

BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

MESRA : RANCHI

Ref No. GO/IRF/2019-20/ 4394

Date: 14th October 2019

CIRCULAR

Consequent upon the decision taken by the competent authority, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee to Dean (FA&SR), following guidelines for Institute Research Fellowship to be effected from SP 2018:

GUIDELINES OF INSTITUTE RESEARCH FELLOW

Subject to the availability of exceptionally good candidate, there is provision of 25 institute research fellowship (IRF) which are available, at present, at the Mesra campus only. The duration of fellowships could be a maximum of 4 years and shall be @ Rs. 25000/- PM for first two years and @ Rs. 28000/- PM for next two years. The selection of candidates for these fellowships shall be based on the performance in written test and an interview which is governed by Institute regulations. Once selected, the performance of these fellows shall be subjected to continuous evaluation by a committee and tenure of the fellowship shall be terminated if the performance is not satisfactory. The abridged assessment procedure and allotment of Supervisor/Guide to these fellows are as follows:

1. **Monitoring and Assessment of the performance of Institute Research Fellow (IRF)**

- (i) The institute research fellow, immediately after selection shall register as PhD scholar of the institute, and the PhD programme shall be governed by the institute PhD guidelines.
- (ii) In the first semester the PhD scholar has to register for Pre-PhD qualifying papers to be prescribed by the departmental academic committee (DAC).
- (iii) The institute research fellow shall qualify all the pre-PhD papers within first two semesters after taking admission to the PhD programme and shall obtain at least B⁺ grade, failing which the fellowship shall be terminated. However, the candidate can still continue to pursue PhD programme as a self-financed student if he/she fulfils other requirements of the programme.
- (iv) Whenever it is required, the IRF has to undertake academic load at the UG/PG level preferably up to a maximum of 6 hours per week.
- (v) The fellow shall be subjected to annual evaluation of performance which shall be evaluated by a duly constituted institute level research performance monitoring committee (RPMC) for the IRF.
- (vi) Based on performance, the committee may recommend upgrade/freezing/ or termination of fellowship after two years.
- (vii) The fellowship shall be discontinued if the fellow is unable to publish at least one research paper in SCI journal after 2½ years.

2. **Procedure of Selection of PhD supervisor of Institute Research Fellow (IRF)**

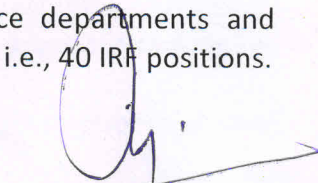
- (i) The PhD supervisor shall be a regular faculty member of the institute.
- (ii) In order to supervise an institute research fellow (IRF), the faculty member shall have at least two publications in SCI journals during last three years. In addition, the faculty member should have R&D project/consultancy project of Rs. 20.00 lakhs as PI or CO-PI or at least have submitted the same for financial support to an appropriate funding agency.
- (iii) Depending on student's research interest, first preference shall be given to Assistant Professors during allotment of PhD supervisor.

- (iv) In case sufficient, PhD supervisors are not available at the Assistant Professor level; second preference shall be given to Associate Professor.
- (v) Whenever, more fresh scholars are available, IRF may be allotted to a Professor as well.
- (vi) At any point of time, a faculty member shall not have more than one IRF as a guide or co-guide unless all the eligible faculty members have at least one IRF under his/her supervision.
- (vii) To get IRF, the faculty member should have served BIT at least for six months.
- (viii) Once a scholar has been allocated, the guide has the responsibility to supervise and monitor the research progress with an objective of time-bound output. The focus shall be on the novelty and quality of research.
- (ix) Further allocation of IRF to a faculty member at any level shall depend on whether the faculty is able to bring R&D grant of worth Rs. 20.00 lakhs or more within three years after receiving the first IRF.
- (x) The PhD supervisor shall ensure that the fellow publishes at least one research paper in a reputed journal listed in SCI after 2½ years.

3. Distribution Institute Fellows among different Departments.

To emphasize research in the engineering departments, the scheme shall have a positive bias towards the core-engineering departments which are offering BE and ME/M.Tech programmes. The distribution of these fellows among different departments may be as under:

- (i) **Core-Engineering Departments (150 IRF):**
Core engineering departments (9) have to shoulder the main responsibility and 75% of the total positions i.e., 150 IRF Positions shall be offered to these 9 departments.
- (ii) **HMCT, Department of Architecture & Department of Management (10 IRF Positions):**
Since sufficient PhD guides are not available in the HMCT, Department of Architecture, and Department of Management, these departments shall have a share of 5% of IRF positions i.e., 10.
- (iii) **Science Departments, Remote Sensing, and Department of Pharmacy (40 IRF Positions):**
To **achieve high yield** from the scheme, three science departments and department of Remote Sensing shall have a share of 20% i.e., 40 IRF positions.


14/10/19
Registrar

Copy to:

- (i) All Deans, HODs/Incharges of Academic Departments.
- (ii) Controller of Examinations
- (iii) Addl. Registrar (F&MM)/Dy. Comptroller/Dy. Finance Officer/Dy. Registrars
- (iv) Administrative Officer/Assistant Registrars
- (v) PS to Vice Chancellor
- (vi) Files