Guidelines on the Human Resource Development Sub-scheme of Human Resource & Capacity Development (HRCD) for Health Research during the 16th Finance Commission Period (2026-27 to 2030-31)



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Government of India

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Department of Health Research

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1. INTRODUCTION

Much of the biomedical research being carried out in the country today is confined to a few medical colleges/institutes of the country. A major constraint in most of the medical colleges of the country is the lack of adequate and properly trained human resources in the field of Health Research.

The Human Resource Development (HRD) Sub-Scheme under the Scheme of Human Resource and Capacity Development (HRCD) of the Department of Health Research (DHR) was therefore created with an aim to establish a pool of talented health research personnel in the country by upgrading the research skills of medical faculty of Medical Colleges/Institutes, mid-career scientists, medical & UG and PG students, etc. by specialized training in priority areas of health research in leading national and international institutions, encourage and support the trainees to develop and take up research projects for addressing critical national and local health problems and financial assistance to institutions for up-gradation of infrastructure to enable such institutions to provide training with state of the art technologies.

It is imperative that the ongoing and future research priorities should coincide with the National health priorities such as control and management of communicable diseases, maternal and child health, control of nutritional disorders, environmental and occupational health problems; research on major non-communicable diseases like cancer, cardiovascular diseases, blindness, diabetes and other metabolic and hematological disorders; mental health research and drug research. Efforts thereby are to be made to reduce the total burden of disease in the country and to promote health and well-being of the population.

The HRCD Scheme for Health Research was initially approved by the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) in its meeting held on 18th November, 2013 under the Chairmanship of Finance Secretary & Secretary (Expenditure) and by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on 28th February, 2014 at total estimated cost of Rs. 597.00 crores. The Scheme was further extended for the period 2017-18 to 2020-21 and 2021-22 to 2025-26.

The Scheme has been again approved for the further period of five years w.e.f. 2026-27 to 2030-31 for 16th Finance Commission (FC) period having been appraised by EFC in its meeting held on 2.09.2026. The HRCD Scheme as approved for 16th FC period at a total cost of Rs 765.68 Cr for period 2026-27 to 2030-31 has the following sub-schemes:

Sub-scheme 1: Human Resource Development (HRD) for Health Research (Rs 553.69 Cr)

Sub-scheme 2: Inter-departmental Research and Capacity (IDRC) (Rs 51.69 Cr)*

Sub-scheme 3: DHR-ICMR Advance Molecular Oncology Diagnostic Services and Research (DIAMOnDSR) (Rs 155.30 Cr)**

Sub-scheme 4: International Cooperation for Medical Research (Rs 5.00 Cr)

*The Grants-in-Aid Sub-scheme for Intersectoral Convergence and Promotion of Health Research has been merged into the Extramural programme of ICMR and only the joint research component has been retained in the form of IDRC Sub-scheme.

**Health Technology Assessment in India (HTAIn) Sub-scheme from HRCD Scheme in previous Standing Finance Committee (SFC) period is proposed as a new Scheme in present EFC period. However, the DIAMOnDSR part of the earlier HTAIn sub-scheme has been retained in the HRCD scheme.

***Support to Institutes and Start-Up grant programs have been discontinued. For the fellows/PIs who are availing the grant, the terms and conditions will remain the same as provided in the previous HRD guidelines.

2. OBJECTIVES:

The main objectives of the HRD Sub-scheme are:

I. To increase the number of skilled and trained personnel for health research from Medical Colleges/Research Institutes across the country through fellowships, research grants etc.

II. To focus on the creation of a pool of trained medical/health researchers in key identified priority areas of health research.

III. To support, nurture and encourage the health researchers and students to forge linkages with biomedical scientists from different medical colleges, biomedical research institutes, academia, etc. to develop multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral teams necessary for addressing critical national and local health problems.

IV. To support the institutes for conducting hands-on health research training and workshops across diverse subjects, fostering a robust biomedical research ecosystem.

3. LIST OF BENEFICIARIES:

- Under-Graduate medical/dental students
- Post-Graduate medical/dental students
- Biomedical scientists/ researchers /faculty
- Women unemployed scientists: who have had a break in their career and want to return to mainstream research.
- Indian Diaspora engaged in biomedical research abroad
- Medical/Dental/Nursing colleges/Institute of National Importance (INI)/ICMR institutes/Post-graduate medical research institutes in Bharat.

4. AREAS OF RESEARCH:

Artificial Intelligence in Health, Biotechnology, Biochemistry, Bioprinting, Clinical Psychology, Computational biology, Disease Modelling, Drugs Chemistry and Toxicology, Genomics, Geriatrics, Good Clinical Practices (GCP), Good laboratory Practices (GLP), Green Biotech and Sustainability, Environmental Health, Health Economics, Health Informatics, Health Technology Assessment, Medical Ethics, Mental Health, Metabolomics, Microbiology, Microbiomics, Micro-robotics in Medicine, Nanotechnology and advanced drug delivery, One Health, Proteomics, Personalized Medicine, Preventive Medicine, Quality Control (QC) and Quality Assurance (QA), Regenerative Medicine, Stem cell research, Synthetic Biology and Biomanufacturing. Any other area in priority areas in biomedical health research.

PROGRAMME COMPONENTS

I. SHORT-TERM STUDENTSHIP (STS):

- To promote interest and aptitude for research among medical/dental undergraduates.
- To provide an opportunity for undergraduate medical/dental students to familiarize themselves with research methodology and techniques by undertaking independent short-term research projects in the field of biomedical research.

Eligibility:

Student eligibility:

- 1st and 2nd year MBBS/BDS students studying in NMC/DCI-recognized Medical/Dental colleges in Bharat.
- 1st year students will carry out the work from 1to 4 years.
- 2nd year students to carry out the work from 2 years to Internship.
- Students who are OCI/PIO/NRI card holders, studying in an Indian medical/dental college (NMC/DCI-recognized) can also apply and a copy of a valid OCI/PIO/NRI card must be submitted along with the application.

Students who are not eligible to apply for the STS Fellowship:

- 3rd & 4th year MBBS/BDS students, Interns/PG students are not eligible.
- Students of other paramedical/non-medical courses are not eligible.
- Students studying in foreign medical/dental colleges are not eligible.

Guide eligibility:

- Only full-time faculty members working in the same Medical/Dental College where the student is studying can act as the guide.
- Part-time consultants/visiting faculty/residents/tutors/pool officers/PG students cannot be the guide.

Number of seats:

- Approximately 1500 studentships per year.
- Out of these total seats approximately 1200 will be given to MBBS and 300 to BDS students. However, the actual number will be determined according to the applications received & availability of budget.

Tenure:

- The selected students will be carrying out the proposed research work during the college break of two months for three consecutive years *i.e.,* total tenure of six months.

Desired work timeline:

- 1st break (in between 1st & 2nd years of MBBS/BDS): Conceptualize, develop & submit research concept note and submit in response to the DHR call for applications

- 2nd break (in between 2nd & 3rd years of MBBS/BDS): To conduct key research activities (sample collection / data collection /lab investigations / sample processing/ field investigations / observation / execution etc.) or any other core components to achieve the objectives of the research project.
- 3rd break (in between 3rd & 4th years of MBBS/BDS): Data analysis, report preparation & submission.

<u>Financial support</u>:

A. Stipend to the student: Rs. 50,000/- for six months of research work.

- The stipend will be given in two instalments as given below:

I. 1st installment of Rs. 30,000/- on selection of concept note, for conducting key research activities (sample collection/ data collection / lab investigations / sample processing / field investigation/ observations / execution etc.) or any other core components to achieve the objectives of the research project. No instalment will be given at the time of submission of an interim report at the end of 2nd year. However, submission of an interim report at the end of the 2nd break shall be mandatory.

II. 2nd installment of Rs. 20,000/- on final report submission after 3rd break, once the report is approved by the reviewer and by DHR.

B. Incentive for Publications: Incentive will be given for publications in peer-reviewed indexed journals, either as first or corresponding author within three (03) years of project completion e-Certificate issuance in the manner below-

National/ International Journal	Impact Factor	Amount of Incentive (Rs)
National	1-2	20000
National	>2	30000
International	1-2	40000
International	>2	50000

Application and selection process:

1. STS is a fully online program. No hard copies will be accepted.
2. The student is required to register and submit the application form and research concept note online on the DHR ePMS portal against the notified call, which will be evaluated by reviewers.
3. If selected, the student is expected to complete the project in the next three consecutive years in the academic year break as mentioned in the tenure above and submit the concept note, interim report and final report as per the given timelines. The student will be awarded 2nd/final instalment only if his/her final report is approved by the DHR.
4. The host institute/medical/dental college and the guide must take overall responsibility for the conduct of the research project, preparation, and submission of the complete report & the required enclosures within the stipulated time.
5. The 2nd year data collection report should be verified and reviewed by the Guide to continue the project further for completion.
6. Award of STS fellowship will be subject to technical evaluation of the final report.
7. Evaluating/scoring criteria for STS: The reviewer may assign scores up to a total of 100 marks to each proposal. The division of the attributes is as follows:

A. Introduction/Background- 15 marks

B. Objectives- 20 marks

C. Methodology- 30 marks

D. Implications- 15 marks

E. New idea for research- 10 marks

F. References- 10 marks

8. The students may be required to upload a short video of him/her describing the research project in their own words, which will also be one of the criteria of evaluation.
9. The students having Biomedical Course in Biomedical Research (BCBR) certificate will get 20% bonus marks. The details of BCBR course are

given on ICMR-NIE Chennai website (click the given link): https://onlinecourses.nptel.ac.in/e-learning/preview/noc22_md01

10. Results of successful candidates will be notified on the DHR website and on DHR ePMS portal.

II. MD/MS/DM/MCh/DNB/DrNB/MDS THESIS SUPPORT PROGRAM

- To support and encourage medical/dental college students pursuing post-graduation courses to do good-quality biomedical/clinical research.
- To improve the visibility and dissemination of their research work as peer-reviewed publications to a larger research audience.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Medical/dental graduates who are admitted to the post-graduation courses in Medical/Dental institutes/colleges in India recognized by NMC/DCI/NBE.
- Interested candidates should apply within two years of PG admission/joining.
- Applicants must be an Indian citizen.

Number of seats:

- Approximately 1200seats/year.
- There will be 1100 seats reserved for medical PGs (MD/MS/DM/MCh/DNB/DrNB) and 100 for dental PGs (MDS).
- However, the actual number will be determined according to the applications received and the availability of the budget.

Tenure

- The total tenure will be six (06) years starting from the date of issue of the award letter based on the following:
- Three years for thesis submission along with research methods course completion certificate (Basic Course in Biomedical Research- BCBR).
- Three years for thesis research publication as first author in a peer-reviewed journal indexed in PubMed/Web of Science/Scopus.

Application & selection process

- The application will be required to be submitted online via DHR e-PMS portal and an undertaking to be submitted by the applicant that the grant will be utilized for the specified purpose only duly endorsed by the guide and the competent authority and should be submitted along with the application.
- The applications will be reviewed by an expert committee constituted by Secretary DHR.
- Final result will be declared based on merit as per seats available.
- The research proposal should be submitted in the given format only along with all required information as asked in the online application form.

