



Department of Science and Technology
Ministry of Science and Technology
Government of India



Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) Scheme
INSPIRE Fellowship
(A component under INSPIRE)

Call for Applications under INSPIRE Fellowship
(2024)

Department of Science & Technology (DST) has taken several pioneering initiatives for attracting meritorious students to study basic and natural sciences at the college and university level, and to pursue research careers in both basic and applied science areas including engineering, medicine, agriculture and veterinary sciences through various components under INSPIRE.

Innovation in Scientific Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE), offers opportunity for pursuing Doctoral Research at any recognized University or Institute in India through Fellowships at same level as National Eligibility Test (NET) qualified candidates. INSPIRE Fellowship component of INSPIRE Programme is focused on attracting students to pursue regular doctoral degree in basic and applied sciences including engineering, medicine, agriculture, veterinary, pharmacy etc. after either Masters' degree in Science/ Applied Science/ Engineering or Bachelors'/Masters' degree in Medicine.

Applications are invited for the year 2024, from eligible candidates preferably in the age group of 22-27 years for Fellowship under the INSPIRE Fellowship component of INSPIRE scheme of DST through the web portal <https://www.online-inspire.gov.in>

Eligibility:

- (a) **INSPIRE Scholar** having secured minimum 70% marks (or CGPA equivalent) in aggregate at M.Sc. or Integrated M.S. / M.Sc.

(or)

(b) **1st Rank Holder** with minimum 70% marks (or CGPA equivalent) **at University level examination in Post-Graduate (PG) level examinations** in Basic/Applied Sciences including Engineering, Pharmacy, Agricultural sciences and Veterinary Sciences from any recognized University and academic Institutions (Excluding Autonomous Colleges) in India.

(or)

(c) **1st Rank Holder at University level examination** in Graduate/Post-graduate Degree in Medicine only from any recognized Indian University or Institute/Statutory Body in India.

Please Note that Students who i) are 1st Rank Holder in College including Autonomous College Examination, ii) have obtained degree (s) through Distance Education Mode and iii) are 1st Rank Holder in any specialization given at M.Sc. 2nd/ last year, are not eligible for the offer of INSPIRE Fellowship.

Candidates who are Indian Citizens and have acquired their eligibility for INSPIRE Fellowship during the years 2023 and 2024 are eligible to apply.

The students who are already enjoying Senior Research Fellowship (SRF) or higher position in any project or **otherwise** are not eligible to apply for this. **Merely having the eligibility does not guarantee the offer of INSPIRE Fellowship.** Finally, selected students for INSPIRE Fellowship against the previous advertisement need not apply again.

Emoluments: The Fellowship amount under INSPIRE Fellowship is as per GoI norms of fellowship (*Junior Research Fellowship/ Senior Research Fellowship*) and research grant to the candidate. There is a provision of 1000 INSPIRE Fellowships to be offered to eligible students against the INSPIRE Fellowship-2024 call and each Fellowship is tenable for a **maximum period of five years** or completion of the PhD degree, whichever is earlier. This Fellowship shall not be available to pursue M.Sc. or M.Phil. or M. Tech. course while pursuing Integrated M.Sc.-Ph.D./ M. Phil.-Ph.D./ M. Tech.-Ph.D. courses.

How to apply: Interested and eligible students must apply and submit their application with all essential documents through **ONLINE** mode only. Applications are to be submitted online on INSPIRE web-portal <https://www.online-inspire.gov.in>. Those interested in submitting application have to register at this portal and submit the application online. **Please read guidelines available on the portal carefully before submitting the application. It is also advised to download related guidelines and FAQs and keep with you for future reference purposes.** This web-portal will be open from **26th November 2024 to 26th December 2024 (till 23:59 hrs. IST)** for submission of applications. For further enquiries regarding INSPIRE-Fellowship component, please send email to: inspire.prog-dst@nic.in For queries, please call us on **0124-6690020, 0124- 6690021.**

Documents Required along with Application:

Before filling application form, please scan and save the following documents as separate files. The same needs to be uploaded as required during the ‘**On-line Application**’ process.

