation between Switzerland and over 180 other countries. Recipients are selected by the awarding body, the Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students (FCS).

#### Eligibility

- PhD degree achieved after 31 December 2020 and before 31 July 2024 (except ETH Zurich: 30 June 2024). PhD degree certificate completed.
- A research proposal including a timeframe.
- Mandatory letter from an academic host professor (including their short CV).


#### Support

- The scholarship amounts to a monthly payment of CHF 3,500.
- The scholarship amount covers the living costs of one person only.
- This scholarship is not a salary.

#### Deadline

Applications are accepted **once a year** ~September. Please check the website for details.

#### Website

[sbfi.admin.ch/sbfi/en/home/education/scholarships-and-grants/swiss-government-excellence-scholarships.html#632937668](https://sbfi.admin.ch/sbfi/en/home/education/scholarships-and-grants/swiss-government-excellence-scholarships.html#632937668) 



### 3.2.13. Jane Coffin Childs Memorial Fund

The Jane Coffin Childs Memorial Fund for Medical Research (JCC Fund) was established by the Childs Family in 1937, to honor the memory of Jane Coffin Childs. Inspired by the founding purpose to support research into the causes and treatment of cancer, the Fund's mission has broadened to support fundamental scientific research that advances our understanding of the **causes, treatments, and cures for human disease**.

#### Eligibility

- Postdoctoral applicants should have no more than 18 months of Postdoctoral research experience at the time of the application deadline. Please note that dual degree MD-PhD applicants should contact the program office ([jccfund@yale.edu](mailto:jccfund@yale.edu)) regarding extended timeline criteria.
- PhD degree must not have been conferred more than 24 months prior to the application deadline. Please note that dual degree MD-PhD applicants should contact the program office ([jccfund@yale.edu](mailto:jccfund@yale.edu)) regarding extended timeline criteria.
- The MD degree should not have been conferred more than three years before the application deadline.
- PhD candidates who do not have their degree at the time of the application deadline are eligible to apply. If awarded, the applicant's PhD degree must be conferred prior to the start of the Fellowship.
- Postdoctoral training in the same institution in which the applicant received their PhD is not preferred. Particularly, if it is in the same department. In the appropriate section of the application, please address this situation if you are proposing training either in the same institution or with the same department as your graduate work. Proposals that are in the same laboratory where the fellow received their PhD will not be funded.
- Applicants who have accepted a Postdoctoral research fellowship award are not eligible. (Candidates may hold a T32 at the time of application, but not concurrently with the Jane Coffin Childs Award.) Fellows may obtain additional awards or grants to cover research expenses only, but not stipends.
- Applicants must have identified a sponsoring laboratory and sponsoring institution prior to applying.
- Applicants may be citizens of any country, but awards for non-U.S. citizens can only be made to sponsoring institutions in the United States.
- No more than one Fellow per sponsor's laboratory will be funded per award year. Multiple fellows may be funded in the same sponsor's laboratory over multiple award years.

## Support

- The basic stipend is \$70,000 for the first year, \$72,000 for the second year, and \$74,000 the third year.
- An additional \$1,000 of stipend support is provided annually per dependent child under the age of 18.
- An allowance of \$2,000 a year toward the cost of the research will be made available to the laboratory sponsoring the fellow. The research allowance is not to be used for travel and the use of the research funds are left to the discrepancy of the fellow and sponsor.
- The fellow may be reimbursed up to \$1,800 total for travel to scientific meetings. Travel funding is to be spent over the three-year fellowship according to the Jane Coffin Childs Fund travel policy that is distributed to fellows at the time of award notification.
- The Fund provides a one-time relocation award for the fellow and their family to move to the sponsoring laboratory, capped at \$500.
- In 2008, The Joan A. Steitz Fund of the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven was established as an Endowed Designated Fund for the benefit of Jane Coffin Childs Memorial Fund to provide stipends for child care to all fellows with dependents under the age of 18. There is no application or paperwork due on the part of the fellow and further information will be provided to awardees at the time of award.
- Second and third-year funding of awards is contingent upon the submission of an annual fiscal and narrative report.

## Deadline

Applications open in ~October and close in ~February. Please check the website for details.

## Website

<https://www.jccfund.org/about-fund/> 

### 3.2.14. The Branco Weiss Fellowship

The Branco Weiss Fellowship – Society in Science is a community of exceptional young scientists who share a passion for taking research beyond the mainstream. Fellows are given the means to pursue their personal vision of a particular scientific project independently – in the best possible locations, anywhere in the world, for up to **five years**.

This research fellowship is designed to support Postdoctoral researchers after their PhD and before their first faculty appointment. Those in current Postdoctoral positions are also eligible. Ideally, fellows pursue unconventional projects in new areas of science, engineering and social sciences. The fellowship is awarded in two instalments for a total of five years:

- The **pioneer phase**: the first two years of research
- The **exploitation phase**: the remaining three years

#### Eligibility

The ideal applicant has the competencies to design a surprisingly novel and scientifically rigorous research project which blazes new trails, profiting from the freedom uniquely offered by the fellowship. The applicant:

- should hold a PhD on the stipulated date.
- should have obtained the PhD a maximum of five years prior to the stipulated date.
- should not hold or have held a faculty-equivalent position (e.g. assistant professor or lecturer).
- propose a project that departs from the mainstream of research in their discipline.
- must have a record of outstanding scientific achievement.
- must demonstrate in the proposal, a willingness to engage in a dialogue on relevant social, cultural, political or economic issues across the frontiers of their particular discipline.

The following reasons for delays after obtaining PhD are acceptable:

- parental leave (maximum of one year per child).
- inability to work due to illness or accident.

Applicants must explain their reasons for applying for an extension and provide the relevant documents. The number of weeks that the research work was interrupted is accepted as an extension.

#### Support

A Branco Weiss Fellowship consists of CHF 600,000 for up to **five years**. It may be used to cover all legitimate costs of research (i.e. salary and/or equipment, travel expenses, consumables, personnel, etc.).

#### Deadline

The applications are open **once a year**. The registration portal for the 2024 fellowship intake is open from October 1, 2023, and will close on January 15, 2024, at 5 p.m. CET.

