

**SCHEME FOR TRAINING IN
AYURVEDA RESEARCH FOR
POST-GRADUATE SCHOLARS
(PG-STAR-Session 4.0)**



**CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN AYURVEDIC
SCIENCES**

Ministry of Ayush, Government of India

No.61-65, Institutional Area, Opp. 'D' Block Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058 Website:

www.ccras.nic.in

SCHEME FOR TRAINING IN AYURVEDA RESEARCH FOR POST-GRADUATE SCHOLARS (PG-STAR)

1. INTRODUCTION:

The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), under Ministry of AYUSH, is an ensemble of 30 tangential institutes. This apex body in India is amongst the leading research organizations in the field of Ayurveda i.e., Indian heritage system of medicine. Over the years, the council is devotedly working for undertaking, coordinating, formulating, developing and promoting research on scientific lines in Ayurvedic Sciences through its different peripheral units and also through collaborative studies with various Universities, Hospitals and Institutes nationally and internationally. The research activities of the Council include Medicinal Plant Research (Medico-Ethno Botanical Survey, Pharmacognosy and Tissue Culture), Drug Standardization, Pharmacological Research, Clinical Research, Literary Research, Documentation and Health Care Research Programmes through various outreach activities.

2. ABOUT THE SCHEME:

The Council has initiated “SCHEME FOR TRAINING IN AYURVEDA RESEARCH FOR PG SCHOLARS (PG-STAR)” for Ayurveda Post Graduate Scholars pursuing their MD/MS(Ayu) courses. Currently a total of ~ 4600 scholars are pursuing MD/MS degree in various branches in NCISM / GoI affiliated / recognized colleges/institutes. This scheme aims at facilitating MD/MS Scholars by providing them financial and technical support. This scheme is primarily aimed at promoting good quality research in Ayurveda students pursuing post-graduation courses as well as to improve visibility and accessibility of their research work to larger research audience. The research proposal which are dynamic and are being addressed to national health needs will be given priorities. The area may be prioritized as – literary research, Fundamental concepts as applied to current health care, standardization/ validation of the quality of Ayurveda drugs, assessment of safety of the drugs, techno innovation, Ayurveda interventions in public health care and role of Ayurveda as a standalone or adjuvants treatment in National Health programme etc.

- **Amount of Scholarship:** up to Rs 1,00,000/- per scholar
- **Number of Scholarships:** 100 per year

➤ **Eligibility:**

a) Ayurveda medical post-graduate scholars of admission batch 2024-25 (from NCISM/GoI recognized Colleges/Institutions) who have received approval for their MD/MS dissertation synopsis by the respective affiliated universities and who wish to avail CCRAS's financial assistance for pursuing their thesis work.

b) PG-STAR is open to Indian nationals only. The applicant should be an Indian citizen.

➤ Research area wise tentative distribution of scholarships: -

- 50 Scholarships - Clinical Research
- 10 Scholarships - Pharmacological Research
- 20 Scholarships - Pharmaceutical research / Drug
Standardization/ Techno - innovation
- 10 Scholarships - Literary Research
- 10 Scholarships - Fundamental Research

3. PROCEDURE:

3.1 There is a fully online application for this programme. Hard copies shall neither be accepted nor entertained.

3.2 Interested Candidates, as per their admission batch, are required to register on CCRAS PG-STAR website in the month of December and only those candidates nominated by Head of Institution will be able to submit the application form and **approved synopsis of MD/MS (Ayu) curriculum in prescribed scheme format** online (according to admission process of that admission year by NCISM) which will be evaluated by the Council. Results will be announced in the month of March (or according to admission process of that admission year by NCISM) of the registration year and list of selected scholars will be displayed on the website.

3.3 The approved synopsis of MD/MS (Ayu) being recommended and nominated by head of the respective college/institute, after scrutinizing through internal screening mechanism should be submitted online as per prescribed format via a single recommendation letter only. The head of the institute will recommend and nominate maximum 10 percent or rounded up to near higher decimal of the total sanctioned PG strength of the institute of that admission batch for consideration. **(Annexure II)**

In addition to the internal screening mechanism of the college/institute, the following benchmarks may also be considered for this purpose while considering 10% of the total PG seats for recommendations. **(Annexure VI)**

3.4 Selections for “PG-STAR” will be made by technical evaluation committee being constituted by DG CCRAS by inviting panel of experts from Ayurveda Institutes/colleges, CCRAS, ICMR and DGHS. Selection would be made based on merit. Objective scoring would be used to assess the applications with respect to innovativeness, relevance of work, translational value etc.

3.5 The decision of the Council regarding selection of students will be final. Requests for reconsideration will not be entertained and reasons for rejection of applications for award of scholarship will not be provided.

