

PHARM D STUDENTS CAN JOIN ICMR AS SCIENTISTS AS PER NEW RULE AMENDMENTS

Read the full blog for eligibility, positions & process to apply.

ABOUT THE AMENDMENT

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is the apex body for formulating, coordinating, and promoting biomedical research in India. ICMR Conducts, coordinates, and implements medical research for the benefit of Society by translating medical innovations into products/processes and introducing them into the public health system.

The Good News here is that per the **Amendment to ICMR HRSC Rule, 2007, on May 15, 2023, they included a Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) as the eligibility to join ICMR at different levels. As the circular released on May 22, 2023, ICMR** has clearly stated the appointment of Pharm Ds on the positions of Scientist B, C & D with particular experiences in research and additional qualifications. (The copy of the amendment circular is attached in the downloads).

This amendment circular gives life to thousands of new PharmD buds. PharmDs are among the most eligible professionals to work as researchers or research scientists anywhere as they are experts in conducting research. Many PharmDs are working with ICMR and other public bodies as researchers and scientists.

POSITIONS AND HIERARCHY AT ICMR

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is a premier research institution in India, and it has a hierarchical structure with various job positions.

Technical Staff/Assistant < Research Assistant/Associates < Scientist B < Scientist C < Scientist D < Scientist E < Scientist F/G/H < Director General

- 1. Technical Staff/Assistant:** These are entry-level positions that involve providing technical support and assistance in research projects, laboratory work, data collection, and administrative tasks.
- 2. Research Assistant/Research Associate:** Research assistants work closely with scientists and researchers to support research activities. They may be involved in data collection, literature reviews, sample processing, laboratory experiments, and documentation.
- 3. Scientist B:** This mid-level position requires a higher level of qualification, expertise, and experience. Scientists contribute to research projects, lead teams, design studies, collect and analyze data, publish research papers, and provide scientific expertise.
- 4. Scientist C:** Scientists in this position have higher responsibilities and expertise. They are involved in planning and executing research projects, mentoring junior staff, writing grant proposals, analyzing data, and publishing research findings.

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5. **Scientist D:** This position entails extraordinary leadership and responsibility. Scientists at this level oversee research programs, lead teams, develop research strategies, collaborate with national and international organizations, secure funding, and publish high-quality research papers.
6. **Scientist E:** Scientists at this level are senior researchers with extensive experience and expertise in their respective fields. They provide scientific leadership, contribute to policy development, undertake high-level research, establish collaborations, and represent ICMR in national and international forums.
7. **Scientist F/G/H:** These are senior-level positions with significant responsibilities and leadership roles within ICMR. Scientists at these levels contribute to shaping research policies, leading major research programs, providing guidance and mentorship to junior staff, representing ICMR at national and international platforms, and driving strategic initiatives.
8. **Director General:** The Director General is the highest-ranking position in ICMR. The Director General provides overall leadership, sets research priorities, represents ICMR at the national and international levels, and oversees the functioning and strategic direction of the organization.

ENTRY-LEVEL POSITIONS FOR PHARMD'S

A. Research Assistants:

1. **Research Assistant:** This is an entry-level position that involves providing support in research activities, such as data collection, literature reviews, laboratory work, sample processing, and administrative tasks. Research assistants work under the guidance of senior researchers and scientists.
2. **Senior Research Assistant:** This higher-level position entails more responsibility and experience. Senior research assistants may lead specific research projects, supervise junior staff, analyze data, contribute to research design, and assist in writing research reports.

B. Research Associates:

1. **Research Associate:** Research associates are typically higher-level positions requiring a higher qualification, expertise, and experience. They contribute to research projects by designing studies, collecting and analyzing data, conducting experiments, literature reviews, and writing research papers. They may also be involved in grant writing and project management.
2. **Senior Research Associate:** Senior research associates have more experience and expertise in their field. They may lead research projects, supervise and mentor junior research staff, collaborate with other researchers, contribute to policy development, and present research findings at conferences or scientific forums.

