

**CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEME
OF
SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**



सत्यमेव जयते

Effective from 1st April, 2018

**Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
Government Of India**

The Committee may recommend to the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities about addition or deletion of any institution based on their performance. For the purpose, the committee may take into account the recommendations of the concerned bodies conducting entrance examination for admissions into such courses or having the administrative control over such institutes.

The Committee may periodically review of performance of the selected institutes on the basis of the academic results.

16 NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP FOR PwDS (FOR M.PHIL/PH.D IN INDIAN UNIVERSITIES)

16.1 SCOPE:

The scheme caters total number of 200 Fellowship (Junior Research Fellows, JRF) per year to students with disabilities. The scheme covers all universities/institutions recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and shall be implemented by the UGC itself on the pattern of the scheme of UGC Fellowship being awarded to research students pursuing M.Phil. and Ph.D.

16.2 OBJECTIVES:

- (a) To provide financial assistance to the students with disabilities for pursuing higher education leading to degrees such as M.Phil and Ph.D in India.
- (b) To enable PwDs to be eligible for employment to the posts of Lecturers lying vacant in various college and universities but will equip them to effectively to take advantage of the growing opportunities at the national and international levels in the context of the new economic order.

16.3 ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS:

- (i) Any student with disabilities who has been admitted to M.Phil./Ph.D. degree in a University or academic institution by completing the required formalities for admission at that University or academic institution is eligible for the award of Fellowship subject to provision of the scheme.
- (ii) After two years, if the progress in the research work of the awardee is found satisfactory, his/her tenure will be extended for a further period of three years as Senior Research Fellowship (SRF). The research work will be assessed by a three member committee set up by the University. The committee will consist of the Supervisor, Head of the Department and one outside expert in the subject. JRF may be terminated in case the progress of the candidate is not found satisfactory by the committee. The SRF shall be sanctioned on year to year basis on the recommendation of the Supervisor of the candidate duly accepted/rejected by the Head of the Department and finally approved by the

Vice Chancellor. The total period of award of JRF and SRF shall not exceed a period of five years. The fellowship is paid from date of registration of the students in M.Phil./Ph.D. course but not earlier than 1st April, 2012 i.e. date of effect of the scheme.

- (iii) The students with disabilities once considered eligible for the fellowship shall not be entitled to any other benefits from Central or State Government or any other body like UGC offering similar benefit to avoid duplication and increased coverage. Only those doing regular and full time M.Phil./Ph.D. course of a University/Research Institution shall be eligible for the fellowship. Employees of any University/College/Educational Institution/Central/State/UT Government shall be excluded from availing Fellowship, even if they are on Study Leave or EOL to pursue the M.Phil./Ph.D. course

16.4 NO. OF FELLOWSHIPS:

- (i) The total number of fellowships to be awarded to the students with disabilities under the scheme is 200 (Junior Research Fellows, JRF) every year. In case of non-availability of adequate number of PwD candidates, the number of fellowships not availed during a year will be carried forward to the next academic session.
- (ii) In case, the number of candidates exceeds the number of available awards, the UGC will select the candidates based on the percentage of marks obtained by the candidates in their Post Graduation examination.

16.5 DURATION OF FELLOWSHIP:

Name of the Course	Maximum duration	Admissibility of JRF and SRF	
		JRF	SRF
M.Phil	2 years	2 years	NIL
Ph.D	5 years	2 years	Remaining 3 years
M.Phil + Ph.D	5 years	2 years	Remaining 3 years

16.6 RATE OF FELLOWSHIP

- (i) The rates of fellowship for JRF and SRF will be at par with the UGC Fellowships. Presently these rates are as follows:

1	Fellowship	Rs.25,000/- p.m. for initial two years (Junior Research Fellowship (JRF), Rs.28,000/- p.m. for remaining tenure (Senior Research Fellowship (SRF)).
2	Contingency for Humanities and Social Science (including Arts/Fine Arts)	@ Rs. 10,000/- p.a. for initial two years @ Rs. 20,500/- p.a. for remaining tenure

