

# INDIAN COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

## Research Fellowship (Senior) Division

### GUIDELINES FOR AWARD OF National FELLOWSHIP

#### 1. GENERAL

1.1 The Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) under its Research Fellowships programme awards Senior Fellowships (National, Senior and post-Doctoral) to social science scholars for conducting research on specific themes and issues proposed by the applicants. Fellowships are awarded for conducting studies that have the potential to contribute to theoretical and conceptual advancement in the disciplines, generate field-work based empirical work and new data, and are policy relevant. The studies could be both, macro or micro in nature. The broad disciplines of study, within the domain of social sciences, are:

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|--------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| (i)    | Sociology and Social Anthropology;                    |
| (ii)   | Political Science/Pub. Admn. and allied subjects;     |
| (iii)  | Economics and allied subjects;                        |
| (iv)   | International Studies;                                |
| (v)    | Social Geography and Population Studies;              |
| (vi)   | Commerce and Management;                              |
| (vii)  | Social Psychology and allied subjects;                |
| (viii) | Education and allied subjects;                        |
| (ix)   | Socio-Linguistics/Socio-Cultural and allied subjects; |
| (x)    | Law, International Law and allied subjects;           |
| (xi)   | National Security & Strategic Studies;                |
| (xii)  | Any other (specify)                                   |

1.2 Within the framework of social sciences, an effort is made to promote interdisciplinary studies. In regard to other major disciplines such as natural science, medical science, agriculture science, etc., areas of interface between these disciplines and the social sciences are also covered under the Fellowships scheme.

1.3 Despite the fact that the award of Fellowships is -- in general-- application based and demand driven, the ICSSR may from time to time indicate the priority areas of research in its advertisement to obtain desired proposals.

1.4 The Fellowships are aimed at:

- Providing opportunities to social scientists to engage themselves in full-time research on important themes of their choice or to write books about their research;
- Assist young scholars who have the potential and competence for research to work full time on their approved research themes;

1.5 Three categories of fellowships are offered /awarded to scholars who are at different levels in their profession: **National Fellowships, Senior Fellowships, and Post-Doctoral Fellowships.**

## 2. Eligibility for Award of National fellowship

- 2.1 **National Fellowships** are offered to eminent social scientists, who have made outstanding contribution to research in their respective fields, to enable them to continue their academic work and research. There is no age bar for this category of fellowship.

## 3. General Terms and Conditions

- 3.1 While accepting any fellowships from the Council's, a fellow should not accept fellowship from any other organization. Also such fellow should not hold any fellowship from the same Council of research in span of five years (whether preceding or succeeding the fellowship from the Council of research) from the date of acceptance of the fellowship from the Council.
- 3.2 The research undertaken by fellow would be reviewed periodically/time to time and the fellowship being granted by the Council may be discontinued if research undertaken by any fellow is found unsatisfactory. Fellowship amount already released to a fellow may be recovered if the research undertaken by him/her is not found to be satisfactory.
- 3.3 Extension of Fellowships of National, Senior and Post-doctoral fellowships up to six months to a maximum of one year may be considered in exceptional cases by the expert committee of the ICSSR. Any extension to be granted to a fellow should be considered on merit after due examination by an Expert Committee.
- 3.4 In case of fellowship is awarded to in-service scholars/academic employed in University, Government Department etc.)' their pay may be protected. However, in case of retired scholars/academics, pension should not be deducted from the amount of fellowships granted by the Council.

## National Research Fellowships

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## 4. National Fellowships: Procedures:

- 4.1. National Fellowships fall into two broad categories:

- Specific
- Non-Specific

- 4.2 Specific Category: Seven Fellowships

These **fellowships** are offered to **eminent scholars**, who have made outstanding contribution in the fields mentioned under each of the Fellowship:

- Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship for studies on peace building, social reforms,

empowerment and environment;

- Jawaharlal Nehru National Fellowship for studies on State, democracy, governance, public policy, and leadership;
- B.R. Ambedkar National Fellowship for studies on social Justice;
- J.P. Naik National Fellowship for studies in education and culture;
- Maulana Azad National Fellowship for studies on Religion and Society;
- Rajeev Gandhi National Fellowship for Studies on Development;
- Sir Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan National Fellowship for Studies in Education.