POSITIONS, ELIGIBILITY, AND EXPERIENCE WHERE A PHARMD CAN APPLY

1. Technical Staff/Assistant:

- **Qualification:** Bachelor's degree in a relevant field. The field of study may depend on the nature of the technical work involved, such as life sciences,

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biotechnology, microbiology, biochemistry, pharmacy, or other related disciplines.

- Experience: Research Experience; freshers can Apply
- Salary: Seventh Central Pay Commission (CPC) for government employees. INR 35,400 to INR 1,12,400 per month, depending on the position level and the employee's experience.

2. **Research Assistant/Associates:**

- Qualification: Bachelor's degree in a relevant field. The specific field of study may vary based on the nature of the research project but commonly include life sciences, biotechnology, microbiology, biochemistry, pharmacy, or other related disciplines. Some positions may also require a Master's degree or a higher level of education, depending on the project's complexity and requirements.
- Experience: Expected to have knowledge and skills related to research methodologies, data collection, analysis, and scientific literature review. Also require expertise in laboratory techniques, data management, and research ethics.
- Salary: Seventh Central Pay Commission (CPC) for government employees
 - ✓ INR 31,000 to INR 45,000 per month
 - ✓ INR 45,000 to INR 1,00,000 per month for R Asso.

3. **Scientist B:**

- Qualification: Master's degree in a relevant field. The specific field of study may vary based on the research area and requirements. Common disciplines include life sciences, biotechnology, microbiology, biochemistry, pharmacy, epidemiology, public health, and other fields. In some instances, a Ph.D. may be preferred or required.
Medical: MBBS (NMC/MCI recognized degree)
Dental: BDS (DCI-recognized degree)
PharmD: (PCI recognized degree)
& Veterinary and other fields
- Experience: Relevant research experience is often preferred, particularly for higher-level Scientist B positions. Research publications, project work, and experience in a research laboratory or academic institution can be advantageous.
- Salary: Seventh Central Pay Commission (CPC) for government employees
 - ✓ INR 56,100 to INR 1,77,500 per month, depending on the level of the position and the employee's experience

4. **Scientist C:**

- Qualification: Same as Scientist B
For Pharm Ds, it is mandatory to have four years of experience and a Ph.D. Degree from a recognized institution in the relevant area.
- Experience:
 - ✓ Considerable research experience and a strong publication record
 - ✓ Candidates are expected to demonstrate expertise and leadership in their specific research area.

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- ✓ Experience in managing research projects, guiding research teams, and securing research funding can be advantageous.
- Salary: Seventh Central Pay Commission (CPC) for government employees
 - ✓ INR 67,700 to INR 2,08,700 per month

5. Scientist D:

- Qualification: Same as Scientist B
Having Eight years of experience and a Ph.D. is mandatory for Pharm Ds—degree from a recognized institution in the relevant area.
- Experience:
 - ✓ Candidates are expected to contribute significantly to their research field and demonstrate leadership and experience managing research projects, teams, and collaborations. Experience in securing research grants and funding is highly valued.
 - ✓ Salary: Seventh Central Pay Commission (CPC) for government employees
INR 78,800 to INR 2,09,200 per month

VARIOUS PATHS TO JOIN ICMR AS A PHARMD

Students can pursue various pathways depending on their qualifications and career goals –

1. ICMR Research Fellowships: ICMR offers several research fellowships and scholarships for students at different academic levels. These include the Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) for postgraduate students pursuing research in medical and related sciences, the Senior Research Fellowship (SRF) for Ph.D. scholars, and the Short-Term Research Fellowship (STRF) for undergraduate and postgraduate students.

2. Recruitment for Scientific Positions: ICMR periodically announces vacancies for scientific positions, such as scientists, research associates, and research assistants. These positions require specific qualifications, experience, and expertise in the relevant field.

3. ICMR-Recognized Institutions: Students can pursue their education at ICMR-recognized institutions and universities offering programs in medical and related sciences. Completing courses or research projects in collaboration with ICMR or its affiliated institutions can provide valuable exposure and networking opportunities, increasing the chances of future engagement with ICMR.

