

Better Opportunities for Young Scientists in Chosen Areas of Science and Technology (BOYSCAST)

The scheme provides opportunities to Young Indian Scientists and Technologies (up to the age of 35 years), to interact with international scientist community and institutions and to participate in research and training activities in frontline areas of science and technology. The duration of the Fellowship is 3-12 months. Annually, on an average, about 40 young scientists are awarded this fellowship in various areas, such as plant-microbe interactions; plant genetic resources; agricultural ecology; biodiversity and conservation biology; transplant biology; industrial microbiology; semiconductor physics; mathematical science; electronic material and processing; earth and atmospheric science; palaeoclimatology; organometallics; supramolecular chemistry; manufacturing engineering; computer and information science, earthquake engineering and structural dynamics. The selected young scientist are also encouraged to attend scientific conferences and visit other institutions in the host country. Candidates selected under this scheme are expected to further generate and spread their expertise at the S&T laboratories/ Institutes across the nation.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Young Indian scientists who fulfill the following conditions can submit application/proposal for award of BOYSCAST fellowship:

(i) Academic Qualifications: Master's Degree in Engineering/Technology or equivalent or M.D. in Medicine or equivalent with research experience or Ph.D. in Science/Engineering or equivalent.

(ii) Age: Upto 35 years (as on 1st April, 2010). The applicants belonging to SC/ST/OBC and women candidates may be allowed relaxation in the age limit upto 5 years.

(iii) Employment: A regular position in a recognized S&T institution/university/college.

Applications from persons holding temporary positions such as research fellows or research associates etc. will not be considered. Candidate must be officially sponsored (their application to be formally forwarded) by the employer/head of the institution or agency with commitment to depute them for research/training under BOYSCAST programme. Forwarding note merely stating that above would be considered only after award of fellowship will not be considered by DST.

(iv) Areas of work: Area proposed by the candidate should be in line with the above mentioned chosen areas.

(v) Place of work: The fellow should be accepted by a foreign academic/scientific/technological institution, which is internationally recognized as an outstanding institution where major work in the identified area is in progress. There should be

willingness of the foreign institution to accept and extend necessary support to the candidate for the work proposed. The Professor/scientist with whom the fellow intends to work should be a research worker of repute. The candidate should himself/herself correspond with their proposed host institution/Professor abroad for placement. Candidate is required to produce evidence, in the form of a letter of acceptance from the overseas institution to be visited along with merits/uniqueness of that host institute in the proposed area. If the applicant has already worked at an institute abroad for a considerable period of time, the proposal to visit the same institute/work there is not likely to be considered favorably.

(vi) Young scientists and technologists actively engaged in research and having established credibility in the proposed area of work will be preferred. **(vii)** The institute to which the candidate belongs, should have either already initiated major research activities in the chosen area or should have immediate plans to initiate such programmes, based on the expertise of the individual and proposed training abroad.

(viii) Candidates who have earlier availed of the BOYSCAST fellowship will not be eligible for consideration again for this fellowship. The candidates who have availed any other overseas fellowship for a period of more than three months through any Government/public funding agency during last two years will also not be considered for this fellowship.

Preference is likely to be given to the applicants who don't have any/have limited international exposure as compared to the applicants who have adequate international exposure during recent past, if they are otherwise suitable.

Contact

For any other information regarding the BOYSCAST programme, please contact:

Dr. P.K. Malhotra
Scientist-G
Department of Science & Technology
Technology Bhavan
New Mehrauli Road
New Delhi-110016
Fax: 26963695
Phone: 26567373; 26562133; 26567421/Extn. 457
Email: idpkm at nic dot in