



Government of India
Department of Atomic Energy
Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research
Kalpakkam



ADVERTISEMENT NO. IGCAR/02/2026
SELECTION OF JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS
NO. OF FELLOWSHIPS: 50

OPENING DATE: 22-06-2026 (10:00hrs)

CLOSING DATE: 13-07-2026 (23:59hrs)

Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR), is a premier research and development Centre under the Department of Atomic Energy. It is dedicated to the development of fast reactor technology and associated fuel cycle facilities based on intense multi-disciplinary research. IGCAR is empowering young, talented and motivated students to contribute towards advanced research in frontier areas of engineering/science/technology by offering **Junior Research Fellowships** in the areas of physical, chemical, life and engineering sciences. IGCAR, Kalpakkam is a Constituent Institution of Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI), a deemed to be University of the Department of Atomic Energy. It is a premier research university dedicated to fostering academic excellence in mathematics, core sciences and engineering sciences. HBNI achieved the 7th rank nationwide in the "Research Institutions" Category of the 2025 National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF).

Applications are invited from interested students of Indian Nationals for the award of **Junior Research Fellowships** at IGCAR, Kalpakkam.

Selected candidates shall register for Ph.D. under HBNI. Those who join with M.Sc./M.Tech. will be eligible to register for direct Ph.D. Those who join with B.E./B.Tech./B.Sc. Engg./B.Sc. [Tech.] and M.Sc. (Material Science/Material Science and Engg.) will be considered for integrated Ph.D. in Engineering Sciences with an option to have single degree (Integrated Ph.D. only) or dual degree, i.e., M.Sc.(Engg.) and Ph.D.

**Admission to Ph.D. programme will be subject to prevalent rules and regulations of HBNI.*

1. AREAS OF RESEARCH PROJECTS:

Discipline	Research projects
Physical Sciences	Condensed Matter Physics: Basic research on the behaviour of materials at low and high temperatures, high pressures and magnetic fields and exploration of novel properties of materials, emergent physics using hetero-structures, physics of low dimensional materials. Defect solid state physics: Research on generation of various defects by heavy ion irradiation and their characterization by various techniques like positron annihilation spectroscopy. Computational physics: Computer simulations of material properties using techniques like DFT and MD. Surface and interface physics: Studies on surfaces, coating and nanomaterials. Radiation resistant polymers, graphene based functionalized materials. Exploration of materials for sensors and detectors. Magnetic nanomaterials and nanofluids, Thermal-optical-rheological properties of nanofluids. Soft condensed matter. Multi scale computing and experimental Reactor Physics. Radiation physics: Radiation Shielding, Environmental Radiation study, Studies on natural radioactivity, radon and analysis, interaction of radiation with matter, development of radiation dosimetry - materials and techniques, retrospective dosimetry.

Chemical Sciences	Chemical thermodynamics, Solid state and high temperature chemistry, Electrochemistry, Spectroscopy and laser, Radiochemistry, Advanced separation techniques, Actinide Chemistry, Trace / ultra-trace analytical techniques. Synthesis and characterization of nano-ceramics and Chemical sensors. Super hydrophobic coating, Corrosion resistant coating and evaluation, Computational chemistry, High temperature mass spectrometry, Metal Organic Frameworks (MOF).
Engineering Sciences	[Chemical Engineering]: Chemical process engineering, high performance extractors, fluidic devices; [Computer Science and Engineering]: Advanced signal and image processing algorithms including ML and ANN for NDE; [Electrical and Electronics Engineering], [Electronics and Communication Engineering]: Development of devices and electro-magnetic sensors for NDE, signal and image processing, machine learning (ML) and artificial neural networks (ANN), embedded and simulator systems, wireless networking; [Mechanical Engineering]: Thermal hydraulics and structural mechanics, computational fluid dynamics, computational nuclear engineering, design of critical components, development of remote handling equipment, modelling studies, safety analysis, robotics and development of intelligent machines, reliability engineering; [Metallurgical and Materials Engineering]: Development of new engineering materials, materials synthesis, processing and fabrication technologies, microstructural engineering, structure property correlations, mechanical behaviour, fracture mechanics and structural integrity, corrosion science and technology, advanced materials characterization including electron microscopy, behaviour of materials under irradiation, non-destructive evaluation (NDE), inspection technologies; [Nuclear engineering].

The Centre also encourages high quality inter-disciplinary research in areas relevant to its programmes.

2. AGE LIMIT:

The maximum age limit is 28 years as on the closing date for submission of application. A relaxation in age, up to 3 years in case of Other Backward Class applicants, 5 years in case of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe applicants and 10 years in case of Persons with benchmark disabilities (40% and more) is allowed.

