

RESOURCES

FUNDING & AWARDS FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE IN INDIA

Women Scientists are an important workforce in the field of science & technology (S&T). However, it has been observed that due to various factors, they may not be getting enough opportunities in academics and research institutes. The Government of India and various private organisations have been working on providing gender-specific schemes to women in science. Concerted efforts have been made to give women a strong foothold into the scientific profession, help them re-enter into the mainstream and provide a launch pad for further forays into the field of science and technology.

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Women Scientist Scheme by DST

The 'Women Scientist Scheme' of the Department of Science and Technology, provides career opportunities which include fellowships for unemployed women scientists and technologists, especially those who have had a break in career, for pursuing research in frontier areas of Science and Engineering. There are three major components of the Women Scientist Scheme namely,



- i) Women Scientists Scheme-A (WOS-A)** for conducting research in Basic & Applied Sciences,
- ii) Women Scientists Scheme-B (WOS-B)** for S&T interventions for Societal Benefit, and
- iii) Women Scientists Scheme-C (WOS-C)** that enables women to become Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) professionals.

The fellowship amount for MSc, MPhil/MTech and PhD categories are Rs.30,000/-, Rs.40,000/- and Rs.55,000/- per month respectively. The total project costs, for 3 years duration of these three categories, are Rs 20 lakhs, Rs 25 lakhs and Rs 30 lakhs respectively. In addition to the fellowship, the total project cost also includes grants for consumables, minor equipment items, travel and contingency. The upper age limit to apply under this scheme is 57 years.

More information can be found [here](#)

Women Scientist Scheme by DBT

Biotechnology Career Advancement and Re-orientation Programme (Bio-CARe) for Women Scientists

In an attempt to enhance the participation of Women Scientists in Biotechnology Research, the Department of Biotechnology launched a Biotechnology Career Advancement and Re-orientation Programme (Bio-CARe) for women scientists. The programme is primarily meant to aid the career development of employed/unemployed women scientists up to 55 years of age for whom this



is the first extramural research grant. The scheme is open for all areas of life science/ biology (including agriculture, veterinary science and medicine).

The scheme includes a Research Grant Opportunity (RGO), under which a 3-5 year research grant is provided. Under this scheme, unemployed women scientists will be provided a monthly emolument ranging from Rs. 50,000/- to 60,000/- p.m, while employed women Scientists will receive an amount of Rs.10,000/- p.m in addition to their regular salary as an incentive. A research grant of up to Rs. 50 lakhs is provided.

More information can be found [here](#)

National Women Bio-scientist Award

The Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology (Government of India), instituted the National Women Bio-scientist Award in the year 1999 to recognize outstanding contributions of women scientists in the area of life sciences and biotechnology with potential for application, product and technology development.



The award consists of the following two categories:

National Women Bio-scientists Award (Senior Category)

National Women Bio-scientists Award (Young Category)

More information can be found [here](#)

SERB Women Excellence Award

SERB Women Excellence Award is a one-time award given to women scientists below 40 years of age and who have received recognition such as Young Scientist Medal, Young Associate etc from any one or more of the following national academies: i) The Indian National Science Academy (INSA), New Delhi ii) Indian Academy of Science (IASc), Bangalore iii) National Academy of Science (NASI), Allahabad iv) Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE), New Delhi v) National Academy of Medical Sciences (NAMS), New Delhi vi) National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS), New Delhi.



The awardees will be supported with a research grant of Rs.5 lakh per annum for a period of 3 years. The applications (two hard copies) need to be sent to the secretary, SERB. The call for proposals is usually notified through the website annually.

More information can be found [here](#)

Women in Science lectures by EMBO

Organizers of conferences funded through the EMBO Courses & Workshop programme wishing to invite a scientist speaking about issues related to women in science are encouraged to apply for this lecture grant. Maximum funding: €800 (for European speakers) and €1200 (for overseas speakers), to cover travel and accommodation costs. In order to avail this grant, the filled application form can be sent to the EMBO Women in Science office (women@embo.org).



More information can be found [here](#)

Post Doctoral Fellowship for Women

The UGC has initiated a scheme of Post Doctoral Fellowship for Women to candidates who are unemployed holding PhD degree in their respective subject areas, with an aim to accelerate the talented instincts of the women candidates to carry out advanced studies and research. The total duration of the fellowship is five years with no provision for further extension. The number of slots available under the scheme is 100 per year.



More information can be found [here](#)

L'Oréal India For Young Women in Science Scholarships

L'Oréal India strongly believes that Science is the source of progress, and the contribution of women is vital to its future. The L'Oréal India For Young Women in Science Scholarship Programme encourages and supports young women who

wish to pursue careers in science. The programme was instituted in 2003 and has consistently helped young women to pursue scientific studies. A scholarship of Rs. 250,000/- each is granted to promising but economically disadvantaged young women and covers college fees for study in any scientific field in a recognized college or university in India.



More information can be found [here](#)

Indo-U.S. Fellowship for Women in STEMM

Indo-U.S. Fellowship for Women in STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine) is aimed to provide opportunities to Indian Women Scientists, Engineers & Technologists to undertake international collaborative research in premier institutions in U.S.A, to enhance their research capacities and capabilities in global perspective. DST launched this fellowship (WISTEMM) jointly with Indo-U.S. Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF).



More information can be found [here](#)

National Post Doctoral Fellowship

The SERB-National Post Doctoral Fellowship (N-PDF) is aimed to identify motivated young researchers and provide them support for doing research in frontier areas of science and engineering. The fellows work under a mentor, and it is hoped that this training will provide them a platform to develop as an independent researcher. There is the age relaxation of 5 (five) years given to women candidates.



More information can be found [here](#)