4. JOINING & RELEASE OF SCHOLARSHIP:

4.1 The selected candidates will be issued the award letter. Based on the budgetary provision of the synopsis, the Council would provide a total financial support up to Rs.1,00,000/- in two installments, to the selected candidates through host institute on the condition that the candidate would provide following documents to the Council at the end of course work.

List of documents to be provided for receiving financial support at the beginning of Research work:

- a. A soft copy of synopsis submitted in the respective affiliated universities
- b. Proposed research work furnished in scheme format based on the approved synopsis forwarded through the Head of the institute.
- c. Proof of approval of synopsis from the respective affiliated universities
- d. Duly signed and sealed Application Attestation Form (AAF) **(Annexure I)**
- e. A single consolidated recommendation letter from head of the institute for all nomination of candidates within 10% annual PG intake capacity approved by NCISM/GoI. **(Annexure II)**
- f. Certificate of approving authority as IEC/ IAEC or any other ethics committee as applicable.
- g. Account details of the institute for transfer of money **(Annexure III)**

- h. Duly signed and sealed undertaking/acceptance form (**Annexure IV**)
- i. A declaration to the effect that the funds received from the Council will be used strictly for the purpose for which it has been released. (**Annexure V**)

List of documents to be provided for receiving financial support at the end of course work:

- a. An electronic copy of the thesis submitted to Institute /University.
- b. A final report containing outline, the objectives, methodology, findings and conclusion of the research work. (**Annexure VIII**)
- c. A soft copy of the research publications (at least one preferably in reputed journals as per recent UGC guidelines) done out of thesis/dissertation.
- d. The Statement of Expenditure (**Annexure IX**) and Utilization Certificate (**Annexure X**) as per GFR 2017 duly approved by the Guide and the Head of the Department/ University/Institution for the entire scholarship released for Scholar.

4.2 The financial assistance, maximum up to Rs.1,00,000/- would be provided in two installments. The 1st installments of 70% of the total sanctioned amount will be released to the selected candidates after receiving a copy of the undertaking. After the completion of the project, the 2nd installment i.e. final remaining 30% will be released.

4.3 The grant shall be issued in the name of the Director/Principal/Dean/Registrar of the institution directly with a copy to the Guide and scholar.

4.4 The amount will be used by the candidate for pursuance of research only and may use the funds for purchase of reagents, drug procurement, manuscript procurement/ technical editing charge in case of literary research, laboratory investigations, quality control and standardization, or any other preclinical studies viz. *in-silico*, *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* research activity, etc. For further details in this regard, kindly refer **Annexure XI**.

4.5 A declaration from the applicant would be taken stating that the research project has not been funded by other agencies or applied for funding from other sources. The present demanded financial support is above the institutional financial support if any. (**Annexure V**).

4.6 The candidate shall submit the information to the Council regarding the manner in which the funds were utilized duly signed by the Supervisor and Head of the Institute/College as per format of statement of expenditure (SoE).

4.7 The preparation and submission of thesis will be the responsibility of the student and his guide. The candidate will acknowledge the financial assistance provided by CCRAS for any publication emerging out of the research work and during seminar presentation at National/International seminar.

4.8 If the candidate is interested to opt for the mentorship from CCRAS including help of laboratory and CCRAS clinical units, it may be provided and they may be the part of publication emerging out of the research work.

4.9 The candidate should submit documents listed in item No. 4.1 within stipulated period of submission of thesis to the Council failing which, the award will be treated cancelled and all financial assistance provided will be reimbursed to the DG, CCRAS.

4.10 During the course of the scholarship, the Scholars are required to publish at least one research paper in a reputed journal, as per recent UGC guidelines.

5. COMPLETION OF SCHOLARSHIP

5.1 If a MD/MS Scholar leaves the scholarship within one year, he/she has to submit a detailed progress report of the work done followed by publications, if any, duly forwarded by his/her Guide ensuring the final settlement of account up to the period of scholarship. However, if a scholar leaves the scholarship after one year, he/she must submit a detailed progress report along with an undertaking to complete the study and submit the final report on completion of the duration of scholarship along with at least one published research paper, duly forwarded by the Guide and the Head of the Institute.

The Interim Progress Report and Final report must be sent in the prescribed format **(Annexure VII and Annexure VIII)**.

5.2 The Human Resource Development Cell of CCRAS will appraise the periodical progress report about the rational utilization of the scholarship and outcome of the work.

