

Pt Shriram Sharma Acharya 2023 Fellowship Opportunities: Call for Applications
Application Deadline: Monday, September 25, 2023

Pt Shriram Sharma Acharya Fellowships present a unique opportunity for academics, civic leaders, faith representatives, and policy professionals to collaborate on impactful projects that bridge the gap between academic insights and policy development. These fellowships aim to strengthen the integration of research expertise into policy communities. They are open to academic and research personnel from Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya, facilitating partnerships with policymaking organizations, and also to policy professionals engaging with university departments.

Fellowships offer grants of up to Rs 100000 to promote synergies between research and policy stakeholders, with goals to:

- Foster exchange of evidence between researchers and policymakers for informed decision-making.
- Enhance researchers' and policymakers' comprehension of the role research plays in policymaking and equip them with skills to catalyze this process.
- Expand networks and collaborations for both partners.

These Fellowships extend up to 12 months, commencing no earlier than October 16, 2023. All project activities and fund utilization must conclude by July 31, 2024.

Applicants include academics, researchers, and PhD students awaiting thesis examination upon project initiation. Both novices and experienced professionals in policy engagement are encouraged to apply, particularly from the core schools of the University. For those without research partners or those looking to host a fellow, contact the Pro Vice Chancellor's office at provcoffice@dsvv.ac.in.

All applications necessitate a non-academic policy partner organization. Applicants should adhere to the provided guidelines, consulting their departmental research support team for department-specific criteria or procedures. For inquiries regarding the scheme, application process, or eligibility, contact the office of the Pro Vice Chancellor. To brainstorm proposal ideas, prospective applicants can arrange consultations with the aforementioned office.

Varieties of Fellowships:

Outbound Fellows: Researchers working within or embedded in policy partner organizations, sharing insights and backing evidence-based decision-making. This may involve suggesting innovative policy enhancements, contributing to service delivery, capacity-building, or specialized expertise provision.

Inbound Fellows: Policy professionals hosted by university departments, benefiting from research collaboration and gaining analytical skills. They access research insights, contribute to policy analysis, and promote future collaboration involving the university.

Both types of fellows must spend at least 50% of their time with their partner organizations.

Applicable Fellowship Usage:

All applications must include at least one external non-academic partner from the policymaking community. Proposals should not exceed Rs 100000 in eligible costs. External

partners' contributions (cash or in-kind) should amount to at least 10% of the requested funds.

Eligible activities encompass:

- Placing researchers in organizations influencing public policy.
- Placing policy professionals in university departments.
- Hosting policy or evidence seminars.
- Organizing high-level stakeholder meetings.
- Conducting policy practitioner meetings/workshops.
- Developing relationships with non-academic stakeholders.
- Co-designing tools from research outputs for policy communities.
- User-led and co-produced research shaping policy strategy and practice.

Exclusions:

- Research consultancy.
- Academic conferences without clear potential for policy engagement.

Evaluation Process:

Proposals should demonstrate potential for policy impact resulting from excellent research. Evaluation criteria include relevance to public policy challenges, potential to enhance policymakers' understanding, effectiveness of project design, arrangements for monitoring and learning, and value for money.

Eligibility:

Applications must include a research partner (academic/researcher from Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya) and a policy partner (representative from policymaking organizations). Either partner can serve as the outgoing or incoming fellow.

Application Process:

The process involves:

Completing the online application section.

Combining supporting documents into a single PDF.

Uploading the PDF, including the Case for Support, partner letters of support, CV of the fellow, and cost breakdown.

Supporting Letters:

External partners and the Head of Department or Faculty should provide supporting letters. These letters express support, commitment, and expectations for the project.

Funding:

Eligible costs encompass salaries, travel, project costs, consultancy fees, and equipment. Applicants must provide an FEC costing.

Approval and Reporting:

Applications need departmental recommendation before submitting final proposal. Successful applicants will report project progress and impact.

For support and inquiries, contact provcoffice@dsvv.ac.in.