



**Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Department of Social Justice & Empowerment**

Scholarships for Higher Education for Young Achievers Scheme (SHREYAS) (OBC & Others) - 2021-22 to 2025-26.

1. Background:

The scheme Scholarships for Higher Education for Young Achievers Scheme- SHREYAS, has been proposed to implement during the 2021-22 to 2025-26 by placing two ongoing Central Sector schemes for OBC and others namely – (i) National Fellowship for OBC (ii) Dr. Ambedkar Central Sector Scheme of Interest Subsidy on Educational Loans for Overseas Studies for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and Economically Backward Classes (EBCs).

The main objective of the schemes is Educational Empowerment of OBC & EBC students by way of awarding fellowship (financial assistance) in obtaining quality higher education and interest subsidy on educational loan for overseas studies.

2. National Fellowship for OBC Students

A. Scope of the Scheme:

The scheme is designed to provide a total number of 1000 Junior Research Fellowships per year to undertake advanced studies and research leading to M.Phil. /Ph.D. Degrees, who have qualified in the following tests:

- i. National Eligibility Test) – Junior Research Fellowship (NET-JRF) of UGC (for Humanities/Social Sciences) or
- ii. UGC-Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (UGC-CSIR) NET-JRF Joint Test (for Sciences)

The scheme covers all universities/institutions recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and are implemented by the UGC itself on the pattern of the scheme of UGC Fellowships being awarded to research students pursuing M.Phil. and Ph.D. These 1000 slots will be over and above the number of OBC students selected under the normal reservation policy of the Government for UGC Fellowship.

B. Implementing Agency

The UGC is the nodal agency for implementing the scheme.

C. Eligibility

- i. Eligibility conditions are as per notification for UGC-NET and CSIR-UGC-NET examinations. The other Backward Class (OBC) candidates qualifying for the award of NFOBC will be eligible to receive fellowship subject to finding placement in the University/IITs/Institutions. The validity period of the offer is 3 years with effect from the date of issue of JRF Award letter. However, in case of candidates who have already joined M.Phil. /Ph.D. the date of Commencement of fellowship shall be from the date of declaration of result of NFOBC or date of their joining, whichever is later.
- ii. Students belonging to Other Backward Class (OBC) category once considered eligible for the fellowship shall not be entitled to any other benefits from Central or State Government or any other body like UGC offering similar benefit to avoid duplication and increase coverage. Only those doing regular and full time M.Phil. /Ph.D. course of a University/research Institution shall be eligible for the fellowship.
- iii. After two years, if the progress in the research work of the awardee is found satisfactory, his/her tenure will be extended for a further period of three years as Senior Research Fellow (SRF). The research work will be assessed as per the UGC norms. The total period of award of JRF and SRF shall not exceed a period of 5 years.
- iv. At least 5% of the total seats should be reserved for students with disabilities while making selection of candidates for award of fellowships by the UGC.
- v. Employees of any University/Educational Institution/Central/State/UT Government shall be excluded from availing the fellowship, even if they are on study leave of Extra Ordinary Leave (EOL) to pursue M.Phil./Ph.D.

D. Number of Fellowships

- i. The total number of slots for NFOBC under the scheme is 1000 per year. Out of 1000 slots available under this scheme, 750 will be allocated for the subjects under National Eligibility Test – Junior Research Fellowship (NET-JRF) of UGC and remaining 250 UGC-Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (UGC-CSIR) NETJRF joint test (for Science streams).
- ii. These 1000 slots will be over and above the OBC Students selected under the normal reservation policy of the Government.

E. Duration of Fellowship

Name of course	Maximum Duration	Admissibility of JRF and SRF	
		JRF	SRF
M. Phil.	2 years	2 years	Nil
Ph.D.	5 years	2 years	Remaining 3 years
M.Phil. + Ph.D.	5 years	2 years	Remaining 3 years

F. Rate of fellowship

- i. The rates of fellowship for JRF and SRF will be at par with the UGC Fellowships. Presently these rates are as follows:

Fellowship in Science Humanities and Social Science	@ Rs.31,000/- p.m. for initial two years (JRF) @ Rs.35,000/- p.m. for remaining tenure (SRF)
Fellowship in Engineering & Technology	
Contingency for Humanities & Social Sciences	@ Rs.10,000/- p.a. for initial two years @ Rs. 20,500/- p.a. for remaining tenure
Contingency for Sciences, Engineering & Technology	@ Rs. 12,000/- p.a. for initial two years @ Rs. 25,000/- p.a. for remaining tenure
Escorts/Reader assistance (All subjects)	@ Rs. 2,000/- p.m. in cases of physically and visually handicapped candidates

- ii. The House Rent Allowance (HRA) will be on the UGC pattern and will be payable to those students who are not provided with hostel accommodation. In case hostel accommodation offered by the University/institution is refused, the student will forfeit his claim of HRA, other facilities such as medical facilities, leave including maternity leave will be governed as per the guidelines of the UGC in case of their fellowship programme.

