

ANUSANDHAN NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Prime Minister Professorship

for catalysing world class research and innovation in emerging institutions

This prestigious initiative is designed to harness the knowledge and experience of eminent scientists, senior faculty from academic institutions, and accomplished professionals from industry. The scheme facilitates structured mentorship engagements, wherein superannuated/retired, active experts from academic institutions and industry professionals with strong research credentials, will provide sustained academic and research support to faculty and students in institutions with emerging research capacity.

Objective:

Leveraging expertise of active, eminent and superannuated/retired scientists for their outstanding contributions both nationally and internationally, in the area of engineering, science, and technology including agriculture, medicine & humanities and social sciences at the interface of science and technology to strengthen R&D culture in less endowed state universities, by boosting their research and innovation aspects in collaborative mode.

Eligibility Criteria for Prime Minister Professorship:

- Superannuated faculty or scientists from reputed Indian institutions, National Research Laboratories (NRLs), or from private institutions are eligible to apply.
- Overseas scientists—including Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs), and Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs)—are also encouraged to apply under this scheme.
- In addition, professionals from industry/ experienced Professor of Practice, with a distinguished record of research and innovation may also apply for the Prime Minister Professorship.
- Applicants with strong research credentials, must be actively involved in research and innovation activities, and demonstrate a strong commitment to mentor faculty at the eligible state universities where research and innovation is still at a nascent stage.
- Eligible host institutions are the state universities which have been qualified as spoke institutions in Category A of recently awarded PAIR program of ANRF.
- Applicants must be willing to relocate to the proposed host institution on full time basis and should have a proper plan to contribute significantly to the development of its research capabilities and innovation culture.

Responsibilities of the Prime Minister Professorship:

- Enhancing the Research and Innovation capabilities of target host universities.
- Mentoring faculty and students of target universities for pursuing worldclass research in the frontier areas of national interest including translational research.

- Strengthening research and innovation collaborations among established institutions, industry with less endowed universities with the internships of research scholars under the proposed departments for at least 6 months in the established institutions and industry.
- Promoting sustainable knowledge exchange.

Proposal Submission & Evaluation Process:

- A joint proposal must be submitted by the superannuated faculty member/scientist, or Professor of Practice in collaboration with the various departments from the proposed host university. The proposal should clearly articulate the mentor's role in the proposed activity of research and innovation.
- The proposal should detail how the mentor will contribute to the formulation of research projects in collaboration with the host university and outline innovative strategies to enhance the quality of research and innovation at the university.
- It should also include plans to encourage and guide faculty and students in undertaking world-class research and innovation projects having potential to significantly impact the academic and research environment of the host university.
- Mentor has to collaborate with Heads of various departments willing to participate and work out the plan for raising the R&D ecosystem of the host university.
- Mentor may also contribute in establishing a research lab in a specific department or common research facility in the host university, with the research /infrastructure fund or from Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) fund of the institute, subject to the approval of the head of the institution.
- Proposals will be evaluated by a designated selection committee based on the academic and professional credentials of the applicants with distinguished records and exceptional contributions in the fields of engineering, science, and technology (including agriculture, medicine & humanities and social sciences at the interface of science and technology) as well as the potential merit, novelty, and innovativeness of the approach of raising the target institution's research ecosystem to globally competitive standards.
- Performance of the faculty, in the proposed departments (to promote interdisciplinary approach in research activity) during last 5 years w.r.t. publications in SCI journals/patents, awards received by the faculty members, past/present projects with govt. agencies will be evaluated.
- Proposal should include a projected research plan/activity for next five years which may include 6 months internships in well-established institutions/NRLs/Industry to the registered scholars working in the proposed departments of the host institute. Proposals with mentoring the faculty, with their ongoing projects leading to the development of prototype/patents will be encouraged.
- Details of research facilities and number of manpower available including no. of faculty members with PhD degree, number of research scholars with the proposed department/s of the host institute to carry out the proposed activity. The mentioned details are also required in case of proposing for upgrading/establishing a research lab/ centre in the department/university with the research/ infrastructure fund available with the university.

- Not more than one proposal will be entertained from one university.

Duration:

- The tenure of the professorship will be up to 5 years with an initial period of 3 years, extendable to 2 more years.

Age limit: Superannuated on the date of application (no upper age limit)

Funding Support:

- A PM professor will receive a fellowship of Rs. 30 lakh plus Rs. 24 lakh as research grant (consumables, domestic travel, contingencies, minor equipment etc.) per annum. Also, an overhead of a fixed amount of Rs.1 lakh per year to be provided under the program.

Note:

The applicant should not hold any administrative roles and functions. He/she should not receive any honorarium/fellowship/salary from any other institute or organization during the tenure of PM Professorship.

