

## **National Fellowship for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)**

The National Fellowship for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) is a scheme initiated by the Government of India to provide financial assistance to differently-abled students pursuing higher education and research.

**Below are the key details of this scheme:  
Eligibility Criteria**

### **General Eligibility**

- The fellowship is available only for Indian citizens.
- It is applicable to students with at least 40% disability, as per the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.
- The applicant must possess a valid disability certificate issued by a competent authority.
- A maximum of two children from the same parents can avail of this fellowship. However, in the case of twins, both are eligible.
- The fellowship is awarded for only one academic year per course. If a student fails or repeats a year, they will not receive the fellowship for the repeated year.
- Students cannot avail of any other fellowship or scholarship simultaneously under this scheme.

### **Specific Eligibility for Fellowship**

- This scheme is available for students pursuing M.Phil./Ph.D. in recognized universities/institutions.
- Students must be enrolled full-time in a research program at an institution recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC).

- A candidate can receive only one fellowship at a time. If already receiving financial assistance from another source, they must give up that support to avail of this fellowship.
- The fellowship is not available to government employees, even if they take study leave for research purposes.

### Financial Assistance Provided

The fellowship amount is as per the UGC-approved rates:

Component	Financial Assistance Provided
Junior Research Fellowship (JRF)	₹ 31,000 per month for the first 2 years
Senior Research Fellowship (SRF)	₹ 35,000 per month for the next 3 years
Contingency Grant (for Humanities/Social Sciences/Commerce & Arts)	₹ 10,000 per year (first 2 years), ₹ 20,500 per year (remaining tenure)
Contingency Grant (for Science/Engineering/Technology)	₹ 12,000 per year (first 2 years), ₹ 25,000 per year (remaining tenure)
Reader/Assistant Support (if required, with verification)	₹ 2,000 per month
House Rent Allowance (HRA)	Provided as per government norms (9%, 18%, or 27% depending on the city)

### Important Notes on HRA (House Rent Allowance)

- If the institution provides hostel accommodation, only hostel fees will be covered (not food, electricity, or water charges).
- If the student refuses hostel accommodation, they will not be eligible for HRA.

- If no hostel is available, the student may arrange accommodation, and actual rent will be reimbursed, subject to government norms.
- Selection Process
- Candidates are selected based on their performance in the UGC-NET or CSIR-NET examinations.
- A national merit list is prepared from eligible candidates who meet the disability criteria.
- Selected candidates must secure admission within three years from the date of selection.

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