

**Ministry of Science and Technology
Department of Science and Technology**

2nd ADVERTISEMENT

INSPIRE Faculty Scheme: a component of “Assured Opportunity for Research Career (AORC)” under INSPIRE.

The Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, has launched the “**Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE)**” [<http://www.inspire-dst.gov.in>] program in 2008. The program aims to attract talent for study of science and careers with research. INSPIRE includes many components. The importance of Assured Career Opportunity in R&D sector has been recognized. **INSPIRE Faculty Scheme** opens up an “**Assured Opportunity for Research Career (AORC)**” for young researchers in the age group of 27-32 years. It offers a contractual research awards to young achievers and opportunity for independent research in the near term and emerge as a future leader in the long term.

a) Eligibility

Essential

- Indian citizens and people of Indian origin including NRI/PIO status with PhD (in science, mathematics, engineering, pharmacy, medicine, and agriculture related subjects) from any recognized university in the world,
- Those who have submitted their PhD Theses and are awaiting award of the degree are also eligible,
- The **upper age limit as on 1st January 2012 should be 32 years** for considering support for a period of 5 years. However, for SC and ST candidates upper age limit will be 35 years.

Desirable

- Candidates who are within top 1% at the School Leaving Examination, IIT-JEE rank, 1st Rank Holder either in graduation or post-graduation level university examination (which are used presently for identifying INSPIRE Scholars at under-graduate level and INSPIRE Fellows for doctoral degree)
- Publications with an aggregate Impact Factor 10 **OR** at least three research publications in SCI journals (one in case of Mathematics) of high Impact Factor.

b) Applications

- Three routes i.e. Direct, Nomination and Institution mode are available for applying by the eligible candidates,
- Under ‘Institutions Mode’, candidates may directly approach reputed academic institutes and the host academic Institute shall be required to adopt their own internal process and mechanism as available before forwarding names of short-listed candidates for final selection by the Apex Committee.

- Nominations from academic institutions or Industry R&D through Vice-Chancellors/ Directors of Institutions/ Head of Institutions/ Presidents and Fellows of Science Academies or Eminent Scientists from India and Abroad based on personal knowledge. Nominations to be sent to Indian National Science Academy (INSA), New Delhi.
- Eligible candidate who wishes to consider in 'Direct' and 'Nominated' route, may also send applications directly to Indian National Science Academy (INSA), New Delhi for consideration.

c) Method of Selection

- Indian National Science Academy (INSA), New Delhi in coordination with DST will be implementing this INSPIRE Faculty Scheme up to the selection of candidates for awarding INSPIRE Faculty Award.
- A two-tier selection process i.e. Discipline-based Expert Committee in case of candidates under 'Direct' and 'Nomination' routes and Institutional level short-listing in 'Institutional route' followed by final selection by the Apex Level Committee.
- Discipline-wise committees of INSA would evaluate and screen the candidates who apply on Direct and Nominated Routes without support from host-institutions.
- Reputed academic institutions enjoying the status of Centre of Excellence like IITs, IISc, IISERs, TIFR, CSIR Laboratories etc. and Central & State Universities selected under PURSE scheme of DST could employ their own internal processes to short-list candidates and submit the list for final selection by the Apex Committee.
- The Apex Committee shall finally select short-listed candidates for offering INSPIRE Faculty Award under this Scheme and decision of the Apex Committee for selecting candidates in this Scheme shall be the final.
- Candidates, who have not identified host institutions at the time of their application, should do so immediately after their final selection. All selected candidates should avail the INSPIRE Faculty Award within 3 months of their final selection.

d) Number of INSPIRE Faculty Award per year

- The Scheme provides a provision of maximum 1000 INSPIRE Faculty Awards per year subject to rigorous and transparent criteria basis met by the potential aspirants.

e) Amount & Duration of each INSPIRE Faculty Award

- Each selected INSPIRE Faculty shall be eligible to receive a consolidated amount equivalent to the scale of the Assistant Professor of an IIT as Fellowship amount. In addition, a Research Grant of Rs 7 lakh per year for 5 years shall also be provided to each successful candidate.
- The INSPIRE Faculty Award is for a maximum period of 5 (five) years.
- In case the INSPIRE Faculty finds a permanent position during the tenure of the position, the Fellowship amount shall be discontinued from the day the INSPIRE Faculty joins in permanent position but he/she may continue with the INSPIRE Faculty Scheme availing Research Grant portion for the balance period to carry out research at the new position.
- The INSPIRE Faculty is eligible for applying for any competitive grants from all funding agencies during the tenure of the INSPIRE Faculty Award and would be favorably considered by DST for future support at the end of 5 years based on performance and technical merit.

f) Roles and requirements of Host Institutions

- Host institutions should be encouraged to provide a congenial atmosphere for the awardees to excel in their work, and should view them as potential assets for faculty development
- Under no circumstances the “INSPIRE Faculty” Award is renewable after 5 years. Host-institutions are expected to consider “INSPIRE Faculty” for permanent positions in due course, subject to meeting institutions’ performance assessment criteria.
- In-breeding by host-institution is generally not encouraged. However, in case host-institutions are willing to nominate their own PhD students under this Scheme, specific justifications and commitment for development of independent directions of research should be clearly delineated.
- Minimum information/ commitment requirements from Host Institutions are:
 - Access to all common infrastructural facilities, acceptable laboratory and office space (independently or on shared basis), computing, library access, etc.,
 - Information on whether desirable new areas/directions of research are being introduced through this scheme,
 - Information on whether the INSPIRE Faculty will be allowed to supervise PhD students, hire research fellows, independently or jointly with a permanent faculty member,
 - Host-institution’s willingness to consider the candidate for a permanent position in due course, subject to meeting statutory requirements.

g) Last date

- A] Eligible candidates choosing ‘**Direct Mode**’ must apply in the prescribed format of ‘Direct Mode (A)’ to **Executive Secretary, Indian National Science Academy (INSA), Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi – 110002** on or before **29th February 2012**.
- B] **Nominated applications** in the prescribed format of ‘**Nominated Mode (B)**’ should also reach to **Executive Secretary, Indian National Science Academy (INSA), Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi – 110002** on or before **29th February 2012**.