NOTE: ONLY SSC/MATRICULATION/HSC CERTIFICATE OR BIRTH CERTIFICATE WILL BE ACCEPTED AS PROOF OF DATE OF BIRTH. NO SUBSEQUENT REQUEST FOR CHANGE SHALL BE ENTERTAINED.

3. QUALIFICATIONS:

For all the categories listed below:

- (i) Candidates should have consistently good academic record and should have secured minimum of 55% aggregate at graduation and post-graduation levels from a recognized University. A relaxation of 5% of marks, from 55% to 50% or an equivalent relaxation of grade, will be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/persons with benchmark disabilities.
- (ii) Wherever the results are declared as CGPA/GPA, it may be converted to percentage and entered. (The formula prescribed by the institute for conversion to be indicated at the time of verification).
- (iii) Candidates who are eligible in all other respects but are graduating in the academic year 2025-2026 and awaiting final results are eligible to apply. However, admission of these candidates, if selected, is subject to production of mark-sheet of their final result, which should meet the eligibility requirements of the JRF programme. Candidates must submit their final marksheet/ final certificates of qualifying degree by December 31, 2026. It may be noted that stipend will be paid only after the submission of final qualifying degree

certificates/ marksheet. It is necessary that all academic requirements for the award of qualifying degree must be completed before the last date of receipt of online application. All the candidates whose final result is awaited need to bring a certificate issued by the Competent Authority of the respective Institution about their completion of academic requirement for the award of qualifying degree on the date of personal interview.

- (iv) UGC/AICTE approved Degrees from UGC/AICTE recognized Universities only will be accepted.
- (v) Candidates with five years integrated M.Sc. degree should have secured minimum of 55% aggregate in M.Sc./B.S-M.S (Dual degree).

Category - A:

Sl. No.	Main Subject	Additional Requirements
1	Physics (General, Applied, Condensed matter, Nuclear, Theoretical)	Mathematical Physics/Numerical Methods must be one of the subjects at M.Sc. level and Chemistry as ancillary at B.Sc. Level
2	Materials Science/ Materials Science and Engineering	Physics, Mathematics and Chemistry at B. Sc. Level or B.Sc. in Materials Science
3	Chemistry (General, Applied, Organic, Inorganic, Physical, Analytical)	Physics and Mathematics as ancillary subjects at B.Sc. Level
4	Radiation Physics	Physics/Chemistry and Mathematics as ancillary subjects at B.Sc. level and Mathematical Physics must be one of the subjects at M.Sc. level

Masters in Science/ Integrated M. Sc. is the eligible qualification for the following subjects

Category - B:

- (i) M.Tech./M.E. in Nuclear Engineering / Nuclear Science & Technology

Category - C:

B.E./B.Tech./B.Sc. Engg./B.Sc. [Tech.] in any one of the following disciplines (criteria for exemption from Screening Test are given in section 4).

- (i) Chemical Engineering
- (ii) Computer Science and Engineering
- (iii) Electrical and Electronics Engineering
- (iv) Electronics and Communication Engineering
- (v) Mechanical Engineering
- (vi) Metallurgical Engineering

Category - D:

Candidates with M.E./M.Tech.

- (i) Admission to M.E./M.Tech. should be on the basis of a valid GATE score (A certificate from the institution to the effect that admission to M.E./M.Tech. programme was based on the GATE score should be submitted at the time of interview).
- (ii) The GATE Score should be in the appropriate GATE Paper for any one of the disciplines mentioned under Category-C, Physics or Chemistry.
- (iii) Should have B.E./B.Tech./B.Sc. Engg./ B.Sc. [Tech.] degree in any one of the disciplines listed under Category C or M.Sc. (Physics or Chemistry)
- (iv) Candidates who joined M.E./M.Tech. without a valid GATE score, should appear for the Screening Test.

Candidates with the following qualifications are NOT eligible to apply:

- (i) Bachelors degree in Aerospace, Automobile, Production, Industrial Production, Reliability, Ceramics, Architecture, Geology, Mining, Bio-Medical Engineering, Bio-Medical, Instrumentation, Life Science, Communication, Information Technology, Dyes & Dye Intermediates, Electrochemical, Energy Systems, Oils & Fats, Paints & Varnishes, Petrochemicals, Plastics, Paper, Sugar Technology, Textiles& Mechatronics.
- (ii) B.Tech. degree in Chemical Engineering under the category of petroleum, polymer, sugar, oil, soap technology, etc.
- (iii) Master of Computer Applications& M.Sc. in Computer Science.
- (iv) Candidates with M.Sc./Integrated M. Sc. in Particle Physics, Electronics, Astrophysics, Geophysics, Biophysics & Medical Physics.
- (v) M.Sc. in Polymer, Medicinal, Pharmaceutical, Biochemistry, Environmental and Industrial Chemistry.

