



Guidelines for Chief Minister's Post-Doctoral Fellowship (CM-PDF) for BioE3 Policy-Based Translational Research in Biotechnology at Gujarat Biotechnology University (GBU), Gandhinagar

The Chief Minister's Post-Doctoral Fellowship (CM-PDF) is meant for highly skilled and motivated young biotechnologists (Indian Nationals) with a proven record of outstanding science and innovation to undertake independent research in frontier and cutting-edge areas of biotechnology with translational potential.

1. Short Title and Commencement

- 1.1 These Guidelines shall be called "**Guidelines for the Chief Minister's Post-Doctoral Fellowship (CM-PDF) at GBU**".
- 1.2 These Regulations shall come into force from the date of approval by the competent authority of the University.

2. Objectives of the Scheme

2.1 The CM PDF Scheme aims to:

- Promote high quality post-doctoral research in frontier and cutting-edge research areas of biotechnology with translational potential
- To attract highly skilled and motivated young biotechnologists (Indian Nationals) with a proven record of outstanding science and innovation
- Strengthen research output, innovation, translational, and product/process outcomes aligned with national and state priorities.
- Develop a pool of future academic and R&D leaders in Biotechnology.

2.2 The Scheme shall align with the existing national Post-Doctoral Fellowship (PDF) framework regarding merit-based selection and transparency.

3. Scope and Number of Fellowships

3.1 Number of Fellowships: Up to **10 fellowships** shall be offered at any given time.

3.2 The Fellowships shall be offered in **Biotechnology and allied interdisciplinary areas**, including but not limited to:

- Animal Biotechnology
- Plant & Agricultural Biotechnology
- Medical & Pharmaceutical Biotechnology
- Environmental Biotechnology
- Industrial Biotechnology
- Computational Biology
- Marine Biotechnology

4. Eligibility Criteria

4.1. Eligibility Criteria



Applicants must meet the following stringent academic and research requirements:

- **Nationality:** Must be an **Indian Citizen**.
- **Academic Record:** Must hold a **Ph.D. degree** in Biotechnology or an allied discipline (Biochemistry/Microbiology/Agriculture/Bioinformatics/Life Sciences) from a recognized university.
 - A minimum of **60% or First Class** in Master's & Bachelor's degrees (M.Sc./M.Tech/B.Sc./B.Tech/B.S.).
- **Research Productivity:** Ph.D. must have been completed within **7 years** of the application date.
- Must demonstrate a minimum cumulative **SCI impact factor of 10** from up to three first-author research publications in SCI-indexed journals.
- Equivalent consideration may also be given to patents, technology development, or translational research outputs of comparable merit, as assessed by the screening and selection committee.
- **Age Limit:** * Upper age limit is **35 years** at the time of application closure.
 - Relaxation of **5 years** is provided for SC/ST/OBC/EWS/PwD and women candidates as per GoG norms.

Exclusions:

- This fellowship can be availed of only **once** in a career.
- Regular employees of academia/industry are not eligible to apply for CM-PDF on sabbatical mode

4.2 The applicant should have:

- The candidate should have an outstanding academic (M.Sc./M.Tech/B.Tech. with at least 60% marks) and research track record, evidenced by high-quality publications in journals of international repute, patents, technology development, translational research outputs, and other notable scholarly or innovation achievements.
- The applicants of CM-PDF are required to submit a brief proposal in the prescribed format for disruptive innovations that facilitate biotechnology-based solutions for societal challenges

4.3 The applicant shall **not hold any other fellowship or regular employment** during the tenure of CM-PDF.

5. Tenure of Fellowship

5.1 The fellowship shall be sanctioned initially for **one year** and extended on a **year-to-year basis** after a successful annual review.

5.2. The fellowship will be for two years, with the third year extendable for outstanding performers only, as decided by the evaluation committee.



5.3 No extension beyond **three years** shall be permitted under any circumstances.

6. Fellowship Benefits

6.1 Fellowship Amount

- Each CM-PDF Fellow shall receive a Gross **fixed fellowship of ₹100,000 (Rupees One Lakh only) per month, subject to the statutory levies.**

6.2 Research Grant

- Each Fellow shall be entitled to a **Research Grant of ₹500,000 (Rupees Five Lakh only) per annum.**

6.2.1 The research grant may be utilised for:

- Consumables and chemicals, and
- Contingency and Travel for conferences/workshops/research work (maximum 10% of the total grant)
- Unspent amount at the end of each financial year shall be governed by University and GoG financial rules.

