Advertisements for AICTE Doctoral Fellowship Scheme (ADF) 2022-2023

Date: 12/07/2022

Applications are invited for the Ph. D. Program under AICTE DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP SCHEME for the academic year 2022-23 at Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute (VJTI), Mumbai.

The details of research institute and eligibility criteria are as given below

Research Institute: Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute (VJTI), Matunga, Mumbai (Maharashtra) – 400 019 (for more details about the research institute visit institute website www.vjti.ac.in )

The applications are invited for Ph. D. admission in the following discipline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Fields of Specialization</th>
<th>Minimum Qualification</th>
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Please refer to the attached Annexure from AICTE for Eligibility Criteria, Duration of Scheme, Amount of fellowship, and Cancellation of Award and other terms & conditions. The same document is also available on AICTE website at


**Number of positions:** 06 (Total)
Selection procedure: Selection will be based on an interview conducted by a committee. The recommendation of the committee will be final. Interviews will be conducted using online platform on a scheduled date and time. Selected candidate will be allowed to register for Ph.D. degree at Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute (VJTI) Mumbai Only.

Reservations for the allotted seats (06) would be as per All India Basis as per AICTE norms.

The students belonging to SC, ST, OBC, EWS and PH will have to upload relevant documents while filling application form. In case you are facing difficulty while uploading documents related to reserved category candidates, kindly email the scan copies of the same on qipcentre@vjti.ac.in mentioning your full name, programme applied and contact number.

How to apply: Eligible candidates are requested to submit an online application at the following link on or before 5th August, 2022, till 5.00 pm

[https://forms.gle/fP9FJpwTb1FJTM39](https://forms.gle/fP9FJpwTb1FJTM39)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Date of advertisement</td>
<td>18/07/2022</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Last Date of receipt of online application</td>
<td>05/08/2022 till 5 pm</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Display of shortlisted candidates on website</td>
<td>10/08/2022 Before 5 pm</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>4*</td>
<td>Clarification/Objection on shortlisted candidates</td>
<td>12/08/2022</td>
<td>Friday</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Display of corrected shortlisted candidates</td>
<td>17/08/2022</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Interview on online platform</td>
<td>22/08/2022 &amp; 23/08/2022</td>
<td>Thursday &amp; Friday</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Display of Final Selection List on VJTI website</td>
<td>After approval from AICTE</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Confirmation of provisional admission by paying Fees</td>
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*In case of any clarification or objection on shortlisted candidates, the candidates may communicate by sending an email to qipcentre@vjti.ac.in*

This advertisement is available on VJTI (www.vjti.ac.in) website.
For more details about the programme please contact ADF coordinator Dr. V. M. Phalle (Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering Department, VJTI Mumbai) at qipcentre@vjti.ac.in

For Details, see enclosed Annexure for AICTE guidelines.

Sd/-
Registrar
Annexure

GUIDELINES FOR
AICTE DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP (ADF)
2022-23
OBJECTIVES: -
The objectives of the ADF scheme are:
- To promote research culture in AICTE approved Institutions.
- To promote collaborative research between Institute and Industries leading to start-ups.
- To nurture talents for technical research.

BRODD THRUST AREAS FOR THE RESEARCH: -
Some of the broad thrust areas (but not limited) for the research are as follows: -
- Green Technologies
- Big Data, Machine Learning & Data Sciences
- Blockchain
- Artificial Intelligence
- Energy Production and Storage
- Electronics & Photonics
- Nuclear Engineering and Allied Technologies
- Robotics and Mechatronics
- Augmented Reality (AR)/ Virtual Reality (VR)
- Energy Efficiency, Renewable and sustainable Energy
- Electric and Hybrid Mobility
- Smart Cities, Housing and Transportation
- Internet of Things (IoT)
- 3D Printing
- Quantum Computing
- Smart Technologies for Agriculture and Food Industry
- Water purification, conservation and management
- Public Policy
- Social & Organizational Psychology & Behaviour
- Cyber Security

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE AWARD OF FELLOWSHIP: -
The detailed criteria for the award of fellowship are as follows:

a) The candidate must have secured the minimum percentage of educational qualification prescribed for eligibility as in Under Graduate and Post Graduate be 70% (69.5 % and above) for General/OBC candidates, whereas for SC/ST/Physically Handicapped (PH) be 65% (64.5 % and above). In the absence of percentage, the candidate must have secured minimum cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 7.5 on the scale of 10 or equivalent at Bachelors and Masters whereas for SC/ST/Physically Handicapped (PH) it is 7.0 on the scale of 10. In addition to above, the candidate should have qualified GATE/ NET during the last 5 years.
The students serving as faculty under TEQIP scheme can also be given preference for admission in this programme.