Financial support

- Shall be given in two instalments as below:
- The first instalment of Rs. 50,000/- will be released to the fellow after selection upon submission of an undertaking to the effect that the funds received from DHR will be used strictly for the purpose for which it has been awarded.
- The second and final instalment in the manner tabulated below, will be released subject to the submission of one original research article (full length article) published as a first /corresponding author within three years from the date of the thesis submission. Research articles not indexed on PubMed/WoS/Scopus will not be considered. In case of failure of any of the above, fellow will not be entitled to avail the final instalment:

National/ International Journal	Impact Factor	Amount of second Instalment (Rs)
National	2-5	50000
National	>5	60000
International	2-5	70000
International	>5	80000

III. Dr. M. K. BHAN YOUNG MEDICAL FACULTY- Ph.D. PROGRAM

The program has been initiated with an aim to motivate young medical faculty to pursue Ph.D. and thereby creating a pool of clinical-scientists in the country who can undertake impactful research.

Eligibility criteria-Individuals:

- Medical faculty holding MD/MS/DM/MCh/DNB/DrNB/MDS degree.
- Full time regular employee preferably from clinical disciplines with at least one year of service rendered at INIs or NMC/DCI recognized medical colleges who are on-board this program.

Eligibility criteria- Institutions:

- Institutions falling under NIRF ranking of top 30 medical institutions category in at least one of the last three years' Rankings are eligible under this program.
- Expression of Interest (EoI) can be sent by institutes who fulfil the above-mentioned criteria.
- The institutes have been classified in two types based on the Ph.D. granting degree as listed below:

1. TYPE A= Affiliated with their own institutional Ph.D. program
2. TYPE B= Affiliated with AcSIR-ICMR Faculty of Medical Research (FMR)

Age criteria:

Upper age: Upto 45 years (as on the last date of application). Age relaxation will be given as GoI rules.

Who can apply: Any medical faculty preferably from clinical disciplines as per the given institute eligibility criteria, nominated by the host institute (who have signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with DHR/ICMR for this program).

Tenure: Five (05) years or submission of Ph.D. whichever is earlier.

No. of seats/year: Average 60 seats

Financial support:

- Research grant of up to Rs. 50 lakhs (averaging up to Rs. 10 lakhs/year) for the duration of up to 5 years or completion of Ph.D. whichever is earlier.

IV. BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS FOR Ph.D. IN HEALTH SCIENCES

The program is designed to motivate & support young science post-graduate and medical graduate applicants to pursue a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) under various disciplines in the field of biomedical sciences.

(i) CATEGORY 1: Fellowships through Common Entrance Test-

Eligibility:

- M.Sc/BS/ BS-MS/B.Tech./ M.Tech. / MBBS/ BDS/ MPH/ M. Pharm. students with basic or professional degrees in the field of biomedical sciences from UGC-recognized universities/research institutions in India.
- The eligible post graduation subjects are- Anthropology, Biochemistry, Bioinformatics, Biology/Biosciences, Biostatistics/Statistics, Biotechnology, Botany, Cell Genetics, Chemistry, Clinical Subjects (Internal Medicine, Community Medicine, Surgery, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Paediatrics, Orthopaedics, Dermatology, Psychiatry, Anaesthesiology, etc.), Economics with Specialisation in Health Economics, Entomology/Medical Entomology, Food & Nutrition, Genetics/Medical Genetics, Immunology, Microbiology, Molecular Biology, Molecular Genetics, Pharmacology, Pharmacy, Psychology, Public Health, Social Work, Sociology, Toxicology, Virology, Zoology and any other relevant subject in Medicine/Biomedical Sciences.
- The Ph.D. topic should be of any subject area related to biomedical sciences with direct impact on human health as per the DHR mandate.

Age Criteria: The upper age limit will be as stated in the Examination Brochure.

Types of Fellowships awarded through Common Entrance Test: To pursue a doctoral degree from:

1) Medical/Dental/Nursing College/Hospital.
2) Post-Graduate Medical Research Institutes
3) ICMR institutes under the AcSIR-ICMR Faculty of Medical Research in India.

Number of seats: 100 (approximately).

Application and Selection process:

- The eligible applicants will apply online against an annual call notified by DHR and appear for a common entrance test conducted by a national agency, assigned for the purpose.
- A merit list of students qualifying the entrance exam will be made on the basis of their score in the above test.
- The results will be declared by DHR.

Tenure:

- The first two years will be as a Junior Research Fellow (JRF)

- Only after successful completion of 2 years and assessment of the 2nd annual progress report and upon recommendation of the host institutional Doctoral Advisory Committee (DAC)/Research Doctoral Committee (RDC), the JRF will be upgraded to a Senior Research Fellow (SRF).

- SRF is generally for the remaining three years or submission of a Ph.D. whichever is earlier.

- The total tenure will be five years or the completion of Ph.D. whichever is earlier.
    - No-cost extension will be given by the Division Head, DHR only in exceptional cases but not beyond six years.

Financial Support:

Stipend as JRF:
1st year Rs. 37,000/- per month +HRA
2nd year Rs. 37,000/- per month +HRA

Stipend as SRF: If the up-gradation report is submitted and approved on/after the completion of two years.
3rd year Rs. 42,000/- per month+HRA
4th year Rs. 42,000/- per month +HRA
5th year Rs. 42,000/- per month +HRA

Contingency: A contingency of Rs. 20,000/- per annum will be paid per fellow for the duration of five years or completion of Ph.D. whichever is earlier.

(ii) CATEGORY 2: Fellowship for Health Economics & Technology Assessment (HETA)

Eligibility & Qualifications:

- Only Indian residents can apply for this fellowship.
- Applicant should have an M.Sc. in Economics, Master's in Public Health (MPH), or MBA in Healthcare Management with a minimum of 55% marks or equivalent CGPA.
- Candidates up to the age of 45 years can avail this fellowship.
- Candidates should have proficiency in statistical software and strong analytical abilities.
- Prior research experience in health economics or related fields will be advantageous.

Application & Selection Process:

- Application will have to be submitted on the DHR e-PMS portal in the desired format.
- Application will be screened for completeness and eligibility.
- Proposals will be initially evaluated by a Screening Committee.
- Shortlisted candidates will be selected on the basis of specified criteria like CV, research proposal, interview, etc. and their progress will be periodically reviewed by a Technical Expert Committee (TEC).

Financial Support:

- It will be the same as that for candidates selected through BRET.

V. SHORT-TERM INTERNATIONAL TRAINING GRANT (15 days-3 months)

To avail specialized training to excel in the niche area of interest for the period of 15 days to 3 months in the field of biomedical research and technology and strengthen the capacity of regular Indian faculty/researcher.

Number of Seats - 40

Eligibility:

1. The applicant should be an Indian citizen and working in the country.

2. The applicant should possess either (a) 'MBBS/BDS/ MVSc./ M.Sc./M.Pharma /M.Tech or equivalent with Ph.D. in health /biomedical research' or (b) 'M.D./ M.S./ M.D.S./DNB degree' with at least ten years of experience in teaching/research in a NMC/DCI recognized institute or post graduate institute dedicated for biomedical research or ICMR institute after obtaining the requisite qualification.

3. The application should be forwarded by the Employer/Head of the institution with a statement that the candidate will be considered as a full-time employee of the institution during the period of his/her training and if selected. The institute on receiving the funds from DHR will disburse the grant amount and other expenses to the participants as stated under the "Financial Support" following the DHR norms.

4. The applicant should submit a letter of acceptance from the host institute where he/she proposes to work during the fellowship.

5. The applicant should submit a plan of proposed training for availing the fellowship in the prescribed format.

6. The applicant should not have availed any similar fellowship from any of the agencies of the Government of India/State Govt. in the last 3 years.

Financial Support:

1. A stipend of US$ 3000 per month, which includes accommodation and other expenses.

2. Return economy class excursion airfare through the shortest route. Air tickets booking should be done through the GoI authorised travel agents viz. Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited (BLCL); Ashok Travels & Tours (ATT); Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC).

3. Contingency grant reimbursable on submission of original receipts/bills on return as follows:

A maximum of Rs. 95,000/- which includes the cost of VISA, SEVIS fee, taxi charges from place of duty to airport and back and overseas Mediclaim insurance expenses.

Age Limit: Below 56 years as on the last date of receipt of application.

VI. LONG-TERM INTERNATIONAL TRAINING GRANT

Long-Term Training (more than 3 months to 12 months) at foreign institutions to regular faculty, having at least three years of experience in the college/institute as a regular employee.

Number of Seats- 20

Eligibility:

1. The applicant should be an Indian citizen and working in the country.

2. The applicant should possess either (a) 'MBBS/BDS/ MVSc./ M.Sc./M.Pharma /M.Tech or equivalent with Ph.D. in health /biomedical research' or (b) 'M.D./ M.S./ M.D.S./DNB degree' with at least three years of experience in teaching/research in a NMC/DCI recognized institute OR institute dedicated for biomedical research OR ICMR institutes after obtaining the requisite qualification.

3. The application should be forwarded by the Employer/Head of the Institution with a statement that the candidate will be considered as a full-time employee of the Institution during the period of his/her training and if selected, the Institute on receiving the funds from DHR will disburse the grant amount and other expenses to the fellow as stated under the "Financial Support" following the DHR norms.

4. The applicant should submit a letter of acceptance from the host institute where he/she proposes to work during the fellowship.

5. The applicant should submit a plan of proposed training for availing the training in the prescribed format.

6. The applicant should not have availed any similar grant from any of the agencies of the Government of India/State Govt. in the last 3 years.

Financial Support:

1. A stipend of US$ 3000 per month, which includes accommodation and other expenses.

2. Return economy class excursion airfare through the shortest route. Air tickets booking should be done through the GoI authorised travel agents viz. Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited (BLCL); Ashok Travels & Tours (ATT); Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC).

3. Contingency grant reimbursable on submission of original receipts/bills on return as follows:

A maximum of Rs. 95,000/- which includes the cost of VISA, SEVIS fee, taxi charges from place of duty to airport and back and overseas Mediclaim insurance expenses.

Age Limit - Below 45years as on the last date of receipt of application.

International Training Fellowship in collaboration with Global Institutes/Universities leading in Health Research : For providing training opportunities at leading global universities in priority areas identified by the Department of Health Research (DHR) & ICMR, under the Short Term and Long Term International Training Grant.

The selection of candidates may be undertaken through the following three modes:

1. Open Call (Advertisement): Applications may be invited from eligible candidates through an open advertisement, followed by scrutiny and selection as per the prescribed eligibility criteria and guidelines.

2. Selective Call: Candidates may be invited or nominated for specialized training programmes at identified leading global universities in Health Research priority areas as prescribed by DHR-ICMR, based on specific institutional requirements, emerging research needs, and availability of specialized expertise.

3. Joint Venture / Collaborative Mode: Training programmes may be organised in collaboration with leading global universities or through mutually agreed partnerships, with selection of candidates undertaken jointly by DHR and the collaborating institution, as per mutually agreed criteria and approved guidelines.