G. Selection Procedure for Fellowship for OBCs (JRF)

- i. UGC is the nodal agency for implementing the scheme.
- ii. The selection for the award of NFOBC to students will be made on the basis of merit in each UGC-NET-JRF and CSIR-NET-JRF examination and will be made twice in a year.
- iii. The qualified candidates have to enrol in Universities/institutions/colleges recognized under:
 - a. Under Section 2 (f) of the UGC Act, 1956 i.e. Universities established under Central, Provincial or State Acts or any other institution recognized by UGC. Under Section 12 (B) of the UGC Act, 1956 i.e. Universities declared fit to receive grants from Government.
 - b. Grant-in-Aid Deemed Universities under Section 3 of UGC Act i.e. Institution for higher education notified by Central Government to be deemed University, in consultation with UGC.
 - c. Universities/Institution funded by State/Central Government.
 - d. Institutions of National Importance as notified by Ministry of Human Resource Development. (mhrd.gov.in/institutions-national-importance)
- iv. The decision of the UGC in regarding to awarding the fellowship shall be final and no appeal could be filed against it.

H. Monitoring & Evaluation

A dashboard to monitor progress, geographic spread, discipline wise students enrolled,

sanctions, completion of courses etc. shall be put in place by UGC on its portal to be accessed by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment via login credential. Further,

- i. The merit of the candidates selected shall be maintained
- ii. The dashboard will show the category-wise and stream-wise number of students and also regularity of the payment. The database of the entire scholarship scheme should also be made available in the open domain
- iii. The research productivity of the scholars should be monitored regularly.

The expenditure on evaluation/monitoring of the fellowship programme shall be met out of the funds provided for the scheme. The remuneration and overhead expenses for evaluation and monitoring shall not exceed 3% of the total allocation of the scheme. Award of SRF done after appropriate evaluation of performance in carrying out the research work by the candidate in the Junior Fellowship phase.

I. Aadhaar Seeding:

Payment of fellowship and any other admissible allowance shall be made to beneficiaries through their bank account on DBT mode. The Ministry of Social Justice vide notification number 428 dated February 16, 2017 has notified Aadhaar as identify document under Section 7 of Aadhaar Act, 2016 for all scholarship/ fellowship schemes.

J. Procedure for release of grant by UGC

(i) The fellowship amount shall be disbursed to the awardee on Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) basis. The process of updating monthly confirmation with respect to the awardees by the host institution and payments thereof is being implemented on a dedicated web portal <https://scholarship.canarabank.in/AdminLogin.aspx>.

(ii) Bank account number of the beneficiaries will be validated through PFMS for creating of beneficiary ID.

(iii) Video tutorial and guidelines for operating the web portal is available on UGC website and may be referred for use.

(iv) Genuineness of the OBC certificate furnished by the awardee shall be verified by the concerned University/Institution before the details are updated on the web portal.

(v) The concerned University/Institution shall also ensure that the awardee is not availing any other fellowship/project from any other organization at the time of selection and fulfills all the other conditions as laid in the guidelines.

(vi) The fellow will undertake regular full time research work under the approved guide in a subject selected by him/her and approved by the university/selection committee.

(vii) In case any candidate is found to have obtained fellowship through fraudulent means or provided incorrect information the university/institution may cancel his/her fellowship under intimation to the UGC.

K. Resignation and Transfer

(i) If any Fellow resigns or relinquishes the fellowship before the end of the tenure, information may be submitted by the concerned university/institution on the designated web portal itself and stop payment link may be used at the time of monthly confirmation.

(ii) Transfer of research place will be allowed only once during the entire tenure. Transfer can be made by the concerned university/institution itself on the designated web portal through the concerned link available therein.

L. Cancellation of Award:

The fellowship is liable to cancellation, in case of:

i. If the scholar is found to be ineligible to receive the fellowship, at any point of time during the entire duration of the fellowship.

ii. If it is found that the fellowship has been availed/is claimed by furnishing false/wrong/misleading information.

iii. If any adverse report is received from the institution.

iv. Misconduct/misbehavior/corrupt practices.

v. Unsatisfactory progress of research work.

vi. Violation of terms and conditions of these guidelines.

vii. Plagiarism or unethical practices, in any form.

viii. Candidate is already availing scholarship/fellowship from any other source.

ix. Candidate is found employed during the M.Phil. /Ph.D. research.

