

## **Guidelines for research grants**

### **1. Research into multisensory language instruction**

Multisensory language instruction is known to benefit specially-abled children as well as others, enhancing their reading and spelling skills. Research overseas has shown that it also benefits learners of English as a second language. The purpose of this research is to establish evidence-based grounds for such an approach in India, to be incorporated into teaching children from Class 1-5. The intent of this research is to assess children from Class 1-5 for their phonological awareness, reading and spelling skills. This is visualised as a two-year field research project, at the end of which the data gathered will be analysed and evaluated to suggest appropriate action. The study will also explore the possibility of extending such an approach to other languages.

The research scholar we are looking for is one who has sound knowledge and understanding of the conceptual and theoretical underpinnings of the multisensory language instruction approach, and has demonstrated expertise in relevant field studies. The study calls for initiative and the ability to respond innovatively and re-evaluate whenever necessary. It also calls for single-minded pursuit of the goal of understanding how such a study can help identify children at risk for dyslexia.

### **2. Research into the effectiveness of DALI screening**

The theme of the research project is to assess the effectiveness of the DALI screening tool for teachers to identify students from Class 1-5 who are at risk for dyslexia. The research scholar will need to analyse the data collected from the various schools that have used the screening tool. The research scholar we are looking for should be good at both qualitative and quantitative research techniques, with deep knowledge of relevant issues in education.

### **The researchers**

We are looking for both junior and senior research fellows.

### **Junior research fellow: Minimum qualification**

- MA in clinical psychology with at least 3 years' experience in the field of learning disability.
- Candidates with MEd in special education in learning disability may also apply.

### **Senior research fellow: Minimum qualification**

- MA in clinical psychology with at least 5 years' experience in the field of learning disability.
- Candidates with MEd in special education in learning disability with 2 years' experience may also apply.
- Preference to be given to those with an MPhil in learning disability.

**The chosen researcher will work with Maharashtra Dyslexia Association across all schools / organisations that it will be working with during the 2 years of the fellowship.**

### **The selection process**

Research fellows will be selected based on their written proposals and a personal interview by a panel, whose decision is final. Shortlisted candidates will be informed of the date of the interview. Candidates may avail of the option of being interviewed over Skype or in person at the Trusts' office. Candidates may note that inquiries into the status of the proposal will not be entertained. Additionally, once the decision is communicated, no further queries will be addressed.

### **Terms and conditions**

- Selected candidates will be addressed as Tata Trusts Research Fellows.
- The amount of fellowship will be credited uniformly every month to their bank accounts through NEFT. Other funds will be credited as and when necessary.
- Quarterly milestones will be set for the purpose of review and evaluation by a governing council. Adhering to milestones is mandatory for the continuation of

the grant. Such intermediate progress reports may be submitted in the prescribed format, which will be provided once the research grant is awarded.

- The fellow should submit a final report, in the prescribed format, in the last month of the duration of the project. Fellows will receive a certificate from Tata Trusts on successful completion of their research.
- In case the research project involves lab work, Tata Trusts is not liable for any damage to the person of the research fellow.
- Research fellows will undertake to refrain from publishing any content relating to the research until it is completed to the satisfaction of Tata Trusts. They may do so after the completion of the research with an appropriate credit to Tata Trusts.
- Tata Trusts adheres strictly to a 'no plagiarism' policy. Should it come to light that the research fellow has plagiarised, the research grant will be terminated with immediate effect and Tata Trusts will reserve the right to seek the return of all the monies paid to the research fellow.

### **How to apply**

Application forms will be available from February 15, 2019, till March 15, 2019.

Please [click here](#) to apply.