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THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA

Twenty Fourth Council 2019 - 2021

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Secretary, Research Committee
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India
(Set up by an Act of Parliament)

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ICAI - Doctoral Scholarship Scheme 2020



RESEARCH COMMITTEE
THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA
(Setup by an Act of Parliament)



CA. ATUL KUMAR GUPTA
President, ICAI



CA. NIHAR NIRANJANA JAMBUSARIA
Vice-President, ICAI



CA. ANUJ GOYAL
Chairperson, Research Committee



CA. KEMISHA SONI
Vice-Chairperson, Research Committee

Message

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India since its formation is the hallmark of excellence. Today accountancy profession carries a distinct image because of rich heritage of our various research initiatives over the years. No doubt in this fast changing innovative world, without continuous efforts on research and innovation even the largest organizations can't survive. As rightly said *"People ignore research that ignore people"*. In this direction, in line with our action plan **"Transforming the Future: Enabling Excellence, Augmenting Trust"** various initiatives have been undertaken in the area of Research and Innovation with an objective of boosting economic growth with innovative insights.

Over the period of time, Ph.D. Programme has evolved gradually from its purpose of 'knowledge dissemination' to 'knowledge creation'. This shift in emphasis has, thus, created an ecosystem of advanced research and publications.

We are happy to share with you that the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) through its Research Committee is bringing out a new scholarship scheme, **ICAI Doctoral Scholarship Scheme**, for perusing Ph.D.

The ICAI- Doctoral Scholarship Scheme seeks to provide requisite support to the eligible candidates with outstanding academic credentials, intellectual curiosity and needed discipline to make scholarly contribution.

The candidates under the Scheme have to demonstrate their independent research ideas through publications in top class academic journals and make scholarly presentations of their work. Their contributions extend not only to business practices, but also to public policy and governance.

We invite you to ICAI- Doctoral Scholarship Scheme-2020 and would be happy to discuss your academic interests, if you have the inclination and commitment to undertake an academic or a corporate career with a focus on research.



Introduction

Doctoral scholarship will be awarded to registered Ph.D. Scholars from UGC recognized Indian Universities/ Deemed Universities/ Colleges, IIMs having University/IIMs approved Ph.D. Programme to pursue and complete their Doctoral Research in Auditing, Taxation, Commerce, Management and Accounting Discipline.

The candidates must have confirmed Ph.D. Registration (Research Degree Committee (RDC) approved) at any of the institutions mentioned above on the last date of application. It includes the requirements of clearance of Research Entrance Test (RET).

Eligibility

- Membership of the ICAI with minimum 75% marks/grade in 10th and 12th standard.
- NET/SLET and M Phil from a recognized university will carry weightage in the assessment of research proposal.
- The scholar should not be more than 40 years of age on the last date of application.
- Candidates who have already availed UGC Junior Research Fellowship (JRF)/Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship (RGNF)/ Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF)/ICSSR/ICAR/CSIR/ICPR/ICMR/ICHR or any such doctoral fellowship awardees are not eligible to apply.



How to apply

- Applications are invited through ICAI website, ICAI journal, mass email to members and should be received before 31st July 2020
- The application along with research proposal & abstract (3000 and 300 words respectively) and all the enclosures, must be sent to: Research Committee before the last date mentioned in the advertisement duly signed and stamped by the Ph.D. Registered institution.

Procedure for the award

- Applications are initially scrutinized by the Research Committee Secretariat
- Thereafter, subject group(s)/Expert Committee(s) will short-list the meritorious proposals from the eligible applications and thereafter by the Research Committee of ICAI.
- Such applicants may also be invited for a presentation before an Expert Committee at ICAI- HO or its COEs/DCOs.
- The recommendations of the Expert Committee will then be placed before the Research Committee for its final approval.





Scholarship

- Rs 50,000 per month for maximum period of 36 months.
- Annually 5 Scholars will be selected.

Contingency grant

- Yearly grant not exceeding Rs. 50000/- per year.



Joining & release of scholars

- The scholar must join the scholarship within four weeks of the date of the award letter by submitting the required documents through the affiliating/administering institution. This may be extended by the ICAI up to six months in deserving cases.
- The sanction of the scholarship will be issued initially for a period of one year, effective from the date of joining of the scholar in the scholarship. The renewal of the scholarship for the subsequent year shall be subject to the receipt of satisfactory annual progress report and at least one research paper in International Journal of repute and one in ICAI Journal.

Monitoring of scholars

- Regular monitoring of scholarship is done based on quarterly and annual progress report submitted by the scholar and duly forwarded by the supervisor.
- The scholarship may be discontinued if research progress is found unsatisfactory or any ICAI rules are violated.
- The ICAI may ask for annual presentation/mid-term appraisal of the research work.
- During the scholarship, the scholars are required to publish yearly at least one research paper in International Journal of repute and one in ICAI Journal on the theme of the research undertaken and submit a copy of these to ICAI.