4. SELECTION PROCEDURE:

Applications will be scrutinized and suitability of candidates will be decided on the basis of their degree, academic record /GATE/JEST scores. The cut off scores (GATE/JEST) to be eligible for direct interview will be decided by IGCAR. Short listed suitable candidates under different qualification categories will be selected based on the **SCREENING TEST and INTERVIEW or DIRECT INTERVIEW.**

Screening Test will be tentatively held on **02/08/2026** at Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata, Bhubaneswar and Hyderabad depending on the number of candidates in each Centre. The candidates will have to opt one of the Centres while applying online. IGCAR reserves the right to allot the candidates to any Centre and not to hold test in any Centre depending on the number of candidates in a particular Centre. Decision of IGCAR in this regard will be final.

The results of Screening Test will be published on IGCAR website after evaluating all the answer sheets received from all the Centres. Interview of the candidates who qualify in the Screening Test will be held at **Kalpakkam** tentatively from the **third week of August 2026.**

A summary scrutiny of the application/credentials would be carried out for short-listing of the candidates for the Screening Test and a more detailed scrutiny of the credentials leading to the eligibility of the candidate would be done at the final stage of the selection process.

Category A: Those candidates who had secured the prescribed marks in the qualifying degree and in addition are satisfying any of the following conditions would be exempted from the Screening Test based on cut off marks decided by IGCAR:

- (i) With valid UGC-CSIR-NET Fellowship (SLET/Lectureship is not eligible)
- (ii) With valid JEST score
- (iii) With a valid GATE score after Master's degree

Category B: Candidates who had scored the prescribed marks in the qualifying degree will have to appear for the Screening Test and those short listed based on Screening Test will be called for an interview.

Category C: Candidates with the prescribed marks in the qualifying degree and with a valid GATE score above the cut off (decided by IGCAR) are eligible to appear directly for the Interview (exempted from Screening Test). Also, the candidates with valid JEST score and with eligible engineering disciplines listed as above are also eligible to appear directly for interview.

Category D: Candidates who have joined M.E./M.Tech. via valid GATE (eligible discipline and valid GATE score as mentioned above in Category-A (Physics, Chemistry) & Category-C) are exempted from Screening Test. Other eligible candidates will have to appear for a Screening Test in the discipline in which graduation degree was obtained.

Candidates shortlisted based on the Screening Test or based on the above criteria will be called for an interview.

At the time of submission of application, candidates should clearly indicate the details of qualifying examinations (GATE/UGC-CSIR-NET/JEST) listed as above for consideration of application and submit the proofs at the time of document verification. Candidates will be shortlisted for Screening Test and Direct Interview based on the inputs given and scores provided in the qualifying exam in the application form. Under no circumstances this will be changed later.

5. SELECTION INTERVIEWS:

The Selection Interview for all the shortlisted candidates (those who qualify in the Screening Test as well as for those qualified for DIRECT interview) will be conducted in person at **Kalpakkam** tentatively from the **third week of August 2026**. The recommendation / decision of the Selection Committee will be final and binding.

6. FELLOWSHIP AND TENURE:

Course	Fellowship*	Duration of fellowship
Direct Ph.D.	First & Second years: Rs. 37,000/- per month. Third, Fourth and Fifth years: Rs. 42,000/- per month. Contingency grant including book allowance: Rs. 60,000/- per annum.	Five years
Integrated Ph.D. (single degree)	First year: Rs. 25,000/- per month plus one-time book allowance of Rs. 30,000/-. Second and Third years: Rs. 37,000/- per month. Fourth, Fifth and Sixth years: Rs. 42,000/- per month. Contingency Grant: Rs. 60,000/- per annum from the second year onwards.	Six years
Integrated Ph.D. (double degree)	First year: Rs. 25,000/- per month plus one-time book allowance of Rs. 30,000/-. Second and Third years: Rs. 37,000/- per month. Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh years: Rs. 42,000/- per month. Contingency Grant: Rs. 60,000/- per annum from the second year onwards.	Seven years

*Continuation/enhancement of fellowship is subject to satisfactory performance/review examination at the end of each year as appropriate.

7. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- (i) Before applying, the candidate should ensure that he/she fulfills all the eligibility conditions mentioned in the advertisement. Candidates should ensure that they fill in the correct information. Furnishing of incomplete, false or misleading information shall render the application liable to be rejected. The candidate would be admitted to various stages of the recruitment process based on the information furnished by the candidate in his/her application. Only a summary scrutiny of the application would be made before the final stage of the recruitment process and detailed scrutiny of the credentials leading to the eligibility of

the candidate would be done only at the final stage of the recruitment process. As such, the candidature of the applicant shall remain provisional till detailed scrutiny is undertaken and the candidate is found eligible in all respects. IGCAR would be at liberty to reject any application at any stage of the recruitment process if the candidate is found ineligible for the post or if it comes to notice that the candidate has furnished false information. The decision of IGCAR shall be final in deciding the eligibility of the candidate. The mere fact that a call letter has been issued to the candidate and he/she is allowed to appear in the Screening Test/Interview will not imply that his/her candidature has been finally cleared or that entries made by the candidate in his/her application have been accepted as true and correct.

- (ii) Age, qualification, validity of GATE/JEST/CSIR-UGC-NET, community status, creamy layer status will be reckoned as on the closing date for submission of application.
- (iii) Those who are in employment under any Central/State Govt./Public Sector Undertakings/ Autonomous Bodies etc. should submit a 'No Objection Certificate' from the employer at the time of verification of the documents before interview.
- (iv) SC/ST/OBC (clearly indicating Creamy Layer status) certificate should be as per the format prescribed for employment in Government of India and shall be valid as on **13/07/2026**.
- (v) **The original certificates / documents of the candidates will be verified at the final stage of the selection process. The shortlisted candidates must bring all original certificates/mark sheets of educational qualifications, date of birth, caste certificate in the prescribed format, disability certificate in respect of PWD candidates, No Objection Certificate if in regular employment under any Central/State Govt. / Public Sector Undertakings / Autonomous Bodies etc. and GATE/UGC-CSIR-NET/JEST fellowship, as applicable.**
- (vi) The list of candidates selected for the award of Junior Research Fellowship will be displayed on the IGCAR website (www.igcar.gov.in). The selected candidates will also be informed through their registered e-mail.
- (vii) **The final induction of the selected candidates as JRFs will be subject to production of all necessary documents in original during the Document Verification and being found Medically Fit by the Medical Superintendent, DAE Hospital, Kalpakkam.**
- (viii) Accommodation will be provided on nominal charges for a period of 48 hours from Check-In at DAE Township, Kalpakkam only for those candidates shortlisted for Personal Interview.
- (ix) The number of fellowships indicated in this advertisement is approximate and may vary as per the requirement at the time of final selection. IGCAR reserves the right not to fill up the fellowships if it so desires. IGCAR reserves the right to screen and call only such candidates as are found prima - facie suitable for being considered by the Selection Committee. Thus, just fulfilling the prescribed conditions would not entitle one to be called for interview.
- (x) **Candidates who are NOT meeting the mentioned qualification NEED NOT apply.**
- (xi) The fellowship shall not confer any claim or right for regular employment at IGCAR or any Unit of Department of Atomic Energy.
- (xii) The period of service rendered as research fellow will not be counted in any post of DAE / Other Government Department.
- (xiii) Admission shall not be claimed by any candidate as a matter of right. The admission shall be entirely at the discretion of the Selection Committee, which may refuse to admit any candidate without assigning any reason thereof.

- (xiv) No correspondence whatsoever will be entertained from the candidates regarding reason for not being called for interview/outcome of interview.
- (xv) Candidates are advised to read the advertisement carefully. Frequent enquiries/representations made in any correspondence without reading the full content of the advertisement will not be entertained.
- (xvi) Candidates will be solely responsible for furnishing the requisite certificates, failing which their candidature shall be summarily rejected. Candidates may also note that their candidature will remain provisional till the verification of veracity of the documents by the Competent Authority.

8. APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

Applicants should fill online application form available at IGCAR website <https://www.igcar.gov.in/recruitment.html>. No hardcopy applications will be entertained.

Candidates are required to take a printout of filled in application after final submission of data and should **affix recent passport size photo** on the printout and sign at the place marked for signature.