VII. WOMEN SCIENTISTS FELLOWSHIP

A large proportion of women undertake bio-medical education at graduation, post-graduation, and doctorate levels. However, the present number of working women in bio-medical research appears to be lower than expected and the same needs to be addressed. The problems faced by women scientists are several, but significantly, most often take the "break in their careers" arising out of motherhood and family responsibilities. The options for revival of their profession or career are limited due to restrictions in age and qualification. Under this scheme, women scientists will be encouraged to return and pursue their career in biomedical/health research.

The woman scientist shall be submitting the research plan in either of the identified areas of research through any medical college/bio-medical research institute/ Central or state university under one faculty member.

Number of seats - 20

Eligibility:

1. Only Indian citizens and presently unemployed having at least 2 years of recent career break.

2. Essential qualification: Having (i) M.D./ M.S./ M.D.S. or (ii) MBBS/ BDS/ M.VSc./ M.Sc./ M.Pharma/ M.Tech or equivalent with Ph.D. in the topic related to health.

3. Candidates already in a job or having any other fellowship or support are not eligible.

4. Candidates having research publications in indexed journals will be given preference.

5. Women of 30-45 years of age as on the last date of receipt of application are eligible.

6. Fellowship is granted to the applicant scientist and is area specific and non-transferrable.

7. Age relaxation would be given to candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC and the PwD

category as per the Govt. rules.

8. Break-in career should be substantiated with valid reasoning while applying. Women candidates with breaks due to motherhood or family reasons will be preferred. Break in career due to medical reasons should be supported by a valid medical certificate from Govt. hospitals. If a break in service is due to administrative reasons or open unemployment, such cases would not be considered.

Financial Support:

1. A stipend of Rs. 67,000/- + HRA p.m. for up to 3 years and a research grant up to Rs. 10lakhs per year will be given to meet the expenses of field work, consumables required for the research, attending meetings for project-related discussions, etc.

VIII. Health Research Fellowships for Diaspora Scientists

A large number of Indian scientists go to foreign countries, especially European and North American countries, after completing their education in India, and many of them are working in reputed medical/health research organizations. A number of these scientists are willing to return to India to serve the country in the field of health research, provided they get suitable opportunities. Since many of these scientists have exposure to high technologies in the front areas of research, the country will benefit greatly if they are provided some platform to work in Indian institutes. The Department of Health Research (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare), Government of India, has launched the program “to encourage research personnel [Non-resident Indian (NRI), Persons of Indian Origin (PIO), Overseas Citizen of India (OCI)] serving abroad to come back to India for undertaking research in identified areas."

This Scheme has been designed to provide contractual research positions to the Indian scientists settled abroad who are willing to come back to India on a full-time basis or for a short duration to pursue medical/health research in India and take up health research projects in collaboration with Indian scientists, particularly in areas of national priority.

There will be provision to provide financial support to the brilliant medical doctors/scientists of Indian origin from all over the world who wish to return to India, to take up research positions in NMC/DCI-recognized medical colleges or Post-graduate Institutes dedicated to Bio-Medical Research of their choice to pursue the objective. Under the scheme, the NRI/OCI/PIO will be submitting the proposal in the various areas of

medical/health/biomedical research, developed in collaboration with an Indian researcher, who should be a full-time employee of a research institution or medical college in India. Though all areas in medical/health/biomedical research are proposed to be covered under the scheme given the need to generate new knowledge on a wide range of subjects, the focus will be on priority areas of Health Research.

Number of seats: 04 per year

Eligibility:

1. Only persons of Indian origin, non-resident Indian, and overseas citizens of India, as defined by the Government of India, and currently working abroad.

2. Having M.D./ M.S./ M.D.S. or M.Tech/ M.VSc./ M.Sc./ M. Pharma/ M. Tech or equivalent with Ph.D. in a topic related to health research.

3. The candidate should have at least three years of research experience in a foreign country as NRI/PIO/OCI, after obtaining the Ph.D./MD or equivalent degree with an excellent track record as reflected in publications and other recognitions.

4. The candidate shall submit a research plan in the areas identified for the program for research studies in collaboration with a regular faculty working in an Indian institute.

5. Candidates should be below the age of 45 years.

6. Age relaxation to candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC and the physically challenged category would be given as per Govt. policy and norms.

Mode of Selection: Selection of the research project of NRI/OCI/PIO will be made through the Expert Committees constituted by the Secretary DHR.

Financial Support:

- Each selected researcher shall be eligible to receive a consolidated stipend of Rs.1.2 lakhs/month for 3 years. Research grants would be available for research studies/projects not exceeding Rs. 20 lakhs/year.
- The project will be extendable for another 2 years at the discretion of the Secretary DHR on the recommendation of the Expert Committee. However, no stipend will be provided for the extendable 2 years, although the research grant may be provided.
- In case the researcher finds a permanent position during the tenure of the position, the remuneration shall be discontinued from the day he/she joins in a permanent position,

but he/she may continue with the Research Grant for the project, for the remaining duration of the project.

- Provision would be available for keeping a research staff out of a Research Grant during the tenure of the fellowship.
- The Research Grant for the project, which mostly will be of a laboratory nature; shall be divided into two broad budget heads with the following indicative breakup:

    1) **Recurring** - 65%

    i. Project Manpower, Travel, Consumables & Contingencies, Overhead

    ii. Overhead: up to 3% of Manpower, Contingency and Consummables. However, Travel and Contingencies would be limited to 10% each.

    2) **Non-recurring**- Equipment - 35%

- Each Awardee needs to provide a proposal with a detailed breakup as above for utilization of the Research Grant and the Host/Parent Institution needs to adhere to the approved breakup for the entire project period.
- The amount (consolidated stipend and research grant) will be released in favour of the Head of the Parent/Host Indian Institution, where the research project will be undertaken and will be kept in a separate account.

Roles and requirements of host institutions:

1. Host institutions should be encouraged to provide a congenial atmosphere for the awardees to excel in their work.

2. Access to all common infrastructural facilities, acceptable laboratory and office space (Independently or on a shared basis), computing, library access, etc.

3. The institution's willingness to consider the candidate for a permanent position in due course will be subject to the meeting, rules, regulations, and all relevant statutory requirements.

4. Furnishing of the Utilization Certificate (UC) and the audited statement of account from the audit authority, as applicable to the Host Institute, as per the provisions of the General Financial Rules.

IX. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TRAVEL GRANTS

The International Travel Grant (for attending conferences) is designed to provide financial support to the researchers/scientists/PG students, for attending and presenting their research accomplishments/findings in international conferences/seminars/symposia for wider dissemination of the research work or mentoring/talk on any topic in biomedical sciences in workshops for training young researchers/faculty/medical students, etc.

Eligibility:

1. Applicants must be an Indian citizen.
2. The applicant should be a biomedical scientist/researcher/doctoral student engaged in R&D work in NMC/DCI recognized medical/dental colleges or Post Graduate Institutes dedicated to Biomedical research in India. Regular scientists/staff of DHR/ICMR/HTAIn are not eligible to apply.
3. The applicant should have an abstract acceptance letter to present an original scientific paper or the applicant should have an invitation letter to provide hands-on training/lecture from the organizer.
4. The applicant should not have availed financial assistance under this program during the last three years.
5. The grant is not for only attending conferences/workshops/symposiums; the applicant should deliver a poster/lecture/presentation or hands-on session in the workshop/conference/symposium.

Application & selection process:

1. A complete application has to be submitted online in the DHR ePMS portal (https://schemes.dhr.gov.in/userLogin). Applications submitted in hard copy or via email will not be considered.
2. The application should be submitted a minimum 60 days prior from the starting date of the conference/workshop/symposium.

3. Assessment will be done by a selection committee constituted by the Secretary, DHR, based on the scientific review of the research abstract.

Documents to be submitted while applying

1. An accepted research abstract (should be anonymised- without any personal/institutional details/information)
2. Abstract acceptance letter from organizer and/or invitation from organizers to Chair a Session/participate as a Keynote Speaker/ provide hands on training.
3. Endorsement letter from the Head of Institution
4. No objection certificate from the co-authors
5. Updated biodata with publications in last five years (indexed journals in databases like PubMed/WoS/Scopus etc., publications in predatory journals to be avoided)
6. A copy of a letter regarding commitment from any other national or international agency for any financial assistance, full or partial, for travel, registration, per diem, etc.
7. Date of birth proof certificate

Financial support:

1. Rs. 1.5 lakh maximum grant will be awarded to the selected applicant, which includes travel (Economy Airfare), VISA fee, and registration fee.
2. Applicants less than 35 years (Junior Scientists/Researchers) as on the starting date of the conference are eligible for economy airfare, travel insurance, VISA and registration fees reimbursement.
3. Applicants 35 years and above (Senior Scientists/Researchers) as on the starting date of the conference are eligible only for economy airfare, travel insurance and VISA fee reimbursement.
3. Accommodation/per diem is not covered under the grant.

Documents to be submitted for reimbursement

1. Copy of award letter
2. Report of participation and claim sheet as per the prescribed format
3. Mandate form and cancelled cheque (Personal account)
4. Flight tickets along with boarding passes and a certificate of lowest/best

available fare

5. VISA fee receipt (Issued by the embassy) along with bank statement reflecting payment in rupees (INR)
6. Registration fee receipt along with bank statement reflecting payment in rupees (INR)
7. Certificate of attendance/participation/presentation
8. Published abstract (conference proceeding/ published in any journals)
9. In case of funding received from other funding agencies, the applicant needs to provide a letter through the proper channel, including a statement of expenditure on how the funds were utilised
10. Train/Bus tickets/Taxi fare receipts, if any (for local travel)
11. All documents should be self-attested and forwarded by competent authority
12. Any other relevant documents

Submission of the claim form

The original claim documents should be submitted through DHR ePMS portal within one month after the conference, through the proper channel, duly forwarded by the competent authority of the respective host institute.

X. WORKSHOPS FUNDING GRANT IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH:

To provide financial support for the organization of hands-on workshops on various niche areas in biomedical health research/innovations in order to train faculty/ researchers/ students in India.

Target group:

Medical or dental or nursing college/hospital/medical university/post-graduate medical research institutes/ICMR institutes for organizing workshops on research methodology, ethics and research capacity strengthening.

Selection process:

Assessment of the workshop proposal will be done by a selection committee, based on the scientific review of the workshop proposal.

Financial support:

- Approximately 50 workshops per year.
- If selected, a maximum financial support of up to Rs. 10 lakhs will be funded per workshop.
- Actual funding amount will be decided after the review of applications and according to the proposed budget requirements for the said workshop.

7. MONITORING OF THE SCHEME:

- The proposals will be screened and evaluated by the expert committee and will be approved by the approval Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary DHR.
- The work/progress of fellowships/research grants will be evaluated periodically by the Expert Committees constituted by Secretary DHR.

8. PROJECT ADMINISTRATION:

- For project administration at the National Level, Project Management & Implementation Unit (PMIU) will be established at DHR/ICMR.
- The manpower for the PMIU will be engaged on contractual basis.

