

POLICY FOR HIRING JRF/SRF/RA-I/RA-II in IACS

1. There will be a Progress Monitoring Committee (PMC) comprising the Supervisor, Head of the Department and two nominees of the Dean (Academic & Students Affairs), one being an external expert, to monitor the yearly progress of a student after completion of 2 years. In case the external expert is not available during any PMC meeting, the Dean may appoint another expert in the said PMC meeting. It is mandatory for each student to have a thesis colloquium before his/her thesis submission and this will be a compulsory requirement. All faculty members must comply with this requirement. At the time of conducting PMC meeting or at the time of thesis colloquium, it will be the responsibility of the concerned supervisor to inform the Academic Office, so that the reports are properly signed and filed in the respective students' files.
2. All students who have joined on or after 1.10.2014 are entitled to receive revised rates of fellowships i.e., JRF @ Rs. 25000/- per month, SRF @ Rs. 28000/- per month as per OM issued by the DST dt October 21, 2014. Each student receiving this scale of fellowship, irrespective of extramural or Institute, will be entitled for fellowship for a maximum period of five years with effect from the date of his/her joining as JRF. Since IACS has to depend on other universities for giving degree to its PhD students, the tenure can be extended for 6 months + 6 months, on the recommendation of the PMC, or till getting a provisional degree, whichever is earlier.
3. For an extramural student, the student will be eligible to draw extramural fellowship during the admissible fellowship period allowed by the external funding agency.
4. The total tenure as JRF plus SRF will not exceed 5 years+6 months+6 months (as of now, since IACS has to depend on other universities for PhD degree). This will include the tenure of fellowships awarded by CSIR/UGC/INSPIRE/DAE/ICMR, etc and all sponsored projects from different government agencies or any other funding organizations/institutions. A faculty can, however, always support his/her student/s from his/her sponsored projects. **This will be the responsibility of the concerned supervisor to inform both extramural support agency and the Institute about the tenure a student has enjoyed with different sources of support.**

5. The institute allows only two Institute fellows per faculty, including JRF, SRF and RA-I. However, faculty members can borrow a student from colleagues of any department on submitting mutual consent in writing mandatorily (provided the faculty member who is willing to lend has not filled his/her quota). **However, when quota for a faculty who had borrowed a quota from other faculty becomes available, the borrowed quota has to be returned and this will be the responsibility of the concerned faculty to inform about his/her quota becoming available.**
6. While Institute, as of now, will not be interfering in intake of extramural students, but at any random point of time Institute can support strictly 2 (allowed quota)+1 (additional) students. The additional number will be used as INTERIM MESAURE ONLY to support those students who will be continued to be given fellowship for 6months + 6months more beyond the 5 years allowed by external source.
7. Head of the Department/Unit/Centre will ensure that her/his Departmental Faculty maintains a ceiling strength of 8X (X being the number of faculty members).
8. RA-I position cannot be regarded as a continuation of tenure in the Institute as research fellow and has to be a fresh appointment for a maximum of (1+1) years or till superannuation of the faculty, whichever is earlier, through proper selection process after the candidate has received at least a provisional certificate of his/her Ph.D. degree. Extension will only be given after a thorough evaluation on completion of one year tenure. Continuation of a research fellow as RA-I in the same research group where s/he has completed her/his thesis work should not be desirable unless there are compelling reasons.
9. RA-II position(s) in each department may be awarded for a maximum period of (1+1) years through a selection procedure for candidates with a Ph.D. degree and at least two years of research experience beyond obtaining PhD degree or equivalent. The research experience may be relaxed in exceptional cases.

