

Guidelines for GMRT/NCRA staff members having a M. Sc., wanting to pursue a Ph.D.

Scheme I: Regular research scholar and research associate scheme.

Required qualifications and selection procedure:

1. Staff at NCRA/GMRT with requisite qualification (M.Sc.) may apply for these schemes as and when they are advertised.
2. The age bar may be relaxed by up to 7 years, if the M.Sc. degree is acquired by PPPR after joining NCRA, through proper channels.
3. The candidate will have to compete in the entrance examination and interview, along with regular candidates.
4. If selected, the employee will have to resign from the current position to enter to the scheme and enroll as a graduate student or a research trainee.
5. Graduate Course requirements: As per the existing guidelines for research scholar and research associates.
6. Upon completion of the Ph.D., the candidate will be treated at par with any other regular research scholar / research associate who has completed a Ph.D.

Scheme II: Working for a Ph.D. while continuing as regular staff.

Required qualifications and Selection Procedure:

1. The staff member should have acquired a M.Sc. degree in the relevant subject through proper channel.
2. For pursuing a Ph.D., the individual has to make a formal request to the NCRA Graduate Studies Committee, through the reporting chain, with a small write up on the proposed area of research, his/her motivation to pursue Ph.D in that area, and the name of the proposed guide. It is strongly recommended that the proposed research have a significant technical component and/or be focused on aspects that are relevant to the functioning of the GMRT or other technical facilities at NCRA.

The NCRA Graduate Studies Committee will arrange to interview the staff to find out candidate's interests, motivation level and skills. If the performance of the candidate is found satisfactory, the committee will make appropriate recommendations, including the core courses that need to be taken. The NCRA Graduate Studies Committee will recommend the staff's name to the Subject Board for registering for the Ph.D.

3. No contingency grant will be provided to the candidate.
4. No annual fees need be charged from the candidate.

5. Since no stipend/honorarium is paid, extra years will be allowed to complete the Ph.D degree and the annual fee may be waived. The progress of the Ph.D. work will be monitored by a committee, similar to what is done for regular Ph.D. students.
6. TIFR [DU] will award the degree on successful completion.
7. No leave other than the usual admissible ones shall be granted.
8. Their regular work will be the priority and they will have to find extra time for their studies.
9. On successful completion of the degree, it will be considered for official recognition (like an one-time grant) as per norms.
10. No assurance of being absorbed in academic stream after completion of Ph.D. The job descriptions may be modified in tune with the new qualifications/expertise and depending on the requirements at the observatory. Upto a maximum of 50% of the time may be allowed for research work. The staff member should be able to attend meetings and present papers.

Attachment: Guidelines used at TIFR Mumbai

1. Staff members with requisite qualification on the subject[M.Sc], can pursue Ph.D studies while engaged on their regular work.
2. The individual has to make a formal request to the Subject Board [Physics], through the reporting chain, with a small write up on the area of research, his/her motivation to pursue Ph.D in that area etc.. with the name and address of the proposed guide. The same has to be forwarded to the board with due recommendations.
3. No contingency grant will be provided to the candidate.
4. The candidate has to pay annual fee @ Rs.4000/-
5. Since no stipend / honorarium is paid, normally, extra years will be allowed to complete the Ph.D degree.
6. TIFR [DU] will award the degree on successful completion.
7. No assurance of being absorbed in Academic after completion of Ph.D.
8. No leave other than the usual admissible ones shall be granted.
9. Their regular work will be the priority and they will have to find extra time for their studies.