The minimum percentage criterion for the Indian students’ qualified Bachelor/Master’s degree from Foreign Universities shall be waived off but student will have to qualify GATE exam during last 5 years.

b) The candidate should be less than 30 years of age as on date of admission in respective University. However, age relaxation of 5 years would be applicable to candidates belonging to SC/ST/Women/Physically challenged category.

c) AICTE supported ADF fellowship is not admissible to left out students, who have already availed the ADF fellowship from AICTE, on his/her taking admission for the 2nd time in any other University/Institutes.

**DURATION OF THE SCHEME:** -

a) The duration of the scheme shall be for a period of 3 Years. Normally, no further extension will be granted. In exceptional cases the duration is extendable by 1 year as a special case only on fulfilling the minimum eligibility and on the recommendation of University in the prescribed format duly filled in and signed for consideration of extension of fellowship beyond 3 years as per Annexure-B.

b) The criteria for extension is that a candidate must fulfill the following conditions:
   i) The candidate must score a minimum overall score of 10 marks under different parameters as prescribed in the format.
   ii) Completed the Course work.
   iii) Completion of the Registration of the Ph.D. Programme & approval of the Research proposal by the University.
   iv) Must have published One paper in SCI/SCI-E/Scopus journal.

c) The assessment shall be carried out by the concerned University for final recommendation for extension of fellowship of research scholars under AICTE Doctoral Fellowship (ADF) scheme for one more year after completion of 03 years of fellowship. On the basis of this recommendation AICTE will process for the release of fellowship for the extended period.

d) Scholars who failed to secure the minimum eligibility condition for extension of one year beyond 36 months may continue their Ph.D. programme beyond 36 months without any fellowship under ADF Scheme as per term & condition of respective Universities. In future, if they are able to complete the minimum requirement within 48 months from date of start of their fellowship, their case may be considered from that month upto the remaining period of the fellowship i.e. maximum upto 4 years.

e) Payment of fellowship shall be stopped for the extended period (4th Year), in case the Research Scholar is not attending the Research Work during that period. The future payment of fellowship shall be restricted to the remaining period of 48 months from the initial date of the commencement of the fellowship. However, the authorized leave per annum has been kept out of this restriction.
**AMOUNT OF FELLOWSHIP:**

The fellowship will be Rs. 31,000/- pm for the first two years followed by Rs. 35,000/- pm for the third year. HRA will be provided at the rate of 8%, 16% and 24% as per the Government of India (GoI) norms as applicable in the city/ location where the Research Fellow is pursuing their research. HRA will not be admissible to those scholars who are availing hostel facility of the University/Institute. In addition, Contingency Grant will be admissible to the scholars at the rate of Rs.15,000/- per annum to meet the miscellaneous expenditures.

After completion of two years the upgradation from JRF to SRF shall be subject to fulfilling the following mandatory eligibility conditions:

i) A copy of the Ph.D. Registration letter.
ii) A copy of the mark sheet of course work completion.
iii) Journal Publications:
iv) Conference Certificates:
v) Approval of Research Proposal with Topic Details:
vi) Recommendation of the Institution in prescribed format as per Annexure-C.

**Note:** The enhanced fellowship Rs. 35,000 per month for JRF to SRF shall be admissible from next month of date of approval.

**6.0 NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIP:**

Maximum of 363 Nos. of fellowship may be granted to 42 Universities in a year. The University-wise number of fellowship are enclosed in Annexure A.

**ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE UNIVERSITIES:**

a) University will assign one faculty as Nodal Officer for the scheme who will act as an interface between the University and AICTE on various operational aspects of the scheme.
b) Universities will admit candidates in their research programme as per their procedure following minimum eligibility criteria as prescribed by AICTE.
c) University will update joining report of the scholar on the online portal of AICTE along with bank accounts details and subsequently monthly attendance of the enrolled scholars through online portal for the disbursement of the fellowship directly in the scholar’s account.
d) University will ensure that scholar must be registered in the PhD programme and his/her research proposal is approved within one year of start of fellowship after completion of mandatory course work etc. falling which fellowship will be discontinued.
e) Annual progress report of the enrolled scholar will be submitted online to AICTE for the continuation of fellowship.
f) The University/Institute will maintain the reservation policy of the Government issued from time to time. At present the reservation policy is as under:

