



Sher-e-Kashmir
University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Kashmir
Main Campus Shalimar Srinagar

Subject: Selection of candidates for award of the Dr. Manmohan Singh Fellowship for the Academic Session 2026-27 -Invitation of Applications.

NOTICE

In pursuance of University Notification No. 42 (Acad.) of 2026 dated 01.06.2026, whereby the "Guidelines for Selection of Candidates under the Dr. Manmohan Singh Fellowship" were notified, online applications through university admission portal <https://skuastkashmir.in/IUMS/applicant/> (through application form edit window) are invited from eligible candidates who have appeared in the University Entrance Test (UET-PG)2026 for admission to M.Sc. (Agri.) Economics/Economics, and/or M.Sc. (Hort.) Fruit Science for selection/admission against the supernumerary fellowship seats and award of the Dr. Manmohan Singh Fellowship for the Academic Session 2026-27.

The University shall select two (02) candidates, one each for M.Sc. (Agri.) Economics/Economics and M.Sc. (Hort.) Fruit Science, for admission against the supernumerary fellowship seats and award of the Dr. Manmohan Singh Fellowship. The selection shall be made strictly in accordance with the "Guidelines for Selection of Candidates under the Dr. Manmohan Singh Fellowship" notified vide University Notification No. 42 (Acad.) of 2026 dated 01.06.2026.

1. Eligibility:

A candidate shall be eligible to apply for the Fellowship if he/she:

- i. is a domicile of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir;
- ii. has appeared in the University Entrance Test (UET-PG)-2026 for admission to the concerned Master's Degree Programme(s);
- iii. has secured not less than 70% marks or equivalent CGPA at the qualifying Bachelor's Degree examination;
- iv. fulfils all other eligibility conditions prescribed by the University for admission to the concerned programme;
- v. belongs to any of the following categories:
 - a. Economically Weaker Section (EWS);
 - b. Scheduled Caste (SC);
 - c. Scheduled Tribe (ST);
 - d. Other Backward Class (OBC);
 - e. Resident of Backward Area (RBA); or
 - f. Person with Benchmark Disability (PwD) (40% or above);
- vi. does not exceed 28 years of age as on 31st December, 2026.

2. Selection Process:

Eligible candidates shall be evaluated by the Selection Committee constituted under the notified Guidelines on the basis of the following components:

- Academic Merit - 30 Marks
- Financial Assessment - 30 Marks
- Diversity Component - 10 Marks
- Statement of Purpose - 10 Marks
- Interview/Interaction - 20 Marks

Address: Academic Section, Office of the Registrar, SKUAST-K, Shalimar Srinagar, 190025 (J&K)
Email: registrar@skuastkashmir.ac.in, dracad@skuastkashmir.ac.in Website: www.skuastkashmir.ac.in

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The final selection shall be made strictly on the basis of the combined merit secured by the candidates under the above evaluation criteria.

3. Submission of Applications:

Eligible candidates desirous of being considered under the Fellowship shall submit the online applications through the *ibid* portal, by logging in to their respective applicant dashboards from 19.08.2026(11.00AM) to 30.08.2026 (5:00 PM).

4. Documents to be Submitted:

The applicants shall be required to submit/upload the following documents:

- i. Statement of Purpose (Annexure-I);
- ii. Candidate's Declaration and Undertaking (Annexure-II);
- iii. Copies of the UET-PG(2026) application form/ Result/Score Card, Graduation Marks Card/Degree Certificate/Notification, Domicile Certificate, Income Certificate, Category Certificate(s), Disability Certificate (where applicable), Aadhaar Card and such other documents as may be relevant.

5. General Instructions:

- The applications received shall be scrutinized by the University to determine eligibility. Eligible candidates shall be called for Interview/Interaction, the schedule whereof shall be notified separately.
- Mere submission of an application shall not confer any right for award of the Fellowship.
- The University reserves the right to verify the information and documents furnished by the applicants at any stage. Any false declaration or suppression of material information shall render the candidature liable to rejection or withdrawal of the Fellowship.
- For detailed provisions governing eligibility, evaluation, fellowship benefits, continuation, withdrawal and all other matters relating to the Fellowship, candidates are advised to carefully read the "Guidelines for Selection of Candidates under the Dr. Manmohan Singh Fellowship" notified vide University Notification No. 42 (Acad.) of 2026 dated 01.06.2026.

