

Advertisement for Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Department of Psychology and Cognitive Sciences, Ashoka University, Sonipat

Ashoka University is inviting Postdoctoral researchers in the Department of Psychology and Cognitive Sciences for a year (2026-27). These candidates will be funded by Axis Bank and will be called Axis Bank-Ashoka Postdoctoral Fellows.

Submission deadline : 30th September 2026, 5:00 PM (IST).

About the Department

The Department of Psychology and Cognitive Sciences is a vibrant interdisciplinary department dedicated to research and teaching across psychology, cognitive science and neuroscience. Its faculty spans social and developmental, biological, cognitive, and clinical psychology, and the department takes an empirical, data-driven approach to the study of the mind, brain and behaviour. It offers a stimulating environment that encourages innovation, methodological rigour, and engagement with contemporary scientific questions.

Position Details

Location: Sonipat, Haryana, India

Duration: One year initially, with the possibility of extension based on performance and funding availability.

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants should:

- Hold a PhD in Psychology, Cognitive Science, Neuroscience or a related discipline (including biology, linguistics, computer science, education or computational fields) from a recognised institution.
- Have completed their doctoral degree within the last three years or submitted the thesis at the time of application.
- Demonstrate a strong research profile- at least two publications in internationally recognised, peer-reviewed journals.

Application Process:

- ❖ Candidates who are interested in applying should note the following: A faculty mentor at Ashoka should be contacted before starting the application process. A proposal drafted by the applicant and submitted with the mentor's approval is required. Candidates should reach out to the faculty members below whose research interests overlap with their own (see the department webpage for their areas of interest) to identify a potential mentor.

- **Nandini Chatterjee Singh** — Cognitive neuroscience of reading, language and literacy; dyslexia, and social-emotional learning. Nandini Chatterjee Singh
- **Bittu Kaveri Rajaraman** — Neuroethology of behaviour: how nervous systems generate communication, decision-making and action. bittu@ashoka.edu.in
- **Sneha Shashidhara** — Cognitive neuroscience of attention and cognitive control, and the brain's multiple-demand network. sneha.shashidhara@ashoka.edu.in
- **Simantini Ghosh**— Trauma, Interpersonal and relational violence, and social identities. simi@ashoka.edu.in

- ❖ The following will be required for the complete application process –

- A cover letter providing the name of the mentor and indicating the overlap of interests with the mentor's research.
- CV of the applicant, providing academic trajectory, published papers and the names of three referees.
- Copy of PhD and master's degree certificates and any other relevant documentation.
- A research proposal, drafted by the applicant and submitted with the mentor's approval, containing a brief description of the proposed research project (Maximum of 1000 words covering background, key objectives and significance).
- Two letters of recommendation from among the referees listed.
- Send an email to ashoka_pdfapplication@ashoka.edu.in with all the documents to submit your application
- There is no age limit for this fellowship. Applications are welcome from all eligible candidates regardless of age.
- Ashoka University is committed to building a diverse and inclusive research community. We especially welcome applications from persons of marginalised classes, castes, genders, races, abilities, religions, regions, sexual orientations, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.

- ❖ Once a candidate has been selected, a joining date can be decided by mutual consent. This should be within a month of the offer being made, or sooner. The contract can be renewed, based on a satisfactory evaluation, for an additional year.

Fellowship and Benefits

- A candidate with less than two years of experience will receive INR 80,000 per month plus 10% HRA, along with medical insurance coverage of INR 1.5 lakh.
- A candidate with more than two years of experience will receive INR 1,00,000 per month + 10% HRA, along with medical insurance of INR 1.5 lakh.

The Axis Bank–Ashoka Postdoctoral Fellowship is open only to Indian nationals.