9. IMPLEMENTING AGENCY:

The scheme will be implemented through ICMR and the DHR will exercise the overall managerial control. Funds for implementation of the scheme in respect of approved projects/proposals will be released by DHR through ICMR.

Annexure-....

Component-wise physical and financial targets for the period 2026-27 to 2030-31

HRD Sub-scheme Programs	Category	Average new awards per year*	Budget for new awards (Rs. in Crores)
1. Individual Capacity Development	Short-Term Studentship (STS)	1500	32.48
	Medical Postgraduate Thesis Support	1200	34.20
	Young Medical Faculty Ph.D. program	60	80.25
	Biomedical research fellowships for PhD in Health Sciences	100	90.95
2. Re-entry Grants for Scientists	Women Scientist fellowships	20	52.64
	Health Research fellowships for Diaspora Scientists	04	15.01
4. Individual Training and International Exposure	Long Term & Short Term International training grant	60	54.43
	International Travel Grant (conferences to attend) for biomedical researchers	100	6.00

5. Institutional Capacity Building Training	Workshops Funding Grant	50	12.50 (Comment from Dr. Geetanjali= is support to institution budget to be added here??)

*Note – The number of fellowships/awards can change based on receipt of applications and availability of resources.

Annexure-

General Terms and Conditions (See para …..??? which para)

I. The budget for each project will be available under the following heads:

a. Fellowship/Staff (Manpower)

b. Equipment

c. Consumables

d. Travel

e. Contingencies

f. Overhead up to 3% of combined Manpower, Consumable and Contingency amount (if applicable)

II. DATE OF START

The sanction letter would specify the date of start. It can only be a prospective date. If, however, no date is mentioned in the sanction letter, the project would be deemed to have become operative on the day the grant is received by the Investigator. This date would have to be communicated by the host Institute to the DHR/ICMR and should be in no case later than one month after the receipt of the sanction letter/award letter by the host institute. The date of start of a project can be changed on the request of the PI provided no expenditure has been incurred from the

grant released by the DHR/ICMR.

III. STAFF COMPONENT

Project staff would be engaged initially for a period of one year and extendable only till the duration of the project. The staff engaged in the project will not have any claim, whatsoever, for continuation of services in DHR/ICMR after completion/termination of the project. The progress of JRF and SRF working on a project will be assessed every year by a committee consisting of PI, Head of Department, Dean and an external member who is an expert in the relevant field - not less than an Associate Professor/Professor. The fellowship for JRF/SRF will be as per the existing norms of the Department of Science & Technology (DST).

IV. UP-GRADATION/DOWN-GRADATION OF APPROVED STAFF

The staff selected and approved for a particular research project cannot be changed/modified by the host institute/organization without the prior permission of DHR/ICMR.

V. UTILIZATION OF TRAVEL COMPONENT BUDGET

The grant can be utilized for travel within the country by the PI/Faculty, co-investigator or research staff working on the program for the following:

a. Attending seminars/symposia/conferences/workshops within the country provided the PI himself or the project staff is presenting a research paper (based on the project work) that has been accepted. A copy of the acceptance letter should be sent to the DHR.
b. Taking up fieldwork/travel connected with the research work (TA/DA would be as per the entitlement), including procurement of chemicals, equipment, etc.
c. Visiting the DHR/ICMR office for meetings related to the project.

d. Attending a training course related to the project, mainly for medical faculty/project staff.

e. The travel grant cannot be used for foreign travel or any other expenses for visits abroad.

VI. UTILIZATION OF CONTINGENT GRANT

This is meant for recurring as well as non-recurring expenditure. For contingency grants exceeding Rs. 25,000/- per annum detailed breakup should be given. The contingent grant can be utilized for purposes like, but not limited to:

a. Acquisition of books and documents of relevance to the research topic in case these are not available in the library, these would become the property of the host institution library and after purchase an accession may be issued to the Department/ Scientist till they are needed.

b. Charges for specialized investigations for which facilities do not exist in the host institute.

c. Publication charges/ reprints/ off-prints of research papers published as an outcome of the research.

d. Data entry charges

e. Printing of questionnaire

f. Computer utilities, charges for analysis of data (computer charges)

g. Typing of research reports including preparation of the final report

h. Communication charges

i. The grant cannot be used for purchase of furniture items/office equipment such as telephone, fax machine, laptops/computers etc.

VII. EQUIPMENT

Provision for equipment(s) for conduct of the study shall be provided based on the recommendations/approval of the project by the approval by the appropriate Expert Committees. This would vary on the nature, scope and need of the project. Under the Young Medical Faculty PhD program, no major equipment purchase is permitted. For Women Scientist Fellowship Programme and Health Research Fellowship for Diaspora scientist categories, the capital equipment has to be procured in the name of the institute where the fellow proposes to work. All expendable and non-expendable articles acquired for work of the project should be purchased in accordance with the procedure in vogue in the host institutions as per GFR. For permanent and semi-permanent assets acquired solely or mainly out of the grant, a separate record in the form of a register in prescribed Performa (Asset Register) shall be maintained by the Institute. The term "assets" means movable property where the value exceeds Rs.1000/-. Separate assets registers for items costing more than Rs. 20,000/- and less than Rs. 20,000/-may be maintained.

- All equipment should be purchased according to the rules and procedures of the Institutions where the project is to be carried out.
- Equipment procured through the grant should bear a label "DHR, MOHFW funded."
- On completion of the study a list of all equipment procured from the project funds along with their cost, date of purchase, and suggestions for disposal should be sent to the Department.
- Equipment costing less than Rs 20,000 are generally allowed to be retained by the Institute, while for those costing more than Rs 20,000 the Department would take decisions on a case-to-case basis.

VIII. RE-APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

Expenditure should on no account exceed the budget sanctioned for the project. Expenditure incurred over and above the sanctioned amounts against one or more, sub-heads/items of expenditure such as stipends , contingencies, etc. shall not be met without the approval of the DHR. Re-appropriation of savings under remaining sub-heads (except under sub-head 'equipment') and re-appropriation of money during the financial year, should be submitted to DHR provided it is within the sanctioned ceiling of the year. However, powers of re-appropriation costs within the total sanctioned budget up to a maximum of Rs. 1 Lakh (except Salary) for the project shall lie with the competent authority of the host institutes. This will however not apply for Long-term and Short-term International Training Programs. No expenditure shall be incurred on items not sanctioned under the concerned program/scheme. Savings should also not be re-appropriated for incurring expenditure on staff that has not been sanctioned by the Department. The approval of re-appropriations up to an amount of Rs. 20 lakhs within the sanctioned budget can be given by the Joint Secretary DHR. Re-appropriation proposals exceeding this amount shall require approval of Secretary DHR.

IX. EXTENSION OF THE PROJECT

- Extension beyond the approved duration would not be considered, except under special cases, where an important lead has emerged that need to be followed-up and valid justification is given and recommended by the Technical Evaluation Committee and Project Approval Committee at DHR.

- An extension with a budget can be considered to complete the project. In such cases the extension request has to be submitted at least 3 months before the completion of the project. The extension without additional budget up to 6

months can be approved by the Joint Secretary, DHR. Extension of projects beyond 6 months and extension of projects with budgetary implications (irrespective of the period of extension) will be approved by Secretary DHR.

X. NUMBER OF PROJECTS WITH THE SAME PI

Any PI should not be implementing more than three research projects at a given point of time. While submitting an application for a research project, the PI should give in detail all the research projects (completed, on-going). Fresh applications can be considered only when the on-going research projects are about to conclude. Simultaneously two or more projects by the same PI in the HRD sub-scheme shall not be permitted (except for the International Conference Travel Grants and Workshop funding grant in biomedical research).

XI. ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

a) The host/parent institute would be required to submit an annual progress report and also give an audited statement of expenditure by the Auditor of the research organization/institute (Remarks: this should go in UC part???) etc. However, the first progress report should be submitted at least three months prior to the completion of a year, so as to enable the evaluation and provide the grants within the completion of one year from the starting date. The subsequent annual reports will be for the period of one year.

b) The financial and physical progress of the project would be evaluated by the DHR with technical support from ICMR.

c) The progress report and expenditure statement in respect of the

project shall be reviewed at the time of release of subsequent grants.

d) The PI may be asked to present the progress before the TEC, if considered necessary. The consolidated report of the work done to be provided to the Department for evaluation and monitoring of progress and statement of expenditure.

e) The suggestion and views of the Committee and mid-course correction, if any, would be conveyed to the PI from time to time for effective conduct of the project. This would be binding on the PI.

f) In order to monitor the progress, quarterly/annual progress reports would also be evaluated by DHR.

XII FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

At the completion of the project, the final report should be sent in the prescribed format. The report should be submitted not later than three months from the date of completion of the project. 10% grant would be withheld for release after receipt of the final report. The review of any other new project sent by the same applicant for financial support from the department would depend upon the previous track record in terms of compliance of submission of requisite statement of accounts and annual/final reports in time. One copy of the final report must be submitted by the applicant along with the final audited statement of accounts.

XIII. AUDIT

The Department would normally accept audited reports from auditors as applicable to the concerned institution. Statement of accounts audited by Chartered Accountants approved by or registered with the

CAG and /or Ministry of Health & Family Welfare would also be accepted. The necessary registration number should be provided for record.

XIV. ANNUAL UTILIZATION CERTIFICATE

i. In the fellowships, where any grant is being given, the annual utilization certificate has to be submitted to DHR before three months of completing a year i.e., 9 months or upon utilization of 70% of fund, whichever is earlier regarding the manner in which the funds were utilized. It should be duly signed by the Accounts Officer & Head of the Institute/college.

ii. Annual utilization certificate and the audited statement of accounts in the proforma given on the website (https://dhr.gov.in/schemes/human-resource-development-health- research-hrd) shall be furnished to DHR soon after the accounts of the Institute of the current financial year are audited. At least 70% budget must be utilized for the given grant. The unspent balance would be adjusted in the next instalment.

iii. An audited statement of expenditure would be essential for release of the second instalment of the annual grant from second year onwards.

XV. FINAL SETTLEMENT OF THE ACCOUNTS

The final settlement of the Accounts will be done only after the receipt of the following:

a. Final audited utilization certificate

b. Final audited statement of expenditure

c. List of equipment(s) procured from the project along with their cost, date of purchase, and suggestions for disposal.

The grant paid by the DHR shall be refunded by the institution as and when the investigator discontinues a scheme midway or does not follow the detailed technical programme as laid down and approved by the DHR. All raw data (in all forms) should be made

available/accessible to DHR.

XVI. PUBLICATION OF RESULTS/PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

The research papers and publications based on the results of the research project should acknowledge the financial assistance by the DHR. Copies/reprints of paper(s) published should be sent along with the progress/final report.

XVII. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR)

All new intellectual property viz., patents, designs, etc. generated as part of the research supported by the DHR under the Scheme would belong to the Department and other partners as per the ICMR-IPR policy, till any new policy is formulated by the DHR.