#### Website

<https://brancoweissfellowship.org/> 

### 3.2.15. IGSTC Fellowship

Indo-German Science & Technology Centre (IGSTC), established by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Government of Germany facilitates Indo-German research, development and innovation networking through substantive interactions among government, academia/research system and industry to foster innovation for the overall economic and societal developments of both the countries.

#### Eligibility

- The applicant must be an Indian citizen.
- The application should be submitted online using the portal on IGSTC website at [www.igstc.org](http://www.igstc.org). Submissions by other mechanisms will not be accepted.
- The applicant must define a detailed activity plan containing the objective, execution strategy and expected outcome for the fellowship duration.
- In both the Fellowships, the awardee will be hosted by the industry/industrial research organization for the duration of the Fellowship. Choice and acceptance from the industry/industrial research organization is the sole responsibility of the applicant. The applicant should ensure an endorsement/consent letter from the host industry/organisation at the time of the application.
- The applicant having institutional affiliation shall submit NOC from the Head of the institution at the time of application.
- Applicants shall submit a recommendation letter from the mentor at the parent organisation.
- Postdoctoral Industrial Fellowship applicants not having affiliation with an institution may submit 2 letters of reference.
- Applicants must be under the age of 35 years at the time of the submission of the proposal.

#### Support

The financial support will be limited to:

- Postdoctoral Industrial Fellowship: € 2500 per month.
- Single round trip economy class airfare including visa fees and travel insurance: up to € 1000.
- Health Insurance: As per actuals with a maximum limit of € 100/month.

#### Deadline

Fellowships open **once a year**, please check the website for details.

#### Website

[https://www.igstc.org/home/industrial\\_fellowships\\_guidelines/](https://www.igstc.org/home/industrial_fellowships_guidelines/) 

# AWARD ANECDOTE

## IGSTC-POSTDOCTORAL INDUSTRIAL FELLOWSHIP

**Jaladhi Sanjaykumar Trivedi**



### Benefits of IGSTC Industrial PDF

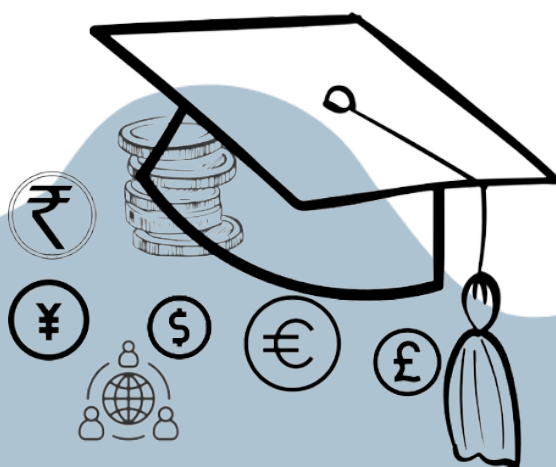
The IGSTC Industrial Postdoctoral Fellowship provides young Indian researchers a chance to work with leading scientific faculty in Germany, allowing them to expand their horizons and gain valuable experience.

### Things to consider while applying

Utilising your existing knowledge while applying for the fellowship is essential, so prepare an application based on your core area of expertise. Also, research areas which directly resolve issues faced by the common man are preferred.

### Mistakes to avoid when applying

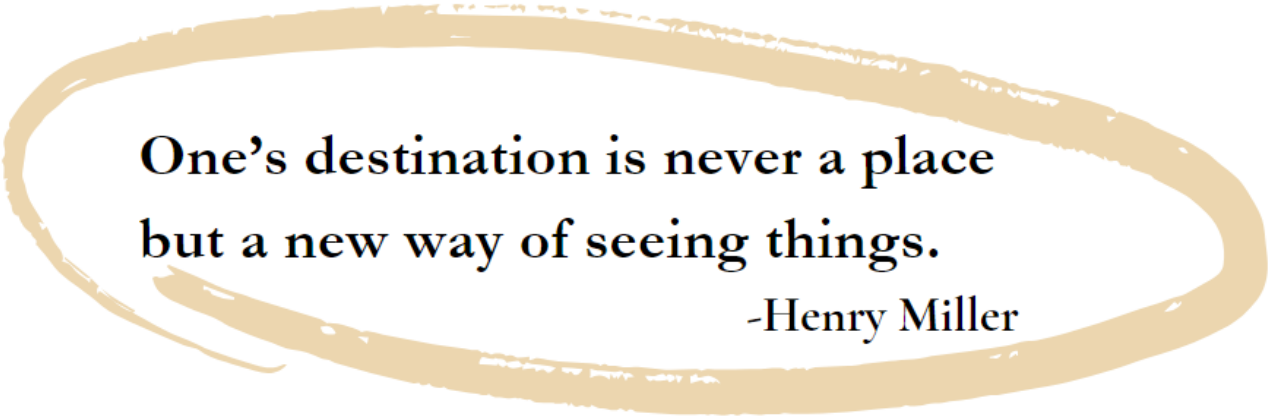
Since these are industrial fellowships that catalyse innovation, through collaborations between research/academic institutes and public/private industry, one should pay attention to societal requirements from the scientific community for modern challenges. However, do not overlook your existing area of expertise while drafting the application.



# Travel Awards



## 4. Travel Awards



**One's destination is never a place  
but a new way of seeing things.**

**-Henry Miller**

Meetings, conferences and short-term exchanges provide platforms for scientific development by facilitating collaborations, discussions, exposure to scientific developments, and space to highlight one's research. As Saint Augustine famously noted, "*The world is a book and those who do not travel read only a page*". Experiencing working systems, scientific schools of thought and cultures through travel to conferences and symposia or for short-term training experiences is an important professional aspect of the academic scholar.

In this section, you will find the details of travel awards available to Indian PhD students and Postdoctoral researchers in the life sciences to attend conferences, meetings, workshops, and short-term research exchanges in India and abroad.

## 4.1. Funding schemes to attend meetings/conferences

### 4.1.1. Travel Support Scheme (DBT)

DBT's Travel Support Scheme provides financial assistance to scientists and researchers involved in Biotechnology for presenting their research papers at international events being held outside India. The event should be of an international nature sponsored by foreign governments, international organizations or institutions under the aegis of multilateral, regional or bilateral arrangements.

#### Eligibility

- Active researcher engaged in research and development and promotion of biotechnology
- Preference to scientists below the age of 50 years.
- Minimum educational qualification: Postgraduate in science or Bachelor's degree in engineering/technology or equivalent.
- Scientists with a paper accepted for presentation as a single or lead author.
- The applicant should not have availed of financial assistance for travel support from Govt. in the last three financial years.

