

Women Scientist Scheme

Fellowships for women scientists who had break in career to bring them into mainstream of health research

A large proportion of women undertake bio-medical education at graduation, post-graduation and doctorate level. But the present number of working women in bio-medical research appears to be low than the expected and needs to be addressed. The problems faced are several, but significantly, most often the "break in their careers" arises out of motherhood and family responsibilities. The option for revival of their profession is presently unavailable due to restrictions in age and qualification and no system at present addresses these issues. Under this scheme, women scientists will be encouraged to pursue research in identified areas of bio-medical/ health research.

(A) Category of Scholarships:

There will be following two categories of fellowships, based on the qualification and experience of the candidates:

Category A: Women who are M.D./ M.S./ M.D.S. or MBBS/ BDS/ MVSc./ M.Sc./ M.Pharma/ M.Tech with Ph.D.

Category B: Women who are MBBS /BDS or M.Sc. /M.Tech. /M.Pharma with two years of research or clinical experience.

(B). Eligibility

- i. Only Indian women citizen and presently unemployed and having qualifications as prescribed for category A or category B will be eligible in respective category.
- ii. Having M.D./ M.S./ M.D.S. or MBBS/ BDS/ MVSc./ M.Sc./ M.Pharma/ M.Tech or equivalent with Ph.D. in topic related to health research for category- A.
- iii. Having MBBS / BDS. or M.Sc. /M. Pharma /M. Tech or equivalent. Atleast two years' experience after the degree for category -B.
- iv. The woman scientist shall be submitting the research plan in either of the identified area through any medical college/bio-medical research institute under one faculty member.
- v. Candidate already in job or registered for Ph.D. or having any other fellowship or support are not eligible.
- vi. Candidate having research publication in indexed journals will be given preference.
- vii. Women of 30-50 years of age as on last date of receipt of application are eligible.
- viii. Fellowship is to the applicant scientist and area specific and cannot be transferred.
- ix. The candidates should have a minimum of 1 year break in career which should be substantiated with valid reasoning while submitting the application.
- x. Women candidates with break due to motherhood, family reasons will be preferred. Break in career due to medical reasons should be supported by

proper certificate from Govt. hospitals. If break in service has been awarded due to administrative reasons, such cases would not be considered.

(C) Funding mechanism

- i. The fellow shall submit a research proposal and shall be working with or under the supervision of a regular faculty of a Research Institute.
- ii. **Category A:** A fellowship of Rs. 70,000/- per month (for medical persons) and Rs. 60,000/- pm for non-medical persons for a period of 3 years. A contingency grant upto Rs.10.00 lakhs per year will be given to meet the expenses of consumables / field work related work and for attending the meetings, etc.
- iii. **Category B:** A fellowship of Rs. 55,000/- per month (for medical persons) and Rs. 50,000/- per month (for non- medical persons) for a period of 3 years. A contingency grant upto Rs.10.00 lakhs per year will be given to meet the expenses of consumables / field work related work and for attending the meetings, etc.
- iv. The amount (fellowship and contingency) will be released to the institute in favour of the Head, and will be kept in separate account.
- v. The audited statement of accounts of the scheme, done by the 'statutory audit body', will be obtained.
- vi. Work of the fellow will be reviewed periodically by expert group and shall continue only after receiving the satisfactory report from the expert panel.

(D) Age relaxation:

Age relaxation of 5 years would be given to candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC and physically challenged category. Attested copies of supporting documents in this regard must be enclosed.