

NO. SB/S9/Z-13/2015
Science and Engineering Research Board
(Statutory Body established through an Act of Parliament: SERB Act 2008)
5& 5A, Lower Ground Floor, Vasant Square Mall, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi 110 070

Dated: 16.12.2016

Office Memorandum

Subject: ECRA and NPDF – Revised eligibility criteria

In partial modifications of existing eligibility criteria for SERB National Postdoctoral Fellowship (NPDF) and Early Career Research Award (ECRA) programmes, the following changes are made effective by the competent authority.

National Postdoctoral Fellowship (N-PDF):

S.No.	Existing	Revised
1.	The applicant must have obtained Ph.D/M.D/M.S degree from a recognized University, <u>not before two years from the date of application.</u>	The applicant must have obtained Ph.D./ M.D / M.S degree from a recognized University. <u>(2 year clause is removed)</u>
2	The fellowship is normally not availed at the same institution where the candidates have earned their PhD/M.S/M.D degree or with the doctoral thesis supervisor as the mentor	The fellows will not be allowed to work with the Ph.D. guide/co-guide. It is also normally not availed at the same Department / institution where the candidates have earned their PhD/M.S/M.D degree.
3.	Evaluation procedure for extension of NPDF tenure;. – Not mentioned.	A five (5) members Assessment Committee needs to be constituted by the Head of host institute to assess the progress of the NPDF after the completion of 18 th months. The composition of assessment committee include the mentor, two senior faculty from the host institute and one external subject expert duly nominated by the head of the institute. The head of the department / division will be the chair of the Assessment Committee. Recommendation of the Assessment Committee should be forwarded to SERB through head of the institute at least three months before the completion of the 2-year period for consideration of extension.

Early Career Research Award (ECRA):

S. No	Existing	Revised
1	The applicant must hold a regular academic/research position in a recognized academic institution/ or national laboratories or any other recognized R&D institutions <u>and must apply not later than the first two years of regular service.</u>	The applicant must hold a regular academic/research position in a recognized academic institution/ or national laboratories or any other recognized R&D institutions. <u>(2 year clause is removed)</u> Faculties recruited through UGC-Faculty Recharge Program are eligible to apply. INSPIRE Faculty , Ramanujan, and Ramalingaswamy Fellows are also eligible to apply if they have been absorbed/appointed to a regular position. If such fellows are not absorbed/appointed in a regular position, and are receiving fellowship as well as research grant from the fellowship, such fellows are eligible to apply provided they have at least three and half years of tenure remaining at the time of submission of application.
2.	Age limit: No age limit is prescribed.	Age limit is fixed at 37 years, relaxable up to 40 years for SC/ST/OBC /Physically challenged and women candidates.
3	There is a provision for Co-PI	Co-PI not allowed
4	Three time call for proposals	Two time (January and July)

All other eligibility criteria and terms & conditions will remain same. The revised eligibility criteria will become effective from 1st January 2017 when the new call is made.

This issues with the approval of Secretary, SERB vide dairy no. 3000, dated 9.12.2016.


(T. Thangaradjou)
Scientist-E

Copy to:

1. All concerned
2. Senior PPS to Secretary,
3. DSTPS to Secretary,
4. SERB SERB website.