#### Support

The scheme provides up to full reimbursement of the actual return airfare in economy/excursion class by Air India to applicants from the nearest airport to the place of work in India to the venue of the event. In all cases of air travel where the Government of India bears the cost of air passage, air tickets shall be purchased from the three Authorised Travel Agents (please check the website for updates regarding Authorised Travel Agents) viz.

- M/s Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited (BLCL).
- M/s Ashok Travels & Tours (ATT).
- Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC).

If the tickets are not purchased from the above authorized agents, the travel grant will be restricted to the following slabs:

The upper limits for the grant are as below:

- America, Australia, Canada, South Africa — ₹60,000 for a full ticket.
- Europe, China and Russia — ₹40,000.
- South Asian Countries — ₹30,000.

#### Deadline

The applications are open **throughout the year**.

Applications must be submitted at least 12 weeks in advance but not more than 24 weeks in advance.

Travel claims should be submitted with complete documents within 3 months (90 days) from the completion of the event for which travel is undertaken. Any claim received beyond three months will not be entertained.

#### Website

<https://www.dbtctep.gov.in/staticTravelGuidelines.htm>





#### 4.1.2. Travel Grant Scheme (CSIR)

The scheme is aimed at providing financial assistance to researchers for participating and presenting their research papers at international scientific events.

##### Eligibility

- The applicant should be an active Young Indian Researcher (PhD student, Research Associate, Resident & Doctor, etc.) or Emeritus Scientist/ other non-regular researcher engaged in research and development.
- Minimum educational qualification is a postgraduate degree in science or a Bachelor's degree in engineering/technology/ medicine or equivalent qualification from a recognized university or institution.
- The applicant should not have availed of financial assistance for travel support from CSIR in the last 3 years.
- The applicant should have published paper(s) in refereed journals.
- The applicant should have an accepted paper for presentation as a single or lead author, or have received an invitation as a Keynote Speaker or to chair a session, at the event.

##### Support

The scheme provides up to full reimbursement of the actual return airfare from the place of work in India to the venue of the event. The journey should be undertaken by the shortest route in excursion/economy class by Air India.

##### Deadline

Application form must reach CSIR-HRDG between **two-four months** before the event.

##### Website

<https://csirhrdg.res.in/Home/Index/1/InPage/51/14> 

### 4.1.3. International Travel Scheme (SERB)

The International Travel Support (ITS) Scheme provides financial assistance to Indian researchers for presenting a research paper in an international scientific event held abroad. In addition, support is also provided to young scientists (age limit below 35 years as on the date of start of the event) for attending training programmes, short-term schools and workshops.

#### Eligibility

- The applicant should be an active Indian researcher engaged in R&D work in recognized academic institutions or research laboratories in India.
- The applicant should have an invitation to present an original scientific paper at the event, or an invitation to attend the training programme, for which support is being requested.
- The applicant should not have availed of financial assistance under this scheme during the last three years.
- It should be an international event; invitations of a personal nature such as for carrying out Postdoctoral work, informal training programmes/courses, internship, observer-ship etc. will not be eligible for support.
- The applicant must have obtained a Master's degree in science or a Bachelor's degree in professional courses from a recognized university at the time of submission of the application.

#### Support

- Return economy class airfare by the shortest route, airport tax and visa fees for attending the specific event.
- Full registration fee or ₹50,000 whichever is less, for young scientists (Age < 35 on the date of the start of the event).

#### Deadline

The researchers are required to apply online through the portal between 60–90 days in advance prior to the start date of the event. The system will not accept early or late submission of applications.

#### Website

<https://serbonline.in/2SERB/its> 

## **AWARD ANECDOTE**

### **INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL SCHEME (SERB-ITS)**

**Muhammad Nihad AS**



### **Benefits of SERB-ITS**

SERB-ITS covers flight tickets, visa fees and registration fees for the conference; SERB-ITS covers the most number of expenses among the international travel grants offered in India.

### **Things to consider while applying**

Accepted abstract for presentation at a reputed international conference along with justification of the benefits of attending the same as essential while applying for this award.

### **Mistakes to avoid when applying**

Clearly demonstrate how the proposed travel aligns with your research goals and contributes towards the advancement of your research for a successful application.



#### 4.1.4. Travel Grants Program (India Network Foundation)

The program is open to all Cultural and Social Associations of India Origin and to scientists in all fields in South Asia whose paper has been accepted for presentation at a national/ international scientific meeting to be held in North America.

##### Eligibility

- This program is open to all University Faculty and Doctoral Program students in India.
- The applicant's paper must have been accepted for presentation at a national or international scientific meeting to be held in North America.
- Peer-reviewed presentations are given preference over automatic invitation-generating conferences.
- Poster presentations are not eligible for travel grants.


##### Support

- Grant funds will cover conference-related actual expenses - travel, hotel, medical insurance. However, no stipends nor funds for the preparation of research papers are provided. Preference will be given to participants who have received partial support from the home institutions or conference organizers.
- Medical travel insurance will be awarded to each grant recipient for a period of one month under the India Network Health Insurance.

##### Deadline

The grant application should be submitted at least **twelve weeks** prior to conference dates.

##### Website

<https://www.indnet.org/travel-grants.html> 

### 4.1.5. Inlaks Research Travel Grant

The Inlaks Research Travel Grant assists registered PhD students, students at Indian universities to undertake short-term visits to institutions abroad to collect material, use facilities and consult experts.

#### Eligibility

The applicant must

- Be a registered PhD candidate at an Indian university for at least two years but not more than three years at the time of the application.
- Have a first-class degree at the Bachelor's (Honors) and Master's level.
- Those born on or after 1st January 1987 are eligible to apply for the grant.
- Be an Indian passport holder, currently resident in India.
- The award is given only in Humanities and Social Sciences related subjects.

