

Guidelines for Young Faculty Research Fellowship

Scheme Details

1. A total of 200 Young Faculty Research Fellowships to be awarded over a period of 5 years under the “Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme for Electronics & IT”.
2. The Fellowship may be awarded to the faculty members of those Academic Institutions, which already have approved full-time PhD candidates under the Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme. For every 5 full-time PhD candidates in such an institute, the Fellowship could be awarded to one eligible faculty member of that institute.
3. The Fellowship is to be awarded to a faculty member for a maximum period of 5 years.
4. During the period of the fellowship, every Fellow would be provided with:
 - a. An amount of Rs. 20,000 per month, over and above his/her regular income.
 - b. A Contingency/Research grant of Rs. 5 lakhs per annum for presenting paper and research work at national and international conferences and other research expenses.

Eligibility criteria:

1. The Young Faculty must have ‘a regular position in the Institute and should be engaged in research’ or ‘must be in a position on a regular scale, which leads to a regular position in the Institute and should be engaged in research’. If he/she is availing any other fellowship, he/she will have to opt for only one of the fellowships.
2. The applicant must possess a PhD degree in a relevant area.
3. The maximum age limit for an applicant to be considered for the scheme is 40 Years as on 1st July of the academic year for which the application is being submitted.
4. The applicant should preferably be involved in providing guidance to some of the PhD students supported under the Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme.

Selection Process:

1. The selection for the Young Faculty Research Fellowship is proposed to be a two-step process, involving both the institution of an applicant and the PhD-Cell, DeitY.
 - i. The proposal for Young Faculty Research Fellowships would be submitted by the eligible candidates to their institutions for screening by a Peer-Review-Committee of the respective institution and if found suitable by that Peer-Review-Committee, the proposal would be forwarded to the PhD-Cell under the signature & stamp of “Head of the Institution” for further processing. Electronic copy (ies) of the Curriculum Vitae of such shortlisted candidates would also be submitted to PhD-Cell by the institution through their nodal officer for the PhD Scheme.
 - ii. A Sub-Committee, under the Academic Committee, constituted by DeitY would evaluate the suitability of the proposals received for Young Faculty Research Fellowship. Based

on the specialization required to evaluate the candidate, if required the members may be co-opted in the subcommittee on case to case basis. The soft copy(ies) of CV's would be put-up (made available online) to the members of the Sub-Committee for consideration. The recommendation of the Sub-Committee would be submitted for approval of the Academic Committee. In case the candidate(s) are not found suitable/upto-the-mark, it is not mandatory to award Young Faculty Research Fellowship to those institutions. The decision of Academic Committee would be intimated to the concerned institutions.

2. the Young Faculty Research Fellowship could be granted for a period of up to 5 years maximum, however the fellowship would be awarded initially for a period of 2 years at a time and continuation of the fellowship further up to a total period of 5 years would be subject to satisfactory performance from the Fellow as deemed through a review process, which could be devised by the Academic Committee
3. The Young Faculty Research Fellowship could be awarded to the faculty members of those institutions, where the required number of PhD candidates has already joined under the PhD scheme.

Or

In case, the required number of PhD candidates have not yet joined the institution though they have been selected under the PhD scheme; the application process for the young faculty research fellowship may still be initiated by the concerned institution though the fellowship would be awarded only after the required number of PhD candidates join the institution.

4. Every selected Fellow is required to agree to the terms and conditions as laid down under the scheme for the fellowship and he would need to provide an undertaking of having read the terms and conditions of the scheme and accepted them.

Affiliating Institute's Responsibilities in the Selection Process:

1. Every institute, which intends to participate in the scheme, shall constitute a peer-review committee responsible for the selection as well as the annual review of the Fellows.
2. To be considered for the fellowship, an eligible candidate (a faculty member of an institute) should send his/her application to the head of his/her institute, who in turn should forward the application to the Peer-Review Committee of the institute.
3. The application along with the copy of "Peer Review Committee report" under signature and Stamp of "Head of the Institution" in support of the nomination is to be forwarded through the nodal officer of the institute for the PhD scheme.

4. The institute shall furnish all required information in the prescribed format to the PhD-Cell. If required, PhD-Cell may request for further information/ clarification from the Institution in this regard.

PhD Cell's Responsibilities in the Selection Process:

1. All received applications shall be processed for the approval of concerned authority.
2. If required the applicant may need to make a brief presentation before the concerned committee/approving authority. PhD-Cell would inform the applicant and their respective Institution in this regard with all the requisite details.
3. The decision of the approving authority would be intimated to the concerned institution and the selected applicants shall be awarded the fellowship after due process.
4. DeitY reserves the right not to award the fellowship to any of the applicants from a specific institution, if none of the applicants from the institute are found suitable.

Review Process for the existing Fellows:

1. In order to keep the quality and tempo of the research high, it is proposed to review the progress of research by the Peer Review Committee of the institution followed by the Academic Committee constituted by DeitY or its subcommittee.
2. The progress made by the Fellows would be assessed annually by his/her institution through Peer Review Committee and the recommendation of the committee would be made available to PhD cell.
3. Every year, the selected Fellows would submit the progress report (for all the years since the award of the Fellowship) to the Peer-Review Committee of their Institution.
4. The Peer-Review Committee of the affiliating institution would review the progress made by a Fellow and send their recommendation (for the continuation/discontinuation of the fellowship) along with the progress report to the PhD-Cell, DeitY.
5. There would also be a biennial review conducted by the PhD-Cell, DeitY for all Young Faculty Fellows. This biennial review by DeitY would follow the same process as the one used for the selection of the Fellows.
6. After the review, the decision would be intimated to the concerned institution and the Fellow.

Terms and Conditions governing the Young Faculty Research Fellowship (YFRF) Scheme under the Visvesvaraya PhD Programme of MeitY, Digital India Corporation are available [here](#)