XVIII. ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL

- The fellows will not be treated as an employee of the DHR. He/she will be under the administrative control of the host institution where he/she works and will be subject to the Rules and Regulations of the Institute concerned.
- Age-limits would apply as stated in the Individual components. In addition, In the exceptional proposals, on the recommendation of the Technical Appraisal Committee, Secretary DHR shall have powers to give an additional age relaxation up to 2 years in the respective category.
- The fellowships are area/Institution and person specific and are not transferable.
- The Fellow will not be allowed to change the mentor and place of laboratory/medical institution, once it is finalized and approved. However, in special circumstances, such permission for change can be granted with the approval of the Joint Secretary, DHR.

XIX. LEAVE RULES

- Fellows will be entitled for leaves as per guidelines of host/parent institute for project staff/JRF/SRF/research fellows.
- During the project duration, the candidate should not be away from the project for a period of more than 15 days in continuation and 30 days total in a year without the prior consent of DHR.
- Leave without fellowship can be granted up to one month in a year. Maternity leave will be applicable as per the Government of India norms.

XX. PROVISION OF CO-PI

There is no provision of co-PI in the Women scientist category program. However, the fellow can have a co-mentor(s) in the project. In NRI/OCI/PIO categories, the PI can have up to 2 Co-PIs in the project.

PROGRAM SPECIFIC TERMS & CONDITIONS

SHORT-TERM STUDENTSHIP (STS)

1. Students must follow the updated instructions and updated forms provided on the DHR portal.
2. Incomplete applications/proposals will not be considered. DHR reserves the rights to approve/disapprove the research concept note upon scientific evaluation.
3. The online application submission call will be advertised every year, subject to availability of funds. (Remarks- This is already mentioned in no. of seats, is this to be written for even notifying the annual call also?)
4. The students admitted in the first and second professional year of MBBS/BDS may be assigned a Guide from the same medical/dental college and may develop and conceptualize a research concept note under their guidance in the field of biomedical research.
5. The concept note should be submitted in the prescribed format only

and should have details of the original research work to be carried out by the student during six months in three years, and should not be copied from earlier research/thesis/other sources. The research concept note should be submitted without any personal/identifying information like name, college name, mobile nos. email IDs, etc. of the student or the Guide or the college.

6. If in methodology the name of the college is required, then only the name of the district should be given. If any identifying information is found in the concept note, consent form or patient information sheet, survey form, etc. then the proposal will not be considered further.
7. If any kind of research misconduct is noticed at any stage the proposal/ report would be rejected.
8. One student can submit only one proposal under a guide.
9. A guide can forward only one student application during each call. Please note that in case of more than one submission by a student/ guide all proposals will be automatically rejected.
10. The students guide must be a regular faculty only; junior/senior residents and contractual staff are not eligible to act as guides for students.
11. The cost of the proposed research work is to be borne by the host medical college/institution.
12. The stipend is meant only for the student as his/her scholarship.
13. The e-certificate will be issued to the students on approval of the final research report by reviewer/DHR. The name of the guide would be mentioned on the same certificate, no separate e-certificates will be issued to the guide.
14. DHR does not recognize any co-guides for the STS project, even then if there is a co-guide it is solely up to the Guide.
15. The student should obtain approval from the Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC), if the proposal involves research on human participants and from the Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC) if the work involves the use of animals.
16. The IEC/ IAEC approval should be obtained any time before beginning actual research work.
17. Any research carried out by the student without appropriate prior approval by the IEC/IAEC will be rejected. If IEC/IEAC is not required for the proposed work, then an exemption certificate

from IEC is only to be submitted along with the concept note. Any self-claim of "No ethics approval required" for any type of study will not be accepted from student/guide/institute.

18. If in case the IEC/IEAC approvals are not given by the time of application submission, then an undertaking from the guide is to be submitted for the same. The same may be submitted either along with a concept note or with the report.
19. Clinical trial studies/protocols are not eligible for submission under the STS programme. Any proposal involving a clinical trial will be automatically rejected.
20. Informed consent is to be obtained for research on human participants. For more information, please refer to DHR-ICMR National Ethical Guidelines for Biomedical and Health Research on Human Participants, 2017 is available on https://naitik.gov.in/DHR/Downloads
21. Submission of wrong information/document etc. detected at any stage will lead to disqualification and the application/proposal/project will be treated as cancelled.
22. The studentship is non-transferable and cannot be given to another student in the event of non-acceptance after getting approval. However, in case of transfer of guide the student can take another faculty member for the same department as guide with permission from the highest competent authority of the same medical/dental college.
23. The fellowship is non-transferable. If a student transfers from one institute to another, the fellowship shall be cancelled, and the entire fellowship amount received must be refunded to DHR through BharatKosh.
24. Incomplete/ late applications will not be considered.
25. On approval of the research concept note and report, stipend will be paid in instalments as mentioned in the guidelines through RTGS and will be transferred to the STUDENT'S OWN SINGLE HOLDER BANK ACCOUNT. No Joint Accounts (parents/guide) will be accepted.
26. The bank account should be with a nationalized bank, public sector bank or private sector bank, and the concerned bank must be registered/enlisted on the PFMS portal for processing of the studentship payment [NOTE: Accounts maintained with

co-operative banks, Post Offices, Federal Bank, Gramin Bank etc. or any other such bank that is not registered/listed on the PFMS portal shall not be accepted for the purpose of release of the studentship amount].

27. The DHR reserves the right for no further discussion on rejected/incomplete applications/research proposals/late submissions.
28. Information from students may be used by DHR designated authorities to contact students/invite them to research methodology workshops/conferences or other academic activities, if required.
29. Requests for considering or providing the information pertaining to the following categories shall not be entertained by DHR:

- Technical errors on the portal on the last date and minute of submission leading to incomplete submission.
- Names and contact details of students/guides/reviewers.
- Any other details of any student/Guide
- Details of STS projects-approved/disapproved and reasons for acceptance/rejection.
- Minutes of STS meetings/marks/scores
- Or any other confidential information

30. The DHR shall make all efforts to keep the information about participating students/guides/scientific reports (soft copies) confidential and in safe custody, however, will not be responsible for any unintentional loss of any kind due to unforeseen reasons at this time.
31. Research Integrity is crucial for good conduct of research and its outcomes. The student/ guide should try to imbibe the right research culture and temperament for conducting quality research.
32. Do not copy paste write up/ information/ results/ data from other sources (published or unpublished) without giving appropriate reference.
33. Conflicts of interest, if any, should also be declared. Conflicts of interest are situations in which financial or any personal reasons can compromise an individual's professional judgment in

proposing, conducting, supervising or reporting research and therefore can badly affect the quality of research and its reporting and the scientific objectivity of the proposed research/ report.

34. All submissions to DHR must be prepared by the student under mentorship of the Guide. The Guide is required to sign an undertaking to the effect that it is original work and not plagiarized from any other sources.
35. In case at any time point of plagiarism is detected, then the STS research proposal/ STS report will be rightly rejected. DHR reserves the right to accept or reject or take other appropriate action if any misconduct or fraud or plagiarism is detected at any point of time.
36. Dissemination about the program will be carried out at regular intervals to create awareness about the newly revised program which will enable the students to excel in research endeavors.
37. In addition, seminars/workshops will also be conducted to strengthen the essentials fundamental research concepts, best practices, and innovative approaches to cover the key aspects of research methodology in the field of biomedical research for producing more impactful research outcomes.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARATION OF STS RESEARCH CONCEPT NOTE

Please follow the format given below:

Reference ID	(Generated upon registration)
Title	(25 words max.)
Introduction	(300 words +100 words)Remarks: can be written as 400 words max. instead of a plus symbol which confusing.
Objectives	(100 words max.)
Methodology	(800 words +100 words)
Implications	(100 words +50words)
References (Vancouver style)	(300 words max.)

The stated word limit is for guiding the students and may only exceed the limit as stated above.

Important note**:** *No name/ contact details (Telephone number/ email) should be provided. The proposal would be automatically rejected if any identifying information of the student/ guide is provided in the proposal.*

Reference ID- Please provide only the reference ID for identification on the top. Identifying information like name of the student/guide, contact details like contact numbers/email addresses should not be provided in the proposal/project for unbiased review.
Title-A good title should be short, accurate and concise. It should make the central objectives and variables of the study clear to the reviewer.
Introduction-The purpose of an introduction is to provide the rationale behind the work, so that the reviewer may understand and appreciate the objectives. Please describe the importance (significance) of the study. Defend the model- Provide a rationale and describe the reasoning that led you to selecting them. Briefly describe the experimental design and how it accomplished the stated objectives. Describe the situation and specify clearly the gaps in the existing knowledge and/or controversy and in conclusive evidence. The discussion should be supported with appropriate references.
Objectives-Should specify what kind of knowledge the study is expected to obtain. It should give a clear notion of what is to be described, determined, identified, compared or confirmed. Hypothesis may be stated, and objectives should be specific, to the point and achievable.
Methodology- Describes all the procedures that will be used to achieve the objectives and justify the study design including any techniques and procedures to be used. This may include type of study and study design, study population, sample size and selection criteria, Proposed intervention (if applicable), Data collection procedures &instruments used, quality control, confidentiality, plan of analysis/ statistical tools, ethical considerations with all required forms.
Implications- Describes what is expected to be achieved or gained from the proposed research. This could be given in terms of knowledge gained by the student or in terms of scientific advancement.
References-Provide appropriate references in Vancouver style only from recently published journals/ literature supporting the proposed research
Research area: Refer point 4 (Remarks: there is no numbering given, may please check.)[Introduction]

MD/MS/DM/MCh/DNB/DrNB THESIS SUPPORT PROGRAM

1. The research topics should mainly aim and focus on the thrust areas of clinical and biomedical research as per the DHR and ICMR mandate with research outcomes that can be used for translating them into tangible products useful for the society and country.

2. The applicant will indicate their choice of the research topic as per DHR and ICMR mandate and will have to submit a research proposal in prescribed DHR format only. Please see Annexure-..... for the prescribed format of research proposal. Research proposals not submitted in the format will be disqualified.

3. Applicants must apply within 24 months of admission/joining the course (MD/MS/DM/MCh /DNB/DrNB/MDS) at their respective medical/dental college. Applicants with a joining date more 24 months as on the last date of application will not be considered.

4. A self-undertaking declaring the plagiarism check along with a Plagiarism report from Turnitin or iThenticate only to be submitted along with the application. Failure to do so will make the application ineligible.

5. The applications are to be submitted against a call for applications notified by DHR which is done annually around April or May.

6. Applications are to be submitted ONLINE only via DHR-ePMS portal

7. The interested and eligible applicants may register themselves on DHR-ePMS portal and then proceed for submission as per given instructions on the portal.

8. The guide from the subject domain of the PG thesis work must be selected from the same medical /dental college where the applicant is studying PG. Please note: PG Residents/Pool officers/temporary faculty/Consultants etc. cannot be Guide under this program.

9. In cases, if the Guide is transferred or resigns in between the ongoing tenure then a new Guide from the same college has to be assigned to the fellow. DHR should be informed after proper approvals from the competent authority of the college.

10. The submitted research proposal has to be thoroughly reviewed and approved by the Guide.

11. A plagiarism check report for the proposed thesis research proposal has to be submitted with Turnitin or iThenticate along with online application. Failure to do so will disqualify the application.

