

Science and Engineering Research Board, DST, Government of India

A. FELLOWSHIPS

1. National Post Doctoral Fellowship (N-PDF)

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 will work under a mentor and provides them a platform to develop as an independent researcher.

Eligibility

- The upper age limit for the fellowship is 35 years at the time of the submission of application. Age relaxation of 5 (five) years will be given to candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/Physically Challenged & Women candidates
- Mentor must hold a regular academic/research position in a recognized institution in India. Should hold Ph.D. degree in Science or Engineering.

Nature & Duration of Support

- The fellowship is tenable only in India and can be implemented in any of the recognized academic institutions, national laboratories and other recognized R & D institutions. The host institution should provide necessary administrative and infrastructural support
- The fellowship is purely a temporary assignment, and is tenable for a period of 2 years.
- The fellows will be entitled to receive the grants as given below:

S. No.	Budget Head	Amount
1	Fellowship	Rs. 55,000/- per month (consolidated) and Rs. 35,000/p.m for candidates who have submitted the thesis but degree not awarded
2	Research Grant	Rs. 2,00,000/- per annum
3	Overheads	Rs. 1,00,000/- per annum

2. TEACHERS ASSOCIATESHIP FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE (TARE)

(<https://www.serbonline.in/SERB/Tare>)

This scheme aims to facilitate mobility of faculty members working in a regular capacity in State Universities / Colleges and in private Academic Institutions to carryout research work in an established public funded central institution and Central Universities, located preferably nearer to the institution where the faculty member is

working. Research work will be carried out in such a manner to ensure that PI continue to work in the host institute as well as his / her parent institute on mutually agreed terms between the PI and Mentor.

Eligibility

- Applicant should not hold any ongoing research projects or any fellowship at the time of submission of application.
- The upper age limit for the award is 45 years at the time of the submission of application. Age relaxation of 5 (five) years will be given to candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/Physically Challenged & Women candidates.
- Mentor should be at the level of Associate Professor/Scientist E, or higher level.

Nature & Duration of Support

- Not exceeding three years covering areas
- Research fellowship of Rs. 60,000/- per year (in addition to the researcher's own salary) will be provided subject to completion of minimum 90 days research work per year in the host institution. Research grant of Rs. 5 lakhs per annum (50% each to host and parent institution) and overheads (as per SERB norms) will be provided.

3. SERB International Research Experience (SIRE)

(<https://www.serbonline.in/SERB/Sire>)

This Program aims to impart high-end research training in frontier areas of Science and Technology, which are of interest to India by providing opportunity to visit leading institutions/universities across the globe for a period of 02-06 months.

Nature & Duration of Support

- The selected fellows will be paid a monthly fellowship amount equivalent to US \$ 3000, one time Contingency / Preparatory allowances of Rs. 75,000/- to cover visa fee, airport transfer charges, insurance etc., Overseas Medical Insurance in India and abroad of Rs. 20,000/-.
- The selected fellows will also be provided shortest route economy class air fare from their place of work in India to the place of the host institute and back.

B. AWARD

SERB SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AWARD FOR RESEARCH (SERB-STAR)

SERB Science and Technology Award for Research (SERB-STAR) is a prestigious award instituted by SERB to recognize and reward outstanding performance of Principal Investigators (PIs) of SERB Projects. SERB-STAR is an initiative to acknowledge exemplary contributions in research and also to motivate the PIs of ongoing projects for outstanding performance.

Eligibility:

- i. The nominee should have completed individual-centric SERB project in previous three financial years with "Excellent" grading. Only the PI of such projects and not the Co-PIs shall be eligible.
- ii. The applicant must hold a regular academic/research position in a recognized academic institution or national laboratories or any other recognized R&D institutions.
- iii. The age of the nominee should be within 40 to 50 years as on December 31 of the year in which the call is made.
- iv. Individuals who are nominated for SERB STAR but are unsuccessful can be renominated for consideration in the following year subject to fulfilling other eligibility criteria.

Nature of support:

- i. Fellowship of Rs 15,000/- per month, research grant of Rs. 10 lakh per annum and Rs 1 lakh per annum as overhead charges for a period of three years.
- ii. Up-to 30 awards per year and not more than 90 at any time.

Selection & Mode of Application:

- i. The application would be by nomination which must be submitted online through the website www.serbonline.in
- ii. Call for nomination would be made once in a year.
- iii. Nomination shall be made by the Head of the Institution of the nominee.
- iv. At Stage 1: Preliminary Scrutiny, verification of eligibility criteria including "Excellent" grading will be carried out by SERB. Only those nominations found eligible, would be considered for Stage 2 - Award Selection Process.
- v. The selection by a competent committee will be based on performance of completed projects and other research work would carry a top up weightage.

C. FELLOWSHIP FOR DOCTORAL STUDENTS

OVERSEAS VISITING DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP (OVDF)

Objective:

Application for support to undertake research training during the doctoral research in Overseas Universities on a competitive mode is sought from eligible researchers.

- To build national capacity in frontier areas of Science and Engineering, which are of interest to India by providing research training to PhD students admitted in the Indian institutions in overseas universities / institutions of repute.
- To provide opportunity to performing Indian research students to gain exposure and access to top class research facilities in academia and labs in specific Overseas Universities.
- To create opportunities to build long-term R&D linkages and collaborations with accomplished scientists and technologists from around the world.
- To tap the expertise gained by these young scientists to strengthen/initiate national programmes in their domain knowledge.

Eligibility:

- The scheme is open to Indian nationals only.
- The applicant should have registered for full-time Ph.D. Degree in any of the recognized Institutions / Universities in India in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics disciplines.
- Part-time and sponsored students are not considered under the Program. Also students who have submitted their thesis for award of the Degree of Ph.D. are not eligible to apply.

Application & Selection:

- Applications are invited from Ph.D. students to work with Overseas Institutions who had signed an Agreement / MoU with SERB for student mobility.
- The selection would be made among students who obtained an offer letter from overseas institution to carry out research in chosen areas of interest to India.

Fellowship and Other Component:

- The selected fellows will be paid a monthly fellowship amount equivalent to US \$ 2000, one-time Contingency / Preparatory allowances of Rs. 60,000/- to cover visa

fee, airport transfer charges, medical insurance etc. The selected fellows will also be provided shortest route economy class air fare from their place of work in India to the place of the host institute and back. Students should make their own arrangement for accommodation etc.

- One visit, each by the Indian supervisor to the Overseas Institution where the student is working and overseas faculty to the host Indian Institution of the student is also admissible under the Scheme.

Other guidelines:

- The application for consideration under the Overseas Visiting Doctoral Fellowship Program (OVDF) can be submitted only when the call for application is made.
- The duration of the research training is up-to a period of twelve months. In exceptional circumstances, the fellowship may be extended for six more months' subject to performance evaluation.
- For scientists/ researchers in regular employment, rules governing payment of salary, leave, medical, gratuity, GPF and pension *etc.* of the organization/ institution/ university to which the faculty belongs would continue to be applicable. No liability on any of these accounts will be borne by SERB.
- The selected fellows while taking up the SERB overseas fellowship should not draw their regular research fellowship in India.
- The concerned University/ SERB will provide the letter of support for the selected fellows.
- The exchange visit of the supervisors should be during the tenure of the Ph.D. work of the applicant. Both the supervisors should ensure a residency period of at least two weeks and not exceeding 30 days in their respective foreign institutes.
- The Indian Institution should ensure the availability of necessary facilities including scientific equipment, infrastructure, research personnel, etc. for facilitating the visit of overseas scientist for undertaking the collaborative research. The institution should also extend all necessary administrative support to the proposed work.