

# **Guidelines for Chief Minister's Research Fellowship for Minorities 2025–26**

- The fellowship supports students belonging to the minority communities (**Muslim, Christian (all sects), Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, and Parsi**) as notified under Section 2 of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992 who are regular (full time) **Ph.D.** scholars in universities/institutions recognised by the University Grants Commission (UGC)."
- The aim is to help financially weak but meritorious students to complete their research successfully.
- The Scholarship amount is **₹2,40,000 per year**. The student will be eligible to receive the fellowship up to 3 times (Maximum up to 5 years i.e., 3 times during the course period of 5 years), depending on satisfactory progress. i.e., "consolidated amount of ₹20,000 per month").

## **I. Eligibility Criteria**

1. Students who are **enrolled in a regular, full-time**, pursuing **Ph.D. programme** in a recognized Government or Government-aided institution in India during **2025–26**.
2. Preference will be given to students belonging to the BPL category. In the absence of BPL applicants, **APL students** with income below the government limit may be considered.
3. Ensure that **only one member per family** applies for this fellowship.
4. The applicant must be a **permanent resident of Kerala** (Non-Resident Keralites are not eligible).
5. The applicant must be below 40 years of age as on 01.10.2025. **Relaxation in the upper age limit to be received for candidates belonging to specific categories, such as persons with Disabilities (PWD) and women.**
6. The student will be eligible to receive the fellowship up to 3 times (Maximum up to 5 years i.e., 3 times during the course period of 5 years) only upon satisfactory academic performance, as per universities guidelines, and based on a confirmatory certificate from the Research Guide, Research Supervisor, Institution or the Research Advisory Committee (RAC).
7. A scholar is eligible to receive only one fellowship at a time. The scholar shall declare that he/she will not accept/receive any other monetary

benefit/scholarship/fellowship from any other source. In other words, a scholar who is awarded fellowship under this scheme shall not accept any other fellowship/scholarship or hold any appointment, paid or otherwise, or receive any emoluments, salary, stipend etc. (example: JRF, HTRA, KSCSTE, Institute stipendiary, Sponsorship or scholarship from any other source) during the tenure of the award (except in case of 'academic leave' of one year). In case, a scholar is already in receipt of any scholarship/fellowship, he/she will have to relinquish either the previous scholarship/fellowship/any other monetary benefit or to forgo the selection under this scheme.

8. A scholar who does not complete his/her research work during the tenure of Ph.D. programme in their concerned institution shall not be eligible to apply again under this scheme. Similarly, a scholar who has completely or partially availed any fellowship for pursuing Ph.D. earlier shall also not be eligible for fellowship under this scheme.
9. Employees of any University/ College/ Educational Institutional/Central/ State/ UT Government shall be excluded from availing fellowship, even if they are on Leave(LWA on study purposes) or EOL to pursue the PhD course.

## **II. Mode of Selection**

- 1) Selection will be made by a **Departmental Selection Committee**. The selection committee includes the following personnel:
  - a) Additional/Joint/Deputy Secretary from Secretariat.
  - b) Director, Dept. of Minority welfare
  - c) Administrative Officer/Finance Officer, Dept. of Minority welfare
  - d) Representatives from any of the prominent government universities in Kerala
  - e) Project Officer, Dept. of Minority welfare
- 2) Priority will be given based on BPL status and annual family income, subject to meeting all other eligibility criteria.
- 3) **30% of fellowships are reserved for women students.** If sufficient women applicants are not available, the remaining slots may be given to male applicants.
- 4) **5% of fellowships are reserved for Persons with Disabilities (PWD) students.** If sufficient PWD applicants are not available, the remaining slots may be given to open category.
- 5) Selection is based on:
  - a) Eligibility verification
  - b) Income level

c) Minority community proportion in Kerala population

### **III. Duration of Fellowship**

**Table 1.1**

<b>Sl No.</b>	<b>Phase</b>	<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
1.	I (1 <sup>st</sup> year)	Joining Report/ Registration for Ph.D., BPL Category, Income Limit, UGC CSIR NET score/percentile (excluding JRF), PhD only scores etc.	
2.	II (2 <sup>nd</sup> year)	Research Advisory Committee (RAC) Report, Course work completion report from supervisor/guide /HoD	Students can only receive fellowship three times during the tenure of PhD.
3.	III (3 <sup>rd</sup> year)	Promotion to SRF Report (on the basis of recommendation by a panel of three-guide, HoD and an external expert as in the case of UGC JRF to SRF assessment)	
4.	4 <sup>th</sup> / 5 <sup>th</sup> year	Research Advisory Committee (RAC) Report, Paper Publishing in peer-reviewed or Scopus-indexed journals.	