12. Proper Ethics approval and other applicable regulatory approvals are required before the start of the work. If IEC/IAEC/regulatory approvals are not done at the time of application then an undertaking from the Guide and applicant should be submitted with the application. Ethics approvals are not mandatory at the time of application submission.

13. The sanctioned grant should be strictly used for the purpose of thesis work only, like for consumables, contingencies, APC charges, thesis printing work related etc. following fair and reasonable procedure through the host institute approvals as applicable.

14. The applicant shall submit the information to DHR regarding the way the funds were utilized duly signed by the Guide and Head of the Institute/College.

15. If an applicant leaves the proposed course/program, the first instalment amount received by the applicant will have to be remitted to Bharat Kosh account with suitable justification through the Guide.

16. The following documents are mandatorily required to submitted through proper channel for final instalment release, failure to submit any one of them will result in no final instalment release:

a) *Soft copy of thesis with acknowledgement to DHR funding support.*

b) *Thesis submission certificates/letter issued by host institute with date of submission clearly mentioned.*

c) *One page summary of thesis with stated outcomes in terms of 4Ds (Descriptive, Discovery, Development and Delivery) of ICMR.*

d) Basic Course in Biomedical Research (BCBR) completion certificate copy.

e) *Original research publication(s) peer-reviewed and published in a legitimate journal indexed in PubMed/WoS/Scopus; as a 1st author from thesis work only, with due acknowledgement to DHR for funding support. Please carefully read the revised 2nd instalment release amount applicable as stated in the guidelines.*

17. The grant shall be issued as per stated timeline and instalments in the name of the applicant directly, with a copy to the Guide and the Head of the Institute.

18. The thesis submission certificate/letter should clearly bear the date of thesis submitted.

19. The applicant will acknowledge the financial assistance provided by DHR in the publication(s) as a first author in peer-reviewed PubMed/WoS/Scopus indexed journals emerging out of the thesis work and in the thesis as well.

20. Any delay in submitting the final thesis submission documents beyond tenure of 06 years should be informed to DHR in advance.

21. Dissemination about the program will be carried out at regular intervals to create awareness about the newly revised program which will enable the students to excel in research endeavors.

22. In addition, seminars/workshops will also be conducted to strengthen the essentials fundamental research concepts, best practices, and innovative approaches to cover the key aspects of research methodology in the field of biomedical research for producing more impactful research outcomes.

DR. M.K. BHAN YOUNG MEDICAL FACULTY Ph.D. PROGRAM

1. Any INIs/medical colleges/research institutions who fulfil institute eligibility criteria & are willing to on-board the program may send Expression of Interest (EoI) to Secy DHR & then after approvals at DHR, a MoA will be signed with them.

2. Only these institutes will be eligible to send the nominations of young medical faculty against the call notified by DHR.

3. The application/nominations are to be submitted online via DHR ePMS portal only.

4. Each institute will have a designated Nodal Officer nominated by the institute competent authority at the time of signing of MoA. He/She should be a senior official from the institute.

5. The Nodal Officer will be responsible for complete execution coordinating and and monitoring of the program at their respective institutes.

6. The respective institutes may screen the applications and research proposal at their end before submitting to DHR.

7. Applications/nominations may be sent from medical faculty from clinical disciplines preferably. If any pre/para clinical nominations are to be sent then the proposed research work has to be a very novel and translation outcome-oriented research work for Ph.D. as will be evaluated by the experts.

8. Initially a research concept note will be asked to submit, which will be reviewed by a Technical Expert Committee (TEC) as constituted by Secy DHR.

9. The eligible applicants will be called for a brief virtual presentation and discussion of the concept note before the TEC.

10. The shortlisted applicants will be then required to submit detailed research proposals based on the TEC recommendations.

11. Final selection will be done after the evaluation of the detailed research proposal.

12. The guide/co-guide selection should be strictly as per the stated criteria only.

13. The following documents are to be timely submitted to DHR for release of next grant:

- *Annual work done report in the given format duly reviewed and approved by the Doctoral Advisory Committee (DAC), with DAC minutes and approval enclosed.*
- *The UC and SoE (prescribed formats only) duly issued by the institute competent authority and finance section as per proposed budget expenditure.*
- *Ethics/regulatory approvals to be submitted within the 1st year of tenure.*
- *Budget re-appropriation proposal with detailed budget for remaining tenure, if the amount required for next subsequent year is different from what was initially proposed.*

14. Any major change in the research proposal will not be permitted after completion of one year.

15. There is a provision to request for a research grant more than 10 lakhs

in the 2nd or 3rd years, if required for the Ph.D. work. A proper justification for the same may be given submitted through the Guide and Nodal Officer. However, the max. grant will not exceed 50 lakhs for stated tenure or completion of Ph.D. whichever is earlier.

16. Budget re-appropriation in such cases have to be submitted to DHR along with APR and UC and SoE through the guide and host institute.

17. Budget expenditure to be proposed under the given Head as mentioned in the Utilization of Grant in the Guidelines.

18. Upon completion of tenure the following final submission documents are required to be submitted:

- *Final thesis soft copy with due acknowledgement to DHR funding support and duly forwarded by the Guide and institute with DAC approvals.*
- *Thesis submission certificate issued by the concerned institute*
- *Final UC and SoE with refund of any unspent amount to Bharat Kosh*
- *Original research article(s) as first author from the Ph.D. thesis work published in peer-reviewed PubMed/WoS/Scopus indexed journals with due acknowledgement to the DHR funding support.*
- *Any patents/technology which has been granted/developed.*

19. The grant can be terminated at any time on a month's notice, if the progress of work is not satisfactory or upon receipt of an adverse report from the Guide and can be terminated forthwith if the particulars given in the application form are also found to be incorrect or false.

20. Dissemination about the program will be carried out at regular intervals to create awareness about the newly revised program which will enable the students to excel in research endeavors.

21. In addition, workshops will also be conducted to strengthen the essentials fundamental research concepts, best practices, and innovative approaches to cover the key aspects of research methodology in the field of biomedical research for producing more impactful research outcomes.

BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS FOR Ph.D. IN HEALTH SCIENCES

1. The selected applicant may join the fellowship within two years (as mentioned in

the award letter) after the declaration of results.

2. The selected fellows will be required to submit a willingness letter to DHR within one month of result declaration if they wish to avail fellowship after the issue of the Award letter.

3.The fellows may register themselves on the ePMS online portal and then proceed as follows:

- At the time of joining and for activation of the fellowship, the fellow shall submit a research synopsis through the Supervisor/Guide and the Host Institute.
- The synopsis must be duly approved by the Doctoral/Research Advisory Committee and shall be evaluated by an Expert Committee constituted by the Secretary, DHR.
- ·In cases where only a tentative research proposal is submitted at the time of joining, the fellow shall provide an undertaking specifying a clear timeline for submission of the detailed research synopsis.

4.The plan of work must be prepared, as defined in the online application form, under supervision of the Guide.

5.The problem to be studied should be well-defined. It should relate to a particular aspect of a problem and not be of a general nature and should be capable of completion within the fellowship period.

6. The joining documents are to be submitted online through the ePMS DHR portal in the prescribed format within 24 months of the issue of the award letter. No hard copies of any document will be accepted.

7. The following documents are to be submitted at the time of joining (online through ePMS portal):

Joining report (original copy) mentioning exact date of joining (indicating forenoon/ afternoon), recent photo duly signed and seal/rubber stamp (Guide) and Head of the Institute's name (format enclosed- Remarks: All formats can be given in a separate annexure in the guidelines for all programs).

- Ph.D. enrolment/registration letter from the Institute/University through the Guide
- Mandate Form (format enclosed): DHR will release all funds to the Head of Institute Only (clearly mention to whom funds may be released i.e.,

Registrar/Director/Dean/Principal/others, please specify).

- DHR JRF Application Form (format enclosed).
- Applicants availing the hostel facilities in the Institute/any other Institution will not be eligible for HRA. A Certificate to this effect may be furnished by the hostel accommodation authority of the Institute in prescribed format (format enclosed).
- Undertaking of the fellow for DHR- JRF/SRF (format enclosed).
- The synopsis/detailed research proposal is to be submitted to DHR for evaluation and final approvals.

8. The joining should be sent through the Guide and the Head of the Institute where the applicant proposes to work. If fellow is already employed, then a NOC from his/her employer to accept the fellowship should be submitted.

9. The applicant should not draw any stipend or salary or be in receipt of any other type of financial assistance except leave salary during the fellowship. A certificate to this effect must be furnished by the applicant along with joining documents.

10. The Head of the Institution, where research work will be carried out, must certify that equipment, laboratory and other facilities are available in the Institution for the proposed research work, and these will be made available to the fellow for the Ph.D. tenure.

11. It should be noted that no funds shall be provided for the purchase of equipment or non- expendable articles of use.

12.All projects involving human beings/animals must be cleared by the institute ethics committee (IEC)/Institute animal ethical committee (IAEC) of the Institute. May kindly follow the DHR-ICMR National Ethical guidelines.

13. IEC approval for the project work proposed should have been obtained in time, to avoid unnecessary delays in starting the research work and submission of annual progress reports on time to avoid delay in release of the fellowship amount and terminations. DHR is not responsible for the administrative and institutional delays for doctoral committee meetings, IEC meetings.

14. Any delays in submitting the same should be informed to the DHR with prior information through the Guide.

15. The fellows enrolled for Ph.D. under AcSIR shall be entitled to a maximum of 30 days of leave per year for all types of leave combined, which may be accumulated up to a maximum of 90 days during the fellowship tenure, subject to applicable rules. Leave of up to 30 days shall require prior approval from the host institute. Any leave exceeding 30 days shall require prior approval of the Secretary, DHR, and the Director General, ICMR.

16. In the event of the fellow leaving before completing one year, he/she will be required to refund the stipend drawn by him/her from the date of joining to the date of leaving the fellowship.

17. Transfer of Fellowship:

- Request for transfer of fellowship will not be entertained after completing one year as JRF in a particular institution/organization, except on compelling circumstances for which the fellow & his/her guide should submit proper justification prior to transferring the fellowship, which is up to the Joint Secretary of DHR to review and approve for the same.
- In case of transfer within one year, the 'No Objection Certificate' should also be produced by the fellow from the supervisor and Head of the department of university/institute from where transfer is sought and consent of the guide/host institute where fellowship is sought to be transferred by giving reasons of transfer.
- No fellow will be allowed to join another institute without seeking prior approval from DHR. If the applicant leaves the parent institute/university and joins elsewhere without approval of DHR, his/her fellowship will be terminated from the date of resignation of the institution/organization where he joined initially. Only in special circumstances, the fellowship may be transferred with the prior approval of the Joint Secretary DHR.

18. Administrative control:

- No T.A. will be paid because of such a transfer.
- The Fellow will not be treated as an employee of the DHR.
- The Fellow will be under the administrative control of the host Institution/university where he/she works and from where he/she is registered and will be subject to the administrative rules and regulations of the Institute concerned.
- The service of the Fellow will be terminated at the conclusion of the fellowship.
- Fellows are not entitled for DA, CCA, Bonus and Leave Travel Concession (LTC).

