

TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES RESEARCH SCHOLAR PROGRAM (TCS RSP)

With the broad objective of promotion of education by **TCS Foundation** as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activity and intensifying academic cooperation, and the specific objective of encouraging and supporting world-class, innovative, and impact-creating Ph.D. work at the Indian Statistical Institute in the areas of Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Information Systems, Information Technology, and Software Engineering, the **TCS Foundation** has entered into an agreement with the Institute.

Under this agreement, the Institute can nominate suitable Ph.D. candidates who are *bona fide* full-time students of the Institution, for the TCS Research Scholar Program (RSP) in one or more of the subjects mentioned above, which will, in turn, support this academic activity in terms of the provisions contained in the Agreement.

This Agreement will cover students selected over a five (5) year period starting from the academic year 2015-16 and ending in the academic year 2019-20.

Terms and Conditions

The following conditions govern the conduct of the TCS Research Scholar Program:

- The students will have an upper age limit of 28 years as on admission into the Scholarship.
- The student should have first-class education career right from Secondary School Certificate (Class X or equivalent)
- The scheme is open in the following broad areas of study only:
 - Computer Engineering
 - Computer Science
 - Information Systems
 - Information Technology
 - Software Engineering.
- The scheme is open to Ph.D. students of the Institute. The short listing and selection will be based on the promise and potential of students as evaluated by the faculty of Institute, in confirmation with TCS Foundation. The scheme will not be open to any other Ph.D. students unless agreed upon by TCS Foundation.
- Students have to be registered as full-time students in Institute for their Ph.D. program.
- The scholarship can be terminated by TCS Foundation, in due consultation with the Institute, with a one-month notice, based on performance review report and also for any violation of any operational rules applicable to all the research students of the Institute.

Application Process

Application must be submitted in the following format:

- Letter of application from the student
- Letter of support from the Institution
- Research area write-up – should include a short review, broad problem statement, proposed scope and focus.
- CV of the student – education, grades obtained, honours, publication list, work experience (if any)
- CV of the proposed guide, if already finalized.
- An undertaking that the applicants have gone through the terms and conditions of the program and agree to abide by the same if they are awarded the **TCS Foundation** scholarship.

Applications may be submitted twice every year, by 30th August and 30th January. All the applications will be screened by a committee set up by Institute and a list of short-listed candidates will be sent as a recommendation to **TCS Foundation** along with all the application forms. **TCS Foundation** will select the final list of the scholars that will be awarded scholarship from the short listed candidates.

Stipend and Contingency Grant

The **TCS Foundation** will pay, through the Institute, each of the TCS Research Scholars for the TCS RSP a stipend of Rupees Twenty Eight Thousand (Rs. 28,000/-) per month for the first two years and Rupees Thirty Two Thousand (Rs. 32,000/-) per month for two years thereafter, or till completion of Research whichever is earlier.

The **TCS Foundation** will not be liable to pay any taxes, expenses or costs or any other amount of whatsoever nature in addition to the stipend mentioned above. TCS Research Scholars will pay for entire tuition fees, exam fees and all other academic and other expenditures and the Foundation owes no liability for the same. The amount of the scholarship is solely at **TCS Foundation** owes no liability for the same. The amount of the scholarship is solely at TCS Foundation's discretion and is subject to revision by TCS Foundation, in consultation with the Institute to take into account the prevailing norms, with a 90-day notice period.

A one-time contingency grant of Rs. 1 Lakh to the Institution will be provided to every student enrolled as a TCS Research Scholar to meet any incidental expenses related to the project by the student, as approved by his research guide.

Travel Support

- Support for the TCS Research Scholar to participate in one international refereed conference, held outside India, during the period of four years, where he/ she has a paper to present, he/ she being one of the authors of the paper. The support will cover travel, conference registration, accommodation and living allowance as per the norms of **TCS Foundation**.

- Support for one of the guides of the TCS Research Scholar to participate in one international refereed conference, held outside India, during the period of four years, where the guide has a paper to present, TCS Research Scholar being a co-author, but not participating in the conference. The support will cover travel, conference registration, accommodation and living allowance as per the norms of **TCS Foundation**.
- Support for the TCS Research Scholar to participate in two international/ national refereed conferences, held in India, during the period of four years, where he/ she has a paper to present, he / she being one of the authors of the paper. The support would cover travel, conference registration, accommodation and living allowance as per the norms of **TCS Foundation**.
- Visit(s) and interaction(s) of TCS Research Scholar to TCS Innovation Laboratories based on projects needs, as judged by TCS Innovation Laboratory concerned.

Other Terms and Conditions

While Institute may recommend students for this program **TCS Foundation** reserves the right to admit some or none of the students recommended by the institution. Further, **TCS Foundation** reserves the right to conduct an interview of student(s), if it deems necessary for the selection for the scheme. In such case interviews will be conducted in one of the **TCS Foundation** or its affiliate company offices and candidates should travel to the designated venue for the interview. To-and-fro 2nd AC rail fare from the Institute to the place of interview will be paid by **TCS Foundation** to each candidate called for the interview.

In case a student quits the Ph.D. program, or ceases to be a full time student, then the Institute will inform **TCS Foundation** immediately and the scholarship will automatically stand withdrawn for that student. Also, all other benefits such as conference sponsorship for the student and his/ her guide will also terminate immediately. The remaining amount at the time of this termination may be awarded to a different student recommended by Institute after a due selection process in Institute and approved by TCS Foundation. **TCS Foundation** decision will be final and binding in awarding the remaining amount to any other Ph.D. student. In case **TCS Foundation** decides not award this amount to any other student the balance amount will be returned to TCS Foundation.

The Institute is encouraged to monitor the students' conduct to ensure that it is in conformance with the rules of the **Institution**, UGC and other regulatory bodies, and the overall principles and ethics of the Tata Code of Conduct. In the event a violation or misconduct comes to the notice of the Institute, the Institute will inform **TCS Foundation** immediately and also take suitable action against the student. **TCS Foundation** may withdraw the scholarship, after due consultation with the Institute, if it is of the opinion that the conduct of the student is inappropriate.

Institute will ensure that all the TCS Research Scholars execute an agreement with the Institute to agree to abide by the terms and conditions of this Agreement and provide a copy of such agreement to **TCS Foundation** on request.

In addition to periodic progress reports as may be mutually agreed to or as may be requested by **TCS Foundation** from time to time, a final report will be submitted by Institute to **TCS Foundation** every year incorporating the scope, activities undertaken; objectives attained, benefits

achieved, financial details, details of beneficiaries of the financial contribution, along with photographs / video of the beneficiaries without any cost overheads to **TCS Foundation** on this account. The Institute will ensure that the content of all the reports, documents and information provided as part of the Agreement to **TCS Foundation** will be accurate.

The scholarship may be discontinued in respect of non-performing Research Scholars on the basis of a report of the Institute or *suo moto* in situation with the Institute – and the decision of **TCS Foundation** in this regard will be final and binding. However, all unpaid stipends to the TCS Research Scholar deposited with Institute shall be immediately returned to **TCS Foundation**.