10. For each of the extramurally supported independent researchers, there has to be a mentor from amongst the regular faculty of the institute and the concerned researcher will be under the administrative control of the respective department/unit/centre where the mentor belongs to.
11. Bridging Fellowship (equivalent to the fellowship of extended SRF) may be offered to fellows who wish to apply for RA position but have not received their PhD degrees. The position will be offered provisionally, subject to the condition that the incumbent gets her/his PhD degree and from that day s/he will be treated as a Research Associate. However, tenure must not exceed 1+1 years in total, inclusive of the stint as Bridging Fellow and RA-ship, and in all cases each such position must be appointed through an open advertisement allowing other students to compete.
12. In addition to two Institute fellows per faculty member, a faculty member may be entitled to take one Institute funded integrated MSc-Ph.D. student for Ph. D. programme once in two years, subject to the conditions laid down in 1 above and at no time the total number of the student funded by the Institute would exceed three for an individual faculty (with one extra mentioned here being for Integrated PhD students only). In this category no loan from any other colleague is permissible. While the regular quota of two Institute supported students for each faculty members may be filled in with integrated Ph.D. students, but the entitlement for one integrated Ph.D. student in two years is strictly applicable only to support an Integrated MSc-PhD student. The Integrated Ph.D. students will receive a fellowship of Rs. 12000/- per month in the first two years and after successful completion of MSc gets fellowship at par with the Institute fellows following the Institute norms. All integrated Ph.D. students are encouraged to obtain extramural fellowship and in the event each such student secures an extramural fellowship, the concerned faculty member will be eligible to take one Institute funded integrated Ph.D. student thereafter. **Tuition fee for new entrants will be applicable if mandated by Institute/Governing Council/Ministry/Partnering Institutes in the future.**
13. Under normal circumstances, a faculty member may be eligible to take a JRF till attaining 60 years of age, whereas a faculty having active external funding such as J C Bose Fellowship etc. may be eligible to take a student till attaining 62 years of age. However, in all such cases there has to be a co-guide from IACS assigned to the student from the time the concerned faculty attains 59 years of age (for normal cases) or 61 years of age (for J C Bose Fellows).

14. The faculty must ensure that any student under his/her guidance submits his/her PhD thesis within the 5 year tenure. As resolved by the Governing Council, each faculty is responsible for ensuring the implementation of the revised guidelines of the Governing Council and Finance Committee resolution as per the revised GoI guidelines.
15. The onus of submitting yearly progress reports should solely lie on the student and the concerned faculty and **Institute shall by no way take any responsibility in reviving a terminated fellowship for non-compliance of the requisite guidelines and criteria.** In case the external funding agency imposes a condition that a fellow must return the entire amount of funds received (scholarship and contingency) in the event of leaving the research work mid-way by not submitting the PhD thesis, the student will not be given clearance unless h/she returns the recoverable amount and the concerned faculty will have to take the responsibility to ensure compliance of the same. Further for extramurally funded fellows the concerned faculty member is responsible for the implementation of the terms and conditions as laid in the offer. All faculty who have accepted students receiving extramural fellowship, must adhere to the guideline stipulated by the concerned funding agency. The Institute Administration is in no way responsible for any lapse on the part of the student and concerned faculty member.
16. In case of medical and other exigencies (including nonavailability of essential research facility, etc), on the recommendation of the PMC and with the approval of the competent authority the 5-years + 6months + 6months tenure may be extendible with usual terms on a case-to-case basis.
17. Fellows/Associates shall be governed by the disciplinary regulations and code of conduct of the host institute where s/he is working.
18. Institute may provide a yearly grant of Rs. 5000/- up to a maximum of 5 years as advance to an Institute PhD student, the adjustment of which may be given at the end of that year. The funds so provided may be utilized for purposes directly linked with the research work of the student, such as to pay for expenses towards attending scientific meeting, purchase of books, etc. For fellows receiving extramural funds, the same may be allowed from their yearly contingencies as per the guideline given in the website in CSIR

(<http://www.csirhrdg.res.in/jrfsrfra2.htm>) or in UGC
(http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/4804685_JRF---NET.pdf) etc.

19. It will be the responsibility of the individual faculty members to ensure the implementation of the guidelines of GoI as per the resolutions of the FC and GC meeting in respect of her/his fellows and associates.