

**DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY,
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

BIOTECHNOLOGY ELIGIBILITY TEST (BET) 2026

Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, through nodal agency, Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB), Faridabad is conducting Biotechnology Eligibility Test (BET) 2026. Applications are invited from bonafide Indian citizens, residing in India for the award of 'DBT-Junior Research Fellowship' (DBT-JRF) to pursue research in frontier areas of Biotechnology across the country. Based on the performance in BET 2026, candidates will be shortlisted under Category-I and Category-II of DBT-JRF Programme. Government of India norms for reservation will be followed for shortlisting of candidates.

Candidates shortlisted under Category-I will be eligible to avail fellowship at any recognized University/ Institution across India, where the candidate enrolls for Ph.D. Programme. Candidates selected under Category-II will be eligible to be appointed in any DBT sponsored project with fellowship equivalent to NET/ GATE qualification as per current DST guidelines and/ or enrol in PhD programme, subject to selection through institutional selection process. There will be no binding on Principal Investigators of DBT sponsored projects to select JRF for their project from Category-II list. Selection in Category-II will not entitle candidates to avail any fellowship from DBT-JRF programme.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Academic Qualification:

Candidates holding a 4-year/8 semester UG degree in Biotechnology/Life Sciences or allied disciplines such as Biomedical, Bioinformatics, Biochemistry, Biophysics, Botany, Chemistry, Computational Biology, Genetics, Microbiology, Zoology or any other allied areas of Biology/Life-Sciences.

For a 4 year/8 semester bachelor's degree (with research): minimum 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade as per NEP 2020. Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree Regulations, 2022, UGC to be followed.

For B.Tech and B.E degrees: with minimum 60% of marks for General, EWS & OBC category and 55% of marks for SC/ ST/ differently Abled candidates in aggregate (or equivalent grade)

Candidates holding a Master's degree or equivalent (M.Sc. /M.Tech. /M.VSc./ M.Pharm. /Integrated M.Sc./M.Tech./MBBS) in Biotechnology/Life Sciences or allied disciplines such as Biomedical, Bioinformatics, Biochemistry, Biophysics, Botany, Chemistry, Computational Biology, Genetics, Microbiology, Zoology or any other allied areas of Biology/Life-Sciences with minimum 60% of marks for General, EWS & OBC category and 55% of marks for SC/ ST/Differently Abled candidates in aggregate (or equivalent grade).

Age Limit: Upto 28 years of age as on the last date of application for General & EWS category. Age relaxation of up to 5 years (33 years) for SC/ ST/ Differently Abled/ women candidates and upto 3 years (31 years) for OBC (Non-Creamy Layer) candidates.

DETAILS OF THE AWARD

Category-I entitles a shortlisted candidate for activation of fellowship subject to joining Ph.D. Programme and subsequent registration of Ph.D. from recognized University/ Institution across India within two (2) years from the date of issuance of award letter. Registration for Ph.D. is candidate's responsibility and DBT/ RCB has no role/ responsibility in this matter. Verification of documents will be carried out for shortlisted candidates only. Award letter will not be issued to candidates found ineligible or who submit incorrect documents or whose documents are not received within one (1) year from the date of declaration of BET 2026 result.

Shortlisted candidates who activate their fellowship upon successful enrolment in Ph.D. program at University/ Institutions across India shall be designated as 'Junior Research Fellow' (JRF) with fellowship of Rs. 37,000/- per month for two (02) years from date of joining/ activation of fellowship. On completion of 02 years and successfully defending three-member assessment committee a fellow shall be designated as 'Senior Research Fellow' (SRF) entitled for enhanced fellowship of Rs. 42,000/- per month for remaining duration of three (03) years. Additionally, a DBT JRF/ SRF is entitled to avail HRA (if applicable) and Rs. 30,000/- contingency per annum on pro-rata basis.

MODE OF SELECTION

Candidates will be shortlisted on merit by computer-based 'Biotechnology Eligibility Test (BET).

SYLLABUS OF EXAMINATION

The syllabus for BET is given at <https://rcb.res.in/upload/DBT-JRF%20BET-%202021%20Syllabus.pdf>

PATTERN OF EXAMINATION

The medium of BET 2026 will be in English only. The pattern of question paper will comprise Multiple Choice Questions as given below-

Section A will comprise of 50 compulsory multiple-choice questions of 10+2 level in subjects: General Science, Mathematics, Chemistry, General Aptitude, Analytical, Quantitative Ability and General Biotechnology and each question carries Three (03) marks. There will be negative marking and for each incorrect response, One (01) mark will be deducted from the total marks. Un-answered/ un-attempted questions will be given Zero (0) mark.

Section B will comprise of 150 multiple-choice questions of specific areas in Biotechnology. A candidate has to attempt 50 questions and each question carries Three (03) marks. There will be negative marking and for each incorrect response, One (01) mark will be deducted from the total marks. Un-answered/ un-attempted question will be given Zero (0) mark.

CHOICE OF EXAMINATION CITIES

Candidates may opt for any four different cities of their choice from the options provided in the application form. Efforts will be made to allot one of the four opted cities; however, in certain cases, candidates may be allotted a different city due to administrative reasons. No TA/ DA will be payable to candidates for appearing in the examination.

MODE OF APPLICATION

Information Bulletin for filling the application form, payment of application fee and uploading of required documents/ certificates is available at <https://exams.nta.nic.in/gat-bet/> . Prescribed formats of category certificates and undertaking to be submitted by appearing/ result awaited candidates is available at <https://exams.nta.nic.in/gat-bet/>

A non-refundable and non-transferable application fee of Rs. 1300/- is payable by General/ OBC/ EWS candidates and Rs 650/- by SC/ ST/ PWD candidates.

IMPORTANT DATES

Events	Dates
Start Date of submission of online Application	19th March 2026
Closing Date of submission of online application	9th April 2026 (up to 5.00 PM)
Closing Date for submission of online application fee	9th April 2026 (up to 11.50 PM)
Correction in Particulars of Application Form (Online Only)	11 April to 13 April 2026
Biotechnology Eligibility Test (BET) 2026	17th May 2026 (Sunday) 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Helpdesk for BET 2026 Email: dbt@nta.ac.in | Phone No.: 011-407590