

Specific Guidelines of ‘Vidyaposhini Fellowship’ under Environmental Research and Development Scheme

Directorate of Environment & Climate Change (DoECC) under the Department of Environment is established with an aim to coordinate all the Environment and Climate Change related activities in the State. The activities comprise create awareness for environment, climate change and conservation amidst all stakeholder of the society, research and monitoring in the field of environment and climate change, to take up State level development programmes and implement them in collaboration with appropriate agencies, etc.

The ‘Environmental Research and Development’ scheme under DoECC promotes research on various facets of ecology and environment for the conservation of the environment and natural resources, that helps in devising strategies and solutions for effective environmental management of the State.

The ‘Vidyaposhini fellowship’ is an initiative to support M.Sc/M.Tech students, by providing financial assistance to undertake short term research projects in the field of environment as part of their course work.

Application process (How to Apply)

The applications shall be invited each year and the same will be notified in the DoECC website interested candidates shall submit the application on prescribed format as indicated in the DoECC website.

Any student enrolled in Post Graduate courses in Environmental Science/Environmental Engineering/ Environmental Technology/ Environmental Management, in colleges and university departments in Kerala can apply for the fellowship.

It is mandatory that the applications (in the prescribed format) should be submitted along with the consent letter from the Teacher Investigator and Head of the Institution.

The selection of the project for the fellowship is done through a peer review process, and evaluation by a technical committee duly constituted for the same. The Technical Committee evaluates the applications and grades them accordingly. On the basis of the grades received from the technical committee, the Directorate will make the final announcements. The decision of the DoECC in the selection process shall be final.

Financial Assistance

- The maximum financial assistance released to a selected project will be Rs.25,000/-
- The sanctioned grant will be disbursed to the Head of the Institution, only after the successful conduct of the project, subject to the submission of the signed terms and conditions, final report and financial statements, as per the norms of Govt. of Kerala.

The following should be noted before applying for the Vidyaposhini Fellowship Programme:

1. The scheme provides financial assistance to students enrolled in post-graduate courses in Environmental science/ Environmental Engineering/ Environmental Technology/ Environmental Management in colleges and university departments to carryout short term research projects as part of their course work in the field of environment.

2. Any student enrolled in Environmental science/ Environmental Engineering/ Environmental Technology/ Environmental Management Post-Graduate courses in colleges and university departments in Kerala can apply.
3. Applications in the prescribed format should be submitted along with a consent letter from the Teacher Investigator and Head of the Institution. (Both soft copies & Hardcopies of the application.)
4. The maximum financial assistance released to a selected project will be Rs.25, 000/-.
5. Applications are invited once in a year. Further, proposals from students enrolled in schools, polytechnic colleges and those admitted to undergraduate level courses will not be considered under this scheme.
6. Applications received after deadline and incomplete applications will be summarily rejected.
7. The selection of the project for the financial assistance is done through a peer review process, and evaluation by a technical committee designated for the same. The decision of DoECC in the selection of projects will be final.
8. Duration of the project under Vidyaposhini scheme will be six months from the date of sanction.
9. The Principal/Head of the Institution shall ensure the following criteria in forwarding the applications.
 - Not more than 15 applications shall be forwarded per College
 - Not more than 4 applications per Department
 - Not more than 2 applications per a Teacher Investigator
10. In case of excess number of applications from an institution, DoECC will have the right not to consider any of the applications from the respective institution.
11. Under the scheme, grant will be sanctioned and released to the Head of the Institution, where the students are enrolled and the students have to work under the guidance/supervision of the faculty (Teacher Investigator). The awardees are encouraged to publish their findings in reputed scientific journals and present the results in scientific meetings/ seminars. Due acknowledgment of the Directorate of Environment and Climate Change must be given in all the publications/patents emanating from the project work.
12. Prior approval from DoECC shall be taken in case of change in the teacher Investigator of the project. However, under any circumstances, DoECC shall not entertain change in the student investigators of a sanctioned project.
13. Under the scheme, no equipments for research will be granted.
14. A formal sanction letter will be released from Directorate of Environment & Climate Change to the student investigator of the selected project.
15. The teacher investigator of the project shall forward the Terms and Conditions signed by the Head of the Institution within two weeks of receipt of the sanction letter as per the following:

T&C execution in
Non- Judicial Stamp paper worth Rs. 200/- wherever T&C is applicable.

16. The financial assistance will be disbursed to the Head of the Institution, only after the successful conduct of the project, subject to the submission of signed terms and conditions, final report and financial statements (Both soft copies & Hardcopies). The audited Statement of Expenditure (SE) and Utilization Certificate (UC in KFC form 44) in the standard format may be submitted within two months after the completion of the project to the Director, Directorate of Environment & Climate Change, 4th Floor, K.S.R.T.C Bus Terminal, Thampanoor P.O. Thiruvananthapuram – 695001. The documents received after the stipulated time will not be entertained for the release of financial assistance and such request will be summarily rejected.
17. The SE, UC shall be signed by authorized persons as given below:

No.	Category of Institution	Authorized Person
1	University Departments	Finance officer
2	Government colleges	Head Accountant / Principal
3	Aided Colleges, Un-aided Colleges, Self financing Colleges	Finance officer /Chartered Accountant
All SE & UC should be counter signed by the Head of the Institution.		