Completion of scholarship

- If a scholar leaves the scholarship before its full-term, he/she must inform ICAI in advance.
- The scholar shall be permitted to retain the grant released from the joining date till the date of leaving subject to submission of the following:
 - An updated progress report for the said period duly forwarded by the supervisor.
 - An undertaking for submission of Ph.D. Thesis within three year on a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs. 100/-.
- In other case, the scholar can leave the scholarship by refunding the entire amount already released by the ICAI.
- The scholars who have left the scholarship without completion and without approval from ICAI, are required to refund the entire amount of scholarship released with penalty/penal interest.
- If, as a special case, a scholar remains on leave due to maternity/medical/extra ordinary circumstances (not to exceed six months) duly approved by the ICAI, the tenure of scholarship will be extended by that period but the total amount of scholarship will not exceed 36 months.
- On completion of the scholarship, the scholar should submit the following within one year:
 1. Copy of the Ph. D thesis submitted to the University for Award of the degree along with a summary of the report (3000-4000 words) and research papers published.
 2. These documents should be submitted in hard copy (one copy each of Ph. D thesis, summary and research papers) and a soft copy in a pen-drive.
 3. In case a thesis is revised and re-submitted, a copy of the same should be submitted to the ICAI also.
- The doctoral scholars must stay and work full time at the affiliating university/institute. However, they may go on field work with the express approval of their supervisor. For rest of the period, they must continue to work at the concerned university/institute. In case hostel facility is not available than stay in same city/town where university located. Where any institution having tie up with ICAI for research work and offering Ph.D degree; the scholar may be hostelled at COEs of ICAI under co-supervisor ship of ICAI officer in such case scholar has to pay COE Rs 15000 per month to ICAI as subsidized COEs usage charges.
- The scholar shall not accept or hold any appointment (paid or otherwise) or receive any emoluments, salary, stipend etc., from any other source during the tenure of the award. However, a scholar may undertake teaching assignments for not more than four hours a week, assist in tutorials, evaluation of the papers, demonstration work, etc.
- The tenure of scholarship is strictly for maximum three years. Any extension can be granted under exceptional circumstances without any

additional financial implications to ICAI. The ICAI reserves the right to determine exceptional circumstances.

- The contingency grant may be utilized for books, stationery, computer consumable costs and field work expenses related to the research work.
- The ICAI reserves the right to publish the Ph.D. Thesis funded by it, provided the work is recommended for publication by the ICAI Research Committee.
- The scholar shall prominently acknowledge ICAI's support in all publications resulting from the research output of the scholarship and should submit a copy of the same to the ICAI.
- A scholar is not entitled for same type of scholarship more than once.
- While accepting doctoral scholarships from the ICAI, a scholar must not accept any other scholarship from any other university/institute.
- During the tenure of scholarship, the scholar will be governed by the rules of the affiliating/administering institution in all matters including holidays/leave, etc.
- The scholar should not have been subjected to any disciplinary/legal action/proceedings/ financial penalties in his/her research career.
- Books/periodicals/equipment purchased by the scholar out of the contingency grant should be deposited with the ICAI.
- Application submitted against a call will not be considered for the subsequent calls on its own.
- The ICAI reserves the right to reject any application without assigning any reason. It is also not responsible for any postal delay/loss.
- Incomplete applications in any respect shall not be considered for scholarship.
- The final authority related to the interpretation of the guidelines or any issue left is vested with the ICAI.

Research proposal format

Other than the mandatory information accompanying each application, candidates should submit their research proposal in two parts:

- a) abstract of the research proposal (about 300 words)
- b) detailed research proposal (about 3000 words) an indicative outline for the detailed research proposal is given below:
 1. **Title:** The research proposal should have a clear, meaningful and concise title reflecting the scope of the investigation.
 2. **Introduction:** The research proposal should begin by clearly stating the research problem to be investigated in the light of its theoretical and/or empirical context in the relevant area.
 3. **Objectives of the study:** The general aim of the study as well as its specific objectives should be clearly stated in the proposal.



4. **Research questions or hypothesis:** Given the conceptual framework and the specification of dimension, the specific questions to be answered through the proposed research should be sharply formulated. In the case of an explanatory research design, specification of variables and positing of relationship among them through specific hypothesis must form a part of the research proposal.
5. **Review of literature (National & International):** The proposal should summarize the current status of research in the area and major findings, including the researcher's own work in the area. Existing empirical findings may also be discussed. The overview should clearly demonstrate the relevance as well as inadequacy of existing findings or approaches and provide a rationale for the proposed study.
6. **Research Methodology:** The researcher must describe in detail (a) the scope and coverage of her/his study; and (b) approach and methodology with adequate justification. Emphasis should be given to bringing out innovativeness in approaches proposed to be followed. The detailing of the methodology may include research design, data to be collected and empirical and analytical methods to be used. The description of the methodology must be clearly linked to the aims of the research and the research questions/hypothesis of the study.
7. **Relevance and anticipated outcomes:** The proposal should include a statement on the relevance of the study and the anticipated outcomes. It should bring out the significance of the research problem, the contribution which the proposed study is expected to make to theory and to methodology as well as its practical importance to society and policy making. It should also describe the proposed outputs from the study (books, research papers, occasional papers with themes etc.)
8. **Tentative Chapterisation:** Details chapterisation should be clearly spelt out in the research proposal
9. **Bibliography:** Bibliography should be prepared in Chicago manual style.

Scholarship Topics

The following topics are suggested:

1. Human Resource Accounting
2. Simplification of Human Resource Laws
3. Government Sector Accounting
4. Integrated Reporting
5. International Taxation Laws
6. Water Audit

The Research Committee will decide the suitability of the topics from time to time.