**National Backward Classes Finance
And Development Corporation (NBCFDC)
NewDelhi-110016**

National Fellowship for Other Backward Classes (NFOBC)-(Year_____)		PHOTOGRAPH OFCANDIDATE
VERIFICATION FORM CUM JOINING REPORT FOR AVAILING FELLOWSHIP UNDER THE SCHEME		
1	Name of Scholar/Candidate	
2	DateofBirth	
3	12digituniqueAADHAARNumber	
4	Whether belong to a notified Other Backward Class (OBC)	
5	No.of UGC-NETe-Certificate for eligibility for Assistant Professor	
6	NFOBC-(Year_____) Award letter Number and NBCFDC- Ref. No.	
7	Year of passing of Master's Degree or equivalent examination	
8	Percentage of Marks in Master's Degree or equivalent examination	
9	Pursuing research for M.Phil or Ph.D	
10	Date of Admission for M.Phil/Ph.D	
11	Whether registered for M.Phil/Ph.D	
12	If already registered, give date of registration	
13	Whether pursuing research through full time regular mode	
14	Whether engaged in any type of employment (part-time/ad-hoc/fulltime or any other)	
15	Name of University where admitted for M.Phil/Ph.D	
16	Name of Institution where pursuing research	
17	Name, designation and official address of SUPERVISOR. <i>(Only a full time regular teacherof concerned university/institution can act as asupervisor)</i>	
18	Whether received (earlier)or receiving any other fellowship/scholarship/monetary assistance from NBCFDC or any other source for pursuing M.Phil/Ph.D. <i>(If yes, give details)</i>	
19	I here by declare that each and every fact given above is true and correct. I also authorise NBCFDC to recover any excess/wrong payment from me.	
20	Signature of candidate with date	

**National Backward Classes Finance
And Development Corporation (NBCFDC)
NewDelhi-110016**

CERTIFICATE BY THE INSTITUTION

1. Certified that all the facts/information given in the VERIFICATION FORM CUM JOINING REPORT FOR AVAILING FELLOWSHIP UNDER THE SCHEME (**Annexure-I**) as given by the candidate Mr./Ms.....has been verified and is found to be true and correct. He/She is a full time and regular student of our institution.
2. We have read the 'Guidelines' of the scheme and the Notification.
3. Certified that the candidate belongs to 'Other Backward Class' (OBC) as notified by the Government of India.
4. He/She is eligible for receiving the fellowship under 'National Fellowship for Other Backward Classes-(Year _____)'.
_____ For M.Phil/ Ph.D, and the entire amount has been refunded by him/her.
5. As per our knowledge he/she has neither received nor receiving any other fellowship/scholarship/monetary assistance from NBCFDC or any other source for pursuing either M.Phil or Ph.D. **OR** He/she was getting fellowship/scholarship under the scheme _____ For M.Phil/ Ph.D, and the entire amount has been refunded by him/her.
6. We understand that NBCFDC will disburse the amount of fellowship directly to the account of candidate on the basis of information and details of candidate being uploaded (**Annexure-I & II**) by our institution on the scholarship portal.
7. Certified that University/Institution is complying with UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil/Ph.D Degree) Regulations, 2016 and its amendments issued from time to time.
8. AISHE code of our University/Institution is _____.

Signature of candidate:	Signature of Guide/Supervisor
Date:	Date:
Name:	Name:
	Designation:

Signature of Head of Department:	Signature of Head of Institution:
Date:	Date:
Seal:	Seal:
Name:	Name:
Designation:	Designation:

**National Backward Classes Finance
And Development Corporation (NBCFDC)
NewDelhi-110016**

CONTINUATION CERTIFICATE

NATONALFELLOWSHIPFOROBCSTUDENTS

This is to certify that _____

Has continuously working in the Department _____

In the subject under the above scheme for the quarter from _____ to _____

Signature

Signature

Signature

Name

Name

Date

Date

Date

Nameofthe

Headof

Registrar/Director/Principal

Candidate

Department

(SealofUniversity/Institution

(Seal)

/College)

