



# National Science Foundation

## Application for Postdoctoral Research Fellowship

### **Postdoctoral Research Fellowship – 2020**

1. Applicants should be citizens of and residing in Sri Lanka and should be registered with the STMIS database of the NSF and committed for fulltime research.
2. Applicants should have a PhD (obtained recently) from a recognized university.
3. Proven research, development and innovation experience (Publications in refereed journals, patents etc.).
4. Merit of the research Project addressing an issue identified as a national research priority.
5. The duration of the research project should not exceed 2 years.
6. An academic or researcher with a permanent position in the same Institute should be included as a Co-investigator. He/she should take the responsibility to complete the project in case the Research Scientist leaves the institute.
7. Availability of laboratory space and facilities at the host institution to undertake the proposed research work (assurance from the Head of the Institution is required).

### **Entitlements**

- Monthly stipend of Postdoctoral Research Scientist is Rs. 150,000 per month.
- Research Expenses up to Rs. 1,000,000 per year up to 2 years (needs justification).

***INCOMPLETE & INACCURATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED***

## Application for Postdoctoral Research Fellowship

Details of the Applicant			
<b>01</b>	Title		Gender
	Surname		
	Given Names		
	Date of Birth <i>(Format DD/MM/YYYY)</i>		
	Contact Details		
	STMIS No.		
Details of Applicant's Present Institution (if applicable)			
Address			
Telephone			
Fax			
E-mail			
Other Details			
Personal Address			
Telephone			
Fax			
E-mail			

<b>02</b>	<b>2.1</b>	State present salary (and scale, if applicable) and any other emoluments.
	<b>2.2</b>	When is your present contract or other support expected to end?
	<b>2.3</b>	Do you hold any research grants or have other sources of research support? If so, please give particulars. Would these be continued if you receive this Postdoctoral Research Fellowship?
	<b>2.4</b>	Has any grant been promised or application made, eg: for personal stipend, support of research, allowances of assistants, etc.? If so, give details and expected date when results may be known.

<b>03</b>	<b>Co-Investigator</b> <i>Letters of Consent (Annex I) and CV should be provided</i>	
	<b>Name &amp; Designation</b>	
	<b>Mailing Address</b>	
	<b>Telephone</b>	
	<b>Fax</b>	
	<b>E-mail</b>	
	<b>STMIS Registration number</b>	

<b>04</b>	<b>Location of the proposed study</b>				
	<b>Name of the Head of the Department</b>				
	<b>Institution</b>				
	<b>Address</b>				
<b>05</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Title of the proposed study</b>			
	<b>5.2</b>	<b>Broad Research Area (Fundamental/ Applied Research)</b>			
	<b>5.3</b>	<b>Area of Research (Please select only the most relevant research disciplines)</b>			
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture and Food Sciences	<input type="checkbox"/>	Health Sciences
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Basic Sciences (Physical/Chemical/Biological Sciences)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Indigenous knowledge
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Biotechnology	<input type="checkbox"/>	Library & Information Sciences
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Nanotechnology	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science Education
<input type="checkbox"/>		Engineering Sciences & Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Sciences	
<input type="checkbox"/>		Information Communication Technology (Artificial Intelligence, Robotics etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science & Technology Policy Studies	
<input type="checkbox"/>		Environment & Biodiversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other significant area Please specify..... .....	
<b>06</b>	<b>Requested tenure (indicate 1 or 2 years)</b>				
	Dates between which you wish to hold the Research Scientist position if approved?				

<b>07</b>	<p><b>A personal statement about your qualifications, research career to date and aspirations in the long term.</b> Please state the exact date your doctoral degree was awarded and give details of all appointments taken since in reverse chronological order (date of commencement in bold), stating if part-time or otherwise where necessary. Please attach an updated CV to the application</p>
<b>08</b>	<p><b>Publications-</b> The Applicant's publications should be listed as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i) Indexed journal articles (List any papers. Include title, authors, journal and page numbers. Details of papers in press may be included. Attach two reprints of your most significant publications)</li><li>ii) Other articles, reviews, book chapters, etc.</li><li>iii) Published Abstracts</li><li>iv) Patents.</li></ul> <p>(Use additional sheets if necessary)</p>