18. Subject to availability of funds, proposal for financial assistance will be screened and approved by the duly constituted committee, which will subsequently be sanctioned by the Director, DoECC.
19. The Directorate reserves the right to order verification/audit of accounts by any officer authorized by it and is open to audit by Accountant General.
20. The recipient organization shall comply, with such other conditions as may be suggested in the “guidelines” issued in this regard from time to time.
21. For further details contact:

Directorate of Environment & Climate Change
4th Floor, K.S.R.T.C Bus Terminal, Thampanoor P.O
Thiruvananthapuram - 695001
Tel No. 04712326264
E-mail: environmentdirectorategmail.com
Website: <https://envt.kerala.gov.in/>

DIRECTORATE OF ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE (DoECC)
(Post Graduation Project Scheme – Vidhyaposhini)

Name of the Student Investigator:

Name of the Teacher Investigator:

Address of the Institution:

Title of the project proposal:

File No. / Letter No. :

Proposed Date of start:

Terms and Conditions

1. The scheme provides financial assistance to students enrolled in post-graduate courses in Environmental science/ Environmental Engineering/ Environmental Technology/ Environmental Management in colleges and university departments to carryout short term research projects as part of their course work in the field of environment.
2. The sanctioned grant will be disbursed to the Head of the Institution, only after the successful conduct of the project, subject to the submission of signed terms and conditions, final report and financial statements, as per the norms of DoECC.
3. The duration of the project will be six months from the date of sanction and the maximum financial assistance released to a selected project will be Rs.25, 000/-.
4. The date of start of the project should be intimated by the Institution authorities/ Teacher Investigator to the DoECC. It shall, in no case be later than one month after the receipt of the intimation letter from DoECC.
5. On completion of the project, one hard copy and a soft copy (as pdf) of the final project report on the work done in the prescribed format should be submitted to the DoECC along with the utilization certificate (UC in KFC form 44) and statement of expenditure (SE). The Utilization Certificate and Statement of Expenditure should be countersigned by the Head of the Institution and shall be submitted as per the rules of DoECC.
6. The institute will not entrust the implementation of the work for which the grant is being sanctioned to another institution nor will it divert the grant receipts to other institute as assistance.
7. DoECC reserves the right not to release the sanctioned amount at any stage if it is convinced that the grant has not been properly utilized or appropriate progress is not

being made. In addition, the DoECC may designate Scientist/ Expert Panel to review the work done and the final report submitted to DoECC.

8. If the teacher investigator to whom the project has been sanctioned wishes to leave the Institution where the project is based, the Institute/ teacher investigator will inform the same to the DoECC and in consultation with DoECC, evolve steps to ensure successful completion of the project, before he/ she relieves.
9. Investigators are encouraged to publish their findings in reputed scientific journals and present the results in scientific meetings/ seminars. Further, DoECC should be duly acknowledged in all publications/patents emanating from the project.
10. The DoECC may enforce additional guidelines for the operation of the fellowship from time to time and the Institution/Investigators are required to observe such directions in the conduct of the research work.

We agree to the terms and conditions stated above.

Name & Signature of
Student Investigator

Name & Signature of
Teacher Investigator

Name & Signature of
Head of Institution

(Designation & Office Seal)

APPLICATION FORM FOR VIDHYAPOSHINI - STUDENT FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

(Incomplete applications are liable to be summarily rejected)

1. Name of Applicant(<i>in Block Letters</i>) :	<i>Paste your latest attested photo</i>			
2. Sex :				
3. Age & Date of Birth :				
4. Nativity and Place of Birth :				
5. Communication Address with Pin Code :				
6. Permanent Address with Pin Code :				
7. Phone No. :				
8. Mobile No. :				
9. Email ID :				
10. Category :	General	OBC	SC	ST
11. Educational Qualifications: <i>(Gazetted Officer attested copies of mark lists and certificates should be enclosed)</i>				
Name of qualifying Degree & Subject	Year of Passing	University	Class / Grade	% Marks

12. Additional Qualifications

13. Enclosed a brief note on the area of interest or the proposed project)

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and in the event of a Fellowship being awarded, I understand to engage myself for full-time research under the direction of the supervising teacher during the term of the fellowship.

I am fully assured that in the event of anything above stated is untrue, my fellowship shall be cancelled and I shall be liable to pay compensation to government for the same.

Place:

Date:

Name & Signature of the Candidate

NB: Completed application form should enclosed the following documents

- (i) Copies to prove the Date of Birth, Nativity, Educational Qualification, etc
- (ii) Consent letter from Teacher Investigator & Head of the Department
- (iii) Synopsis of the project

[Original documents to prove the Date of Birth, Nativity, Category, & other relevant documents should be produced for verifications at the time of interview]