



कृषि शिक्षा विभाग
Agricultural Education Division
भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद्
INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
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Assistant Director General (HRD)

F. No. EDN/1/32/2007-Exam Cell

Dated: 30th December, 2014

To

- (i) All Vice-Chancellors, State Agricultural Universities/AAI-DU/CAUs/ICAR-DUs/CUs having faculty of agriculture
- (ii) All Directors, ICAR Institutes

Subject: Guidelines for Centralized Admission to Doctoral Degree Programmes in the Universities under ICAR-AU System

Sir,

Persuant to recommendations of the committee constituted by the Council for introduction of centralized admission procedure for admission in Agricultural Universities to Ph.D. degree programmes through All India Competitive Examination conducted by the Agricultural Education Division of ICAR and as approved by the Competent Authority, ICAR, please find enclosed herewith the 'Guidelines for Centralized Admission to Doctoral Degree Programmes in the Universities under ICAR-AU System' (also uploaded on ICAR website, www.icar.org.in) for information and necessary action with immediate effect.

Yours faithfully,


(G. Venkateshwarlu)

Encl: As above

Copy for information to:

1. All DDGs, ICAR, Addl. Secretary (DARE) and Secretary ICAR, Addl. Secretary and FA (DARE/ICAR), ND (NAIP)
2. All ADGs, ICAR, Director (P), Director (F), ICAR
3. PPS to DG, ICAR

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GUIDELINES FOR CENTRALIZED ADMISSION TO DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAMMES IN THE UNIVERSITIES UNDER ICAR-AU SYSTEM

1. OBJECTIVE

To conduct All India Competitive Examination for the award of ICAR's Senior Research Fellowship [AICE-SRF(PGS)] on the basis of merit and (ii) concurrent admission to Doctoral degree program on 25% seats (subject to at least one seat for each discipline having Ph.D. degree programme in the University) of Agricultural Universities including ICAR Deemed-to-be-Universities (DUs) under the ICAR-AU system (as approved by GB, ICAR in 232nd Meeting on 15.10.2014).

2. TIME AND SCHEME OF EXAMINATION

The examination will be annually conducted preferably in the month of April. General Scheme of the Entrance Examination as delineated in the Information Bulletin of All India Competitive Examination for the award of ICAR's Senior Research Fellowship [AICE-SRF(PGS)] shall be applicable.

3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- 3.1** Candidates having completed their Master's degree program securing Overall Grade Point Average (OGPA) of at least 6.50/10.00 scale, 3.25/5.00 scale, 2.60/4.00 scale for General and OBC Categories and 5.50/10.00, 2.75/5.00, 2.20/4.00 scale for SC/ST/Physically Challenged (PC) candidates, respectively from any recognized University in India and abroad would be eligible. In other cases, where grade-points are not awarded and only marks are awarded, the candidate must have secured at least 60% marks for General/OBC Category. For SC/ST/Physically Challenged (PC) candidates, the minimum percentage of marks will be 50%. The equivalence between OGPA and percent marks, where needed, will not be acceptable.
- 3.2** The candidates must complete the postgraduate degree in all respects and produce the degree completion certificate from the Registrar to this effect on/before 30th June or the date of counseling, whichever is later, failing which they will not be considered for the award of fellowship/admission. Normally, the counseling will be scheduled in the second half of July every year (as approved by GB, ICAR in 232nd Meeting on 15.10.2014).
- 3.3** Fellowship would be granted only when the candidate seeks admission after counseling and pursues Ph.D. degree in an Agricultural University (AU) other than the Agricultural University(AU) from where he/she has completed Bachelor's and/or Master's degree.

4. AGE

The upper age limit would be 30 years as on the date of the examination for General category. The upper age limit for candidates belonging to SC/ ST/ Women/PC/OBC (Non-creamy layer as per the Central list of OBC) categories shall be relaxable by 5 years. For in-service candidates of Agricultural Universities (AU), the upper age limit would be 45 years as on the date examination whereas, the academic performance requirement would remain the same as stated above.

5. RESERVATION

Reservation of various categories such as SC/ST/OBC and PC etc., will be given as per Government of India rules/instructions issued from time to time. The responsibility of verification of the genuineness of SC/ST/OBC and PC certificate will be of the concerned Agricultural University (AU) where the candidate has obtained admission.

6. ADMISSION THROUGH COUNSELING

- 6.1 The candidates declared/notified as qualified for counseling, based on the merit-rank, shall have to undergo counseling (which could be offline/online). A candidate who has not been declared/notified as qualified for counseling, shall not be considered for admission on ICAR seats in any AU at any stage. A candidate will be eligible for admission in an AU in the subject/discipline in which he/she has qualified Master's degree and which is listed under the eligibility qualifications at Masters' level against a specified Major Subject Group in the Information Bulletin of All India Competitive Examination for the award of ICAR's Senior Research Fellowship [AICE-SRF(PGS)]. The exact title/nomenclature of the degree programme may vary from one university to another and would be known at the time of counseling. The admission would be subject to his/her merit in the Entrance Examination and availability of seats at his/her rank at the time of counseling. ICAR-SRF(PGS) will be awarded based on merit rank in the subject/discipline in which he has qualified Master's degree, and availability of seat in that particular subject/discipline in the desired university.
- 6.2 Against total number of ICAR seats available for a particular subject/discipline in a University, not more than 40% of ICAR seats (category-wise) from one State would be allocated to any one University in that subject. While computing 40% number, mathematical method of rounding to the nearest integer would be adopted except where there is only one seat, in which case, the whole seat would be allocated. While rounding off, the number might exceed 40% to that extent.
- 6.3 ICAR-SRF(PGS) shall not be transferable under any circumstances. There will be no transfer of ICAR-SRF even if a candidate awarded SRF at the time of counseling does not turn up for admission in the university or leaves in between for any reason. In case the fellowship allotted to a candidate is vacated for any reason, the same will not be allotted/transferred to any other candidate even if there are candidates next to him/her in the merit in same or other subject group.
- 6.4 Candidates qualified for counseling may seek admission only during the session for which examination has been conducted. They are not entitled to claim for admission in other sessions/subsequent years based on this year's examination.

7. GENERAL

- 7.1 There will be no direct nomination through ICAR in any Doctoral degree programme and the candidate will have to seek admission in an AU after qualifying the AICE-SRF(PGS) examination and undergoing the counseling to be conducted by ICAR.
- 7.2 No further entrance examination shall be conducted by the Deemed-to-be Universities (DUs) or State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) for the candidates who qualify for admission against 25 % seats of PhD programmes and the award of ICAR-SRF(PGS) in the Universities under ICAR-AU system through centralized admission conducted by ICAR.
- 7.3 The other terms and conditions related to admissions and the award of ICAR-SRF(PGS) through All India Competitive Examination shall be regulated in terms of the provisions contained in the Information Bulletin of AICE-SRF(PGS) and Guidelines for ICAR Fellowships for Post-Graduate Studies in Agricultural Sciences (as revised from time to time).