



Government of India
Department of Space
VIKRAM SARABHAI SPACE CENTRE
Thiruvananthapuram - 695 022

ADVERTISEMENT NO. VSSC 308 - Dated 16.07.2019

Applications are invited for **JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW (JRF) & RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (RA)** positions tenable at one of the premier research institutions in India, the **Space Physics Laboratory (SPL)** of **Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)**, Thiruvananthapuram. VSSC is one of the lead centres of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

SPACE PHYSICS LABORATORY - VSSC

Space Physics Laboratory, conducts front ranking research in different disciplines of Atmospheric, Space, and Planetary Sciences. Space Physics Laboratory is dedicated for research in different disciplines of Atmospheric Science, Space Science and Planetary Sciences. SPL is also involved in major space and atmospheric science programmes of the country, such as Chandrayaan, Mars Mission, ISRO-Geosphere Biosphere Programme, etc. SPL has a very vibrant research fellowship programme, with strength of about 20 to 25 students at any time of the year. Well-equipped laboratories and major experimental facilities are available exclusively for these studies, besides access to the scientific data from ISRO's and other satellites. SPL also co-ordinates major experimental campaigns, at national and international level, using balloons, aircrafts, rockets, and research ship cruises, and is a leading contributor to India's polar research programme. SPL offers excellent and challenging research opportunities in various areas like Boundary Layer Physics, Physics/Chemistry/Dynamics of Lower, Middle, & Upper atmosphere, the coupling processes, Ionospheric Sciences, Land-Atmosphere-Ocean Interactions, Atmospheric Aerosols, Trace Gases, Clouds, Meteorology, Space Weather phenomena and Lunar & Planetary Explorations and Modelling.

POSITION CODE – 01
JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW (10 POSITIONS)

Eligibility :

- (a) M.Sc. Degree in Physics/Applied Physics/Space Physics /Atmospheric Science/Meteorology/ Space Science/Planetary Sciences/Astronomy/ Astrophysics

OR

M.Tech in Atmospheric Science/Space Science/Planetary Science/Applied Physics with minimum 60% marks as average of all semesters in aggregate or CGPA/CPI grading of 6.5 on a 10 point scale or equivalent.

and

- (b) Applicants should also have qualified one of the following:
1. CSIR-UGC National Eligibility Test, including NET-Lectureship.
 2. Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE) conducted by MHRD.
 3. Joint Admission Test (JAM) conducted by MHRD.
 4. Joint Entrance Screening Test (JEST)

Age Limit : 28 years as on 30.07.2019. (31 years for OBC candidates and 33 years in case of SC/ST candidates. Persons with Disability are eligible for age relaxation as per rules).

Selection Process :

The selection of JRF will be based on the performance at the interview. Initial screening of applications will be conducted to short-list meritorious candidates for interview. The qualification prescribed is the minimum requirement and the same does not automatically make candidates eligible for interview. The interview will be scheduled at VSSC, Thiruvananthapuram. The call letter for interview will be sent to the short-listed candidates by e-mail. The result of the interview will be announced at the VSSC website subsequently.

At the time of interview the candidates are required to produce original documents of the following:

- 1) No Objection Certificate, from the employer concerned in respect of those applicants who are employed under Central / State Government / Public Sector Undertakings / Autonomous Bodies.
- 2) Originals of all certificates, mark sheets in proof of educational qualification [Equivalency Certificate in case of foreign Degree], age etc.

The selected JRFs will work on specific research themes and can register for Ph.D degree. Selected candidates should be willing to work anywhere in India (including remote places) and partake in field experiments including aircrafts and ship cruises, as per the requirements.

Applications will be received **on-line only**. The application format for on-line registration is available in the website <http://www.vssc.gov.in> from **1000 hours on 16.07.2019 to 1700 hours on 30.07.2019**.

Emoluments :

The Fellowship is initially for a period of ONE YEAR and is renewable annually for a total period of FIVE years. There will be a review of the activity every year for the renewal of the fellowship.

The Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) carries an amount of Rs. 31,000/- per month with a possibility to be increased to Rs.35,000/- per month as Senior Research Fellowship (SRF) after two years, on successful completion and review of research work of the previous two years by a Review Committee.

The Research Fellows are eligible for HRA as per rules of VSSC and will not be entitled to Dearness Allowance (DA).

