

APRIL 2020

FUNDING HORIZONS



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WELCOME NOTE

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to another edition of Funding Horizons, a compilation of useful information relating to funding opportunities at the Bangalore Life Science Cluster campus. This newsletter includes information on forthcoming funding deadlines, recent funding successes and more.

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic there are several funding opportunities which are being offered specifically to support research on this disease. Read more about these calls on pages 8-10. Should you be interested to apply for any of the schemes listed herein, please inform the RDO immediately.

I am happy to share that since February 2020, the RDO is now on Twitter. We regularly share information about recently announced funding calls on our twitter handle. Do follow us @rdoBLISC1 for these updates.

We hope this will be useful for you in planning your funding applications.

Stay Safe!

With Best Wishes,

Vineetha Raghavan (on Behalf of Team RDO)

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS



FUNDING WORKSHOP FOR POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS- 2020

The RDO in conjunction with the Academic Office organized a funding workshop for postdoctoral researchers on the campus on **5th March, 2020**. The workshop was well-received by the postdoc community.

Any suggestions/feedback regarding the funding workshop can be mailed at rdohelp@ncbs.res.in.

We thank those who have already provided their feedback on the workshop. We have noted your requests and suggestions.

The RDO is now on Twitter !!!

For constant updates on funding calls, follow us on twitter [@rdoBLISC1](https://twitter.com/rdoBLISC1).

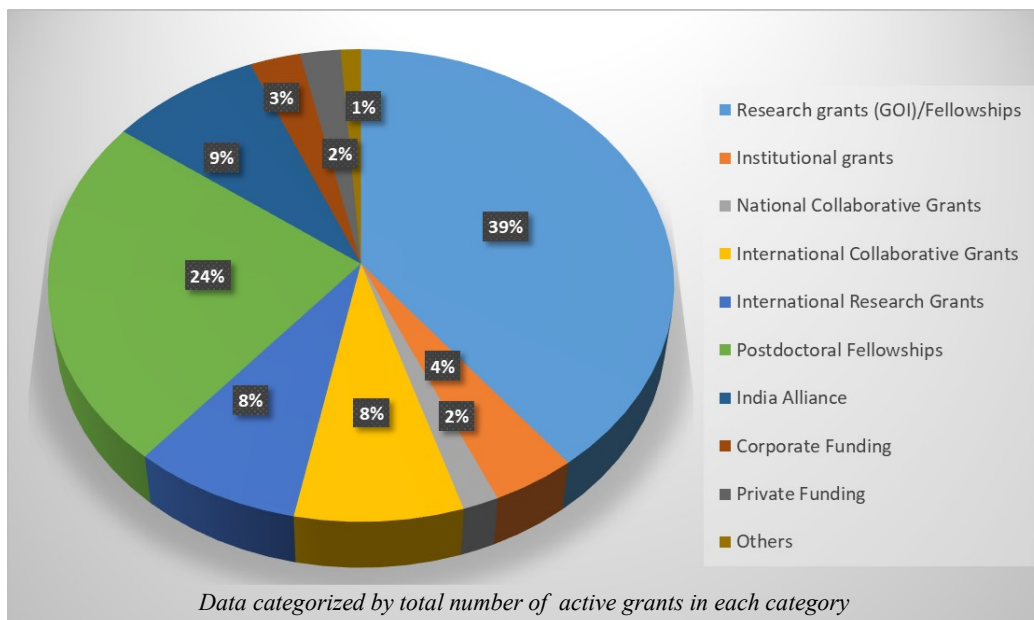
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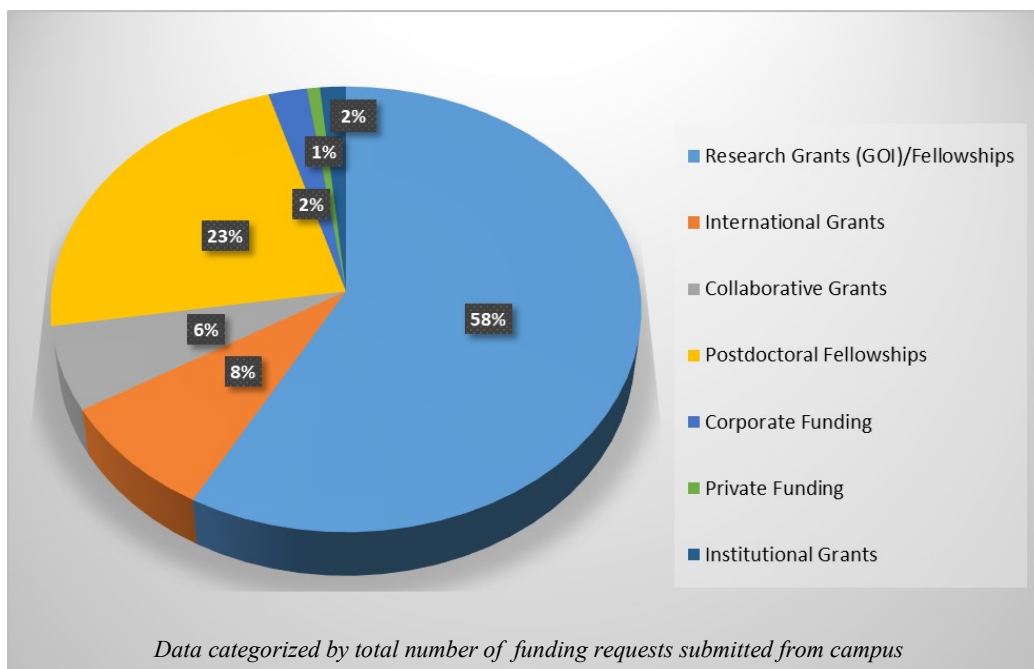
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2019-20 AT A GLANCE