Candidates would be required to produce following certificates in Original and one set of self-attested photo copy along with the printout of online application at the time of document verification prior to Interview:

- (i) **Date of Birth proof (Aadhaar Card/Driving License/Passport/PAN Card/Voter ID);**
- (ii) **Educational Certificates and marksheets from SSC/Class 10 onwards;**
- (iii) **Experience Certificates;**
- (iv) **Category certificate, if belonging to SC/ST/OBC;**
- (v) **Disability certificate, if applicable; and**
- (vi) **No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the current employer, if employed in Central Govt./State Govt./PSUs/Autonomous Body.**

Admit Card for appearing for the Screening Test and/or Personal Interview will be published on IGCAR website, <https://www.igcar.gov.in/recruitment.html>. The candidates are requested to do the following:

- (i) Download and print the Admit Card from the IGCAR website
- (ii) Affix the recently taken passport size photograph on the space provided.
- (iii) Put the signature on the space provided.
- (iv) Also bring photo identity proof in original for verification viz. Aadhaar Card/Driving License/Passport/PAN Card/Voter ID.

All information related to Screening Test, Interview and Selection will be made available on the website i.e., <https://www.igcar.gov.in/recruitment.html>. Candidates are advised to visit the website periodically for information and updates in this regard.

9. MEDICAL:

The selected candidates are eligible to join the Contributory Health Service Scheme (CHSS) of this Centre as applicable.

10. ACCOMMODATION:

The Selected candidates will be provided with subsidized bachelor Hostel Accommodation during the tenure.

11. CANCELLATION OF THE CANDIDATURE:

- (i) Candidate is cautioned not to furnish any incomplete, false or misleading information or submit any document which is defective, forged or fabricated or otherwise not admissible or claim fraudulently SC/ST/OBC/Person with Disability, etc. or resort to any sort of malpractice

during the selection process. Notwithstanding verification of original documents during various stages of the selection process, if any such case is detected at any stage of the selection process or later on, this Centre reserves the right to withdraw/cancel candidature or selection apart from taking other appropriate legal action.

- (ii) Candidates will not be allowed to appear for the Screening Test if they fail to bring the Admit Card and a valid photo identity card (such as Voter ID, Driving License, Aadhaar Card, Passport, College ID) in original.

Website: <https://www.igcar.gov.in/recruitment.html>

CANVASSING IN ANY FORM WILL CAUSE DISQUALIFICATION.

ANY LEGAL DISPUTES ARISING OUT OF THIS ADVERTISEMENT ARE SUBJECT TO CHENNAI JURISDICTION. IN CASE OF ANY DISPUTES, ENGLISH VERSION OF ADVERTISEMENT PLACED ON WEBSITE <https://www.igcar.gov.in/recruitment.html> WILL BE TAKEN AS REFERENCE.

RECORD OF THE NON-SELECTED CANDIDATES SHALL NOT BE PRESERVED BEYOND 6 MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF PUBLICATION OF SELECT LIST AND NO QUERIES WOULD BE ENTERTAINED AFTER THIS PERIOD.

FOR ANY FURTHER QUERIES, CANDIDATES MAY PLEASE MAIL TO jrfrect@igcar.gov.in

CAUTION NOTICE

It is brought to notice that fraudulent recruitment advertisements and job offers are likely to be made by some unscrupulous elements forging IGCAR name/logo and trying to deceive by false promises of securing job. These persons ask for sensitive personal/financial information and payments for job offers. Attention of applicants is also drawn to some fraudulent individuals approaching job seekers through illegal mobile numbers/fake emails/SMS/social platforms/links on WhatsApp/bogus websites etc. and offering job opportunities in IGCAR and demanding money in certain fake & illegal bank accounts by way of a refundable security deposit or other fees. IGCAR does not ask any payment except application fee, in any form or manner whether refundable or non-refundable from any person for offering any jobs. It is also clarified that no websites or agencies have been authorized by IGCAR to accept any application for recruitment for IGCAR vacancies. This is to inform that all the vacancies & recruitment in IGCAR are notified on IGCAR website. Link to apply for IGCAR vacancies is available only on IGCAR official website www.igcar.gov.in and not on any other website. Only application fee is payable at the time of Final Submission of Online Application and no other payments are sought at any stages of recruitment. By this notice it is brought to the knowledge of all prospective job aspirants to exercise caution and not to be misled by such false advertisements. Recruitment process in IGCAR is fully computerized and is based purely on merit. Visit our website regularly for latest information/updates or for any activity relating to this recruitment process or otherwise seek clarification from our Help Desk. IGCAR also strongly recommends that the potential job seekers should not respond to such solicitations as IGCAR will not accept any liability for any loss or damage that may be suffered or incurred directly or indirectly through correspondences with fraudulent individuals or recruitment agencies. In case, you come across any such incident or fraud, please immediately reach out to appropriate government authorities and write us at jrfrect@igcar.gov.in.