#### Support

- The award offers financial support for a maximum of **three months** to undertake research at an institution, or library and meet with experts in the field, which includes:
- Reasonable travel allowance reimbursable on actuals (up to \$1000).
- Maintenance expenses (up to \$2000 per month).
- Funds for buying materials and making copies of relevant literature are reimbursable on actuals (up to \$500).
- Health allowance/ Covid allowance reimbursable on actuals (up to a maximum of \$500).
- Any material collected by the candidate using the said allowance (literature, copies, instruments etc.) will become the property of the candidate's institution for wider use.
- All this material must carry a statement regarding the support received from the Inlaks Research and Travel Grant.
- The grant must be utilized within nine months of it being awarded.
- The candidate will be expected to go through a two-tier selection process:
- A first round of short-listing based on the written evidence submitted.
- An interview either in person or over Zoom with a panel of experts.
- The candidates short-listed for the interview will be informed by mid-September 2022. The final interviews will be held in early October 2022.
- A candidate can apply for either the 'Inlaks Research and Travel Grant' or the 'Inlaks-Kings India Institute Studentship' in any given year.

#### Website

<https://www.inlaksfoundation.org/irtg/inlaks-travel-and-research-grant/> 

#### 4.1.6. Travel Grants (Royal Society of Biology)

##### 4.1.6.1. Travel Grants (AMRSB)

The Royal Society of Biology (RSB) offers travel grants to Associate Members worldwide.

##### **Eligibility**

- The grant is open to Associate Members (AMRSB) worldwide, of the Society only. Those who are eligible to transfer to the Member (MRSB) grade will not qualify for the award.
- Non-members can apply for the grant provided they have submitted a paid membership application.
- Those who have applied for the grant but have been unsuccessful can apply again.
- Previous Travel Grant (and Travelling Fellowship) recipients are not eligible to apply again.
- Applicants must be over the age of 18 at the time of travel.
- Grants are awarded for future travel only - for travel between designated periods.

##### **Support**

Applications should be made for future biology-related projects in the UK or abroad, but future overseas conferences will be considered. Grants of up to £1,000 are offered to associate members worldwide,

##### **Deadline**

Applications open in ~October and close in ~February. Please check the website for details.

##### **Website**

<https://www.rsb.org.uk/get-involved/grants/travel-grants/travel-grants-amrsb> 

#### 4.1.6.2. Travel Grants (Early Career MRSB)

The Royal Society of Biology offers grants to early career MRSB members worldwide.

##### Eligibility

- The grant is open to MRSB members worldwide in the early stages of their research careers (within five years of completing their undergraduate degree) only.
- Non-members can apply for the grant provided they have submitted a paid membership application.
- Those who have applied for the grant but have been unsuccessful can apply again.
- Previous associate (AMRSB) Travel Grant (and Travelling Fellowship) recipients are eligible to apply.
- Previous Early Career MRSB Travel Grant recipients are not eligible to apply again.
- Grants are awarded for future travel only - for travel between designated periods (Please check the website for details regarding the same).

##### Support

Applications should be made for future biology-related projects in the UK or abroad, but future overseas conferences will be considered. Grants of up to £1,000 are offered.

##### Deadline

Applications open in ~October and close in ~February. Please check the website for details.

##### Website

<https://www.rsb.org.uk/get-involved/grants/travel-grants/travel-grants-early-career>



#### 4.1.7. General Travel Grants (Biochemical Society)

The Biochemical Society provides funds for attending conferences and other in-person meetings to Postgraduate, Early Career, Full, and Emeritus members.

##### Eligibility

- Applicants need to have been a member for at least 12 months before the deadline on the closing date of the round applied to. Members who have joined as multiyear members are eligible to apply for a General Travel Grant after six months of membership has elapsed.
- Applicants must not have received one of the following Society grants in the two years before the closing date of the round applied to: General Travel Grants, International Sponsored Places or Travel Award for Skills and Knowledge.
- Applicants must not have received one of the following Society grants in the 12 months before the closing date of the round applied to: Student Bursary, Early Career Bursary or Full Member Bursary.
- Applicants need to provide an abstract that has been submitted to the conference to demonstrate active participation. In the case of lab visits to learn new techniques, please provide a summary of the intended work to be undertaken during the visit.

##### Support

- Grants are generally between £300 and £500 to assist with the cost of face-to-face attendance.
- A maximum of £750 may be awarded for exceptional and well-supported cases where the benefit to the applicant's career is great and where there is a financial need for the maximum grant amount.
- Please note that a successful General Travel Grant application would not affect eligibility to apply for an Online Attendance Grant, provided the applicant does not exceed a maximum of £750 in total funding within 2 years.

##### Deadline

Applications are considered **seven times a year**, the deadlines for which are:

- 1 January for online events after 1 February.
- 1 March for online events after 1 April.
- 1 May for online events after 1 June.
- 1 June for online events after 1 July.
- 1 July for online events after 1 August.
- 1 September for online events after 1 October.
- 1 November for online events after 1 December.

Applications can be submitted early, up to **six months** before the online event date.

##### Website

<https://www.biochemistry.org/grants-and-awards/grants-and-bursaries/online-attendance-grants/>





## 4.2. Funding Schemes for Collaborative Visits

### 4.2.1 Short-Term Fellowship (EMBO)

Short-Term Fellowships fund research exchanges of up to **three months** between laboratories in eligible countries. Awarded applicants can stay on their research visit for an additional three months (maximum), however, EMBO will not provide funding for this extended period. Short-Term Fellowships fund research exchanges of up to **three months** between laboratories in eligible countries.

#### Eligibility

- Applicants must be active researchers at any stage in their career with a minimum of one year of research experience at the PhD student level, or equivalent at the time of application.
- EMBO Short-Term Fellowships are awarded for research exchanges between laboratories in EMBC Member States, Associated Member States, or Cooperation Partners.
- EMBO Short-Term Fellowships are not awarded for exchanges between two laboratories within the same country.

#### Deadline

There is no deadline for applications, however it is recommended to apply three months before the proposed starting date. Applications received or completed only after the start of the visit will not be considered.

#### Website

<https://www.embo.org/funding-awards/fellowships/short-term-fellowships.html>



## **AWARD ANECDOTE**

### **SHORT TERM FELLOWSHIP (EMBO)**

**Zeba Rizvi**



### **Benefits of EMBO Award**

The EMBO Award for the EMBO workshop allowed me to connect to scientists whose research paper was related to my PhD. I got invitations from many international labs for postdoc after attending the EMBO ubiquitin workshop with this travel grant.

### **Things to consider while applying**

The application assesses your interest in attending the conference and your CV for publications. The number of publications and their relevance to the conference/ workshop is also important. The letter of benefit of the event is also important because you need to write what the benefit of attending a particular conference and what it adds to your PhD.