19. HRA & Medical Benefits:

- All Research Fellows may be allowed hostel accommodation in the host institute wherever available and those residing in a hostel provided by the host institute OR hostel by other University/Institute will not be eligible for HRA.
- Medical benefits will be allowed to a Fellow as per the rules of the Institution where they are working. DHR will not bear any financial burden in this regard.

20. Annual reports and Ph.D. Thesis submission:

- The Fellow shall submit annual reports and up-gradation reports only as per the prescribed format.
- Subsequent annual reports as per the standard pro-forma shall be submitted through the Guide two months before the completion of fellowship year.
- No change in the Title of the Project is permitted after submission of the 1st Annual Report.
- Further continuation of fellowship for each year will depend upon the progress of work.
- Failure to submit a report in time may necessitate the termination of fellowship. Two copies of the final report, duly typed clearly, as per standard pro-forma, of the work done during the tenure of fellowship, will be submitted in the last month before the completion of termination of fellowship.
- A list of the papers published or presented at a Scientific Conference during the term of the fellowship should also be furnished in the annual and final reports.
- The work done can be utilized for submission of thesis for a degree after obtaining prior approval of the Director General, DHR-ICMR. Due acknowledgement to the DHR-ICMR, should, however, be given in all papers published from the Ph.D. work.
- The final summary of the thesis (in PDF format) is required to be submitted to DHR-ICMR upon completion of the degree through Guide, with due acknowledgment given to DHR-ICMR in the Ph.D. thesis.

21. Annual Progress Report submission timelines (online only):

- 1st APR: upon 10 months from joining
- 2nd APR: upon 24 months of joining
- 3rd APR: upon 2 years and 10 months of joining.

All APRs should be submitted giving complete factual details of the research work done, through the Guide and institute along with his/her appraisal. Documents required as applicable every year:

a. 1st/2nd/3rd detailed work done report

b. Along with 2nd APR, an up-gradation letter from JRF to SRF (format enclosed), duly recommended and forwarded by Guide and recommended, forwarded and signed by Institutional Committee Members including One external member (obligatory) in the field (format enclosed).

c. Statement of Accounts/Expenditures duly forwarded by the concerned administrative authority.

- 4th & 5th APR: Upon 3years and 10 months and completion of tenure respectively. Following documents will be required:

a. Summary of thesis work through Guide, and soft copy of thesis (with due acknowledgment given to DHR) in pdf format

b. Ph.D. Degree (provisional attested copy can also be submitted)

c. Research Paper(s) published only from the thesis work, with due acknowledgment given to DHR.

d. Final Statement of Accounts / Expenditures duly forwarded by the concerned administrative authority.

22. Payment of funds: The DHR will pay the fellowship stipend and the contingent grant to the Head of the institute for disbursement to the Fellow. The University/Institution shall be responsible for the proper utilization of the grant and for a rendition of accounts to DHR.

The payment of stipends and contingent expenditures will be governed by the following procedure:

a. Grant to cover fellowship stipend and contingencies for the Fellow will be paid to the Head of the Institutions in a yearly installment. The first instalment will be released as soon as a report, duly forwarded by the Guide is received regarding the assumption of charge by the Fellow.

b. The next instalment will be released only on receipt of an APR, utilisation

certificate and statement of expenditure for the previous instalment.

c. The last three months grants stipend, contingency & HRA may be released after receiving the certificate of submission of Ph.D. Thesis.

d. A separate receipts and payments account will be maintained by the Institution. The accounts will be subject to audit by the authorized auditors of the Institution. At the end of the financial year, an audited statement of account along with the utilization certificate shall be sent to the DHR.

e. Further grants will be stopped unless audited statements of accounts and utilization certificates are received within a period of one year after the end of the financial year for which the grant was sanctioned/released.

f. Any unspent balance out of the grant paid by the DHR will be refunded in Bharatkosh and share the receipt to the DHR.

g. The Head of the Institution and the Guide shall strictly adhere to the terms and conditions governing the award of the fellowship with regard to the disbursement of the stipend and the incurrence of contingent expenditure.

h. The Contingent grant can be utilized only for the following purposes:

- Acquisition of books and documents of relevance to the research topic including reprints/off prints provided these are not available in the library of the University/Institution. The requisition in this regard must be recommended by the Supervisor and approved by the Head of the Department. The books will become the property of the University/Institution's Library after purchase and may be issued to the Supervisor/. Fellow after accession for use by the indenting Fellow till the end of the fellowship. Normally, not more than 25% of the total annual contingent grant can be utilized for this purpose.
- Towards meeting actual train fare and Distance Allowance (DA). During tours, the Fellow will be entitled to TA/DA as admissible in case of government servants drawing basic pay equivalent to the stipend. The calculation of the daily allowance will be made from the date of commencement of the journey to the date the Fellow returns to the headquarters.
- Petty expenditure for the purchase of chemicals, reagents, stationery postal charges, and registration fee for attending scientific conferences.
- Charges for typing a thesis are limited to up to 10 % of the contingent grant.
- Photographic materials for research or thesis work.
- Computation charges.

i. NOTE: Non-expendable articles except those listed above or equipment

cannot be purchased out of the grant. Contingent Grant cannot be utilized for foreign travel or other expenses for visits abroad.

23. Travel: The DHR may approve tours of Fellows for the following purposes:

a. Attending symposium/seminar/conference provided the fellow is presenting a paper, which has been accepted by the organizers of the symposium /seminar/conference.

b. Fieldwork connected with the research project.

c. The travel entitlement for JRF/SRF for participation in scientific events/workshops in India will continue to be the same as earlier i.e., 3rd AC by rail.

d. The expenditure on the above accounts will be met from the contingent grant sanctioned to the Fellow.

24. Temporary droppings for teaching or research work:

a. A Research Fellow on the recommendation of Guide, and provided that his/her University/ Institute has no objection, may be permitted by DHR to take up a temporary paid lectureship/research job in a recognized R&D Institution/University, College/Institute of repute/Recognized R & D Institution/ PDF studies in India & abroad for a period not exceeding one year during the entire tenure of the Fellowship (JRF & SRF together).

b. The Research Fellow will not be entitled to any extension of the JRF fellowship for such periods. The Fellow will not be entitled to any stipend and contingency grant during such leave. Such leave period will be counted in the tenure.

c. Such leave can be taken only after joining and working as JRF at least for one year.

d. The fellow has to report for duty at the same place from where he proceeded on leave.

e. The due submission of APRs and other documents as required should be submitted as per DHR guidelines on time.

f. The stipend and research grants will be released annually only after

DHR reviews the annual progress of the selected fellows.

g. Annual Utilization Certificate is needed from April to March (every financial year).

h. Dissemination about the program will be carried out at regular intervals to create awareness about the newly revised program which will enable the students to excel in research endeavours.

i. In addition, seminars will also be conducted to strengthen the essentials fundamental research concepts, best practices, and innovative approaches to cover the key aspects of research methodology in the field of biomedical research for producing more impactful research outcomes.

SHORT TERM AND LONG TERM INTERNATIONAL TRAINING GRANT

1. The candidates should correspond with the International Institute/Laboratory to be visited for their placement. A letter of acceptance from the Institute to be visited overseas is required to be produced along with the application form. Once selected, the Fellow will not be allowed to change the Foreign Host Institute other than the one mentioned in the application.

2. DHR will release the grant (stipend of US$ 3000 per month; Contingency; Mediclaim Insurance; Return Airfare) to the Fellow's parent Indian institute upon receipt of the following:

i. Copy of Mandate form (duly filled in) of Institute.

ii. Copy of cancelled cheque of the Institute.

3. It will be the responsibility of the Parent Indian institute to disburse the following mentioned financial support to the Fellow upon completion of all formalities.

4 Return economy class excursion airfare through the shortest route. Air tickets booking should be done by the Government of India authorised travel agents viz. Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited (BLCL); Ashok Travels & Tours (ATT); Indian Railways Catering and

Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC)

5. The parent institute may continue to pay salary and other benefits such as leave, medical gratuity, GPF, pension as applicable to the fellow candidate while he/ she is away for the training as per the parent Institute's rules/norms. No liability on any of these accounts will be borne by DHR-ICMR.

6. The Fellows will be required to execute a will/legal/service bond of Rs. 10.00 lakh to the parent Institute that he/she belongs to and will serve the parent Indian Institute for a period of at least 3 years after return from International training.

7. If the Fellow does not return to India on completion of the training or fails to fulfil any of the above requirements, he/she will be liable to reimburse the whole of the expenditure incurred during the training period, including the airfare, from the Guarantors in one lump sum within one month of the completion of the term of the training and remit it to the parent institute. An undertaking to this effect on a Rs.50/- non-judicial stamp paper however will be required to be submitted by the Guarantors to the parent institute, in case of selection of Fellow.

8. The Parent institute should ensure that following formalities/documents are completed/submitted by the Fellow to the institute before release of funds to the candidate:

i. Political clearance for the visit.

ii. A copy of VISA.

iii. Service/legal bond for Rs. 10.00 lacs to the parent Institute

iv. Undertaking by 2 guarantors on Rs. 50/- non-judicial stamp paper

v. Copy of Passport details

9. The Fellow should submit a final work report (in the prescribed format) on the research and training activities undertaken in the foreign Laboratory/Institute during the fellowship period. This should be submitted to the Parent institute (with a copy to DHR) within 2 weeks of his/her return to India.

10. A progress report (in the prescribed format) evaluating the performance of the fellow by the Foreign Mentor from the host institution should also be submitted to the parent institute (with a copy to DHR).

11. The Utilisation Certificate (in the prescribed format) should be submitted by the Fellow to the parent institute within 2 weeks of return for final adjustment of stipend/bills.

12. Total claim bills on the budget head of training will be reimbursed not exceeding the specified amount.

13. The fellowship should begin within the same financial year and must be completed before 31st March of the next year. Dates once decided will be treated as final.

14. In the event of cancellation of a travel ticket due to change of the date of visit/change of sector of journey or any other reasons, the cancellation charges and difference of fare will be met by the Fellow.

15. DHR and ICMR will not be liable for anything whatsoever including GOI clearances, medical insurance etc., beyond the approved duration of stay of Fellow in the foreign country.

16. In case a Fellow withdraws/refuses to undertake the fellowship at the last minute after issuance of the award letter / disbursement of the funds he/she will be de-barred for succeeding three years from availing the DHR International fellowship.

17. The parent Indian institute should submit the following to DHR within 30 days of the Fellow's return to India:

i. Utilisation Certificate (in the prescribed format)

ii. Report of the Foreign Mentor

iii. Completion Certificate submitted by Fellow.

iv Receipt of unspent balance

v. Bills / receipts whenever asked by the fellow.

vi. Bharatkosh receipts of unspent balance if any.

Selection Criteria

Screening of applications will be done by ICMR/DHR and the short listed candidates will be considered by the Selection Committee for awarding the International Training Grant. The selection of the candidate will be based on evaluation of the merit of the candidate and the training needs in the field of medical research by a Committee of Eminent scientists. The commitment to utilize the research skills and knowledge acquired by the Applicants after their return in India will also be assessed.