Obligations / Terms & Conditions:

- During tenure, the PM Professor will work on full time basis in the proposed host university.
- The position will stand terminated from the date the PM Professor accepts any other position yielding regular salary/honorarium/fellowship in future.
- Support by ANRF under the PM Professorship Program should be acknowledged by the awardee in all publications, patents, etc.
- The intellectual property rights arising out of the research work will be governed by the norms of the Host institute.

Online Application Procedure:

For online submission of the application the following points may be noted:

- Applicants should first register in the ANRF online portal at www.anrfonline.in [click here to register](#)

- After log-in, applicants are required to fill in all the mandatory fields under User Profile section, which includes Bio-data, Photo, Institute address, etc.
- Some of the details of a proposal like Activity Title, projected 5 year research plan, Keywords, Objectives of the activity, Expected output and outcome of the proposal.
- Details of Faculty/ Research Personnels, have to be entered at the time of proposal submission.
- Other relevant information of the proposal has to be uploaded as a single PDF file, as a Technical Document (OTD).

Documents required (in PDF format):

- Biodata of PI/Mentor.
- Certificate from Team.
- Endorsement Letter from the Head of Institution.
- Details of research facilities/ labs and equipment available in the department/s proposed to work with, endorsed by the Head of the Institute.
- Undertaking from the PM Professorship applicant.

Application:

Applications for the scheme will be submitted online through the ANRF portal [www. anrfonline.in](http://www.anrfonline.in).

FAQs

Q1: For whom the PM Professorship is meant ?

A1: The PM Professorship is meant to provide opportunity to active and superannuated scientists/faculty from reputed Indian or foreign institutions/universities/ National Research Labs/ industry with outstanding performance, to mentor the faculty and students of the less endowed universities to improve/raise their research eco-system.

Q2: What are the eligibility criteria for applying/availing PM Professorship?

A2: Should be superannuated and active scientist/ faculty/ professor of practice with a record of outstanding performance apparent from publications in high impact journals, patents, technology transfers, awards, notable research outcomes etc. The applicant should be of Indian origin, superannuated from institutions/industry in India/ abroad and is ready to serve in India.

Q3: What are the areas covered under PM Professorship?

A3: All areas of science and technology (in the broadest terms) are covered under this program, including scientific interface of humanities and social sciences.

Q4: What is the nature of support for the PM Professors?

A4: The PM Professor will receive a fellowship of Rs. 30 lakh plus Research Grant of Rs.24 Lakh per annum. Additionally, Rs. 1.00 Lakh (per annum) is provided as Overhead to the host institute.

Q5: Who are the eligible host institutes/ universities?

A5: Eligible host institutions are the state universities which have been qualified/listed as spoke institutions, in Category A of recently awarded PAIR program of ANRF.

Q6: What is the upper age limit up to which the PM Professorship can be availed? Can a PI avail other fellowships together?

A6: No upper age limit. Applicant must be superannuated/retired on date of application. No,

at a time only one fellowship can be availed. PM professor cannot draw salary/fellowship of any kind from any other organisation during its tenure.

Q7: When can a person apply for the PM Professorship?

A7: Proposals will be invited through call for proposals in the online portal i.e. www.anrfonline.in.

Q8: Who can submit the proposal?

A8: Superannuated and eligible candidates have to identify the host institute from the list of eligible host universities, where the research & innovation is still at the nascent stage and formulate the joint proposal with various willing departments of the host institute, with 5 year plan of activities/approach to be adopted to raise the R&D ecosystem of that host university, where mentor will be the Principal Investigator and various departments in the host institution will be the Collaborators. Only one proposal has to come from one university.

Q9: Who can be mentored by PM Professor?

A9: Regular faculty with registered scholars across various departments can be mentored.

Q10: What is the duration of the PM Professorship?

A10: The PM Professorship duration is up to 5 years.

Q11: What will be the stay period of PM Professor in the host institute?

A11: PM Professorship is not a part time job. A candidate must be willing to relocate to the host university on full time basis.

Q12: How/When can the individual start his/her PM Professorship?

A12: On receipt of the offer letter, if awarded, the Individual has to send acceptance through online portal. PI/Mentor can join the host institute within one month of the receipt of the offer.

Q13: How does a PM Professor get his subsequent Grant?

A13: The Grant for the subsequent years is released after receiving Statement of Expenditure (SE) and Utilization Certificate (UC) along with progress report through the online portal (www.anrfonline.in). The SE and UC are to be submitted financial year wise i.e. from 01st April to 31st March. For the first year it would be from the Date of Start (DOS) to 31st March and subsequently from 01st April to 31st March.

Q14: Can a fellow change the host institute during implementation of PM Professorship?

A14: No, a PM Professor is expected work towards raising the research and innovation of a specific university while identifying the existing gap between the adopted approach by the university and the contemporary approach adopted across the globe. Changing host institute will mean change of research problem altogether while diluting the purpose of this program. Therefore, change of host institute is not permissible.