#### 4.3 Non-Specific Category: Six Fellowships

These **fellowships** are offered to **eminent scholars**, who have made outstanding contribution to the overall field of social sciences and its various disciplines.

### 5 Procedure for Award of National Fellowships

5.1 The awards are made by the Council on its **own initiative** after following a prescribed selection procedure. **Direct applications for National Fellowships area not accepted. Nominations are invited by the ICSSR**, from Vice-Chancellors of Universities, Directors of the Research Institutes/ Regional Centres funded by the Council and also from all present and former **members of the Council** and erstwhile **National Fellows of ICSSR**. **Not more than two** nominations may be forwarded by an individual authority. All nominations are to be accompanied by curriculum vitae of the scholar.

5.2 The nominations received are initially short listed in each year by an **Selection Committee** duly constituted by the Chairman of the ICSSR. The **Selection Committee**, after due scrutiny and deliberations, recommends the **final list** to the Council for consideration and approval. After that the selection will be announced by the ICSSR.

### 6 Affiliation and Overhead Charges

6.1 National Fellows are requested to affiliate themselves to a reputed institute funded by central or state govt.) or university/college of their choice with the prior approval of the Council. Funds are disbursed through and administered by the affiliated institution. The affiliating institution will provide the requisite research infrastructure to the scholar and maintain proper accounts. For this, the Council shall pay to the institution overhead charges at seven and a half per cent (**7.5%**) of the total expenditure (fellowship and contingency) incurred.

6.2 However, this amount (7.5%) shall be paid only after the completion of the fellowship and on receipt of **Audited Statement of Accounts and Utilization Certificate (in the prescribed proforma GFR 19-A) duly certified either by the Statutory Auditors of the Institute or Chartered Accountants and Director/Competent authorities.**

### 7. Value and Duration

7.1 During the period of National Fellowship, the salary and allowances of an **employed scholar** are protected. The fellow will be entitled to allowances as per the rules admissible at the parent institution. Besides, the Council also pays his/her leave salary and pension contribution/employer's share of C.P.F. contribution.

- 7.2 Retired scholars and scholars not in employment will be paid a **fellowship amount of Rs. 55,000 p.m.**
- 7.3 In addition, a **Contingency grant of Rs. 60,000/-p.a.** is also admissible to employed/not employed and superannuated scholars during the entire period of fellowship.
- 7.4 The term of fellowship would be 2 years extendable up to 1 more year in exceptional circumstances.

## 8. Mode of Payment

The sanction of the fellowship is issued initially for one year, which is effective from the date of joining. Each year's grant is released in **three installments amounting to 40%, 40% and 20%**. The **third installment** is released only on receipt of the **annual progress report and Statement of Accounts**. The same procedure is followed for the **second year**. The last installment will be released on receipt of 3 copies of the final research **report on the subject of the fellowship**.

## 9. Monitoring

Monitoring of National Fellowships is done by the ICSSR, New Delhi. During the course of the fellowship, national awardees would be requested to give lectures (two lectures) at appropriate forums on the findings of the research with a view to disseminate the scholar's work among the Social Science community. The arrangements shall be made in consultation with the National fellow.

## 10. Final Report and Accounts

- 10.1 National fellows are expected to submit their final **Report (in triplicate), within six months** of the completion of their fellowship.
- 10.2 The affiliating institution is also required to submit an **Audited Statement of Accounts and Utilization Certificate, (in the prescribed proforma GFR 19-A) duly certified either by the Statutory Auditors of the Institute or Chartered Accountants Director/Competent authorities.**

## 11. Obligations of the Forwarding Institution

- 11.1 The forwarding institution, where the proposed fellowship research is to be located has to provide, in the prescribed format contained in the Application Form, an undertaking to administer and manage the ICSSR grant and provide logistical support for study.
- 11.2 Such institution will be under obligation to ensure submission of the final report and audited statement of accounts.

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