FUNDING SUPPORT FY 2019-20



FUNDING REQUESTS FY 2019-20



AWARDED GRANTS



This section provides brief details of the recent funding successes from our campus. We wish all the investigators well for their proposed programs of research. All correspondence on awarded grants should be directed to: rdohelp@ncbs.res.in

RESEARCHER	HOST INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE	FUNDING AGENCY	FUNDING SCHEME	FUNDS AWARDED (in Lakhs)
Dr. Bhavana Muralidharan	inStem	Regulation of cerebral cortical development by chromatin modifiers in health and disease	India Alliance	Intermediate Fellowship	359.5
Dr. Anjana Badrinarayanan	NCBS	Maintenance of bacterial Genome Integrity: Mechanism of action and regulation of the highly conserved Structural Maintenance of Chromosome protein, RecN	SERB	Core Research Grant (CRG)	44.85
Dr. Anjana Badrinarayanan	NCBS	Characterization of a novel translesion synthesis repair pathway in bacteria: Mechanism of action, regulation and impact on stress-induced mutagenesis	DBT	Har Govind Khorana-Innovative Young Biotechnologist Award (IYBA)	61.62
Dr. Dimple Notani	NCBS	Identifying transcriptional circuits crucial for cardiac circadian rhythm control	SERB	Core Research Grant (CRG)	49.28
Dr. Uma Ramakrishnan	NCBS	Determining contribution of individual tigers in shaping conflict in a critical source population of central India	National Geographic		22.78 (\$29,785)
Dr. Srikala Raghavan	inStem	Delineating the Immune-Epithelial Crosstalk in Embryonic Skin	DBT	Project grant	90.00

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Dr. Sunil Laxman	inStem	Regulation of metabolic homeostasis by tRNA modifications	SERB	Core Research Grant (CRG)	48.95
Dr. Minhaj Sirajuddin	inStem	Best of Indian Science Series - I	India Alliance	Public Engagement	12.27
Dr. Praveen Vemula	inStem	A Graft Implanted Macrophage-Enzyme Responsive Immunosuppressive Therapy (MERIT) to Prevent Chronic Rejection in Vascularized Composite	Department of Defence (DoD), USA	Investigator-Initiated Research Award - Multiple PI Option	107.6 (\$140, 676)

AWARDED GRANTS

This section provides brief details of the recent funding successes of postdoctoral researchers/Students from our campus. We wish all the investigators well for their proposed programs of research. All correspondence on awarded grants should be directed to: rdohelp@ncbs.res.in