**National Backward Classes Finance
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NewDelhi-110016**

PROGRESS REPORT

1. Name of the Fellow:
2. Award letter number and date:
3. Topic of research work:
4. Date of commencement of research:
 - a) At the university:
 - b) Under the M.Phil/Ph.D:
5. Period of Progress Report:
6. Total number of working days during the period:
7. Number of days the fellow remained on leave (with dates):
 - a) With fellowship, number of days: from..... to.....
 - b) Without fellowship, number of days: from.....to.....
8. Number of days the NF-OBC Fellow remained out of station for field work/travel, with dates and places visited :a) Number of days :from.....to.....b)Places visited.....
9. Number of days the NF-OBC Fellow remained present at the University/Institution/College:
10. Publications during the period under report (please enclose are print of each):Title of article/paper.
11. Teaching work done during the period under report: a) Number of periods taken per week at B.Sc./B.Alevel: b)Number of periods taken per week at M.Sc./M.A. level:
12. Title of the monograph written during the period underreport:
13. A detailed account of the work done during the period (a separate sheet may be attached for thepurpose):
14. Comments of the supervisor on the progress of the research work during the period under report:

Signature

Name

Date:

Name of the Candidate

Signature

Name

Date:

Head of the Deptt.

(Seal)

Signature

Name

Date:

Registrar/Director/Principal

(Seal of University/Institution/College)

**National Backward Classes Finance
And Development Corporation (NBCFDC)
NewDelhi-110016**

**FORM FOR SUBMITTING ACCOUNTS OF CONTINGENCY GRANTS AND
THE UTILISATION CERTIFICATE**

1. Name of NF-OBC Fellow:
2. Award letter number and date:
3. Name of the scheme under which working:
4. Period to which the accounts of contingency grant relates:
5. Expenditure From:.....to.....Amount

A-Books and allied items:

B-Typing:

C-Stationery:

D-Postage:

E-Chemical and electrical/electronic goods :

F-Travel/field work:

Certified that the expenditure of Rs..... (Rupees.....
.....) out of the contingency grant of Rs..... (Rupees
.....) in respect of.....has been utilized for
The purpose for which it was sanctioned in accordance with the terms and conditions laid down by the NBCFDC.

If, as a result of check or audit objection, some irregularity is noticed at a later stage, action will be taken to refund, adjust or regularize the objected amount.

Signature

Name

Date:

NameoftheCandidate

Signature

Name

Date:

Head of the Deptt.

(Seal)

Signature

Name

Date:

Registrar/Director/Principal

(Seal of University/Institution/College)

N.B.For any correspondence in this regard, the Commission's letter number and date may please be quoted without fail.

HRA CERTIFICATE

CertificateNo.1

Certified that Mr./Ms.....is paying house rent of Rs..... and is eligible to draw House Rent Allowance @ Rs.....as per university rules.

Registrar

Or

Certificate No.2

Certified that Mr./Ms.....is staying independently and, therefore is eligible to draw House Rent Allowance @Rs.....minimum admissible to a lecturer as per university rules.

Registrar

Or

CertificateNo.3

Certified that Mr./Ms..... has been provided accommodation in the hostel. But he/she could not be provided with single seated flat type accommodation as recommended by the Commission. Hostel fee @ Rs.....per month w.e.f.....is being charged from him/her

Registrar

If, as a result of check or audit objection, some irregularity is noticed at a later stage, action will be taken to refund, adjust or regularize the objected amount.

	Signature	Signature
Signature	Name	Name
Date	Date	Date
Name of the Candidate	Head of Department	Registrar/Director/Principal
	(Seal)	(Seal of University/Institution/College)

N.B. For any correspondence in this regard, the Commission's letter number and date may please be quoted without fail.

THREE MEMBERS ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE REPORT FOR UPGRADATION FROM NF-OBC JRF TO NF-OBC SRF UNDER THE SCHEME OF NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP FOR OBC STUDENTS

Assessment for Upgradation of Mr./Mrs. _____

NF-OBC JRF working at the Department of _____ of _____ University/Institution/College _____ on completion of two years on date _____

CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE

(Name and designation)

1. [1 Outside Subject Expert-other than same Univ./Instt./College]
2. [Supervisor of Research Scholar]
3. [Head of the Department]

Date of joining:

Ph.D. registration No.:

Date of meeting:

Time:

VENUE OF ASSESSMENT/INTERVIEW:

ASSESSMENT OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee assessed the progress of the candidate through the representation followed by interview and recommended as follows.

RECOMMENDATIONS

(Strike out whichever is not applicable)

In view of the outstanding/very good/satisfactory performance of the MANJRF, and also the fact that he/she has published work to his/her credit, the committee makes the following recommendations.

Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____ May be upgraded from NF-OBC JRF to NF-OBC SRF with effect from _____.

Signature
Date
Name of the
Supervisor

Signature
Name
Date
Head of Department
(Seal)

Signature
Name
Date
Registrar/Director/Principal
(Seal of University/Institution/College)