



INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED VIROLOGY

(Autonomous institution under Science & Technology Department, Govt. of Kerala)
Bio 360 Life Sciences Park, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala – 695317

No. IAV/600/Acds/2023/PhD

12.05.2026

ADMISSION NOTICE

Ph.D. PROGRAMME- AUGUST 2026

Institute of Advanced Virology (IAV) Thiruvananthapuram is an autonomous institution under Science & Technology Department Government of Kerala focusing on research, diagnosis and management of emerging and re-emerging viral diseases. The mission of the Institute is to develop state-of-the-art infrastructure, skilled scientific & technical manpower, services and products in virology to serve local, national and global needs. Apart from the high-end research in the area of basic as well as translational virology, the Institute also focuses on strengthening viral epidemic preparedness, rapid response and risk communication to the public in collaboration with the public health department. The infrastructure and human resources required to carry out high-end research needed to study virus and viral infections in an interdisciplinary approach have already been established and is fully functional.

Doctoral Programme at IAV

The PhD program offered by IAV aims to provide fundamental as well as advanced research activities on various aspects of virology, including virus-host interactions, viral immunology, virus vaccines, antivirals, epidemiology and viral outbreak studies. The Institute is affiliated with Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB), Faridabad and Cochin University of Science & Technology (CUSAT). The PhD programme at IAV will be only on a fulltime basis. The duration of the program will be for a maximum period of five years.

Eligibility Criteria

Educational Qualification	MSc or equivalent Degree in Life Sciences from a recognized university. OR MVSc/MBBS or equivalent Degree
Qualifying Marks	60% aggregate score or equivalent grade in the qualifying degree examination (5% relaxation for candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC-NCL/differently abled categories). Grace marks, if any, will not be considered for determining the minimum qualifying marks.
Fellowship*	Should be qualified in any of the following examinations and hold a valid fellowship (valid for a period of five years) at the time of interview: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joint CSIR-UGC test for Junior Research Fellowship (CSIR/UGC JRF)• Innovation in Science and Pursuit for Inspired Research (DST-INSPIRE)• DBT Junior Research Fellowship (DBT-JRF)• ICMR Junior Research Fellowship (ICMR-JRF)• Any other competitive fellowship offered by Government Agencies.

*Note:

(i) The students admitted for PhD programme at IAV have to avail the fellowship for which they are qualified as per the rules of the funding agency.

(ii) Those candidates who have provisional approval for fellowships will be allowed to register with the affiliated university only after receipt of confirmed sanction order from the funding agency

(iii) IAV will not be providing any fellowship to the students under any circumstances.

PhD programme vacancies for the August 2025–26 session are available in the following departments:

SI No	Department
1	General Virology
2	Viral Vaccines
3	Viral Diagnostics
4	Virus Applications

5	Virus Epidemiology, Vector Dynamics & Public Health
6	Virus Genomics, Bioinformatics & Statistics
7	Clinical Virology

Institutional Fees *

Component	Amount
Academic Administration Fees	Rs. 5000/- per semester
Caution Deposit (refundable)	Rs. 5000/- (once at the time of admission)

University Fee

The university fees have to be paid as per the guidelines of the affiliating institutions (RCB/CUSAT). This will be in addition to the institutional fees the candidate has to pay.

Procedure for application:

- i. Application has to be submitted through online mode through the following link: <https://forms.gle/VU3vFwCFrGCgqvtWA>.
- ii. Application Fee – Rs. 500/- (Rupees Five hundred only). The fee has to be remitted through SBI-SB Collect option. (<https://www.onlinesbi.sbi/sbicollect/collecthome.htm>).
- iii. The DU number generated after completion of the payment has to be entered in the relevant column in the application. Applications without fees will not be considered.
- iv. Applicants can opt for up to three departments in the order of preference based on their research interest.
- v. The applicants in their final semester/awaiting results can also apply. However, they have to produce the degree certificate at the time of interview and have to submit an undertaking in this regard while applying.
- vi. Applicants awaiting results for the grant of fellowship can also apply. However, they have to submit the proof of award of fellowship at the time of interview and have to submit an undertaking in this regard while applying.
- vii. The applicant has to submit one-page statement of purpose about the area of research planned to be carried out at the Institute, along with the application.
- viii. Applications will be shortlisted based on the criteria fixed as per this notification.
- ix. The shortlisted candidates will be called for an in-person interview.
- x. Final admission to the doctoral programme will be based on the performance in the interview and vacancy in the department opted for.
- xi. The selected candidates have the choice to register for PhD either at RCB or CUSAT as per the guidelines of the respective universities.

- xii. The registration once done with the affiliating institution will not be allowed to change.
- xiii. The last date for submission of application is up to 5:00 PM on 8th June 2026.
- xiv. The PhD programme will commence from August 2026.
- xv. Detailed guidelines for the PhD programme are available in the website www.iav.kerala.gov.in.
- xvi. For any further enquiries, write to academic@iav.res.in

Procedure to make payment through SBI Collect:

Login in to:	https://www.onlinesbi.sbi/sbicollect/icollecthome.htm
Select	Educational Institutions
Select	Institute of Advanced Virology
Select	PhD application fee
Make payment for	Rs. 500/-

Sd/-
Director