SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH BOARD (SERB)
Department of Science & Technology, Government of India

Call for application for
SERB Overseas Postdoctoral Fellowship: 2016-17

Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), a Statutory body under the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India has launched SERB Overseas Postdoctoral fellowship (SERB-OPDF) to build national capacity in frontier areas of Science and Engineering, which are of interest to India by providing postdoctoral fellowship for a period of one year (extendable to one more year subject to evaluation). The applicant should have completed PhD degree in science and engineering not earlier than the preceding two years from recognized institutions in India. For researchers who are in regular employment, the 2 years period may be relaxed but age should not exceed 35 years. The Program admits candidates in *identified areas and sends them to top institutions around the globe, other than USA and also to institutions where internationally acclaimed scientists are working. The applicant should himself/herself correspond with the proposed host institution abroad for their postdoctoral work. He/she is required to produce evidence, in the form of a letter of acceptance from the host institution along with merits/uniqueness of the host institute in the proposed area.

*Identified areas: Materials, Energy, Sustainable Chemistry, Quantum Computing and Spintronics, Complex systems, Theoretical Mathematical

Science, Big Data, Mechanobiology / Physical Biology, Bio-energy, Genetic to Physiology, Mental Health, High Performance Computation in Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics, Humanoid Robotics, Cognitive Science, Mechnotronics, Advanced Manufacturing, Cyber security, Encryption and decryption, Petroleum and Petro-Chemical Engineering, Science of Climate Change, Glaciology, Modeling, Imaging, Algorithms and Combinatorial Optimizations

Application for support to undertake overseas postdoctoral fellowship in Institutions located in various countries other than USA on a competitive mode is sought from the eligible researchers. Indo-US Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF) will make a separate call for US specific institutions. IUSSTF can be reached at www.iusstf.org.

The format, guidelines and other details of the SERB-OPDF Program are available at www.serb.gov.in and www.dst.gov.in. The last date of receiving the application is 15th March 2017.

Three (3) copies of the application, in the prescribed format, neatly typed on A-4 size paper, should be submitted to SERB in the following address:

Programme Coordinator, Overseas PDF
Science and Engineering Research Board
5 & 5A, Lower Ground Floor
Vasant Square Mall
Sector-B, Pocket-5
Vasant Kunj
New Delhi-110070

A softcopy of the proposal complete in all respect should also be mailed to:
opdf@serb.gov.in

The envelope / mail containing the proposal should be superscribed with "SERB Overseas Postdoctoral Fellowship: 2016-17"

SERB Overseas Postdoctoral Fellowship

Science & Engineering Research Board

Department of Science & Technology
Government of India
New Delhi

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH BOARD (SERB)

SERB Overseas Postdoctoral Fellowship

Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), a Statutory body under the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India has launched *SERB Overseas Postdoctoral fellowship (SERB-OPDF)*.

The Program aims to build national capacity in frontier areas of Science, which are of interest to India by providing postdoctoral fellowship for a period of one year extendable to one more year subject to satisfactory performance. The applicant should have completed PhD degree in science and engineering not earlier than the preceding two years from recognized institutions in India. For researchers who are in regular employment, the 2 year period may be relaxed however, the age should not exceed 35 years. The Program admits candidates in identified areas and sends them to top institutions around the globe, other than USA and and also to institutions where internationally acclaimed scientists are working. The applicant should himself/herself correspond with the proposed host institution abroad for their postdoctoral work. He/she is required to produce evidence, in the form of a letter of acceptance from the host institution along with merits/uniqueness of that host institute in the proposed area.

Application for support to undertake overseas postdoctoral research in overseas countries other than USA on a competitive mode is sought from the eligible researchers.

OBJECTIVES

1. To build national capacity in frontier areas of Science, which are of interest to India by providing postdoctoral fellowship for a period one year, which is extendable to one more year on good progress of research.

2. To tap the expertise gained by these young scientists to strengthen/initiate national programmes in their domain knowledge.

ELIGIBILITY

1. The scheme is open to Indian nationals only.
2. Should have completed PhD degree in science and engineering not earlier than the preceding two years from recognized institutions in India. For researchers who are in regular employment, the 2 years period may be relaxed; however, the age should not exceed 35 years.
3. Offer letter from the overseas host institution (Other than USA).

Selection

The selection would be made among students who gained admission to postdoctoral program in overseas institutions. The research should be undertaken in one or more of the following disciplines:

Materials, Energy, Sustainable Chemistry, Quantum Computing and Spintronics, Complex systems, Theoretical Mathematical Science, Big Data, Mechanobiology / Physical Biology, Bio-energy, Genetic to Physiology, Mental Health, High Performance Computation in Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics, Humanoid Robotics, Cognitive Science, Mechnotronics, Advanced Manufacturing, Cyber security, Encryption and decryption, Petroleum and Petro-Chemical Engineering, Science of Climate Change, Glaciology, Modeling, Imaging, Algorithms and Combinatorial Optimizations

The candidate will be required to submit a research proposal in above mentioned area that he/she would be undertaking in the postdoctoral study. The Board will constitute a selection committee to select the candidates.

Bond

The selected fellows should execute a bond stating that the fellowship would be treated as a grant-in-aid if the fellows return to India after successful completion or else it will be treated as a loan to fellows who do not come back or discontinue the course in midway. Penal interest will also be levied on such candidates.

Fellowship

The selected fellows will be paid a monthly fellowship amount equivalent to US $ 3000, one time Contingency / Preparatory allowances of Rs.60,000/- to cover visa fee, airport transfer charges, insurance etc., Overseas Medical Insurance in India and USA of Rs. 20,000/- and Conference grants (if applicable) of Rs. 74,000.