By Order,

Sd/-

(Prof. Azmat Alam Khan)
Registrar

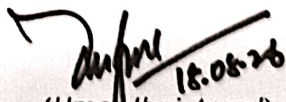
Encls: a.a

No.AU/Acad./2026/M-33/8481-99

Dated: 18.08.2026

Copy to the:

- Director Education, SKUAST-Kashmir, Shalimar.
- Dean, Faculty of Horticulture/Agriculture, Shalimar/Wadura.
- Comptroller, SKUAST-Kashmir, Shalimar.
- Prof. Upinder Singh, Chairperson, Dr.Manmohan Singh Trust (upinders@gmail.com)
- Professor In-charge ARIS, for placing on university website.
- Professor Incharge Media Cell SKUAST-Kashmir for giving wider publicity to the notice through "SKUAST-K Official Social Media Handles".
- Professor & Head, Division of Fruit Science/IBPR, Shalimar.
- Deputy/Assistant Registrar, FoA, Wadura/FoH, Shalimar.
- Secretary to Vice-Chancellor for kind information of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor.
- All concerned.


(Umeed Ibni Assad)
Deputy Registrar (Acad.)

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE (SoP)

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH FELLOWSHIP
(Academic Session: 2026-27)

Instructions:

1. The Statement of Purpose shall be typed in English using A4 size paper.
2. The Statement shall ordinarily not exceed 500 words.
3. The Statement shall be original and written by the candidate.
4. The Statement shall be signed by the candidate on the last page.

The Statement shall broadly cover the following aspects:

1. **Academic Background**
Academic journey, areas of interest, achievements and experiences that have motivated the candidate to pursue postgraduate studies.
2. **Motivation for Pursuing the Programme**
Why this particular programme and how it aligns with the academic interests and long-term goals of the candidate.
3. **Understanding of Contemporary Issues**
Significant issues, challenges or opportunities in the discipline and how the candidate intends to contribute towards addressing them through higher education, research or professional practice.
4. **Career Aspirations**
Short-term and long-term academic, research and professional goals.
5. **Reasons for Seeking the Fellowship**
Financial, academic and personal circumstances. Candidate shall also justify his/her suitability for the Dr. Manmohan Singh Fellowship. How would fellowship assist candidate in pursuing higher education and contributing to society.

Declaration

I certify that this Statement of Purpose has been prepared by me and represents my own thoughts and work. I understand that plagiarism or misrepresentation may result in rejection of my candidature.

Place: _____

Date: _____

(Signature of Candidate)

Name: _____



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CANDIDATE'S DECLARATION AND UNDERTAKING

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH FELLOWSHIP (Academic Session: 2026-27)

I, _____, Son/Daughter of _____,
resident of _____, do hereby solemnly declare
and undertake that:

1. The information furnished by me in the Application Form and all documents enclosed therewith is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
2. I have carefully read the "Guidelines for Selection of Candidates under Dr.Manmohan Singh Fellowship" and the Notification inviting applications, and I agree to abide by all the provisions governing the Fellowship.
3. I understand that mere submission of an application does not confer any right to be selected for the Fellowship.
4. I undertake to produce the original certificates/documents whenever required by the University.
5. I authorize the University to verify any information or certificate furnished by me from the issuing authority.
6. I understand that if any information furnished by me is found to be false, fabricated, forged or if any material fact has been concealed, my candidature shall be cancelled and, if already selected, the Fellowship shall be liable to be withdrawn, apart from any other action permissible under law.
7. I undertake to maintain satisfactory academic progress, good conduct and discipline throughout the tenure of the Fellowship and to comply with all directions issued by the University and the Fellowship Trust from time to time.
8. I further undertake to promptly intimate the University regarding any change in my academic status, contact details or circumstances having a bearing on the Fellowship.
9. I understand that the Fellowship is funded/ supported by the Dr.Manmohan Singh Trust and that it is subject to availability and continuation of support from the Trust. In the event the Trust withdraws, suspends, reduces, or discontinues such support for any reason whatsoever, the University shall not be under any obligation, financial or otherwise, to continue the Fellowship or provide any substitute funding, and I shall have no claim against the University on this account.

I hereby declare that the above undertaking is given voluntarily and shall be binding upon me throughout the tenure of the Fellowship.

Place: _____

Date: _____

(Signature of Applicant)

Name: _____



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Sub: Guidelines for Implementation of the Dr.Manmohan Singh Fellowship at SKUAST-Kashmir.

