

CENTRE FOR ENGINEERING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

(Established by Government of Kerala)

CERD PhD Research Fellowship

INFORMATION BROCHURE

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1. Centre for Engineering Research and Development (CERD)

Centre for Engineering Research and Development (CERD) established by Government of Kerala aims to provide a platform for the faculty and students of Engineering colleges in the State to pursue their interest in applied engineering research. Various schemes are implemented to motivate, mentor and support researchers. The Centre strives to improve the status of research in Engineering colleges in the State to the national level and try to create a research culture as now existing in premier national institutions. The hub centre of CERD is situated at College of Engineering Trivandrum Campus, Thiruvananthapuram. Satellite centres of CERD are functioning in all Government Engineering Colleges in the State. Further information on the activities of CERD can be obtained from www.cerd.cet.ac.in.

2. CERD PhD Research Fellowship

As an important step towards making the government engineering colleges as research hubs, it is proposed to institute research fellowships for undertaking full time research leading to PhD Degree in Engineering Sciences through Government Engineering Colleges in the State. The Fellowship is for a duration of three years and will be disbursed through the head of the institution in which the candidate undertakes the research. The value of the fellowship is Rs. 18,000/- per month in the first year, Rs. 18,000/- per month in the second year and Rs.20,000/- per month in the third year. In addition a contingency grant of Rs. 20,000 per year also will be paid. The number of fellowships in an year is limited to 5.

3. Eligibility Criteria

Candidates with minimum 60% marks or CGPA of 6.0 in the Post Graduate Degree in Engineering Sciences are eligible to apply for the fellowship.

4. Mode of selection for fellowship

The candidates shall apply in the prescribed format (available in the web site www.cerd.cet.ac.in). A research proposal on a proposed topic detailing the present status, scope, applications, opportunities, research methodology, expected results and benefits shall be submitted along with the application. The consent from the Head of institution where the candidate wishes to carry out research may also be submitted along with the application. The candidates have to make a presentation before the selection committee to prove the research aptitude. The Selection of the candidates will be done based on research aptitude test and interview, and marks scored in Graduate and Post-graduate examinations. Candidates who have the preparedness to carry out research (who have done background work on the proposed research topic, completed all PhD registration formalities of the university and those who have got consent from a prospective guide) will be given priority.

It may be noted that CERD fellowship do not qualify the candidate for admission to PhD programme in an University. The candidate has to qualify for admission based on the admission requirements stipulated by the concerned University.

5. Application Processing fee

The application processing fee is Rs.250/- (Rs.50/- for SC/ST candidates). The application fee shall be submitted by DD drawn in favour of The Director, CERD payable at Trivandrum.

6. Important Dates

Start of issue / Downloading of Application Form & Information Brochure and Submission of Application Form	11 May, 2012 (Friday)
Last date for receipt of filled Application form at CERD Office, College of Engineering Trivandrum Campus, Thiruvananthapuram-16	31 May, 2012 (Thursday)
Last date for dispatch of letters for Aptitude/Written Test	2 June, 2012 (Saturday)
Aptitude Test/Written Test	14 June, 2012 (Thursday)
Announcement of Selected/ Waitlisted Candidates for fellowship	18 June, 2012 (Monday)
Last date for Admission in an Institution to avail fellowship Offered	16 July, 2012 (Monday)
<i>If the selected candidates have not taken admission for PhD in the institutions on or before the last date specified, candidates from the Waiting list will be considered for fellowship based on the report from the Head of institution.</i>	

7. Check list of submission of application form

- (a) The Application Form duly filled-in and completed in all respects.
- (b) Attested copies of Degree Certificates and the aggregated final mark sheets of Graduate and PG degree.
- (c) Demand Draft for Rs. 250/- (Rs. 50/- in case of SC/ST candidates). Write the Demand Draft Number, date and name of the payee Bank at Trivandrum in the space provided.
- (d) The Research proposal on a proposed topic.
- (e) Consent letter from the Head of the institution(in the given format) where the candidate proposes to carryout research.
- (f) An attested copy of the category certificate for SC/ST candidates, issued by a competent authority (Tahsildar).