### **Mistakes to avoid when applying**

Be attentive to the funding agency's criteria, your interest and time of application.



#### 4.2.2. Raman-Charpak Fellowship (IFCPAR/ CEFIPRA)

The Raman-Charpak Fellowship was launched to facilitate the exchange of doctoral students between India and France, to broaden the scope and depth of future engagements in **Science, Technology and Innovation**, and to improve the doctoral skills of students by providing them an opportunity to carry out part of their research work in a university or institute based in the partner country. The fellowship is provided for **two to six months**.

##### Eligibility

- Applicants from India must be Indian citizens residing in India and have registered for a PhD in a recognized university or research institution in India.
- Maximum age limit is 30 years as of 1 April of the call year.
- Applicants once supported by CEFIPRA and students who have a permanent position in institutions/universities are not eligible.
- Pre-authorization or prior consent from the host institute or university is required to apply for a foreign fellowship program.

##### Support

- Fellowship support of €1500 per month for daily expenses, local travel, accommodation charges and Social Security charges.
- One return airfare ticket in economy class.
- Insurance coverage (travel & health) wherever required & Carte de Sejour (if any).
- Support for attending conference/seminar/workshop during stay (please see guidelines for details).

##### Deadline

The application opens during April/May and closes during June/July.

##### Website

[https://www.cefipra.org/raman\\_charpak/](https://www.cefipra.org/raman_charpak/) 

### 4.2.3. Travel Fellowship (The Company of Biologists)

The Company of Biologists' journals — Development, Journal of Cell Science, Journal of Experimental Biology and Disease Models & Mechanisms – offer Travelling Fellowships to graduate students and Postdoctoral researchers wishing to make collaborative visits to other laboratories. There is no restriction on nationality.

#### Eligibility

- Early career scientists, which includes graduate students and Postdoctoral researchers.
- Applications are strictly limited to one journal per round of funding per person and only one person per home laboratory.
- Travelling Fellowships can only be applied for once every 2 years per applicant from any of the Company's journals.
- Travelling Fellowships cannot be awarded to collaborations that have already commenced before the decision date, which can be up to 6 weeks after the deadline date.
- Although there is no restriction on nationality, we are unable to pay awards to recipients in jurisdictions, countries or regions of the world subject to sanctions, embargoes or other political trade restrictions put in place by the United Nations, the EU or the UK.
- Applications should include:
  - Letter of status from your Head of Department should include who you are, what you are doing and how long you have been at the home institution. [Note: If your Head of Department is also your supervisor, separate letters should be provided, one in each capacity.
  - A letter of support from your supervisor should make specific reference to the Travelling Fellowship.
  - A letter of support from your host laboratory should refer to the proposed project.
  - Curriculum Vitae.
  - Publication list.

#### Support

- Travel fellowship of £3000 or currency equivalent. These are designed to offset the cost of travel, accommodation and other related expenses. Travel insurance is not included. Visa fees and bench fees are included.
- Estimated costs are acceptable, as you will be required to provide evidence of expenditure and return unspent funds.

#### Deadline

The applications are open **multiple times a year** in February, May, August and October. Please check the website for further details.

#### Website

<https://www.biologists.com/travelling-fellowships/>



#### 4.2.4. Travel Grant (Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds)

The Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds (BIF) travel grants are awarded for research stays of up to **three months**. They support junior scientists who want to learn clearly defined methods useful for their ongoing research and their current laboratory. The BIF supports applicants who conduct **basic biomedical research** and want to pursue short-term research stays or attend practical courses relevant to their projects in Europe or overseas.

##### Eligibility

The travel grants are aimed at junior scientists. According to the level of experience, eligibility requirements are as follows: (see also [documents for application](#) and [FAQs](#)):

- For PhD and MD students as well as graduates: university entrance qualification must not have been obtained more than 11 years before the planned research visit for a maximum of three months.
- For postdocs: university entrance qualification must not have been obtained more than 13 years (i.e. 156 months) before the planned research visit.

##### Support

- BIF's travel grants will be provided as a lump sum to contribute to the expenses for travel to and from the destination, lodging (e.g. student housing), and course fees.
- For doctoral students and postdoc applicants from countries with very low incomes, additional funds for living costs may be granted.
- The application for a travel grant of the Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds (BIF) consists of two parts:
- An application form on our online portal (link at end of this page) and
- A PDF upload of the respective documents outlined below to be submitted via the online portal.

##### Deadline

Applications for travel grants are open **throughout the year** but must reach the Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds (BIF) at the latest six weeks prior, but not earlier than six months before the proposed departure date.

##### Website

<https://www.bifonds.de/fellowships-grants/travel-grants.html>



#### 4.2.5. Research Fellowship (The Helen Hay Whitney Foundation)

The Helen Hay Whitney Foundation grants financial support of sufficient duration to help further the careers of young men and women engaged in biological or medical research, towards the ultimate goal of increasing the number of imaginative, well-trained and dedicated medical scientists. The Whitney Fellowship is for a period of **three years**, contingent on performance satisfactory to the Foundation's Scientific Advisory Committee. One and two-year fellowships are not considered.

##### Eligibility

- Candidates who hold, or are in the final stages of obtaining a PhD, MD, or equivalent degree and are seeking to begin Postdoctoral training in basic biomedical research.
- Candidates who have no more than one year of Postdoctoral research experience at the application deadline (as on the stipulated date), and who have received a PhD (or DPhil or equivalent) degree no more than two years before the deadline, or an MD degree no more than three years before the deadline.

##### Support

- Since the number of available fellowships is limited, the Foundation does not make more than one award per year for training with a given supervisor. It also does not support more than two fellows per laboratory at one time.
- Stipend — Year 1 - \$68,000; Year 2 - \$70,000; Year 3 - \$72,000
- Research Allowance — \$1,500
- Dependent Child Allowance — \$1,500 per annum for each child.
- Travel expense:
  - provides funds for travel to the fellowship location at the time of activation of the fellowship for the Fellow and his or her family
  - covers travel expenses incurred for the two-day Annual Fellows Meetings held in November

##### Deadline

Applications close in ~June. Please check the website for details.