University Notification No. 42 (Acad.) of 2026

Dated: 01.06.2026

- Whereas, the University received a proposal from the Dr. Manmohan Singh Trust through an email communication dated 05.03.2026 addressed to the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Kashmir, expressing the willingness of the Trust to institute 02 fellowships for meritorious students pursuing postgraduate studies at the University; and,
- Whereas, subsequent deliberations and exchange of proposals/draft guidelines were held between the University and the Trust through electronic correspondence; and,
- Whereas, the draft framework and operational guidelines formulated for implementation of the fellowship programme have received the approval of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and concurrence of the Dr. Manmohan Singh Trust vide email communication dated 27.05.2026; and,
- Whereas, the University considers it expedient to operationalise the fellowship scheme in the larger interest of promoting academic excellence, inclusion, and access to higher education among deserving students belonging to socially and economically disadvantaged sections;

Now, therefore, pending formal ratification/approval by the Academic Council and completion of other statutory processes, the guidelines, forming **Annexure-A** herewith, are notified, to govern the administrative and operational modalities of the **Dr.Manmohan Singh Fellowship at SKUAST-Kashmir.**

These guidelines shall remain subject to such modifications, amendments, or adjustments as may be subsequently approved by the competent statutory authorities of the University/Dr.Manmohan Singh Trust.

Furthermore:

Since the fellowship is being operationalized w.e.from Autumn Semester-2026, the last date of submission of application forms for admission to various postgraduate degree programmes for Autumn Semmster-2026, has already been & in anticipation of notification of *ibid* guidelines, extended vide No.Au/Acad/UET-PG(Autumn)/2026/P-17/4539-89 dated 26.05.2026 upto 14th June, 2026.

By Order,

Sd/-
(Prof. Azmat Alam Khan)
Registrar

Encls: a.a

No.AU/Acad./2026/M-33/4657-66

Dated: 01.06.2026

Copy to the:

- Director Education, SKUAST-Kashmir, Shalimar.
- Dean, Faculty of Horticulture/Agriculture, Shalimar/Wadura.
- Comptroller, SKUAST-Kashmir, Shalimar.
- Prof. Upinder Singh, Chairperson, Dr.Manmohan Singh Trust (upinders@gmail.com)
- Professor In-charge ARIS, for placing on university website.
- Head, Division of Fruit Science/IBPR, Shalimar.
- Deputy/Assistant Registrar, FoA, Wadura/FoH, Shalimar.
- Secretary to Vice-Chancellor for kind information of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor.
- Master file.


(Umar Iqbal Assad)
Deputy Registrar (Acad.)

Address: Academic Section, Office of the Registrar, SKUAST-K, Shalimar Srinagar, 190025 (J&K)

Email: registrar@skuastkashmir.ac.in, dracad@skuastkashmir.ac.in Website: www.skuastkashmir.ac.in





Sher-e-Kashmir
University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Kashmir
Main Campus Shalimar Srinagar

Annexure-A to University Notification No.42 (Acad.) of 2026 dated 01.06.2026

Guidelines for Selection of Candidates under
DR. MANMOHAN SINGH FELLOWSHIP
in
M.Sc (Agri) Economics/Economics
M.Sc (Hort) Fruit Science
at SKUAST-Kashmir

1. Short Title and Objective:

These guidelines shall govern the selection, admission, administration, and disbursement of fellowship under the Dr. Manmohan Singh Fellowship instituted at SKUAST-Kashmir for postgraduate studies in the discipline of Agricultural Economics/Economics, & (Horticulture) Fruit Science.

The fellowship is intended to support academically meritorious students belonging to socially and economically disadvantaged sections for pursuing postgraduate studies at SKUAST-Kashmir and to promote inclusive access to quality higher education in strategically important academic disciplines.

2. Number of Fellowships:

A total of two (02) fellowship seats shall be available annually in the following programmes:

S.No	Programme	No. of Fellowship Seats
1.	M.Sc. (Agri.) Agricultural Economics / M.Sc. Economics	01
2.	M.Sc. (Hort) Fruit Science	01

3. Applicability:

The fellowship shall apply to candidates seeking admission to:

- M.Sc. (Agri.) Economics/Economics; and/or
 - M.Sc. (Hort.) Fruit Science
- as may be notified by the University from time to time.

4. Nature of Fellowship Seats:

The fellowship seats shall be operated over and above the intake capacity notified by the University for the respective academic session.

Candidates seeking consideration under the fellowship shall necessarily apply for admission to the concerned Master's programme(s) through the regular admission process and within the timelines notified by the University for the relevant academic session.

The fellowship seats shall ordinarily be filled prior to counseling/allotment against regular seats.

Selection under the fellowship shall simultaneously determine:

- Admission under the fellowship category; and
- Award of fellowship.