7. Nature of Fellowship

7.1 The CM-PDF is a **purely temporary, non-tenure position.**

7.2 The Fellowship **shall not confer any right to regular appointment** in the university or under the Government of Gujarat.

7.3 The fellows are required to undertake full-time innovative and translational biotechnological research independently on the approved research project at Gujarat Biotechnology University during the entire duration of the fellowship.

8. Reporting Officer / HoD

8.1 The Fellow shall work under the administrative control of a **Reporting Officer / HoD** of GBU.

8.2 The Reporting Officer / HoD shall:

- Provide the academic and research support and endorse all the procedural documents.
- Ensure availability of basic research facilities.
- Certify the attendance and other documents for administrative processing.

8.3 The Reporting Officer / HoD shall provide necessary infrastructure, library access, and laboratory facilities.

8.4. The fellows cannot be away from Gujarat Biotechnology University (except for fieldwork or research work, only after due approval of the reporting officer/HoD) continuously for a period of more than one week.

9. Selection Procedure



9.1 The general guidelines for the **Chief Minister's Post-Doctoral Fellowship (CM-PDF)** at Gujarat Biotechnology University (GBU) outline the procedural and ethical expectations for all applicants:

Research Proposal Requirements

- **Content and Length:** The candidates are required to submit an innovative research proposal (maximum 1500 words), which he/she desire to undertake at GBU.
- The proposal should contain a title, background, research problem or research question/well defined objectives, a work plan with timelines and expected outcomes/products.
 - **Novelty:** A specific paragraph must be included to describe the novelty of the proposed work.
 - **Integrity:** Applicants must submit a formal undertaking stating that the research proposal is free from any plagiarism.

Application Submission and Verification

- **Accuracy:** Candidates are responsible for ensuring they meet all eligibility criteria before applying.
- **Documentation:** Applicants must ensure that the online form includes the correct CV, research proposal, degree certificates, credentials, recommendation letters, and copies of publications.
- **Validation:** Original copies of all documents will be verified once a candidate is selected.
- **Rejection Criteria:** Applications that are partially filled, missing required documents, or submitted after the deadline will be rejected without further scrutiny.

9.2 Selection shall be through a **two-stage process**:

- **Stage I:** Screening of applications based on academic credentials and examination.
- **Stage II:** Presentation and interview before a **selection committee**.

9.3 Selection Committee: In accordance with GBU's administrative structure, the committee shall include:

- Director General (DG) or Nominee (Chairperson)
- Registrar, GBU
- Director, GBU
- Dean Academics
- Two Subject Matter Experts (at least one external and one is from UoE)
- Dean Research (Member Secretary)

9.4 Selection shall be based on:

- Academic excellence
- Quality and feasibility of research proposal



- Alignment with Biotechnology priorities
- Interview performance

9.5. Waiting List: A waitlist of qualified candidates may be maintained, valid for a specific period (e.g., one year or less), to fill vacancies arising from non-joining or early resignations.

10. Induction and Annual Review

10.1 All fellows will undergo an induction program to clearly outline the expectations from them as CM-PDFs at GBU. The program will comprehensively explain the innovation criteria and performance benchmarks that will form the basis for their annual review and evaluation.

10.2 The continuation of fellowship beyond each year shall be subject to a **mandatory annual review**. The Fellow shall submit:

- Six-monthly Progress Report
- Publications/outcomes achieved
- Annual utilisation certificate of research grant

10.3 The Annual Review Committee may:

- Recommend continuation
- Suggest corrective measures
- Recommend termination in case of unsatisfactory performance

11. Monitoring and Outcomes

11.1 CM-PDF Fellows are expected to:

- Perform translational and product-oriented research
- Publish research in **high-quality/high-impact factor peer-reviewed (SCI) journals**. The existing article publication charges (APC) rules for faculty, GBU, will be applicable.
- CM-PDF may apply for or obtain any intellectual property through GBU for an invention based on research work done at Gujarat Biotechnology University, as per GBU norms.
- Contribute positively to the institutional research ecosystem.
- Acknowledge **the Gujarat Biotechnology University and the CM-PDF Scheme** in all research outcomes (product/process/publication/Patent).

11.2. Conduct and Ethics

- **Ethics:** CM-PDF Fellows must adhere to ethical research practices; violation may lead to termination. Plagiarism or academic dishonesty is strictly prohibited.
- **Conflict of Interest:** Fellows must disclose any potential conflict of interest to the University and ensure that their activities do not conflict with the interests of the Government of Gujarat.

