TCS Research Scholar Program

{Kindly refer "TCS Research Scholar Program - Flyer" document for more details about the program}

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1) What is the Aim of the scheme?

Rapid technological and intellectual advancement has spurred the need for research talent in India. This calls for quality multidisciplinary research activities in areas ranging from computer engineering and science, information systems and technology, and software engineering and other disciplines which utilize computing.

To address these requirements, we, at Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), have devised the TCS Research Scholar Program to improve the research talent base in the country. We facilitate knowledge exchange between research scholars and qualified researchers from TCS during the scholarship tenure. Our Research Scholar Program thus promotes development and innovation to contribute towards boosting the country's technology landscape and Intellectual Capability.

Q2) What is the Focus and Scope of the scheme?

1. Encourage quality multidisciplinary research activities in areas ranging from computer engineering and science, information systems and technology, and software engineering and other disciplines which utilize computing.
2. Encourage Institutes to find and admit a greater number of good scholars
3. Provide an attractive environment for both the scholar and Institute to do research and thereby enhance Intellectual Capability.

Q3) How many years is the scheme open?

The scheme is open for four years starting from the selection of scholar in TCS RSP.

Q4) What are the eligibility criteria for a scholar for the scheme?

1. Upper Age Limit – 28 years as on admission into fellowship
2. The scholar should have first class education career right from SSC.
3. The scheme is open for scholars who have been found to be eligible for admission to PhD in an institute. The scheme is open only for fresh PhD scholar admissions (completed 2 semesters).
4. Scholars must be registered as full-time scholars in the institute/college where the PhD registration is sought.
5. The scholarship can be terminated by TCS, with one month notice, based on performance review report and for any violation of any operational rules applicable to all the research scholars at the institute.
6. The institute will intimate TCS on the date of filling of any patent related to any invention by the TCS Research Scholar under this program. TCS would be given a license on reasonable and non-discriminatory terms for any such patent which has been granted, on mutually agreed terms.

The institute is free to publish any work developed by TCS Research Scholar provided it sends TCS a written intimation along with the work that will be published 30 days prior to such publication.

7. TCS Innovation Laboratory will look for opportunities of collaborations with the TCS Research scholar / institute, even beyond the period of internship.

Q5) What are the basic education qualifications required for a candidate?
The candidate should have a master's degree and first-class education career right from SSC.

Q6) Is there any age limit for a scholar to apply for the scheme?
A scholar should not be more than 28 years of age as on admission into the scholarship scheme.

Q7) What are the key elements for selection of a candidate?
Broadly the key elements for selection are:
1. Candidate's credentials
2. Research Proposal and Articulation
3. Academic Research Guide's credentials

Q8) Is there an interview for the selection?
While the institute could select the scholars to apply for this program, TCS reserves the right to admit some or none of the scholars recommended by the institute. Further, TCS reserves the right to conduct an interview of a scholar(s) if it deems necessary. In such cases, interviews could be conducted in one of the Innovation Labs of TCS and candidates may have to travel to the designated Lab for the interview. TCS will reimburse the travel cost.

Q9) What are the benefits of the TCS Research Scholarship Scheme?
Details are mentioned in the RSP Flyer

Q10) Can the scholarship be taken in addition to other scholarships that the scholar is receiving?
No, funding should not be taken from any other sources after being part of TCS Research Scholar Program.

Q11) Can the scholarship be terminated?
Yes, the scholarship can be terminated by TCS, with one month notice, based on performance review report and for any violation of any operational rules applicable to all the research scholars of the institute.

Q12) What are the Intellectual Property rights of the research work carried out under the scheme?
The Institute should intimate TCS on the date of filling of any patent related to any invention by the TCS Research Scholar under this program. TCS would be given a license on reasonable and non-discriminatory terms for any such patent which has been granted, on mutually agreed terms. The

Institute and scholar are free to publish any work developed under this scholarship provided they send TCS a written intimation along with the work that will be published 30 days prior to such publication.

Q13) What is the format for the application?
Applications will be submitted in the following format:
1. Letter of application from the scholar (you may see the sample format that is available)
2. Letter of support from the institute (you may see the sample format that is available)
3. Research area write-up – should include a short review, broad problem statement, proposed scope, and focus
4. CV of the scholar – education, grades obtained, honors, publication list, work experience (if any)
5. CV of the proposed guide
6. 3-minute video presentation by the scholar

Q14) How should applications for the scheme be sent?
Applications for the scheme should be routed through the designated authority of the institute in the format mentioned below via email (preferred).

Q15) When can the applications be submitted?
Applications for the scheme are submitted once annually against call for application.

Q16) When will the results of application be announced?
The results of selection of scholars for the scheme will be announced by end of internal review as the case maybe (3 – 5 months).

Q17) What are the terms and conditions of the Scheme?
All terms and conditions as per the MoU to be signed by the Institute.

Q18) Will the research involves collaboration with TCS Innovation Laboratories?
TCS Innovation Laboratories may look for opportunities of collaborations with the TCS Research scholar and the Institute, even beyond the period of scholarship. (On need basis as recommended by Guide and TCS Mentors).

Q19) Where should the applications be sent?
All applications to be sent by the Institute as per instructions in the announcement calling for applications.

Q20) The Research Area and Research Guide are not decided. What should be done in such cases?
Research problem and guide mandatory for applications.

Q21) Can we change the Research Area and Guide later?

Change of research area and guide may affect the continuation of scholarship.

Q22) For what purpose can we utilize the grants?

Grants can be used for

1) Contingency to buy books, subscription, laptop, software, hardware, or any other Ph. D work related resources,
2) Travel grant for conference registration, travel, flight and hotel bookings, food, local conveyance,
3) Visit any foreign institute / university as sabbatical for up to 6 months (Conditions apply).

Q23) Are we supposed to return the items bought by using contingency grant to the institute after Ph. D completion.

No, the items can be retained by the scholar