##### Website

<http://hhwf.org/research-fellowship/> 

#### 4.2.6. Newton-Bhabha Fund PhD Placement Programme

The Newton-Bhabha Fund is supported by the UK and Indian governments and was launched to promote long-term sustainable science and innovation partnerships between the two countries. PhD scholars from India and the UK will be supported by the Newton-Bhabha Fund to spend a period of their study in higher education institutions in the UK and India, respectively. The fund will help PhD scholars from India to spend a period of their study up to **two to four months** in UK higher education institutions.

##### Eligibility

- STEM and Life Sciences subjects INSPIRE PhD scholars in the first year of Senior Research Fellowship (SRF).
- Life Sciences PhD scholars (other than INSPIRE Fellows) pursuing PhD in mid-second or third year.
- ICSSR Doctoral Fellows or registered PhD scholars (full-time) studying in the second or third year of Social Sciences are eligible to apply.

##### Support

- Visa fee, economy class international airfares and overseas travel insurance.
- In-country costs including accommodation and stipend.
- Bench fees (if applied for) by the UK host university.

##### Deadline

The applications are open **once a year**.

##### Website

<https://www.britishcouncil.in/programmes/higher-education/newton-fund/phd-placements> 

#### 4.2.7. Fulbright-Nehru Doctoral Research Fellowship (USIEF)

The Fulbright-Nehru Doctoral Research Fellowships are designed for PhD students to conduct research essential to their dissertations/thesis in an institution in the U.S. The fellowship is for **six to nine months**.

##### Eligibility

- The applicant must fulfil all general prerequisites of Fulbright fellowships for Indian citizens.
- The applicant must be an Indian scholar who has registered for a PhD at an Indian institution, only in a few select fields which include agricultural sciences, neurosciences and public health.
- The expected PhD thesis submission date of the applicant should be at least three months after the Fulbright-Nehru grant end date.
- These fellowships are for pre-doctoral level research. Applicants with PhD degrees or those at the final stage of PhD thesis submission will not be considered.

##### Support

- The fellowships provide J-1 visa support, a monthly stipend, an Accident and Sickness Program for Exchanges as per U.S. Government guidelines, round-trip economy class air travel, applicable allowances and modest affiliation fees, if any.
- Selected scholars will have opportunities to audit non-degree courses, conduct research and gain practical work experience in suitable settings in the U.S.
- The grant is not sufficient to support family members, and no allowances are provided for dependents.

##### Deadline

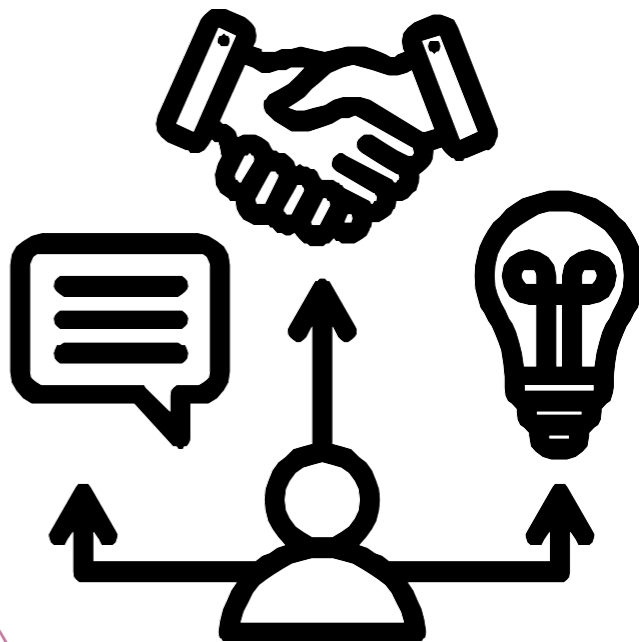
Applications are invited once a year and applications close in ~July, please check the website for details.

##### Website

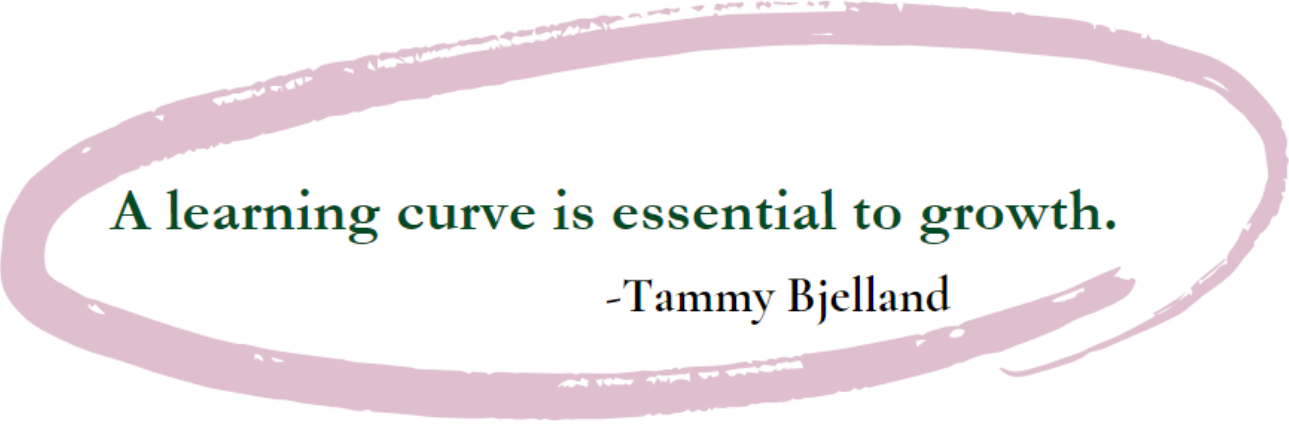
<https://www.usief.org.in/Fellowships.aspx?id=fellowships> 



# Skill Building Awards



## 5. Skill Building Awards



**A learning curve is essential to growth.**

**-Tammy Bjelland**

There are a plethora of skills that PhD researchers and Postdoctoral fellows need to inculcate apart from research or experimental skills including but not limited to Networking, Communication, Presentations, Project Management, and Fund Management. In recent times, funding agencies have started providing monetary support for skill-building. In this section, you will find details of awards that support the skill-building activities of Indian PhD researchers and Postdoctoral fellows working in the life sciences.