Handwritten signature/initials

3	Contingency for Science, Engineering & Technology	@ Rs. 12,000/- p.a. for initial two years @ Rs. 25,000/- p.a. for remaining tenure
4	Departmental assistance (All subjects)	@ Rs. 3,000/- p.a. per student to the host institute for providing infrastructure
5	Escort/Reader assistance (All subjects)	@ Rs. 2,000/- p.m. in cases of candidates with physical and visual disabilities

- (ii) The House Rent Allowance (HRA) will be on the UGC pattern and will be payable to those students who are not provided with hostel accommodation. In case hostel accommodation offered by the university/institution is refused, the student will forfeit his claim of HRA. The other facilities such as medical facilities, leave including maternity leave will be governed as per the guidelines of the UGC in case of their fellowship programme.

16.7 ELIGIBILITY FOR SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP:

In order to qualify for the award of Senior Research Fellowship, the UGC norms shall be applicable.

16.8 PROCEDURE FOR GRANT OF SCHOLARSHIP UNDER NFPwD

The University Grants Commission (UGC) and Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities shall be the nodal agency for implementing this scheme. The National Fellowship is being implemented from 01.04.2012.

16.9 ROLE OF UGC:

- i) UGC shall notify the scheme through suitable advertisement in the press and invite online applications for award of National Fellowship for Persons with Disabilities (NFPwD).
- ii) There shall be no restriction as regards to the minimum marks in the Post Graduation examination.
- iii) It would be sufficient for a student with disabilities candidate to have passed the Post Graduation Examination for being eligible for this scheme (NFPwD).
- iv) There shall be no restriction to the effect that a student with disability should have cleared NET/SLET examination for being eligible for receiving the NFPwD.
- v) UGC will give one month's time to the candidate for applying for the NFPwD.
- vi) UGC will select the candidates for award of NFPwD.
- vii) The distribution of fellowships amongst different States/UTs would primarily be in the proportion of students with disabilities population in the respective States/UTs.
- viii) In case the numbers of fellowships so allocated to a State/UT are not fully utilized, due to non-availability of eligible candidates, the UGC will allocate the

slots amongst the other States/UTs where the number of eligible candidates is much more than the slots allocated to that State/UT. A committee consisting of the representatives of UGC and Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment will take this decision.

- ix) UGC will evolve a mechanism for identification of the beneficiaries linking with UID/Aadhaar number.
- x) UGC will also issue a booklet containing all the details about the scheme, for the benefit of prospective candidates.
- xi) UGC will evolve its own mechanism for verifying the genuineness of the students with disabilities availing of the NFPwD on fake certificate.
- xii) UGC will ensure that student with disabilities already benefiting under other fellowship programme is not covered under NFPwD.
- xiii) The decision of the UGC with regard to award of the NFPwD shall be final and no appeal would lie against any decision by UGC in regard thereof.
- xiv) UGC will intimate list of beneficiaries for JRF and SRF along with their UID/Aadhaar Number, amount of scholarship, year of fellowship, etc. to Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities for disbursement of scholarship for the fellowship programme.
- xv) UGC shall also evaluate the performance of research work by the students with disabilities for the purpose of awarding SRF.

16.10 ROLE OF DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES:

- i) Department of Disability Affair shall be responsible for disbursement of the fellowship amount to the beneficiaries identified by UGC.
- ii) On receipt of the list of beneficiaries for JRF and SRF under NFPwD from UGC, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities shall ensure on-line/electronic transfer of fellowship amount to the identified students.

16.11 EVALUATION AND MONITORING:

The monitoring and evaluation of the fellowship programme will be done by the DEPwD. Award of SRF should be done after appropriate evaluation of performance in carrying out the research work by the candidate in the Junior Research Fellowship phase.

17. NATIONAL OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIP (MASTER'S DEGREE AND PH.D IN FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES)

17.1 OBJECTIVES:

- To provides financial assistance to the students with disabilities who are selected for pursuing Master's level courses and Ph.D abroad in the following specified fields of study: (a) Engineering & Management (b) Pure Sciences and Applied Sciences (c) Agricultural Science & Medicine (d) Commerce,

Paul