**Note:**

**If a student qualifies for the fellowship in 1st year but not in the 2nd year, then to apply for 3rd year, they must satisfy the conditions for both 2nd year and 3rd year. The same follows other years as well.**

### **IV. How To Apply**

- Visit the official scholarship portal ([minoritywelfare.kerala.gov.in](http://minoritywelfare.kerala.gov.in)).

- Download the Application Form from the website.
- Fill out the application form with accurate and complete information.
- Submit the completed form to the Directorate of Minority Welfare, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, Vikas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram-695033 on or before 15.01.2026 through post and through email: [scholarship.mwd@gmail.com](mailto:scholarship.mwd@gmail.com)

## **V. Documents to be submitted by applicants**

Applicants must submit the following along with the application:

- Printout of application registration form.
- Copies of mark lists of SSLC, Graduate, and Postgraduate examinations.
- Copy of the first page of the bank passbook in the applicant's name (showing name, account number, branch code, and branch address)
- Copy of Aadhaar Card
- Copy of Nativity Certificate.
- Copy of Community Certificate or Minority Certificate.
- Original Income Certificate from the Village Office.
- Copy of Ration Card.
- PwD certificate if applicable
- Admission/registration letter for Ph.D.
- Certificates as per Table 1.1
- Certificate of confirmation signed by the Research Guide/Research Supervisor/Head of Department (as per Annexure I)
- Any other document mentioned in the official notification



# CM RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP FOR MINORITIES

(2025-26)

## Application

<b>Registration ID</b> (Last six digits of Aadhaar Number)	
<b>1) Full Name</b>	
<b>2) Name of Father/Husband/Guardian</b>	
<b>3) Regular/Full Time</b>	
<b>4) Aadhaar Number</b>	
<b>5) Permanent Address</b>	
i) House No./Name	
ii) Street/Locality	
iii) Name of City/Town/Village	
iv) Post Office	
v) District	
vi) State	
vii) Pin code	
viii) Phone number	
ix) Mobile Number	
<b>6) Address for correspondence</b>	
i) House No./Name	
ii) Street/Locality	
iii) Name of City/Town/Village	
iv) Post Office	
v) District	
vi) State	
vii) Pin code	
<b>7) Date of Birth</b>	
<b>8) Whether Male/Female/Others</b>	

Please affix your  
recent passport size  
photograph and  
sign across

<b>9) Religion &amp; Caste</b>	
<b>10) Nationality</b>	
<b>11) Details of Post – Graduation Course</b>	
i) Examination passed	
ii) Year of passing	
iii) Percentage of marks obtained in aggregate	
<b>12) Details of programme</b>	
i) Faculty	Science/ Social science/language/Humanities/Commerce & Management
ii) Subject	
iii) Area of research with title	
iv) Name of research supervisor	
v) Center name & address If sub-center name of college & address	
vi) Batch of registration year wise (2025 January batch / 2025 July batch/Previous Years)	
vii) Date of joining	
<b>13) Details of bank account</b>	
i) Account number	
ii) Name of bank	
iii) Branch code, address and IFSC Code	
<b>Enrollment ID</b>	
<b>Full name</b>	
<b>14) Documents enclosed with the application</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One copy of passport size photograph with signature, pasted on the registration form.</li> <li>• Attested copy of certificate of Post-graduation mark list.</li> <li>• Attested copy of the first page of pass book in the name of the student, showing the account number, IFSC code and address of the branch</li> <li>• Copy of Aadhaar /Enrollment documents</li> <li>• Consent letter from the corresponding guide at the research institution</li> <li>• Certified copy of joining letter</li> </ul>	

- Affidavit certified by the relevant guide that no other fellowships are being received
- Attested copy of university registration order
- confirmation certificate

**15) Declaration**

I hereby declare that the information furnished above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that if at any stage, it is found to the satisfaction of the sanctioning authority that the information given by me is false or I have violated the terms and conditions of the scholarship, the scholarship sanctioned to me may be cancelled and the entire amount of scholarship with interest as per rules will be refunded by me, apart from liability for such penal actions warranted by the law.

Place :

Date :

Signature of the candidate

**16) Remarks by verifying officer**

Verified that the details given by the candidate with supporting documents are found to be correct.

Place :

Signature of verifying officer :

Date :

Name:

Designation:

**17) Certificate by the head of the institution**