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- **Confidentiality:** Fellows must maintain strict confidentiality regarding any data or information accessed during the fellowship and shall not disclose it to any third party without prior written consent from the competent authority.
- **Ownership of Work:** All intellectual property, reports, or data generated during the fellowship shall be the sole property of the Government/University.
- **Independence:** Fellows must not seek or accept instructions regarding their duties from any authority outside the University.
- **University Interests:** No actions shall be taken during the engagement that may adversely affect the interests of the University; all obligations must be performed with full regard to University interests.
- **Integrity:** Fellows are strictly prohibited from offering any direct or indirect benefits to any representative, official, or employee of the University.
- **Legal Compliance:** Fellows must comply with all laws, ordinances, and regulations. Failure to adhere to these Standards of Conduct provides grounds for immediate termination.
- **Commercial Restriction:** Fellows are prohibited from using the University name, emblem, or official seal for advertising or commercial advantage.
- **Written Permission:** Any use of the name of the University, its abbreviations, or its official seal for business or other purposes requires prior written permission from the Competent Authority.

12. Leave Entitlement

12.1 CM-PDF Fellows shall be entitled to:

- **12 days leave per year**, as casual leave.
- 30 Days On-Duty Leave as per GBU Norms.

12.2 No leave encashment shall be admissible.

13. Termination and Resignation

13.1 The fellowship may be terminated:

- For misconduct
- Unsatisfactory performance
- Violation of fellowship conditions
- Unethical Research Practices

13.2 CM-PDF will not discontinue the fellowship without prior approval of the competent authority of the Gujarat Biotechnology University. In case CM-PDF wishes to discontinue the fellowship prior to the completion of the tenure, resignation may be submitted through the proper channel one month in advance, indicating specific reasons for not continuing the fellowship. Furthermore, the fellow must submit a detailed report along with complete data of the research work done during the entire period of CM-PDF.

14. Financial Management

14.1 The Scheme shall be operated in accordance with:

- Government of Gujarat grant guidelines



- University financial rules
- Entitlement as an Assistant Professor (Level-12 of 7CPC) at the University for TA/DA, etc.
- The CM-PDF fellows are not eligible to apply for extramural research grants.

14.2 Separate accounts shall be maintained for CM-PDF funds by the finance department of GBU.

14.3 Insurance

- **Individual Responsibility:** Fellows are solely responsible for obtaining and maintaining necessary insurance to meet their obligations.
- **Coverage:** This includes life, health, and other forms of insurance at the Fellow's own expense to cover the entire duration of their engagement.

14.4 Tax Deduction at Source (TDS): Income Tax or other applicable taxes will be deducted at source as per prevailing Government of India and Government of Gujarat rules.

14.5 Travel, Medical, and Service-Incurred Risks

- **Health Certification:** The University may require a "Statement of Good Health" from a registered physician before the Fellow commences work on University premises.
- **No Compensation:** In the event of death, injury, or illness occurring during the performance of duties, the Fellow (or their dependents) is not entitled to compensation.
- **Benefit Exclusions:** The Fellow (or their dependents) for is not entitled Medical reimbursement, pension, bonus, LTC, leave encashment, or other financial/fringe benefits (including permanent employment).
- **Final Dues:** In the case of a Fellow's death, only the unpaid stipend/honorarium for the actual period of duty rendered will be payable to the family.

16. Power to Amend: The University, with approval of the competent authority, shall have the power to amend, modify, or relax any provision of these Guidelines, resolve any difficulty in implementation. Any service matter not stated herein shall be determined by the competent authority of the Gujarat Biotechnology University, whose decision should be final and binding on both parties. Any legal matters relating to these regulations shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Court(s) in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

Registrar
Gujarat Biotechnology University



UNDERTAKING

I.....Age.....Residence:.....
.....solemnly affirm & declare on Oath that: I have been offered to join Chief Minister Post-Doctoral Fellowship (CM-PDF) under the Gujarat Biotechnology University (GBU), Gandhinagar. I hereby abide myself that during the fellowship and attachment with my allotted Head of the department/Reporting Officer and even after the completion of my fellowship program, I shall not divulge or disclose any information/know how which comes to my knowledge during this period. I hereby also state that I have carefully read the guideline of S Chief Minister Post-Doctoral Fellowship and I am agreeing with the Terms and conditions of it. I hereby also state that I am not involved with any unlawful organization. I have also been made to understand that this Affidavit can be and shall be used against me for legal proceedings as and when I breach the above undertaking. In testimony I hereby sign in my full conscious and without any pressure or coercion at my own will on _____ day of month of 2026 _____

Date:

Place: