

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GANDHINAGAR

SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP FOR FACULTY

(As approved by the Board of Governors in its 4th meeting held on 3rd September 2011)

A. Objectives:

1. To encourage faculty to spend considerable parts of summer in the campus engaged in intense research.
2. To encourage faculty to actively seek external funding for their research.
3. To encourage and reward (financially) the faculty (and other academic staff) for good research.
4. To encourage collaborative research amongst faculty of same and different disciplines of the Institute as none shall have teaching load during summer.

B. The Scheme

1. The Fellowships will be awarded to carry out research at IITGN during summer break. At least two months (60 days), preferably without break, should be devoted to the Fellowship work. However, it is understood that some faculty members may need to undertake a reasonable amount of travel for official or semi-official purposes during the summer such as attending conferences, site visits for consulting projects, field work for research, expert committees etc., and such periods will be counted within the 60 days of Fellowship period.
2. The maximum Fellowship amount will be equal to the basic pay plus dearness allowance (excluding the transport allowance and the HRA) of the faculty member as of June 1 of the year, and payable for a period of two months, subject to funds availability as outlined below.
3. 25% of the total overheads charged to the externally funded research projects of the concerned faculty member will be available to him/her for covering the Summer Fellowship and other professional expenses; this account will be named as Professional Development Account (PDA) and will be kept separate from the Rs 1 Lakh per year currently allowed to the faculty from MHRD funds for professional development as per sixth pay commission; the latter will be termed as Central Professional Development Account (CPDA). The PDA amount will be cumulative and can be carried forward to the future years, but the Institute will not credit any interest to any funds carried forward. Considering that the faculty is allowed to earn honorarium from consulting projects and continuing education programmes, no part of overheads from these will be transferred to the PDA.
4. Half the sanctioned Fellowship amount can be charged to the PDA, subject to availability of funds in PDA. The amount charged to the PDA will be matched equally from the donations and endowment interest, if available. Otherwise, payment of the entire Fellowship can be made from the PDA.
5. An option will be available to the faculty members individually or jointly, to submit a

formal research proposal to the Institute explaining clearly the research work they will like to carry out for at least 60 days of summer break under the Fellowship. Such proposals will be examined by the Institute Standing Committee which may obtain review reports from domain experts. If such a proposal is approved, the Institute will provide Fellowship amounting to 50% of basic pay and dearness allowance (as on 1st June of the year) from the donations/endowment, for a period of two months, without requiring the matching amount from PDA. This provision will be particularly useful for faculty members working in areas where sponsored research projects do not provide sufficient overheads etc. Such a proposal should be submitted with the Dean/Professor-in-charge, R&D before 1st of February of the corresponding year.

6. It is expected that the work carried out under the Fellowship through the “proposal route” will seed work that will eventually result in scholarly publications or technology development. All those who avail any funds for Summer Research through the research proposal route, must submit a report not later than October 31 of the same year. This report will be archived for future reference in consideration by the Institute for subsequent funding through the “proposal route”.

C. Illustrations: To better illustrate the scheme, some instances are summarized :

- a) A typical faculty member having plenty of projects will charge one month of Fellowship amount from PDA and an equal amount from the donations/endowment. The only expectations Institute will have from such a person is that he/she must spend two months of summer doing research at the Institute. Such a person need not write any research proposal.
- b) If a faculty member has limited external funds and can charge only 20 days of Summer Fellowship to the PDA, the donation/endowment will provide another 20 days of Summer Fellowship. However, in this instance also, the faculty member must devote a minimum of 60 days to the Fellowship. Such a faculty member need not write any research proposal to the Institute.
- c) The faculty member mentioned in b) above may choose to write a research proposal to the Institute, and if such a proposal is approved , he/she may avail 20 days of Summer Fellowship from PDA and 30 days from the donation/endowment.
- d) A faculty member having no sponsored projects or having no overheads for PDA, may avail only one month of Summer Fellowship amount from the donation/endowment divided equally over two months, upon successful submission of the research proposal. In this instance too, the faculty must spend a minimum of 60 days of summer break on research at the Institute.
- e) As the faculty shall be carrying out research work for at least 60 days of summer break, the concerned person shall be on official duty at the Institute during this period and thus provision of his/her annual vacation of 60 days or earned leave in lieu thereof, remains unaffected.