### 5.1. AWSAR Awards (DST)

Augmenting Writing Skills for Articulating Research (AWSAR) is an initiative that aims to disseminate Indian research stories among the masses in an interesting format. Under this initiative, PhD Scholars and Postdoctoral Fellows (PDFs) in **Science and Technology** (S&T) streams would be encouraged to write at least one popular science article during the tenancy of their fellowship and to participate in a national competition.

#### Eligibility

- Any Indian citizen pursuing PhD or PDF in any Science and Technology (S&T) stream.
- Scholars enrolled in a PhD programme from Government approved Institutions for the last two years, or PDFs associated with any recognized institute.
- Full-time and part-time PhD students.
- Applicants with published paper(s) of their research work will be given preference.
- Criteria for submitted article:
  - Should indicate a complete research story in simple language to be understood by the general public.
  - No complex figures, graphs, equations or formulae except self-explanatory infographics which may be formulated for effective communication.
  - Original articles sent exclusively for nomination for the AWSAR award (Not acceptable — articles previously published elsewhere, or simultaneously sent for publication elsewhere).
  - Article specifications:
    - Format of Article: MS Word, Paper: A4 size.
    - Word limit: 1000-1500 words.
    - Page Layout: 2.5 cm margins on all sides, single column and justified.
    - Font Size: 12-point font size, Line spacing: 1.5.
    - Font: Times New Roman (English) and Unicode (Hindi).

#### Support

##### For PhD Scholars

- **Selection of best entries of popular science stories and prizes.**
  - The initial screening of the entry will be done by an expert panel. 100 entries will be selected. Each will be awarded a cash prize of ₹10,000 along with a Certificate of Appreciation.
- **Selection of top leading stories**
  - The top three articles/stories will be selected from the leading stories. Further, they will be awarded the cash prize of ₹1,00,000, 50,000, and 25,000 respectively.

### **For Postdoctoral Fellows**

- **Selection of best entries of popular science stories and prizes.**

- Twenty entries would be selected from articles submitted by PDFs relating to their line of research. Each will be awarded a cash prize of ₹10,000 along with a Certificate of Appreciation.

- **Selection of top leading stories**

- One outstanding article/story will be selected from the leading stories. Further the same will be awarded with a cash prize of ₹1 lakh.

All awards will be bestowed on 28 February at the National Science Day event every year. All awardees will also be given an opportunity to attend a Science Film Training Workshop organized by Vigyan Prasar.

### **Website**

<https://www.awsar-dst.in/#award>



## **AWARD ANECDOTE**

### **AWSAR AWARD**

**Rohitesh Gupta**



### **Benefits of being an AWSAR awardee**

The AWSAR award is a wonderful opportunity for PhD and Postdoctoral scholars to showcase their research to a general audience. Apart from being a platform to express your science, AWSAR also provides workshops to promote science writing and boost creativity.

### **Things to consider while applying**

It is advisable to lay down the crux of the “story” within the first few lines and frame questions that get answered constructively as the story develops.

### **Mistakes to avoid when applying**

This award is for presenting science to a general audience, so anecdotes, figurative speech and correlations are acceptable. An openness to creative ideas and presenting your research in the format of a simple story is welcomed.



## 5.2. Research Management Fellowship (IA/IRMI)

This is a combined mentored fellowship and institutional strengthening programme for research institutions seeking to establish or expand their research office activities and helps embed professional research management support within these institutions. The Research Management Fellowship is a full-time Fellowship for **three years**.

### Eligibility


The Host institution must:

- support research that falls within the India Alliance's remit, which is to support biomedical research that is relevant to human and animal welfare.
- be able to receive and administer India Alliance funding.
- be registered with the Indian Research Management Initiative (IRMI).
- nominate individuals to IRMI Research Management Fellowships.
- commit to employing the Research Management Fellow for the full duration of the fellowship.

### Support

- ₹6,00,000 funding per annum towards salary support for the Research Management Fellow.
- ₹1,00,000 funding towards a training budget for the RM Fellow, throughout the award.
- Mentoring in research office processes for the Research Management Fellow, over six months.

### Website

<https://www.indiaalliance.org/india-research-management-initiative> 

### 5.3. Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Fellowships Programme (DST)

This fellowship programme provides an opportunity for scientists, technologists, engineers and social scientists to develop skills and contribute to the **STI policy-making process** at various stages in government, academia and industry. All three fellowship tracks are designed for **two years** with a possible extension of one more year.

#### Eligibility

- Senior Policy Fellow: PhD with 3 years of policy experience, Age Limit: 42 years
- Postdoctoral Policy Fellow: PhD, Age Limit: 40 years
- Young Policy Professional: Master's degree, Age Limit: 30 years


In all three tracks, age relaxation of 3 years will be given to candidates belonging to SC/ ST/ OBC/ Physically Challenged and Women candidates.

#### Support

- **Senior Policy Fellow:**
  - Consolidated fellowship of ₹98,000 per month.
  - Up to ₹2,00,000 per year to cover research-related costs, travel and contingency (based on the Committee's decision).
- **Postdoctoral Policy Fellow:**
  - Consolidated fellowship of ₹80,000 per month
  - Up to ₹1,50,000 per year to cover research-related costs, travel and contingency ( based on the Committee's decision).
- **Young Policy Professional:**
  - Consolidated fellowship of ₹44,000 per month.
  - Up to ₹1,00,000 per year to cover research-related costs and contingency (based on the Committee's decision).

#### Website

<https://dst.gov.in/news/call-application-dst-science-technology-and-innovation-policy-fellowships-progra>

[mme-last-date](#) 

## **AWARD ANECDOTE**

### **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION POLICY FELLOWSHIP**

**Geeta Mehra**



### **Benefits of STIP Fellowship**

STIP facilitates outreach activities and collaboration, promoting travel and interdisciplinary work, networking and most importantly, national integration.

### **Things to consider while applying**

The proposed work should have an interdisciplinary component with social usefulness or commercial potential.

### **Mistakes to avoid when applying**

The proposed project should be socially relevant with achievable targets.





## 5.4. Barnes Barres Spotlight Award

Ben Barres Spotlight Awards, is a scheme that provides visibility and funding for researchers from groups that have been traditionally underrepresented in **biology and medicine** or who work in countries with limited research support.