<table>
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<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>SC</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>OBC</td>
<td>27%</td>
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<tr>
<td>General (including EWS (Max. 10%))</td>
<td>50.5%</td>
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CANCELLATION OF AWARD: -

The fellowship is liable to cancellation in case of:

a) Non Completion of course work, non-registration in Ph.D. and non-approval of research proposal within one year from date of joining.

b) Misconduct.

c) Unsatisfactory progress of research work/ failure in any examination related to Ph.D.

d) He/ She is found ineligible later.

e) Any false information furnished by the applicant or any fraudulent activity by the Scholar/ Fellow/ Research Awardees shall lead to Penal action against him/ her.

f) The fellowship may be terminated at any time during the tenure and the decision of the AICTE shall be final and binding.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: -

a) The fellowship/ HRA/ contingency will be granted to research scholars admitted in the Universities in the identified thrust areas of the scheme.

b) Completion of course work, Registration for Ph.D. and approval of research proposal is mandatory within one year from the date of joining as a research fellow. If candidate has not completed above within one year from date of joining, then fellowship will be discontinued upto his/ her registration for Ph.D.

c) In the cases where the fellowship has been discontinued as per clause (b) above, the fellowship may be resumed after the completion of above. However, the maximum tenure of fellowship in such cases will be limited to as mentioned in clause 4.0 above.

d) The awardees shall submit an annual report on the progress, each year through the Research Supervisor, Head of the Department and Head of the Institute and University Nodal Officer to AICTE on the online portal for the continuation of fellowship.

e) The final progress report should be submitted by the awardees through the concerned University to AICTE.

f) The awardees shall not be allowed for transfer of fellowship from the Institution where the awardees are presently working for Ph.D. during the entire tenure of the fellowship.

g) The awardees shall devote full-time to research during the tenure of fellowship and will not be permitted to take any part-time/ full-time assignment. He/ She will not accept any salary, fellowship or any type of financial assistance offered during the tenure of fellowship through any other source. Otherwise, the fellowship will have to be refunded for the entire period of getting financial assistances from other sources. The nature of the candidature (Full-time AICTE sponsored Doctoral Fellow) will not be changed during the program.
h) The awardees shall give a declaration that if the results of research are such that can be exploited commercially by taking a patent or otherwise, commercial exploitation and patent rights should be with the Institute, candidate and supervisor. However, the rules of respective research University/Institute, if any, in this regards will be applicable.

i) AICTE online portal will have mechanism for the purpose of releasing fellowship/ HRA/ contingency etc. amount directly in the bank account of the beneficiary through DBT.


k) If the progress of the candidate is not satisfactory as reported by the Supervisor/ Head of the Department /Head of the Research Institute/ University, the fellowship of the research scholar shall be terminated with immediate effect. This will not be revoked under any circumstances.

l) The Ph.D. rules/ regulations of the affiliating University will be applicable to all admitted candidates under this scheme.

m) No separate/ fixed medical assistance is provided. However, the research scholar may avail the medical facilities available in the Institution/ University/ College.

n) Leave:-

(i) Research scholars are entitled for a maximum period of 15 days Casual Leave (CL) and 30 days Medical Leave (ML) in a year in addition to public holidays. They are not entitled to any other vacations.

(ii) Research Scholars are eligible for maternity/ Paternity leave as per GoI norms issued from time to time at full rates of fellowship etc. once during the tenure of their award. However, maximum duration of fellowship will not be extended under any circumstances.

Note: All kinds of leave should be approved at the level of the University/ College/ Institute. Prior approval of the University/ Institution/ College is mandatory for all types of leaves.
o) **Teaching Assistance (Work Load)**

Teaching assistantship of not more than 8 hours/week may be given to full time research scholars availing fellowship under ADF scheme and may include assistance in lab classes, tutorial support etc.

p) For those scholars who left the course midway, the fellowship shall be stopped.

q) The fellow shall not undertake any paid assignment during the tenure of the fellowship (Except in case of leave without fellowship up to one academic year during the entire tenure).

r) In case any research scholar avails the break during the fellowship period on medical ground with due permission of the University/Institute, the fellowship will be discontinued from the month of such break and shall be resumed on rejoining the program for the remaining period of fellowship.

s) In case any research scholar receives any financial assistance from any other organization during the tenure of course, with due permission of the university/institute, the scholar will not be entitled for the fellowship for the duration in which he/she is availing such financial assistance and it shall be resumed on discontinuance of such external financial assistance. Further the period for which the scholar has received external financial assistance shall be deducted from the maximum duration of the fellows.