4. Internships and Training Programs: ICMR offers internship and training programs for students and researchers to gain practical experience in medical and research settings. These programs provide exposure to various research areas, methodologies, and facilities within ICMR.

5. Collaborative Research Projects: Students can participate in collaborative research projects between their educational institutions and ICMR or ICMR-funded projects. These collaborations allow students to gain hands-on research experience, work closely with ICMR researchers, and contribute to ongoing research initiatives.

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It is essential for students to regularly check the official ICMR website (www.icmr.gov.in) for updates, announcements, and specific application guidelines for fellowships, job vacancies, and other programs.

SPECIAL DISCLAIMER:

Please note that these salary ranges are approximate and can vary based on the specific position, grade, research area, project funding, and pay scales determined by the government. It's always advisable to refer to the official ICMR notifications and recruitment advertisements or contact the ICMR authorities for the most accurate and up-to-date information on qualifications, responsibilities, and salary scales for Scientist E positions in ICMR.

ICMR (INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH) INSTITUTES ACROSS INDIA

ICMR-National Institute for Research in Tuberculosis (NIRT), Chennai: It is focused on research related to tuberculosis and other respiratory diseases. Website: nirt.res.in [2]

ICMR-National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE), Chennai: It conducts research in the field of epidemiology, disease surveillance, and public health. Website: nie.gov.in [6]

ICMR-National Institute of Malaria Research (NIMR), Delhi: It focuses on research related to malaria and other vector-borne diseases. [3]

ICMR-National Institute of Medical Statistics (NIMS), Delhi: It is involved in statistical research and data analysis related to health and disease. [3]

ICMR-National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), Hyderabad: It conducts research in the field of nutrition and related health issues. [4]

ICMR-National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad: It focuses on research related to occupational health and safety. [5]

ICMR-National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases (NICED), Kolkata: It conducts research on diseases like cholera and other enteric diseases. Website: niced.org.in [7]

ICMR-National Institute of Immunohaematology (NIIH), Mumbai: It focuses on immunohematology and blood disorders research. Website: niih.org.in [7]

ICMR-National Institute for Research in Reproductive Health (NIRRH), Mumbai: It conducts research on reproductive health and related issues. Website: nirrh.res.in [7]

ICMR-National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research (NICPR), Noida: It focuses on cancer prevention and research in the field of oncology. Website: nicpr.res.in [6]

ICMR (INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH) CENTERS ACROSS INDIA

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ICMR National JALMA Institute for Leprosy & Other Mycobacterial Diseases, Agra:

This institute specializes in research related to leprosy and other mycobacterial diseases. Website: jalma-icmr.org.in [1]

ICMR National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad: It focuses on research related to occupational health and safety. Website: nioh.org [1]

ICMR Vector Control Research Centre (VCRC), Puducherry: It conducts research on vector-borne diseases and control measures. [3]

ICMR-National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune: It specializes in virology research, including the study of viruses and viral diseases. [3]

ICMR-National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune: It focuses on research related to HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections. [3]

ICMR National Institute for Research in Environmental Health (NIREH), Bhopal: It conducts research on environmental health issues. [4]

ICMR Regional Medical Research Centre (RMRC), Gorakhpur: It is involved in medical research and surveillance in the region. [6]

ICMR Regional Medical Research Centre (RMRC), Port Blair: It focuses on medical research and surveillance in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. [6]

These are some examples of ICMR centers across India. The Indian Council of Medical Research has several other centers and institutes that cater to specific areas of research, public health, and medical advancements. For a complete and up-to-date list of ICMR centers, it is advisable to visit the official ICMR website or refer to the provided search results.

(ESPECIALLY THIS BLOG AND RELEVANT DOCUMENTS AND ICMR CIRCULAR CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM DOWNLOADS ON OUR WEBSITE)

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To educate and train Pharm D students and professionals for **FREE** with
- Expertise and updated subject knowledge
- Experiential learnings
- Skillful information

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