Service conditions :

Selected JRFs first undergo coursework, and subsequently work under the supervision of a senior faculty of SPL for Ph.D.

They will be allowed medical benefits, as per the rules of VSSC.

Research Fellows are eligible for leave as per DOS norms.

Participation of JRF/SRF in any scientific event in India or abroad will be treated as "on duty" and are eligible for travel allowance as per rules.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION :

Applications will be received on-line only. Upon on-line registration, applicants will be provided with an on-line Registration Number, which should be carefully preserved for future reference. The candidates are also advised to take a printout of the online application for future reference.

The applicant need not send any documents such as print out of online application, copies of certificates/mark lists in proof of educational qualification, work experience, age etc.

Note : In case of submission of duplicate/multiple applications by candidates, the last application submitted before the last date of submission of application shall be considered for further processing.

POSITION CODE – 02
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (10 POSITIONS)

Eligibility :

Candidates should have earned their Ph.D. degree in any discipline of Science or Technology. Their Ph.D. thesis should be in the areas of atmospheric, space, and planetary sciences which are relevant to the fields of research being carried out at SPL.

Only those candidates who have carried out their Ph.D. work outside SPL are eligible to apply.

A research proposal (not exceeding 2000 words) on the work they intend to carry out at SPL in the domain of SPL's research activity must be submitted along with the application.

[Candidates possessing PhD awarded by foreign Universities/Institutions have to submit its Equivalency Certificate issued by Association of Indian Universities, New Delhi]

Upper Age Limit :

35 years as on 16.09.19, 16.11.19 etc. and will be computed on a bimonthly basis (38 years for OBC candidates and 40 years in case of SC/ST candidates. Persons with Disability are eligible for age relaxation as per rules).

Selection Process :

Screening of applications will be done on a bi-monthly basis viz, as on 16.09.19, 16.11.19 etc. After the initial screening of the application and considering the merit of the submitted research proposal, the candidates found suitable will be called for an interview at VSSC. The qualification prescribed is the minimum requirement and the same does not automatically make candidates eligible for interview.

Emoluments :

The Research Associateship is initially for a period of ONE YEAR and is renewable annually for a total period of two years (three years in exceptional cases). There will be a review of the progress of the work before the renewal every year. Depending upon the qualification and experience, the fellowship will be fixed at Rs.47000/Rs.49000/Rs.51,000 per month. Candidates are also eligible for HRA as per rules.

HOW TO APPLY :

All eligible candidates may submit their application alongwith the following documents to the email <directorspl@vssc.gov.in>:

- 1) Scanned copy of the Application in the prescribed format.
- 2) Abstract of Ph.D. thesis
- 3) List of Publications
- 4) Research proposal (maximum of 2000 words)
- 5) Detailed Bio-data
- 6) Scanned copy of the certificates in proof of educational qualifications, age, work experience etc.

At the time of interview the candidates are required to produce original documents of the following:

- 3) No Objection Certificate, from the employer concerned in respect of those applicants who are employed under Central / State Government / Public Sector Undertakings / Autonomous Bodies.
- 4) Originals of all certificates, mark sheets, Ph.D. degree in proof of educational qualification, [Equivalency Certificate in case of foreign Degree] Proof of work experience, age etc.

GENERAL CONDITIONS :

01. The number of positions indicated above is provisional.
02. Candidates will have to produce proof of the details furnished in their applications submitted at the time of interview.
03. Only short listed candidates will be called for Interview.
04. Outstation candidates called for Interview will be paid to and fro Second Class Railway Fare by the shortest route including reservation/sleeper charges on production of proof of journey such as Railway Tickets/Ticket Number or Bus tickets, etc. If the candidates travel in a higher class of accommodation than the one prescribed, only Second Class rail fare excluding the reservation charges/sleeper charges will be paid.
05. If any information furnished in the application is found to be incorrect or false on verification, the candidate will not be permitted to attend for interview and Travelling Allowance will not be paid.
06. The Centre reserves the right not to fill up the position, if it so decides.
07. Only Indian Nationals need apply.
08. No interim correspondence will be entertained.
09. Canvassing in any form will be a disqualification.

“Government strives to have a workforce which reflects gender balance and women candidates are encouraged to apply.”