RESEARCHER	HOST INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE	FUNDING AGENCY	FUNDING SCHEME	FUNDS AWARDED (in Lakhs)
Dr. Renjitha Gopurappilly	NCBS	"Modulation of PLA2G6-linked Parkinson's disease by Store Operated Calcium Entry"	India Alliance	ECF	168.17
Dr. Siddhartha Dutta	inStem	Analysis of the delayed effects of acute stress on neuronal and astrocytic morphology in amygdala versus hippocampus	SERB	N-PDF	22.36
Dr. Pradeep Mishra	inStem	Analysis of deficient fear learning and memory in a noval rat model of fragile X syndrome FXS	DST	CSRI	22.4
Dr. Gajendra Singh	NCBS	Structural-functional analysis of Ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme E2-25K-Huntington-interacting protein 2	SERB	N-PDF	22.36
Mr. Manaswi Raghurama	NCBS	"Effects of Nitrogen and Phosphorus deposition on plant invasion in the montane Nilgiri grasslands".	National Geographic	Early Career Grant	\$6,307.58
Mr. Abhinav Tyagi	NCBS	Road-block for wildlife connectivity: Impact of the road network on genetic connectivity and population structure of Sambar deer (<i>Rusa unicolor</i>) populations in the central Indian landscape	DeFries-Bajapi Foundation (DBF)	Small Grants	4942.5 USD
Ms. Rhea Lopez	NCBS	Understanding perceptions and reality in human-wildlife interactions: The case of otter-fishery interactions in Goa, India	Wildlife Conservation Trust (WCT)	Small Grants	0.895 (1st instalment). Total Project cost: 1.99



FORTHCOMING DEADLINES

COVID-19 Research Related Funding Schemes

1. Intensification of Research in High Priority Areas (IRHPA):-COVID-19 and related respiratory viral infections (SERB):

Remit: Scheme supports competitive proposals having a strong interdisciplinary component in the areas including new or repurposed antivirals against valid viral targets; viricidal coatings; etc.; affordable diagnostics for symptomatic and asymptomatic respiratory viral infections; investigational vaccines against respiratory viruses; development of disease models for respiratory viral infections; studies on immune response and immunity during respiratory viral infections, epidemiology of COVID and other respiratory viral infections.

Applicant eligibility: Scientists from Universities, their affiliated Colleges, IITs, IISERs, IISc., and other Autonomous Research Institutions along with scientists working in the industrial R&D sector in India are eligible. It is desirable to bring technical partnerships and collaborative know-how from biotech and pharmaceutical companies. There should be two or more Co-PIs with complimentary expertise. Out of this, at least two Co-PI should be from different departments/institutions. One of the participating institutions should have access to BSL-3 and above facilities, along with expertise of handling respiratory viruses as per WHO/Govt. of India protocols.

Budget: Funds equipment, consumables, manpower, travel, contingency and other costs as per the requirement of the project.

Duration: 3 Years

Deadline: 30th April, 2020 (5:00 pm)

Weblink: https://www.serbonline.in/SERB/Irhpaa_Instruction

FORTHCOMING DEADLINES

COVID-19 Research Related Funding Schemes

2. Short-term Core Research Grant (CRG) special call on COVID-19 (SERB) :

Remit: To support short-term projects in priority areas including affordable, portable rapid diagnostic kits / tools, Computational identification and validation of COVID-19 molecular targets, drug repurposing against key COVID-19 targets, in-vitro / clinical dose testing of nutritional supplements for immunity.

Eligibility: Applicant must hold a “regular” academic position in a recognized academic institution in India with at least 5 years of service remaining.

Budget: Rs. 25 lakh (including overheads)

Duration: 1 Year

Deadline: 30th April, 2020 (5:00 pm)

Weblink: https://serbonline.in/SERB/Covid_19

3. Short-term MATRICS special call on Mathematical Modeling and Computations for COVID-19 Infections (SERB):

Remit: To support short-term projects in thrust areas including Mathematical modeling of COVID-19 spread, Statistical Machine Learning, Forecasting and Inferences from Pandemic Data, Focused Algorithms for Infectious Disease Modeling, Quantitative Social Science Approaches for Epidemiological Models.

