



## GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

### Abstract

Higher Education Department - Chief Minister's Nava Kerala Post-Doctoral Fellowships - Revised Guidelines - accepted - Orders issued.

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### HIGHER EDUCATION (C) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Ms)No.594/2022/HEDN Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 03-12-2022

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- Read 1. GO (Rt) No.191/2022/HEdn dated 02/02/2022
2. Minutes of the meeting held jointly by the Hon'ble M(HEdn) and Hon'ble M(Fin) on 18.07.2022.
  3. Letter No. KSHEC-A7/705/MS-Drct/2022 (Guide lines) dated 27/09/2022 from the Member, Secretary Kerala State Higher Education Council.

### ORDER

In the Budget 2021-22 the Government of Kerala introduced the prestigious Nava Kerala Post Doctoral Fellowships scheme for meeting innovation and development needs of the State through promoting quality research spanning the sectors like social, economic, agriculture, development and industry.

Government are pleased to approve and issue the following Guidelines governing the implementation of Nava Kerala Post Doctoral Fellowships Scheme.

#### **1. Eligibility Conditions:**

- Scholars who are Keralite in origin and possess Ph.D degree in the relevant areas
- Scholars who are not Keralite, but working in research related to Kerala in Universities/Institutions in Kerala
- Candidates who have submitted their Ph.D thesis
- MD holders in medicine from recognised Universities that are approved by appropriate

councils

- Scholars working in India and abroad working on the topics/areas related to Kerala
- The upper age limit is 45 years as on the date of application, with relaxation of five years for women and candidate from other eligible categories (SC/ST/OBC/Physically challenged/women). For permanent employees/teachers, the upper age limit is 35 years as on the date of application, with relaxation of five years for women and candidate from other eligible categories (SC/ST/OBC/Physically challenged/women).

## **2. Priority Areas:**

The area of research shall be related to the innovation and development needs of the State of Kerala. Priority areas of fellowships will be stipulated by the Selection Committee and will update in the website of the Kerala State Higher Education Council. The Selection Committee has to periodically update the priority areas considering the larger needs of the state.

## **3. How to apply?**

### **Mode I- Post Doctoral Fellowship positions at Centres of Excellence/ Inter University Centres/ Translational Labs**

The required number of Post Doctoral Fellowships shall be sanctioned to the Centres of Excellence constituted by the Government of Kerala, Inter University Centres constituted by the Government of Kerala, Translational Labs constituted by the Government of Kerala and such other institutions of eminence under the Government of Kerala (not Universities) that focus on studies leading to the innovation and development needs of the State. The Post Doctoral Fellowships shall be sanctioned ONLY to those projects/studies related to Kerala.

The In-Charge of Centres of Excellence/Inter University Centres/Translational Labs/such other institutions of eminence shall apply to the Vice Chairman, Kerala State

Higher Education Council (KSHEC) with a detailed proposal and justification for the demand. The Vice Chairman shall place this proposal in the Selection Committee and they will take final decision on the proposal. The KSHEC shall forward the decision of the Selection Committee to the Government and final order will be issued by the Government.

Once sanctioned by the Government of Kerala, the Centres/Labs can invite application and after due process, a short list has to be prepared and sent to the KSHEC for approval. If there are any discrepancies or complaints regarding the selection process, the KSHEC shall take final decision on it.

A Selection Committee shall be constituted by the In-Charge of the Centre/Lab with necessary number of experts in the concerned area. A person of eminence in the concerned area shall be the Chairperson on the Selection Committee.

Once selected, the Post Doctoral Fellow has to join within a period of six months since the date of announcement of result. A maximum of one month extension may be sanctioned by the In- Charge of Centre/Lab, if required. Permission may be given to the Fellow to visit the labs/fields outside the state of Kerala for a maximum period of two months for the purpose of the research.

## **Mode II – Direct application to the Kerala State Higher Education Council**

Eligible candidates can submit the application in the prescribed format with all relevant documents to the Member Secretary, KSHEC through online mode and downloaded application shall also be sent to *heckerala@gmail.com*. Details of priority areas, necessary documents and other details shall available in the KSHEC website. The KSHEC can accept proposals throughout the year and the Selection Committee meeting held twice in a year shall consider these proposals. Short listed candidates will be called for interview and the KSHEC shall forward the decision of the Selection Committee to the Government and final order will be issued by the Government.