<b>09 Research Project</b>	
Title of the project	
Duration	
<b>9.1</b>	<b>Summary</b> Explain briefly the research problem, research approach and expected outputs. <i>Not exceeding one A4 page, font type Times New Roman, size 11, single space.</i>
<b>Give 3 – 5 keywords for the proposed project</b>	

	<b>9.2</b>	<b>Research Problem</b>
	9.2.1	<b>Research problem/s</b>
	9.2.2	<b>Analysis of the problem/s &amp; rationale for the research question</b>
	<b>9.3</b>	<b>Comprehensive literature review (local and international including recent literature) AND the complete list of references in the relevant area.</b> <i>(Attach additional sheets if necessary)</i>
	9.3.1	<b>International</b>

	9.3.2	<b>Local</b>

	<b>9.4</b>	<b>Originality &amp; innovativeness of the proposed work</b>
	<b>9.5</b>	<b>General and specific objectives of the proposed work</b>
	<b>9.5.1</b>	<b>General Objective</b>
	<b>9.5.2</b>	<b>Specific Objective/s</b>

<b>9.6</b>	<b>Methodology</b> Describe the Methodology and experimental design <b><u>where applicable</u></b> <i>(Attach additional sheets if necessary)</i>
<i>Please complete relevant sections</i>	
9.6.1	<b>Data/sample collection</b>
9.6.2	<b>Study site</b>
9.6.3	<b>Describe the study group and controls</b>
9.6.4	<b>Validation and quality control of methods</b>

	9.6.5	<b>Cost effectiveness of proposed methodology</b>
	9.6.6	<b>Describe the method of data analysis</b>
	9.7	<b>Feasibility</b>
	9.7.1	<b>Describe knowledge and research experience in the area related to the project work</b> ( <i>Please <b><u>do not</u></b> include your name or publications</i> )

9.7.2	<p><b>Work plan</b>  <i>Please attach the quarterly Gantt Chart to cover the proposed study, as per the format below.</i></p>																																																												
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; background-color: #f2f2f2;"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="3" style="width: 15%;">Objective</th> <th rowspan="3" style="width: 15%;">Activities</th> <th colspan="8">Time-line (Gantt Chart)</th> <th rowspan="3" style="width: 15%;">Key Performance Indicators (KPI)</th> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="4">Year 1</th> <th colspan="4">Year 2</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Q1</th> <th>Q2</th> <th>Q3</th> <th>Q4</th> <th>Q1</th> <th>Q2</th> <th>Q3</th> <th>Q4</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="height: 40px;"></td> <td></td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="height: 40px;"></td> <td></td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="height: 40px;"></td> <td></td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Objective	Activities	Time-line (Gantt Chart)								Key Performance Indicators (KPI)	Year 1				Year 2				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4																																	
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9.7.3	<p><b>Ethical considerations and environmental impact.</b>  <i>Ethical considerations when human subjects are involved and any possible adverse impact on the environment resulting from the experimental methods used should be indicated. Ethical clearance/necessary permission should be submitted along with the application or within one month of the deadline for submission of applications</i></p>																																																												

9.8 Budget			
Summary of Budget			
	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Total
<b>(1) Research Equipment</b>			
<b>(2) Consumables</b>			
<b>(3) Sample analysis (if outsourced)</b>			
<b>(4) Statistical analysis</b>			
<b>(5) Travel &amp; Subsistence (for field visits only)</b>			
<b>(6) Miscellaneous</b>			
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>			



9.9.4		<p><b>Travel &amp; Subsistence</b></p> <p><i>As far as possible the Investigator should combine field work under the project with his/her work in the Institution. What should be requested for is additional travelling that cannot be carried out in the course of the Investigator's other duties.</i></p> <p><i>Give a detailed breakdown for each year with justifications of the cost figures given in summary budget. Indicate no. of field visits, places to be visited and any other relevant details. Refer rates of payment. (Annex II)</i></p>															
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Subsistence for above field visits (please give calculation)																	