Eligibility: The applicant(s) must hold a “regular” academic/research position in a recognized academic institution in India with at least 4 years of service remaining.

Budget: Rs. 5 lakhs (excluding overheads)

Duration: 1 Year

Deadline: 30th April, 2020 (5:00 pm)

Weblink: https://serbonline.in/SERB/AbstractFilePath?FileType=E&FileName=MATRICS_COVID.pdf&PathKey=DOCUMENT_TEMPLATE

4. Nano mission Short-term Research Grant Special call for Nano Coating COVID-19 (DST) :

Remit: This scheme supports short-term projects in areas for developing nano-coating and new nano-based material for the components of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), which can be transferred to a partnering Industry or a start-up.

Budget: Research grant of Rs. 25 lakhs (including overheads)

Duration: 1 Year

Deadline: 30th April, 2020 (5:00 pm)

Weblink: [https://serbonline.in/SERB/AbstractFilePath?](https://serbonline.in/SERB/AbstractFilePath?FileType=E&FileName=DST_NANO.pdf&PathKey=DOCUMENT_TEMPLATE)

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5. COVID-19 Research Consortium Follow up call (LOI) (DBT/BIRAC) :

Remit: To support project proposals that are being solicited for developing Diagnostics, Vaccines, Novel Therapeutics, Repurposing of Drugs or any other intervention for control of COVID-19 by Industry/Academia/Industry-Academia participation.

Eligibility: The proposals can be submitted by Academia (Public or Private Research Institute, University), incubated with any of the recognized incubation facility, a Company (Start-up, Small, Medium or Large) incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013 having a minimum of 51% of the shares of the Company to be held by Indian Citizens (Indian passport holders), Limited liability Partnership (LLP) (incorporated under the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008) and Non-academic Individuals (NAI).

Budget: Depends on the proposed activities

Duration: Up to 24 months

Deadline: 15th May, 2020 (2:00 pm)

Weblink: https://www.birac.nic.in/webcontent/1586013981_covid_19_consortium.pdf

FORTHCOMING DEADLINES

COVID-19 Research Related Funding Schemes

6. ICGEB Research Grants 2020-Collaborative Research Programme- Special Call for Grants for research into COVID-19:

Remit: To support collaborative research projects in basic life sciences, human healthcare, industrial and agricultural biotechnology with emphasis on research into COVID-19.

Applicant eligibility: Scientists working in ICGEB member states (India is a member state).

Budget: Funds equipment, consumables, manpower, travel, contingency and other costs as per the requirement of the project.

Duration: 3 years

Deadline: 15th May, 2020

Weblink: <https://www.icgeb.org/activities/grants/>

7. United States-India Science and Technology Endowment Fund-COVID-19 Ignition Grants:

Remit: To support collaborative research proposals between scientists in India and USA on projects related to address the COVID-19 challenge.

Applicant eligibility: At least one Indian and one U. S. partner and at least one of the partners must be an entrepreneurial entity (preferably a small or medium- scale enterprise).

Budget: Funding will be under two categories:

Ignition Stage I: To help early-stage creative ideas develop a proof-of-concept and/or build a prototype [Grant support up to INR 50,00,000/- or approx.. USD 66,000/-]

Ignition Stage II: To support a team with a workable, validated prototype and/or with the ability to repurpose existing innovative solutions to meet the COVID-19 challenge [Grant support up to INR 1,00,00,000/- or approx. USD 133,000/-]

Deadline: 15th May, 2020

Weblink: <https://covid19.usistef.online/login>

8. Indo-U.S. Virtual Networks for COVID-19:

Remit: To support collaborative research proposals between scientists in India and USA through a virtual mechanism, leveraging existing infrastructure and funding under two categories:

i) **Knowledge R&D Networks:** to support researchers from Academia and research laboratories to conduct joint research and encourage the integration of research and education.

ii) **Public-Private Virtual Networks** to support scientists from Academia and Industry to collaborate on pre-commercial R&D activities having potential towards applied research and product development.