The Post Doctoral Fellowship registration can be done either in departments/centres or

schools of the Universities/Recognised Research Centres in Kerala and if required, studies may be undertaken in collaboration with outside hospitals, industries, technical centres etc. Permission may be given to the Fellow to visit the labs/fields outside the state of Kerala for a maximum period of two months for the purpose of the research.

A Selection Committee shall be constituted by the Vice Chairman of the KSHEC with necessary number of experts in the concerned areas. The Chairperson of the Selection Committee shall also be nominated by the Vice Chairperson of the KSHEC. The Vice Chairman can also constitute area/discipline wise expert committees for the scrutiny of the proposal received. A member of Selection Committee shall be the Chairperson of expert committee.

Once selected, the Post Doctoral Fellow has to join within a period of six months since the date of announcement of result. A maximum of one month extension may be sanctioned by the Vice Chairman of KSHEC, if required.

#### **4. Duration and Value**

- The period of fellowship will be for two years, which may be extended for one more year, if required. Extension shall be granted only after a presentation before the expert committee constituted by the Chairperson of the Selection Committee and permission may be given only in exceptional cases. If a Post Doctoral Fellow selected through Mode I requires an extension, he/she too shall go through the procedure prescribed for Mode II. In any case, permission of the Government is required for an extension. The Government shall sanction extension only against sanctioned vacancies. Extension vacancies shall not exceed 5% of the total sanctioned fellowships.
- The fellowship amount for the first year shall be Rs. 50000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only) per month and second year shall be Rs. 100000/- (Rupees One Lakh Only) per month. A maximum amount of Rs. 50000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only) per year shall be sanctioned for contingency and other requirements for Arts and Humanities. A maximum amount of Rs. 200000/- (Rupees Two Lakhs Only) per year shall be sanctioned for contingency and

other requirements for Sciences and Technology. Fund will be sanctioned as per the requirement of the project. During the extension period, Post Doctoral Fellows will be entitled only for a monthly scholarship of Rs. 50000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only).

- A working progress seminar shall be conducted once every 6 months and promotion to the next stage shall be given only to those who are recommended by the expert committee.
- The Kerala state government employees, permanent School/College/University teachers are eligible for deputation if they get selected for the Fellowship. In such cases, the Post Doctoral Fellows shall continue to draw their salary and allowances from their parent department/institution and the KSHEC shall directly pay the salary/honorarium of the substitute as per prevailing government rates. The deputation staffs are not entitled to any other remuneration.
- The fellowship shall not be clubbed with any other fellowship.
- Chief Minister's Nava Kerala Post-Doctoral Fellowships is a full time research programme and it shall not be converted to part-time at any point of the research.

### **5. Orientation seminar**

The KSHEC shall conduct Orientation seminars (online/offline) on Chief Minister's Nava Kerala Post-Doctoral Fellowships twice in a year. Orientation shall have modules on the priority areas of the fellowship, application procedure and other relevant methodological and technical matters.

A mandatory three day residential workshop for all the selected Post Doctoral Fellows (through Mode I and II) shall be conducted by the KSHEC. This is to make sure that the larger objectives of the programme shall be met through their research.

Ratification is accorded for the 77 fellowships already selected by the KSHEC.

The Government Order read above stands withdrawn.

(By order of the Governor)  
VIJAYAKUMAR.R  
ADDITIONAL SECRETARY

To:

The Member Secretary Kerala State Higher Education Council  
KSSTM Campus, Thiruvananthapuram

The Director of Collegiate Education, Thiruvananthapuram

The Director of Technical Education, Thiruvananthapuram

The Registrars of all the Universities

The Principal Accountant General (Audit), Kerala Thiruvananthapuram

The Accountant General (A&E), Thiruvananthapuram

Finance Department (vide No. 2108283/ E DN-C1/181/2022-FIN dated 24  
-11-2022)

Information & Public Relations Department

Higher Education (B/D/F/G/J/L) Department

[www.highereducation.kerala.gov.in](http://www.highereducation.kerala.gov.in)

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Forwarded /By order  
Signed by JOSE A  
Date: 03-12-2022 15:14:37  
Section Officer