8. CERD PhD Research Fellowship – Terms and Conditions

- (a) The fellowship will be termed as "CERD PhD Research Fellowship".
- (b) This scheme will be available for students intending to pursue full time research leading to PhD Degree through Government Engineering Colleges in Kerala.
- (c) The application will be invited from the eligible postgraduates in Engineering sciences with 60% marks or equivalent grade.
- (d) Researchers will be selected on the basis of Marks for Graduation/Post-Graduation, research aptitude test and personal interview conducted by the Research Committee of CERD.
- (e) Each selected student will be eligible for a monthly fellowship of Rs. 18,000/- for the 1st year, Rs. 18,000/- for the 2nd year and Rs. 20,000/- for the 3rd year. An annual contingent grant of Rs.20,000/- will also be paid.
- (f) The selected candidates must register for PhD in the discipline in which they are selected for fellowship in one of the Universities of Kerala within a year of selection. The candidate will be eligible for the fellowship from date of admission to the institution. However the fellowship amount will be released only after completing the registration formalities of the concerned University.
- (g) The candidates selected under the scheme will be entrusted with 8 hours of teaching work per week in the institution.
- (h) Research scholars availing any other scholarship/stipend from other state/central funding agencies will not be simultaneously eligible for the fellowship.
- (i) Fellowship will be released in advance, in lump sum each year to the Principal of the college in which the research is carried out. The fund should be utilized only for the purpose for which it is sanctioned. The interest accrued if any, will have to be reflected in the statement of expenditure, which will be adjusted from the subsequent years' grant.
- (j) The amount should be drawn by the Institution and released to the research scholar through bank account on a monthly basis. A separate cashbook should be maintained for the purpose by the institution, which will be open for scrutiny by CERD/Government. Receipt and Expenditure relating to the fellowship should be entered in the Cash Book simultaneously with the transactions. The designation of the drawing and disbursing officer of the institution shall be mentioned in the cheque. Balance amount with interest accrued, if any, in the account should be mentioned in the Utilization Certificate and

will be adjusted against future release. Unutilized amount at the completion/termination of fellowship should be refunded to CERD.

- (k) The progress report of the work of each candidate has to be submitted to the Director, CERD once in every six months with the remarks of the Head of Institution where the candidates are undertaking research.
- (l) In addition, annual progress reports with technical/scientific details of the work accomplished shall be submitted at the end of each year. The subsequent installments of fellowship will be disbursed only after receiving satisfactory progress reports and audited statement of expenditure & Utilization Certificate from the Head of institution. On completion of the tenure of fellowship, detailed consolidated report of research work done during the entire period of fellowship and audited statements of expenditure shall be forwarded to the Director, CERD. The fellowship will be purely on contract basis and the scholars will not be eligible for any service benefits.
- (m) The scholars will be required to complete the research programme leading to PhD within a period of three years. Extension for a maximum period of two years will be considered for exceptionally good candidates on case by case basis on recommendation of Research committee of CERD.
- (n) No research fellow shall discontinue his/her fellowship without prior approval of the Director, CERD. In case he/she wishes to discontinue the fellowship prior to completion of the tenure, he/she must submit the resignation to the Director, CERD through the Head of the institution, indicating specific reasons for not continuing the fellowship. The fellowship shall cease from the date stipulated in the letter approving the resignation. If the research fellow discontinues the programme, before completing the research work he/she has to repay the full fellowship amount received. The fellow will have to execute a bond to this effect on admission to the institution. The research fellow who thus resigned must send a detailed consolidated report of the research work done during the period of fellowship and audited financial statements through the Head of the institution to the Director, CERD within one month of accepting the resignation.
- (o) The research fellow shall inform the Director, CERD about the submission of thesis for PhD and submission/publication of any research paper arising out of the research work done during the tenure of the fellowship. A copy of the thesis must be sent to the Director, CERD within one month of the award of the PhD degree. The copy of the thesis and publications shall be deposited in the institutional repository and the websites.
- (p) Due acknowledgement of CERD shall be given in the thesis report and all the publications emanating from the research work.

For further information, please contact:

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