The selected fellows will also be provided shortest route economy class air fare from their place of work in India to the place of the host institute and back.

GUIDELINES

1. The application for consideration under the *SERB Overseas Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (SERB OPDF)* can be submitted only when the call for application is made.
2. The application should be prepared and submitted strictly according to the formats prescribed in this document (Annexure I).
3. The duration of the fellowship is for a period of one year. The fellowship may be extended for one more year subject to evaluation. Application for such extension should reach SERB Office well in advance accompanied by reports from the host justifying the extension of the fellowship. No extension is possible beyond two years. Fellowship for less than six months will not be entertained. However, in exceptional cases fellowship for shorter periods may also be considered.

4. For scientists / researchers in regular employment, rules governing payment of salary, leave, medical, gratuity, GPF and pension etc. of the organization/ institution/ university to which the fellow belongs would continue to be applicable. No liability on any of these accounts will be borne by SERB.

5. The candidates selected for the award of the fellowship should commence their research in the overseas institution within three months from the date of the offer letter, and if not, the offer will be automatically stands withdrawn and no correspondence will be entertained thereafter.

6. Application from researcher in regular employment should be forwarded through the head of organization/ department where the applicant is employed.

7. The candidate should also submit a letter of approval of research plan from the host.

8. Copy of acceptance letter from host institution.

9. Please make sure to quote the registration number/ letter number (given by SERB) in all your future communications.

10. The information should be given under each section, even if it is Nil.

11. The candidates may submit 3 copies of the application printed on both the sides of A4 size paper and send to the Program Coordinator.

Programme Coordinator, Overseas PDF
Science and Engineering Research Board
5 & 5A, Lower Ground Floor
Vasant Square Mall
Sector-B, Pocket-5
Vasant Kunj
New Delhi-110070

This call is specifically for inviting applications for Postdoctoral research at Institutions located in countries other than USA. Indo-US Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF) will make a separate call for US specific institutions. IUSSTF can be reached at www.iusstf.org.

A softcopy of the proposal complete in all respect should also be mailed to: opdf@serb.gov.in

The envelope / mail containing the proposal should be superscribed with "*SERB Overseas Postdoctoral Fellowship: 2016-17*"

FORMATS FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION
(To be filled by applicant)
SERB Overseas Postdoctoral Fellowship: 2016-17

1. Name of Applicant:

2. Designation:

3. Department:

4. Institute Name:

5. Address:

6. Address for correspondence, if not employed:

7. Date of Birth and Age: Sex (M/F):

8. Whether belong to SC/ST/OBC/General:

9. Telephone:Fax:Mobile:e-mail:

10. Employment [Do you hold a regular position in your institute? (Yes/No)]:

11. Academic qualifications (from degree level):

Name of the Degree/Diploma	Name of the Institution	Year of passing	Subjects taken	Div., % of marks

12. Details and nature of present and previous employment:

    (Positions held, employer/place of work, duration, area/nature of work)

13. Honours and awards received

14. Broad area of research:

15. Specific area of research (*from the list of identified areas*):

16. Name of the host:

17. Host institution and Address:

18. Expertise of the host in the chosen area and significance of the host institution:

19. Proposed duration of the fellowship (in months):

20. Brief summary of your current areas of research:

21. Details of proposed research work (*not more than 4 pages*) which should include Objectives, Work plan, how the proposed work will make an impact in the specified area and the mutual scientific benefit to be accrued

22. State any other relevant aspects in the application which may be useful for the reviewer to make a qualitative judgment on the application

23. Details of international fellowships availed during the last three years:

24. Details of financial support sought from SERB and support/fellowship expected / committed from other sources

25. Detailed Bio-data of the applicant including
Name, Address, Date of Birth, Religion/Caste, Institution's Address etc.
Academic Qualifications (University /College from where attained, year of passing, class, Thesis title, Date of Public Viva-Voce Examination held etc.)
Publications list (Title of paper, authors, Journal details, pages, year etc.)
Patent list, if any
List of Projects implemented
Details of Research Projects being implemented/ completed/ submitted by the Investigator including Name of the Institute
(*Not more than 4 pages*)

26. Name of two referees with their address

27. Any other relevant matter.

Date:

Place: Name and Signature of the applicant
                                                        (Name in Block Letters)

STATEMENT FROM THE CURRENT EMPLOYER (FOR EMPLOYED APPLICANTS)

(This should be given on the official letter-head of the parent institution/organization in the following format:

This is to certify that this institution has no objection for considering the application for SERB Overseas Postdoctoral Fellowship from Mr./Ms./Dr............................ employee in the ....*(name of the department/institute/ organization)* for Postdoctoral research in the area of...........................to be held at...................................for the duration of..............months.

If the fellowship is awarded to him/her, Mr./Ms./Dr....................will be relieved from ....*(name of the institute/organization)* duties for said period from the date of his/her joining for research fellowship under SERB Overseas Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme. During this period, the continuity of employment on the post presently held by him/her would continue to be applicable and rules governing payment of salary (basic pay and all allowances), leave, medical benefits, gratuity, GPF, GIS, and pension etc. would continue to be applicable during the entire period of fellowship and he/she will join his/her present post on completion of tenure of his/her fellowship.

Date:

Place: Name and Signature of Head of Institution
                                                   (Name in Block Letters)
                                                    Phone No.

                                                    e-mail:

CHECK LIST (DOCUMENTS/ ENCLOSURES REQUIRED)

ITEM

a) Filled in application (Annexure – I)
b) Bio-data of the candidate
c) Letter of acceptance from host institution
d) Letter of acceptance of research plan by the host
e) Statement from the employer (For employed applicant)
f) Summary of the applicant in excel (Format attached separately)