9.9.5	<p><b>Miscellaneous</b>  <i>Give complete breakdown with estimated cost.                  The funds for miscellaneous, should <u>not exceed 10%</u> of the total cost of the project. Funds for <u>contingencies/unforeseen</u> expenses cannot be considered</i></p>												
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="453 350 662 411">Items</th> <th colspan="3" data-bbox="662 350 1352 411">Estimated Cost</th> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="453 411 662 472"></td> <th data-bbox="662 411 868 472">1<sup>st</sup> Year</th> <th data-bbox="868 411 1075 472">2<sup>nd</sup> Year</th> <th data-bbox="1075 411 1352 472">Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="453 472 662 716"></td> <td data-bbox="662 472 868 716"></td> <td data-bbox="868 472 1075 716"></td> <td data-bbox="1075 472 1352 716"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Items	Estimated Cost				1 <sup>st</sup> Year	2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	Total				
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9.10	<p><b>Facilities available at the Institutions of the Investigators for the research project</b></p>												
9.10.1	<p><b>Major equipment and facilities</b></p>												
9.10.2	<p><b>Other resources and support services available to the project in the Institution or outside</b></p>												
9.11	<p><b>Expected Research Outputs</b>  <i>Deliverables at the end of the project <u>in point form</u></i></p>												
9.12	<p><b>How do you propose to utilize the research output for national development?</b></p>												

	<b>9.13</b>	<b>Research Outcomes</b>
	9.13.1	<p>Significance of research outcomes and the impact on national/socio-economic development of Sri Lanka.  <i>Please write in point form.</i></p> <p>Scientific Impact</p> <p>Societal Impact</p> <p>Economic Impact</p>
	9.13.2	<p><b>Identify relevant stakeholders and potential beneficiaries</b></p>
	9.13.3	<p><b>How do you propose to protect and exploit Intellectual Property (IP)?</b>  <i>(Indicate if applicable)</i></p>

<b>10</b>	<b>Referees' reports in Confidence</b>	
	Please give names and addresses of two referees (other than the Head of the Department where the proposed research would be carried out) who will provide confidential statements to the NSF on the attached form (Annex III) in connection with the application.	
	1	2
	Email	Email

<b>11</b>	<b>Signatures</b>	
	<b>11.1</b>	<b>Signature of the Applicant</b>
		<b>Date</b>
	<b>11.2</b>	<b>Signature of the Co-Investigator</b>
<b>Date</b>		

<b>Signatures</b>	
<b>11.1</b>	<b>Signature of the Applicant</b>
	<b>Date</b>
<b>11.2</b>	<b>Signature of the Co-Investigator</b>
	<b>Date</b>
<b>11.3</b>	<b>Signature of the Head of the Department of Host Institution</b>  I certify that this Department has the facilities and additional funding to support this research and that I believe the candidate is suitable for the Postdoctoral Research Fellowship.
	<b>Name</b>
	<b>Department</b>
	<b>Signature</b>
	<b>Date</b>
<b>11.4</b>	<b>Certification by the Head of the Host Institution</b>  I certify that ..... should be awarded an NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, this Institution will permit him/her to undertake full time research work in this Institution, provide all the facilities required to carry out the proposed research and that the institution will not charge any overhead costs.
	<b>Title</b>
	<b>Name</b>
	<b>Institution</b>
	<b>Signature of the Head and official seal of the Institution</b>

Annex I

***Consent to be a Co-Investigator of a Research Project***

(To be signed by the Co-Investigator)

**Director General  
National Science Foundation**

**Research Project on - .....**

This is to convey my willingness to work as a Co-Investigator of the research project referred to above, supporting and contributing to the realization of the project objectives stated in the application.

I understand that in any case the Postdoctoral Research Scientist leaves the project I will be responsible to carry-out the project until completion.

Yours sincerely,

.....  
(Signature)

Name of the Co-Investigator: .....

***Prevailing Rates of Payments for Estimation of Travel & Subsistence Expenses***

1. Travel – Rs. 25 per Km (NSF rate)
  
2. Subsistence rates – Have to be paid according to Government Circulars –  
*Management Service Circular No. 34*  
Grantee - Maximum- Rs. 500/=

**IN CONFIDENCE**

**Application for Postdoctoral Research  
Fellowship**

**Referee's Statement**

**1. Name of Candidate**

Title	Initials	Surname

**2. Name of the Referee**

Title	Initials	Surname

**3. About the Candidate**

In what capacity have you known the candidate?

How long have you known the candidate?

**4. Reference**

Please state your views on the applicant's promise, aptitude and general suitability for original research under a NSF Postdoctoral Scientist Fellowship **using one side of A4 only**. This statement carries a good deal of weight in the assessment.

**Please sign and date your statement.**