### Eligibility

Applicant must be

- An active researcher in the life or biomedical sciences at a university or other non-commercial research institute.
- An author of a manuscript published or accepted for publication at eLife OR an author of a life sciences preprint with one or more evaluations from an eligible group on Society\* .
- A member of one or more of the following groups based on their background or identity:
  - Researchers based in countries where research funding is limited; emphasis is placed on those from low and middle-income nations.
  - Disabled researchers or researchers with disabilities.
  - Researchers with ethnic minority backgrounds.
  - Women; non-binary researchers and researchers of minority genders; transgender researchers of any gender.
  - Researchers who are neurodivergent.
  - Researchers who belong to a minority group based on their sexual orientation.
  - Researchers from working-class backgrounds or “first-generation” students.

### Support

Awards of up to \$5,000 (USD) will be granted to assist researchers from groups that are underrepresented in biology and medicine or from countries with limited research funding (as indicated in the eligibility criteria above) until the entire budget is distributed.

### Deadline

Applications typically close in ~August. Please check the website for deadlines.

### Website

[elifesciences.org/inside-elife/f56fb3c2/ben-barres-spotlight-awards-applications-open-for-2023](https://elifesciences.org/inside-elife/f56fb3c2/ben-barres-spotlight-awards-applications-open-for-2023)



## 5.5. The International Tropical Timber Organization Fellowship Program

International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) offers fellowships of (USD) \$10,000 through the Freezailah Fellowship Fund to promote human resource development and to strengthen professional expertise in member countries in **tropical forestry and related disciplines**. Its goal is to promote sustainable management of tropical forests, the efficient use and processing of tropical timber and better economic information about the international trade in tropical timber.

### Eligibility

- Applicants should be a national from a member country.
- Awards are made to individuals, not institutions.
- Previous ITTO Fellowship awardees are not eligible to apply for another ITTO Fellowship within 2 years of receiving the first award.
- Online application is available in English, French, and Spanish (the official languages of ITTO) at [www.itto.int/fellowship/](http://www.itto.int/fellowship/). Competency in the language in which the training will be given, where applicable (e.g. courses, conferences, study tours) will be a consideration during selection.

### Support

- The maximum amount for a fellowship is (USD) \$10,000.
- ITTO Fellowships provides tuition/training/conference fees, transportation fees, daily subsistence allowance, book allowance and other allowances.
- For post-graduate studies, only a partial tuition fee or a small research grant can be provided.
- Approved Fellowships are non-transferable to other programmes or institutions.

### Deadline

Applications typically open in ~July and close in ~September. Please check the website for details.

### Website

<https://www.itto.int/fellowship/> 

## 5.6. COMPASS Outreach Grant

The American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB), founded in 1960, is a professional society of basic biomedical researchers who study the cell, the fundamental unit of life; ASCB members (any nationality) can apply for up to \$1,000 to promote **science outreach projects** such as student lab visits, science fairs, or other ideas for engaging the public. These activities are organized by the ASCB Committee for Postdocs and Students (COMPASS).

### Eligibility

Active ASCB members, with priority given to student and postdoc members interested in organizing science outreach events/projects. The application should include a description of the proposed (science outreach) project/ event, with details as needed in the application form.

### Support

ASCB members (of any nationality) can apply for up to \$1,000 to promote science outreach projects.

### Deadline

Applications close in ~September. Please check the website for details.

### Website

<https://www.ascb.org/grants-awards/compass-outreach-grants/> 

## 6. Additional Reading

- How to write a successful MSCA Postdoctoral application:  
<https://journals.plos.org/ploscompbiol/article?id=10.1371/journal.pcbi.1010371>
- Secrets to writing a winning grant: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-03914-5>
- Preparing a successful application: <https://www.usief.org.in/fulbrighter-story/fs.html>
- Compilation of travel grants:  
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1nX-Tovt71K8UsTMYb1z79ThCuZtIzt3Y>
- Related resource: [EMBO | IndiaBioscience Online Seminars](#)
- IndiaBioscience website: <https://indiabioscience.org/grants>
- NCBS funding database: <https://www.ncbs.res.in/rdo/sponsor-funding#tab-2>
- ECRcentral: <https://ecrcentral.org/>
- Funding Opportunities for Postdoctoral Scholars:
  - [https://research.fas.harvard.edu/postdoc\\_opportunities](https://research.fas.harvard.edu/postdoc_opportunities)
  - <https://www.saveandtravel.in/postdoc/>

## 7. List of Abbreviations of Funding Agencies

|    |                    |  |
|----|--------------------|--|
| 1  | DBT                | Department of Biotechnology  |
| 2  | HRDG-CSIR          | Human Resource Development Group- Council of Scientific & Industrial Research                        |
| 3  | UGC                | University Grants Commission   |
| 4  | ICMR               | Indian Council of Medical Research   |
| 5  | DST                | Department of Science and Technology   |
| 6  | TWAS               | The World Academy of Sciences  |
| 7  | DAAD               | Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst   |
| 8  | SERB               | Science and Engineering Research Board   |
| 9  | DHR                | Department of Health Research  |
| 10 | IISc               | Indian Institute of Science  |
| 11 | NCBS-TIFR          | National Centre for Biological Sciences-Tata Institute of Fundamental Research                       |
| 12 | ETH                | Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (In French - École polytechnique fédérale de Zurich) |
| 13 | EMBO               | European Molecular Biology Organization  |
| 14 | HFSP               | Human Frontier Science Program   |
| 15 | AMS                | Academy of Medical Sciences  |
| 16 | NIH                | National Institutes of Health  |
| 17 | IFCPAR/<br>CEFIPRA | Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research  |
| 18 | USIEF              | United States-India Educational Foundation   |
| 19 | IA/ IRMI           | DBT/ Wellcome Trust India Alliance/ India Research Management Initiative                             |
| 20 | MSCA               | Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions   |
| 21 | USTC               | University of Science and Technology of China  |
| 22 | UCAS               | University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences  |
| 23 | ANSO               | Alliance of International Science Organizations  |
| 24 | SINGA              | Singapore International Graduate Award   |
| 25 | A*STAR             | Agency for Science, Technology and Research  |

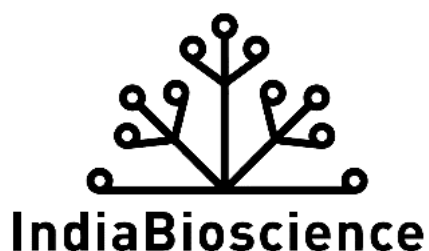
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