[Signature]
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5. Eligibility Conditions:

A candidate shall be eligible for consideration under the fellowship only if he/she fulfils the following conditions:

5.1 Domicile Requirements:

The candidate must be a domicile of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

5.2 Academic Requirement:

The candidate must have secured not less than 70% marks or equivalent CGPA at the graduation level.

The candidate must also fulfill all other eligibility conditions prescribed by the University for admission to the concerned programme for the relevant academic session.

5.3 Social and Economic Eligibility:

The candidate must belong to any of the following categories:

- Economically Weaker Section (EWS)
- Scheduled Caste (SC)
- Scheduled Tribe (ST)
- Other Backward Class (OBC)
- Resident of Backward Area (RBA)
- Persons with Disabilities (PwD) --- 40% benchmark disability.

The candidate shall furnish valid certificate(s) issued by the competent authority in support of the claimed category/status.

5.4 Age:

The upper age limit for consideration under the fellowship shall be 28 years as on 31st December of the year in which applications are invited.

5.5 Other Conditions:

The candidate must fulfill all other eligibility requirements prescribed by the University for admission to the programme.

6. Evaluation Criteria:

Eligible candidates shortlisted for Interview/Interaction shall be evaluated on the following parameters:

S.No	Component	Weightage
1.	Academic Merit	30 Points
2.	Financial Assessment	30 Points
3.	Diversity Component	10 Points
4.	Statement of Purpose (SoP)	10 Points
5.	Interview/Interaction	20 Points
	Total	100 Points

6.1 Academic Merit:

The Academic Merit component shall carry 30 points.

For programmes where admission is conducted through the University Entrance Test (UET), the merit secured by the candidate in the UET shall be considered for award of Academic Merit points on pro-rata basis out of the prescribed 30 points.

Provided that, where the University does not conduct the UET for the concerned programme in a particular academic session, the Academic

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Merit score shall be determined on pro-rata basis on the percentage marks/equivalent CGPA secured by the candidate at the graduation level. In case the University conducts the UET for one programme and not for the other, the aforesaid criteria shall apply separately to the respective programme(s).

Wherever required, the methodology for conversion and normalization of grades/CGPA shall be determined by the University and the decision of the University in this regard shall be final.

6.2 Financial Assessment:

The Financial Assessment component shall carry 30 points and shall be determined on the basis of annual family income reflected in the valid income certificate issued by the competent authority, ordinarily the concerned Tehsildar.

Marks under the Financial Assessment component shall be awarded as per the following matrix:

S.No	Annual Family Income (Rs in Lakhs)	Points
1.	4.00 Lakhs or below	30
2.	Above 4.00 Lakhs and upto 6.00 Lakhs	28
3.	Above 6.00 Lakhs and upto 8.00 Lakhs	26
4.	Above 8.00 Lakhs and upto 10.00 Lakhs	23
5.	Above 10.00 Lakhs and upto 12.00 Lakhs	20
6.	Above 12.00 Lakhs and upto 14.00 Lakhs	17
7.	Above 14.00 Lakhs and upto 16.00 Lakhs	14
8.	Above 16.00 Lakhs and upto 18.00 Lakhs	11
9.	Above 18.00 Lakhs and upto 20.00 Lakhs	08
10.	Above 20.00 Lakhs and upto 22.00 Lakhs	05
11.	Above 22.00 Lakhs	00

The income certificate submitted by the candidate shall pertain to the financial year immediately preceding the year of admission, unless otherwise notified by the University.

The decision of the University regarding interpretation and acceptance of income documents shall be final and binding.

6.3 Diversity Component:

The Diversity component shall carry a maximum of 10 points.

Candidates belonging to any of the following categories shall be awarded 05 points each:

- SC/ST/OBC/RBA ---- (*cumulative 05 points*)
- Person with Disabilities (PwD)
- Female
- Transgender

Provided that the total marks under the Diversity component shall not exceed 10 points in any case.

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6.4 Statement of Purpose (SoP):

The Statement of Purpose component shall carry 10 points.

Each candidate shall submit a Statement of Purpose outlining:

- academic background and areas of interest;
- motivation for pursuing the concerned postgraduate programme;
- understanding of contemporary issues relevant to the discipline;
- future academic/professional aspirations; and
- reasons for seeking support under the fellowship.

The Statement of Purpose shall be evaluated by the Selection Committee on the basis of clarity of thought, academic orientation, originality, motivation, coherence, and relevance to the objectives of the fellowship.

6.5 Interview/Interaction:

The interview shall be conducted before the designated Selection Committee and shall broadly assess:

- academic orientation;
- aptitude for the concerned discipline;
- motivation for postgraduate studies;
- analytical aptitude and communication skills; and
- overall suitability for award of fellowship.