6. TIMELINE: *

S. No.	Duration of PG	Financial assistance	Work
1.	1-6 months	-	Synopsis submission
2.	7-8	-	Selection of approved dissertation synopsis
3.	9-12 months	70% of the sanctioned amount	For purchase of reagents, glassware, drug procurement, manuscript procurement/ technical editing charge in case of literary research, laboratory investigations, quality control and standardization, or any other preclinical studies viz. <i>in-silico</i> , <i>in-vitro</i> and <i>in-vivo</i> research activity, etc. (Annexure XI)
4.	13 th month up to completion of project.	30% of the sanctioned amount	Interim publications (in a reputed journal, as per recent UGC guidelines) before thesis submission. National/International Seminar paper presentation related to the research work (Registration fee up to Rs. 5000/-only) (Annexure XI)

**Note: inter-head adjustment may be done after prior approval of sanctioning authority.*

* Subject to NCISM schedule of PG admissions, timelines may vary from year to year.

7. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND PATENTS:

1. On completion of the research project, the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) will assess and determine potential opportunities for Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) on a case-to-case basis (wherever applicable)
2. CCRAS shall retain a share of any IPR arising from fellowships, awards, contingency grants, or similar HRD initiatives after determining the potential opportunities for IPR subject to approval of IPR committee.

3. The expenses for patent filing may be met through the sanctioned contingency grant for the student of the respective institute. Council may explore the possibilities to support the additional expenditure in the form of reimbursement (Govt fees paid to IPO only) on a case-to-case basis.
4. CCRAS reserves the right to grant permission for the commercialization of any technology/patent arising out of the fellowships/awards/contingency grants and similar HRD initiatives.

8. OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

- a) In all matters, the decision of the assessment Board at CCRAS Headquarters under chairmanship of DG, CCRAS shall be final. The final authority related to the interpretation of the guidelines or any issue left out would require approval of DG CCRAS.
- b) All disputes pertaining to this Scheme shall fall within the jurisdiction of Delhi only.
- c) The Council reserves the right to reject any application/nomination. The Council is also not responsible for any delay in communications/submissions from the students or the college.
- d) The Scholarship will be released after submission of the undertaking as well as the mandate form (form available at website of PG-STAR) within six weeks through e-transfer after verification of the concerned bank account details provided by the college with a photocopy of cancelled cheque where money is to be remitted.

8. HOW TO APPLY:

- a) There is a fully online application for this programme. Hard copies shall neither be accepted nor entertained. In case of any problem in filling of application scholar may contact to the Council.
- b) The applicant along with the respective guide is required to register on CCRAS PG-STAR website in the month of December and then submit the application form and PG research work online which will be evaluated by the Council. Results will be announced in month of March of the registration year and list of selected students will be displayed on the website.
- c) Only two scholars will be allowed to work under one guide in the programme.

- d) **Exclusion of Identity:** The **approved synopsis of MD/MS (Ayu) curriculum** must be devoid of any identifying information of the scholar or guide or college or university for unbiased review by reviewers. The following information such as **Name of the Scholar/Guide/College/University, Address/ Contact details or any other identity** should be removed from the same before online submission failing which such submissions will be deemed rejected. Provide only the reference PG – STAR ID for identification on the top of the document intended to be submitted under PG STAR.

Other than the mandatory information accompanying each application, candidates should submit their **approved synopsis as per scheme format** in two parts:

A) Abstract (about 300 words)

B) Document comprising details of proposed research work (about 3000 words): The submissions may be done as per the given below template:

1. **Title:** The title must be same as that of the approved synopsis of MD/MS (Ayu) curriculum.
2. **Introduction:** This part should begin by addressing the gap analysis in the **proposed research work** followed by the research problem to be investigated in the light of its theoretical and/or empirical context in the relevant area.
3. **Objectives of the Study:** The objectives of the proposed work may be defined as primary and secondary.
4. **Research Question:** The research question to be framed as per the SMART criteria after thorough review of literature with appropriate hypothesis.
5. **Review of Literature:** Inclusion of thorough Review of Ayurveda classics of the respective discipline followed by current status of research in the area and major findings, including the researcher's own pilot data if any, in the area.
6. **Methodology:** Methodology may be specified as proper justification of the study including research design, data collection and empirical & analytical methods, duration of the study and ethical consideration.
7. **Relevance and Anticipated Outcomes:** The proposed work should include a statement on the relevance of the study and the anticipated outcomes along with the timelines.
8. **Bibliography:** Bibliography should be prepared in APA Style.

9. Budgetary provisions:

Budget head	Justification for demand	Required demand (A)	Institutional support if any (B)	Total Demand (A-B)
Research work				
Miscellaneous				
Contingency				

**Note: inter-head adjustment of the budget may be done after prior approval of sanctioning authority.*

*Guidelines for furnishing budgetary provisions of the proposed research work are available at **Annexure XI.**

* The scholars need to produce quotations as per the clause mentioned in GFR 2017 wherever applicable.