Applicant eligibility: At least one Indian and one U. S. partner. Teams at Indian and U.S. Academic Institutions, Laboratories and/or Industries should be actively engaged in COVID-19 research funded by Federal Agencies and/or Foundations.

Budget: INR 25,00,000/- to INR 50,00,000/- per project [approx.. USD 33,000 to USD 66,000]. Funds partial support for Personnel, basic Infrastructure; Limited travel and contingencies for dissemination of research, educational materials and reports.

Duration: 18 months

Deadline: 15th May, 2020

Weblink: <https://covid19.iusstf.online/login>

FORTHCOMING DEADLINES

April 2020 – July 2020

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Applicants are requested to allow at least 2 weeks before a submission deadline for RDO staff to carry out necessary due diligence on outgoing applications.

Applicants are requested to ensure that all regulatory approvals required for sponsored research are in place. Queries in this regard should be directed to: mounan@instem.res.in

Updated information on forthcoming schemes with submission deadlines can now be accessed from the main RDO webpage under "**Forthcoming Deadlines**" using the following link:

<https://www.ncbs.res.in/facilities/rdo>

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Research Grants/ Fellowships

Scientific and Useful Profound Research Advancement (SUPRA) (SERB)

Remit: To support new scientific breakthroughs, with long-term impact on our fundamental scientific understanding, and offer disruptive technologies at the cutting edge.

Applicant Eligibility: Applicant must hold a "regular" academic position in a recognized academic institution in India with at least 5 years of service remaining.

Budget: Funds manpower, equipment, consumables, domestic travel and contingency.

Duration: 3 years (extendable upto 5 years)

Deadline: 30th April, 2020

Weblink: <https://www.serbonline.in/SERB/Supra>

Swarnajayanti Fellowship (DST)

Remit: To support young scientists to pursue research in frontier areas of science and technology.

Applicant Eligibility: Phd, Indian national having a regular position in a recognized Indian academic/ research organization. Scientists with outstanding contributions in the frontier area of science and engineering. Age limit < 40 years.

Budget: Fellowship of Rs. 25,000/- and research expenses (Rs.5 Lakh per annum from DST & will be considered for funding by SERB for recurring and non-recurring heads).

Duration: 5 years

Deadline: 30th April, 2020

Weblink: <https://dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/Advertisement%20for%20the%20SwarnaJayanti%20Fellowships%20Scheme%202019-20-last-date-30April2020.pdf>

Research Grants/ Fellowships

Team Science Grants (DBT/Wellcome Trust India Alliance):

Remit: To support multi-institutional and inter-disciplinary collaborative research projects that address an important health challenge for India. It encourages international collaboration and also funds high-risk, high-reward research work.

Applicant Eligibility: A minimum of three PIs should participate, no more than 2 PIs can be from one institution, and a minimum of 2 institutions should be included. The Lead PI and all PIs should hold an academic position and have at least 5 years of experience in running an independent research group or lab.

Budget: Upto Rs.10 crores

Duration: 5 years

Deadline: 14th May 2020

Weblink: <https://www.indiaalliance.org/Team-Science-Grants>

Global Investigators (EMBO)

Remit: To provide selected young scientists (who have started their laboratories in EMBC Associate Member States, including India) with funding and platforms for networking with other life scientists in the same region and those in Europe, encouraging the establishment of cooperation across international borders.

Applicant Eligibility: Applicant must be pursuing life science research in an EMBC Associate Member State (including India), should be a group leader of a laboratory for at least one year and for less than six years, should have published at least one last author paper in an international peer-reviewed journal from work carried out in their laboratory.

Budget: Provides funding for various networking and meeting possibilities.

Deadline: 3rd June, 2020

Weblink: <https://www.embo.org/funding-awards/global-investigators>

Science and Technology Award for research (STAR) (SERB)

Remit: To recognize and reward outstanding performance of Principal Investigators (PIs) of SERB Projects.

Applicant Eligibility: Should have completed individual-centric SERB project in previous three financial years with "Excellent" grading. Age limit: 40-50 yrs.