WOMEN SCIENTIST FELLOWSHIP & HEALTH RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP FOR DIASPORA SCIENTISTS

The Scheme is being implemented as a part of the Human Resource Development of Department of Health Research (DHR) as per approved guidelines of the scheme inter- alia, ensuring the following:

i. The fellowship is scientific (Remarks: may see what it mean?)/individual specific, non-transferable and taxable.

ii. The fellowship/project will be sanctioned, initially for one year only. It will be reviewed periodically by an expert group and shall continue only after receiving the satisfactory report from the expert panel. Yearly UC will be submitted at the end of 11 months without which the consecutive grants will not be released.

iii. The institute shall submit a yearly utilization report and audited statement of accounts carried out by the statutory body of the institute.

iv. The fellow should submit the acceptance letter through the head of the Institute stating that he/she will adhere to the terms and conditions of fellowship of HRD Scheme. In case the fellow /scientist refused the fellowship after accepting Sanction letter, his/her candidature shall be cancelled and candidate

would be debarred for three year for applying for any HRD fellowship of DHR or ICMR.

v. The project will become operative with effect from the date of receipt of fund by the host institute or afterwards. The date should be intimated by the PI and host institute to the DHR.

vi. Steps to procure the approved equipment (if applicable) should be initiated immediately (to avoid escalation of cost) following the prescribed norms of the institution.

vii. The fellow, if get selected for permanent job/transferred at any other institute, from the present institution, he/she will be allowed to shift the project along with him/her to the new Institute, provided both institutes submit the No Objection Certificate.

viii. The PI will not entrust the implementation of the work for which the grant is being sanctioned to another institution and to divert the grant receipts as assistance to the latter institution. In case the scientist is not in a position to execute or complete the project, he/she may be required to refund forthwith to DHR the entire amount of grant- in –aid received (Please see).

ix. Apart from the consolidated fellowship amount, no other allowance such as PF, LTA, etc. will be permissible. No liability on any of the accounts will be borne by DHR.

x. The fellow is entitled for leave as per the guidelines of the host institute for the project staff/JRF/SRF/ research fellow etc.

xi. The host institute shall provide a proper workplace to the fellow/scientist along with the identity card.

xii. The host institute shall maintain the attendance register of the fellow. This information will be made available to DHR as and when required.

xiii. The salary of staff appointed on the project should be paid as indicated in

the budget statement attached. An undertaking would be furnished by the host institution that the staff will be engaged for the project purely on contractual basis and would have no claim to a permanent employment with the DHR. No alteration in the staff approved can be made by the institute/research Organization without the permission of DHR.

xiv. The Grant Sanctioned under contingency/equipment/travel/recurring cannot be transferred from one head to another head without prior permission from competent authority of DHR. However, powers of re-appropriation costs within the total sanctioned budget upto a maximum of Rs. 1 Lakh (except Salary) for the project shall lie with the competent authority of the Parent Institute.

xv. The Institute shall not dispose of or encumber or utilize the assets acquired wholly or substantially out of the Government grant for purposes other than those for which the grant has been sanctioned without prior permission from DHR.

xvi. If the grant or any part thereof is not utilized for the purpose for which it is sanctioned, it shall be refunded to the Consolidated Fund of India through Bharatkosh immediately.

xvii. Grantee/institution receiving the grant shall furnish Achievement-cum performance report (final) two months prior of the scheduled completion period of the project and send it to DHR.

xviii. Utilization of Travel Grant, Contingency Grant, etc would be as per the Guidelines of the Scheme, available on the website of DHR (https://dhr.gov.in/).

xix. The Institute should maintain a register as per GFR of the payment and semi-permanent assets acquired wholly or mainly out of Government grants and a copy thereof should be furnished to this Ministry.

xx. The register of assets maintained by the Institute shall be made available for scrutiny by the Audit.

xxi. Any deviation in project implementation against proposed plan should be

intimated to DHR well in time and reasons thereof.

xxii. A utilization certificate in the Performa given in the website (https://dhr.gov.in/) under the HRD scheme formats and the audited statement of accounts should be furnished to DHR soon after the accounts of the Institute of the current financial year are audited enable the Government to satisfy themselves that the amount has been utilized for the purpose for which it was sanctioned. These documents should be sent to DHR immediately after the closure of the current financial year and in any case not later than the end of the third month of the next financial year.

xxiii. The accounts of the grantee institution shall be open to inspection by the sanctioning authority and audit both by the CAG of India under the provision of CAG ((DPC) Act, 1971 and internal audit wing of the O/o CCA of the Ministry, whenever the institutions of organization is called to do so.

2. The Payment will be made by the Electronic transfer and receipt of the same shall be duly acknowledged to the DHR. Mandate, form & Aadhaar no. is required for this purpose.

Other Terms & Conditions of the Grant:

i. After completion of the Project/activity the ownership of the physical and intellectual assets created or acquired out of the funds granted shall vest with the Department of Health Research.

ii. PI wishing to publish papers based on the research work done under this project should acknowledge the assistance received from DHR, indicating the name of the scheme. Kindly inform DHR also about any publication, participation as result of project's output after taking permission from DHR.

iii. Expenditure should not (account) exceed the budget sanctioned for the project. Re- appropriation of savings to meet excess expenditure under various sub heads shall not be made without the approval of the DHR. No expenditure shall be incurred on items not sanctioned under the scheme.

iv. Extension beyond the approved duration would not be entertained. If interesting/important leads emerge that need to be followed-up, a separate proposal may be submitted. Only in exceptional cases, where a valid justification exists, and recommended by the Technical Evaluation Committee and Approval Committee an extension can be considered to complete the project. Extension request has to be sent 6 months in advance otherwise extension will not be considered.

v. At the completion of the project, the final report should be sent in the prescribed format as given in the website (https://dhr.gov.in/) under the HRD scheme formats. The report should be submitted not later than three months from the date of completion of the project. Failure to submit the Annual/final report in time may lead to termination of the project without any notice. The parent institute will ensure the timely completion of project and reports. The receipt of the letter may kindly be acknowledged.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TRAVEL GRANT

1. Application should be submitted only online. No other mode (Post/ Courier/ Email) of submission is accepted.
2. The application should be submitted before 60 days (Minimum) from the starting date of the conference/workshop/symposium. If the application is not received in time, the request will not be considered.
3. Applications must be forwarded through the proper channel via your Institute Head (e.g., Director, Principal, Registrar or Dean). Applications submitted without this official endorsement will be automatically rejected.
4. The applicant should have an accepted paper/abstract for presentation or an invitation to Chair a Session with a lecture or as a Keynote Speaker.
5. The theme of the Conference/ Seminar/ Symposium/ Workshop should

be related to the thrust areas/ activities of DHR-ICMR. (Application to merely attend annual meetings of professional Societies or for training/courses will not be considered).

6. The research publications indexed in PubMed/WoS/SCI/SCIE, during the last five years is to be submitted

7. Ensure that the Conference is not a predatory one. If the conference is found to be predatory at any stage, the application will be rejected.

8. The air tickets have to be booked from Government Authorised travel agencies (Balmer & Lawrie/Ashok Travel & Tours/IRCTC).

9. The journey should be undertaken in economy class by the shortest route.

10. The journey shall be undertaken strictly from the applicant's workstation or place of residence (i.e., workplace/workstation/residential address) to the official duty point (venue of the conference/workshop/symposium) and back.

11. In cases where air travel is not feasible due to the non-availability of an airport or scheduled flights, travel by rail or road may be permitted as per the Government of India travel norms.

12. For local travel: The applicant needs to travel by public transportation to reach the airport/workstation/place of residence. In cases where there is no public transportation in the provided route, the applicants need to provide a declaration letter stating the non-availability of public transportation in the route, and the declaration form has to be forwarded through the HOD/ Competent authorities.

13. Journey is permissible for two days prior to the date of the Conference and returning journey within two days after the Conference.

14. Travel grant should be used only for the purpose of attending the scientific event for which the DHR accorded its approval for financial support.

15. Those who have once availed of the support cannot apply until the next three years.

16. The applicant should not have availed similar travel support from DHR-ICMR in the last three financial years.

17. No objection certificate is to be submitted from the co-authors, if any

18. The applicant should submit all the required documents post-travel within one month (30 days) of the last day of the event for reimbursement.

19. Reimbursement will be done based on actual expenditure incurred for attending the event with a maximum capping of Rs.1.5 Lakhs, which will include lowest economy airfare, registration fee, VISA fee and travel insurance.

20. Conference registration will be reimbursed only for eligible researchers/scientists aged up to 35 years.

21. Accommodation/daily allowance/per diem is not provided under the international travel grant program.

22. Applicants are strictly prohibited from submitting multiple applications within a single calendar month, regardless of whether the event dates or times differ. If duplicate submissions are received, only the most recently submitted application will be considered final and processed for evaluation.

23. The Secretary, DHR, reserves the absolute right to amend the program's guidelines, terms, and conditions at any time to align with evolving program requirements.

24. If any candidate is found to have furnished incorrect / misleading information at any stage, his/her candidature will be cancelled and no reimbursement will be made. The candidate will also be debarred from availing DHR support under any scheme.

25. Canvassing in any form will disqualify the applicant for DHR Travel Grant.

WORKSHOP FUNDING GRANT

1. The online application complete in all respects together with enclosures must

be submitted at least three months prior to the workshop date on the ePMS DHR portal.

2. Applications submitted without the detailed workshop program with topics and dates and speaker name and details will not be considered.
3. If the participant list is not final, then the concerned field and subject area of the participants should be given in the application form.
4. The budget details to be submitted only as per the DHR format and budget heads stated.
5. The applications will be reviewed by an expert committee constituted by the Secretary DHR based on the workshop topic and its expected outcome and training of human resources in the field of biomedical research.
6. The application should also have the nomination of scientist(s) from ICMR Institutes/Centers/Headquarters as per the relevant subject area to attend the funded workshops.
7. There will be a research methodology session and talk on the dissemination of all the HRD programs in the funded workshops which will be communicated to the organizing secretary after the selection.

Required documents to be submitted along with the application form:

- Cover Letter: A formal cover letter addressed to the DHR stating the workshop details, objectives.
- Workshop proposal: A detailed proposal outlining the objectives, scope, program agenda, list of participants and expected outcomes of the workshop.
- Budget Details: A comprehensive budget plan that includes estimates for expenses related to the workshop, including consumables, food for participants and speakers, honorarium for the expert speakers , travel and accommodation (only for speakers)..

- Workshop Schedule: A tentative schedule or agenda for the workshop, including session topics, speakers (confirmation from speakers to be submitted), and duration.
- Organizational Profile: Information about the organizing institution, including its background, mission, and previous experience in organizing similar events.
- CVs of Organizers: One page CV of key organizers involved in the workshop, as per the format should be submitted.
- Letter of Support: Letters of support or collaboration from relevant stakeholders/medical/nursing colleges /research institutions.
- Registration Process: Details on the registration process for participants, including fees (if any) and criteria for selecting attendees.
- Workshop Brochure : Information about the workshop venue, including its capacity, facilities, and accessibility.