S. No.	Name of the Document	File Type	Maximum Size	
1.	Passport size photograph (Mandatory)	JPEG	50 KB	
2.	Class X Mark Sheet or Certificate, for proof of Date of Birth. (Mandatory)	PDF	1 MB	
3.	Mark sheets of educational qualifications (like 12 th , UG & PG Program). (Mandatory)	PDF	1 MB	
4.	First Rank Certificate for applicants who are not INSPIRE Scholars (Mandatory)	PDF	1 MB	
5.	Appointment letter (if employed)	PDF	1 MB	
6.	If already enrolled in Ph.D.	Admission Letter (issued by University Authorities i.e. Registrar, Dean, Director, etc. Only joining as JRF will not be acceptable, in such case you should submit as non-Ph.D. scholar)	PDF	1 MB
		Fee Receipt for Ph. D. admission	PDF	1 MB
		CV of the Ph. D. Supervisor with last 5 years research credentials.	PDF	1 MB
		Endorsement Letter (Template available at http://www.online-inspire.gov.in)	PDF	1 MB
		Research proposal need to be filled online (sample template is available at https://www.online-inspire.gov.in)	To be filled in Text Box	-
		Methodology and Workplan also to be submitted online in PD.F. Format, if required.	PDF	2 MB /file upload
7.	If not enrolled in Ph.D.	Three choices of University/Institute and supervisors	To be filled in Text Box	-
		Brief tentative write up of research proposal	To be filled in Text Box	-

Last Date of Application Submission: 26th December, 2024.

Selection Process:

Selection from among the eligible applicants is done in two stages i.e. Level I and Level II.

1. Applicants who are already admitted to Ph.D. Program in S&T prior to submitting application and selected at both Level I & Level II, will be awarded the Final Offer for the INSPIRE Fellowship.
2. Applicants who are not admitted to Ph.D. Program in S&T prior to submitting application and get selected at Level I, will be awarded a Provisional Offer for INSPIRE Fellowship.

The Provisional Offer is made on the basis of scrutiny of application along with required documents (Level I) submitted by the applicant. However, the Final Offer is made on the basis of evaluation of the application at Level II considering i) Academic merit ii) the Host Institution including Research Supervisor profile and iii) the detailed Research Proposal by the Subject Expert Committee (s). At Level II Evaluation process, applicants need to secure a qualifying score/cutoff based on the Subject Expert Committee(s) recommendations and approval of the Competent Authority. The cut-off marks may vary based on the competitive framework of the selection process. Applicants are advised to properly fill all the columns of the research proposal section with utmost care and get checked and attested with the Research Supervisor as the Level-2 selection depends upon the quality and merit of the uploaded research proposal. Also, it is important to note that the Provisional Offer does not guarantee the award of INSPIRE Fellowship.

Instructions for filling Online Application

1. Applications must be submitted through online mode only. No application will be accepted in other than online mode.
2. To apply Online, please visit the website: <https://www.online-inspire.gov.in> and follow the process prescribed therein.
3. The online application submission process shall start on 26th November 2024 and will be available up to 26th December 2024 (till 23:59 hrs. IST). Please click the link below to download the guidelines for filling up Online applications: <https://online-inspire.gov.in/Announcement>
4. Applicants are advised to take a printout of the submitted online application for their own records. Please do not send the application or any other documents by Post.
5. Incomplete or wrongly filled up application or application lacking essential documents shall be summarily rejected.
7. Applicant's own valid and functional email address must be used to register on the INSPIRE Web-portal for submission of online application. Status of the application shall be informed only through the INSPIRE Web Portal. The applicant needs to login into own (registered) account to view the status.
8. Do not submit more than one application. Please ensure that all aspects of the application are correct before submitting.
9. Applicant needs to take care of plagiarism in research proposal as DST reserves the right to conduct similarity/plagiarism check. Research proposals found beyond the permissible limit are liable to be rejected.
10. Research supervisors need to go through the research proposal thoroughly from the novelty, quality and completeness perspective before signing the undertaking.
11. Any legal proceedings in respect to any matter of claim or dispute arising out of this advertisement and/or application can be lodged only in Delhi Courts/ Tribunals/ Forums. Delhi Courts/Tribunal/Forums only shall have the sole and exclusive jurisdiction to try any case/dispute.