Budget: Fellowship of Rs 15,000/- per month, research grant of Rs. 10 lakh per annum

Deadline: 27th July, 2020 (portal opens on 15th June, 2020)

Duration: 3 years

Weblink: <https://www.serbonline.in/SERB/Star>

FORTHCOMING DEADLINES

April 2020 – July 2020

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International Collaboration

Indo - Korea Joint Call for Proposals 2020 (DBT/MSIT, South Korea)

Remit: To enable Indian and Korean scientists from academia to carry out joint research activity in the area of "Artificial Intelligence utilization in the field of Biotechnology", by leveraging already existing infrastructure and funding available with the partners through a Joint Network Centre (JNC).

Applicant Eligibility: One focal lead coordinator each from India and Korea. Minimum two Indian and two Korean institutional partners, except the focal point institute (3+3 partnership mode). Should provide proof of existing funding support towards infrastructure and equipment.

Budget: Funding includes costs for manpower, consumables, joint workshops and training schools, travel (local & international travel, and local hospitality).

Duration: 3 years

Deadline: 29th May, 2020

Weblink: <http://dbtindia.gov.in/whats-new/call-for-proposals/indo-korea-joint-call-proposal-2020>

Joint call on AI and health (DBT-VINNOVA, Sweden)

Remit: To support collaborative research proposals between scientists in India and Sweden in the area of artificial intelligence (AI), having significant potential to improve public health, nursing or care in Sweden and India.

Applicant Eligibility: Applicants can be based at start-ups, companies, incubators, universities, research institutes, hospitals, county councils, state municipalities, primary or tertiary care centres. At least two project partners of differing expertise; artificial intelligence plus healthcare, nursing or care.

Budget: Funding includes costs for manpower, consumables, contingency and exchange visits.

Duration: 3 years

Deadline: 28th August, 2020

Weblink: <http://dbtindia.gov.in/sites/default/files/digital%20healthcare%20Vinnova%20final.pdf>

International Collaboration

Indo-Spanish Joint Programme for Technological Co-operation in Biotechnology (ISIP) (DBT/CDTI, Spain)

Remit: To support joint technological co-operation projects between investigators from academic/research organizations and/or industries in India and industrial partners in Spain in all areas of biotechnology: health biotechnology, industrial biotechnology, nano-biotechnology, agro-biotechnology, including biofuels and bioenergy, bioinformatics and biomedical engineering.

Eligibility: Spanish consortia should include at least one company (PIs from academia can also participate). The Indian side can be led by a company or a research institution. Indian Industry can be a partner in the consortium.

Budget: Funding includes costs for manpower, consumables, equipment, travel (local & international travel, and local hospitality) contingency, outsourcing, workshops, review meetings etc. Support to Industry shall not exceed 50% of the total project cost and the rest 50% should be matched by the Industry.

Duration: 3 years

Deadline: 29th May, 2020

Weblink: <http://dbtindia.gov.in/whats-new/call-for-proposals/6thindia-spain-joint-call-technological-co-operation-biotechnology>

International Exchange

India-Slovenia Joint S&T Call 2020 (DST/SRA, Slovenia)

Remit: To support collaborative research proposals between scientists in India and Slovenia in priority areas including Health, biomedicine and biotechnology; Artificial intelligence; New materials; Information and communication technologies;

Eligibility: Applicants should be working in a regular capacity in a recognized institution. At least one PI from each side.

Budget: Funds exchange visits including international travel costs and subsistence costs including lodging and boarding for persons sent pursuant to this program.

Duration: 3 years

Deadline: 11th June, 2020

Weblink: <https://dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/India-Slovenia%20Joint%20S%26T%20Call%202020.pdf>

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Postdoctoral Fellowships

Women Scientist Scheme - B (WOS-B) (DST)

Remit: Provides support to women scientists to pursue research in frontier areas of S&T on problems of societal relevance by way of development of viable technology/technique and/or lab-to-land technology transfer, its adaptation and scaling up.

Eligibility: PhD, Women applicants, preferably those having a break in career and not having regular employment, age limit 27-57 years.