The Interview/Interaction component shall carry 20 points.

7 Selection Committee:

Selection of candidates under the fellowship shall be carried out by a Committee comprising the following:

S.No	Designation	Affiliation
1.	Director Education	Chairman
2.	Registrar	Member
3.	Dean of the concerned Faculty	Member
4.	Head of the concerned Division	Member
5.	Deputy Registrar (Academics)	Secretary

The Selection Committee shall regulate its proceedings in conformity with these guidelines and the applicable statutes/regulations of the University.

8 Preparation of Merit List:

The final selection shall be made strictly on the basis of combined merit secured by the candidates under the prescribed evaluation criteria.

In case of tie in merit, preference shall ordinarily be accorded to the candidate securing higher academic score at graduation level.

The recommendations of the Selection Committee shall be placed before the competent authority for approval.

9 Financial Estimate:

Based on the prevailing fee structure and associated academic and residential costs at SKUAST-Kashmir, the estimated expenditure is as follows:

Total estimated expenditure per student for the full programme duration:
Rs.3,02,200/- (approx.)

Total estimated expenditure for two fellows: Rs.6,04,400/- (approx.)

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The above estimate includes tuition fees, hostel and mess charges, and other essential academic expenses.

A detailed component-wise financial break-up shall form Annexure¹ to these guidelines.

The fellowship shall, however, be restricted to Rs.3.00 lakh each.

10 Fellowship Support:

The fellowship shall cover admissible academic and residential expenses including:

- tuition and University fees;
- hostel accommodation and mess charges;
- books and study material;
- research/thesis-related expenditure; and
- contingency support,

This shall be subject to University norms and availability of funds under the fellowship.

11 Nodal Officer and Disbursement Mechanism:

The Director Education, SKUAST-Kashmir shall function as the Nodal Officer for coordination and administration of the fellowship on behalf of the University.

The University shall communicate the recommendations of the Selection Committee and the final list of selected fellows to the Dr. Manmohan Singh Trust, along with all relevant documents, acceptance/consent of selected candidates, and such other records as may be required by the Trust.

The fellowship amount shall ordinarily be disbursed by the Trust directly into the bank account of the Fellow through online mode/electronic transfer in installments, as mutually agreed between the University and the Trust.

The first installment shall ordinarily be released after:

- completion of admission formalities;
- registration in the programme;
- submission of acceptance by the selected fellow; and
- Confirmation/recommendation by the University.

Subsequent installments shall ordinarily be released at the commencement of the succeeding semester(s), subject to:

- successful completion of the preceding semester;
- continuation in the programme;
- satisfactory academic performance and conduct; and
- recommendation of continuation by the University.

The concerned Fellow shall furnish all documents, bank details, utilization-related information, acknowledgements, and progress reports as may be required by the University and/or the Trust from time to time.

In the event of withdrawal, discontinuation, ineligibility, misconduct, suppression of material information or failure to maintain satisfactory academic progress, the fellowship may be withheld, discontinued, or withdrawn upon recommendation of the University and decision of the Trust.

Where a selected candidate declines the fellowship or fails to complete admission formalities within the stipulated timeframe, the fellowship may be offered to the

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next eligible candidate in order of merit, subject to approval of the competent authority.

The University shall maintain all relevant records pertaining to selection, continuation, monitoring, and correspondence relating to the fellowship in accordance with applicable rules and audit requirements.

12 Monitoring and Reporting:

The fellows shall submit semester-wise academic progress reports through the concerned Head of Division/Faculty to the Nodal officer.

The University shall furnish an annual report to the Trust indicating:

- academic progress of fellows;
 - continuation/status of fellowship; and
 - utilization of funds.
- Utilization Certificates and financial statements relating to the fellowship shall be maintained and submitted in accordance with standard financial and audit procedures of the University.

SKUAST - Kashmir will communicate the decision of the Fellowship Committee to the Trust in the format shown in **Annexure-2** & also enclose a letter of acceptance from each Fellow in the format shown in **Annexure- 3**.

13 Withdrawal of Fellowship:

The fellowship may be withdrawn at any stage if:

- the candidate is found to have furnished false information or suppressed material facts;
- the candidate ceases to satisfy the eligibility conditions;
- academic performance or conduct is found unsatisfactory;
- the candidate discontinues studies; or
- the candidate violates University statutes, rules, regulations, or disciplinary norms.

The decision of the University in this regard shall be final and binding.

14 Residual Powers:

Any matter not specifically covered under these guidelines shall be decided by the University, and the decision of the competent authority shall be final and binding.

---ENDS---

[Signature]
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