[For Details, please visit Website: www.inspire-dst.gov.in/facultyScheme_CallorAppl.pdf and <http://insaindia.org.inspire.inspire.htm> for off-line announcement and Application Format and www.inspire-dst.gov.in/faculty_scheme_online.html for Online submission of Application for this Scheme. INSPIRE Faculty Scheme with details are also available at the Website: www.insaindia.org.

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APPLICATION FORMAT [A] FOR INSPIRE Faculty Scheme

(to be used by candidates directly applying to INSA, New Delhi)

1. Broad subject area (**Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences, Mathematical Sciences, Engineering Sciences**).
2. Area of specialization
3. Name of the candidate
4. Address
 - a. Correspondence
 - b. Permanent
(Indicate Telephone, Fax and e-mail address)
5. Date of Birth
6. Expected Date of Initiation if “INSPIRE Faculty” position is awarded
7. Category (General / SC/ ST)
(attach relevant certificate for SC/ST candidate)
- 8.. Academic Qualifications:
(From Class 12th Standard onwards)

<i>Name of the Degree</i>	<i>Board/ University</i>	<i>Year of Passing</i>	<i>Major Subjects taken</i>	<i>Percentage of Marks or CGPA</i>	<i>Rank at the Board or University Examination</i>
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
12 th Std.					
UG level *					
PG Level *					
PhD					

[* Indicate clearly the Name of the Degree at UG and PG level study]

9. Details of Employment
10. Details of Professional Recognitions, Awards, and Fellowships received.
11. (a) Details of Professional Training and Research Experience, specifying period
[One A4 size page 1.5 line spacing]
(b) List of up to five Publications to which candidate has contributed significantly
(c) Full List of Publications
12. (a) Details of Work done so far and significance of the scientific contribution
[Maximum two A4 pages in 1.5 line spacing]

(b) Proposed area of research and brief outline of proposal (under following sub-sections: Origin of the proposal, objectives, brief outline of methodology to be adopted, significance of the proposal in the context of current status in the field, prospects of this work for extending it as a long-term project beyond the tenure of the “INSPIRE Faculty” position)
[Maximum five A4 pages in 1.5 line spacing]

13. Name of the Institutions & Department/ School/ Centre where the INSPIRE Faculty position will be availed, if known.

14. Names and addresses of three or more Referees:

Declaration: It is certified that all information given by me above is true to the best of my knowledge. If any information were found false, I am aware that my application is liable for cancellation.

Date:

(Signature of the Applicant)

Place:

FORMAT FOR NOMINATION [B] FOR INSPIRE Faculty Scheme

(to be used by nominated candidates for applying to INSA, New Delhi)

1. Broad subject area (**Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences, Mathematical Sciences, Engineering Sciences**).
2. Area of specialization
3. Name of the candidate
4. Address
 - a. Correspondence
 - b. Permanent
(**Indicate Telephone, Fax and e-mail address**)
5. Date of Birth
6. Expected Date of Initiation if “INSPIRE Faculty” position is awarded
7. Category (General / SC/ ST)
(attach relevant certificate for SC/ST candidate)
8. Academic Qualifications:
(From Class 12th Standard onwards)

<i>Name of the Degree</i>	<i>Board/ University</i>	<i>Year of Passing</i>	<i>Major Subjects taken</i>	<i>Percentage of Marks or CGPA</i>	<i>Rank at the Board or University Examination</i>
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
12 th Std.					
UG level *					
PG Level *					
PhD					

[* Indicate clearly the Name of the Degree at UG and PG level study]

9. Details of Employment
10. Details of Professional Recognitions, Awards, and Fellowships received.
11. (a) Details of Professional Training and Research Experience, specifying period
[One A4 size page in 1.5 line spacing].
 - (b) List of up to five Publications to which candidate has contributed significantly
 - (c) Full List of Publications

12. (a) Details of Work done so far and significance of the scientific contribution
[Maximum two A4 pages in 1.5 line spacing]

(b) Proposed area of research and brief outline of proposal (under following sub-sections: Origin of the proposal, objectives, brief outline of methodology to be adopted, significance of the proposal in the context of current status in the field, prospects of this work for extending it as a long-term project beyond the tenure of the “INSPIRE Faculty” position)
[Maximum five A4 pages in 1.5 line spacing]

13. Name of the Institutions & Department/ School/ Centre where the Fellowship will be availed
(Please also attach detailed recommendations by Head of the Department of the Host Institution/ University).

14. Names and addresses of three or more Referees:

Declaration: It is certified that all information given by me above is true to the best of my knowledge. If any information were found false, I am aware that my application is liable for cancellation.

Date:

(Signature of the Applicant)

Place:

Nominations of the Applications [from Vice-Chancellor of University/ Director of Institution/ Head of Institutions/ President and Fellow of Science Academies from India & Abroad/ Eminent Scientists]

(Please also attach detailed recommendations)

I hereby nominate the application of Dr ----- who is submitting the application for its consideration under the component of **INSPIRE Faculty Scheme of the INSPIRE Program** of the Department of Science & Technology, New Delhi.

Date:

(Signature)

Place: