



Policy on Yenepoya (Deemed to be University) Research Fellowships

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1. Preamble

Yenepoya (Deemed to be) University, in its commitment to fostering a culture of research excellence and innovation, has been offering research fellowships to attract and nurture exceptional candidates. These initiatives have been designed to support aspiring researchers and instill a profound research- oriented mindset among young scholars. Through these fellowship schemes, the University seeks to provide crucial financial support to deserving postgraduates, empowering them to achieve significant breakthroughs in their respective fields of study. The schemes are open to all individuals who have demonstrated a strong research aptitude after completing post-graduation from a recognized University. By promoting academic rigour and scholarly pursuit, these fellowships are pivotal in shaping the future of research and contributing to advancing knowledge on a global scale.

2. Types of Research Fellowships

The University offers the following types of fellowships; Junior Research Fellowship (JRF), Senior Research Fellowship (SRF), PhD Fellowships, Postdoctoral Fellowship (PDF) and Research Associate (RA)

3. Eligibility and Age limit

Category	Eligibility	Upper age limit*
JRF	a) 2-years PG degree after 3-years UG degree OR b) 1-year PG degree after 4-years UG degree For (a & b) minimum 55% marks or equivalent grades in the PG degree OR c) 4-years UG degree with a minimum of 75% marks or equivalent grade and are selected for PhD admission. d) Degree should be from any accredited Indian or foreign University in the relevant field. Candidates qualified in NET, GATE, or other competitive exams will be preferred	32 years
SRF	a) 2 years of research experience after a PG degree with at least 2 research publications, with at least one as first author (Scopus/WoS indexed journals). OR b) MBBS/BDS/ PG degree in any professional branches (e.g. MSc/MPharma/ME/MTech/MD/MS/MDS/ MTech etc.)	35 years
PhD Fellowships	For candidates enrolled for full-time PhD, and are not eligible for the JRF/SRF posts due to age limit.	45 years
RA	A minimum of 3 years of research experience with at least 3 publications as first author in Scopus/WoS indexed journals.	40 years
PDF	Doctoral degree from a recognized University with a minimum of 3 publications as first author (Scopus/WoS indexed).	45 years

*The upper age limit is relaxable up to three years in case of candidates belonging to scheduled castes/scheduled tribes/OBC/physical disabilities/women and other categories as per the Government of India rules. The cut-off date for the age limit for SRF/RA will be as on the last date of submission of the application.

4. Application and Selection Procedure

4.1. Application Process

Online applications shall be invited from deserving candidates every year. Detailed information shall be available in the University website.

4.2. Selection process for the JRF/SRF

- i. JRF and SRF candidates must qualify for the YU-PhD entrance examination or cleared national level competitive examinations.
- ii. Selection will be through an interview process by the university-appointed committee.

4.3. Selection process for RA and PDF

- i. The RA and PDF will be selected based on the evaluation of the application for research experience, publication records, technical skills followed by an interview process by the University appointed committee.

5. Fellowship and Tenure

The selected candidates are eligible for a consolidated fellowship as follows, which may be revised as per the provisions in the research budget time to time.

Category	Fellowship (Rs.) p.m.			Max Tenure
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	
JRF	25,000	25,000	25,000	3 Years
PhD Fellowships	25,000	25,000	25,000	3 Years
SRF	28,000	30,000	-	2 Years
RA	35,000	40,000	-	2 Years
PDF	45,000	48,000	-	2 years

6. Reporting

The selected candidates shall report and complete all the joining formalities in the Academic section, Registrar's office of the University, on the date mentioned in the appointment order.

If the candidate cannot join on the said date, prior intimation should be given to the University. If the candidate does not join within 30 days, the appointment order will stand cancelled.

7. Roles and Responsibilities

- i. Candidates shall undertake the allocated research works and related departmental research activities.
- ii. Additionally, they are expected to assist the research supervisor in consultancy and collaborative projects.
- iii. All the PhD registered JRFs shall be trained in teaching/education/pedagogy/writing

related to their chosen PhD subject during their doctoral period and they may also be assigned 4 - 6 hours per week of teaching/research assistantship for conducting tutorial or laboratory work and evaluations.

8. Leave and Other Benefits

- i. All the research positions have casual leave entitlement as per the leave regulations outlined by the University for the temporary staff.
- ii. Attendance will be granted for participation in scientific events/workshops, with approval.
- iii. Women candidates will be provided with Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave for up to 180 days once in the entire duration.
- iv. All the research positions are eligible for medical benefits according to the existing policies of the University.

9. Promotion of JRF to SRF

A JRF candidate with 2 years of research experience and 2 research publications in WoS and Scopus-indexed journals, including at least one research article as the first author is eligible for promotion to SRF.

10. Allotment of Research Fellows to the Supervisors

- i. JRFs will be allocated to a Research Supervisor, who is a regular faculty and a recognized PhD guide of the University. The supervisor should have a project in thrust research areas that aligns with the unmet sustainable development goals (SDG) or addresses potential local or national challenges.
- ii. The number of JRFs allocated per year will depend on the faculty cadre, as outlined below:

Faculty Cadre	No. of JRF/SRFs
Assistant Professor	Two
Associate Professor	Three
Professor	Four

- iii. Additional JRF allocations for any faculty will be based on the research performance of the existing JRFs, particularly in terms of significant outcomes. Furthermore, faculty members who secure extramural research grants may also be eligible for additional JRFs.
- iv. Faculty who have successfully guided PhD/MCh/DM candidates will be eligible to mentor RA & PDF candidates. However, the University shall support only a limited number of RA & PDF positions.

11. Progress Monitoring

- i. The mentors/supervisors will provide proper guidance, equip the candidates with skill and knowledge, and inculcate attitude while assisting in the timely completion of the research project as per the plan.
- ii. The progress of the Research fellows, including PDF and RA, shall be primarily reviewed by the research supervisor/mentor, and they will ensure that the Fellowship candidates are engaged in scholarly research activities, publish high-quality research articles, participate in conferences/symposiums, IP generation and entrepreneurial activities.
- iii. All the fellowship candidates shall submit annual progress reports to the Registrar upon the completion of one year (Not later than 15 days of completion of the tenure).
- iv. The research progress of the PhD Fellowship candidates and all the PhD registered JRF/SRF will be evaluated in addition to the annual reports based on the Doctoral Advisory Committee reports.
- v. The University shall constitute a committee to assess the performance of Research fellows who cannot show significant annual progress and suggesting remedial measures.
- vi. Publications in journals accepted for national/international accreditation and rankings only will be considered to assess the candidate's performance.

12. Extension of the Fellowship and Termination

12.1. Extension

- i. If JRF/SRF/PDF/RA joins after accepting the fellowship terms, it is incumbent on him/her to continue the research for the normal tenure of the fellowship or such lesser duration that the original objectives of the research problems have been achieved.
- ii. The JRF shall typically last for 3 years, and if, after 2 years, he/she is promoted to SRF, the total tenure of the fellowship shall not exceed 4 years.
- iii. There shall be no extension for RA and PDF beyond 2 years. However, an extension of 6 months may be granted for the completion of important projects with the approval of the Vice Chancellor.
- iv. PhD fellowships will be for a three-year tenure to complete the PhD research objectives.
- v. Annual extension shall be based on the progress and research outcomes.

12.2. Tenure Completion & Termination

- i. The fellowship shall normally be terminated upon completion of its tenure.
- ii. He/she shall not discontinue the fellowship without prior approval of the University.
- iii. In case he/she wishes to discontinue the fellowship before completion of the tenure on the attainment of original objectives of the research, he/she shall pay a penalty fee as decided by the University from time to time. Any resignation shall be through the supervisor and HoD one month in advance or payment of one month's

fellowship amount in lieu thereof if the incumbent intends to be relieved early, indicating specific reasons for not continuing the fellowship.

- iv. The University may terminate the fellowship on the recommendation of the Research Supervisor and Head of the Department/Institution in case of lack of progress or disciplinary issues.
- v. RA/PDF and other JRFs (who have not enrolled for PhD) will send a detailed consolidated report of the research work done during the entire period of fellowship on completion of the tenure/resignation of the fellowship through the supervisor to Yenepoya (Deemed to be) University within one month.

13. Other Terms and Conditions

- i. All the research positions will be full-time, and the candidate shall submit himself/herself to the University's disciplinary regulations.
- ii. The respective departments shall ensure regular attendance. Grievances if any should be addressed to the Grievance Redressal Committee of the University
- iii. If the candidate clears competitive examinations and is eligible for the fellowship/appointed in a funded project, he/she shall inform the University and seek written permission to switch the fellowship.
- iv. The candidates are encouraged to apply for national fellowships and represent the University in scientific forums.
- v. They shall not take up any assignment outside other than related to his approved research program, paid or unpaid. He/she will pay back the entire Fellowship amount in addition to disciplinary action if found to be taking up any paid assignment at any time during the fellowship.
- vi. During the tenure of the Fellowship, he/she shall correspond with Yenepoya (Deemed to be) University only through the supervisor/mentor and head of the department/centre.
- vii. In all the research publications and conference presentations during the tenure of the Fellowship, he/she shall acknowledge the support of Yenepoya (Deemed to be) University.
- viii. Request for change of mentor/supervisor will not be allowed except under compelling circumstances for which the Fellow & his/her supervisor should submit proper justification.
- ix. The no-objection certificate should be produced by the JRF/PDF/SRF/RA from the supervisor and HoD from where a transfer is sought, and an acceptance letter from the new supervisor/mentor must be submitted through the proper channel.
- x. If a JRF/SRF/PDF/RA leaves without permission, the fellowship due at any time shall not be paid to him/her by the institution till all the dues are cleared by the candidate.
- xi. Candidates shall be eligible for the research incentives as per the Research Incentive Policy.
- xii. Any revisions of the policy if notified shall be applicable after the date of notification prospectively for all the candidates.