Budget: Rs.55,000/-+HRA, Research grant of Rs. 30 lakh (excluding HRA and overheads)

Duration: 3 years

Deadline: 30th April, 2020

Weblink: <http://online-wosa.gov.in/wosb/>

National Postdoctoral Fellowship (SERB)

Remit: Provides support to pursue postdoctoral research in frontier areas of science and engineering.

Applicant eligibility: Indian citizen, PhD. Applicants who have submitted their PhD/M.D/M.S thesis and are awaiting award of the degree are also eligible to apply. Age limit < 35 years

Budget: Rs. 55,000/- per month, research grant: Rs. 2,00,000/- per annum

Duration: 2 years

Deadline: 13th May, 2020

Weblink: <http://www.serb.gov.in/npdf.php>

Research Associateship (DBT)

Remit: Provides support to pursue postdoctoral research in frontier areas of Biotechnology and Life Sciences.

Applicant Eligibility: Applicants should hold a Ph.D./M.D./M.S. degree in Science, Engineering. Those who have already submitted the Ph.D./M.D./M.S. thesis are also eligible to apply. Age limit <40 years (relaxed for 5 more years for women candidates).

Budget: Rs. 47,000 – 54,000 per month and a research contingency grant of Rs. 50,000 per year.

Duration: 2 years (extendable upto 4 years)

Deadline: 15th May, 2020

Weblink: <https://mrdg.iisc.ac.in/dbt-ra-program/dbt-ra-application-format/>

Travel

Travelling Fellowships (Company of Biologists)

Remit: Travel grant for graduate students and post-doctoral researchers who wish to make collaborative visits.

Applicant eligibility: No restriction on nationality. The applicant should be working in the field of the journal (Development, Journal of Cell Science, The Journal of Experimental Biology, and Disease Models & Mechanisms)

Budget: up to £2,500. Funding includes travel, subsistence, accommodation, visa fees and bench fees.

Deadline: 14th Aug, 2020 (for travel after 28th Sep 2020)

Weblink: <http://www.biologists.com/travelling-fellowships/>

Organizing Meetings/Workshops

Scientific Meetings grant (Company of Biologists)

Remit: To fund the organisation of meetings/ workshops.

Applicant eligibility: Organiser must have a PhD. No geographic restrictions, preference to events with feasible diversity in speakers in terms of geography, gender and age.

Budget: Funds for organizing meetings, support of young scientists and plenary or keynote speakers attending meetings.

Deadline: 27th Aug, 2020 (decision week commencing 12th October 2020)

Weblink: <http://www.biologists.com/grants/>

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Rolling Schemes

Hamied Visiting Fellowship (Cambridge-India)

Remit: To support faculty exchange in order to strengthen existing collaborations between India and Cambridge.

Applicant eligibility: Researchers at Indian Universities with an existing academic relationship with colleagues at the University of Cambridge.

Budget: Travel, transfers and accommodation.

Duration: 1-2 weeks

Weblink: <https://www.gci.cam.ac.uk/funding/responsive-calls/hamied-visiting-fellowship>

J C Bose National Fellowships (SERB)

Remit: To recognize active scientists and engineers for their outstanding performance and contributions.

Applicant eligibility: Indian Nationals residing in India, with upper age limit of 68 years for completion of fellowship. Needs to be nominated by the institute.

Budget: Salary top-up of Rs. 25,000 per month plus research grant of Rs. 10.00 lakh.

Duration: 5 years

Weblink: <http://serb.gov.in/pdfs/guideline/jcbose-guideline.pdf>

Project grants (DBT)

Remit: To support Research and Development projects in biotechnology and life sciences.

Applicant eligibility: Ph D, Regular position in Indian research institutes/universities

Budget: upto 1 crore

Duration: 3-5 years

Comments: Submission through online web portal (eProMIS) of DBT

Weblink: <http://dbtepromis.nic.in/Login.aspx>



RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

National Centre for Biological Sciences
GKVK Campus, Bellary Road, Bangalore-560065

Newsletter Designed by : Malini S Pillai

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For comments, suggestions and queries on the newsletter, please contact Vineetha Raghavan.

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