



## REGIONAL CENTRE FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY

### **Admissions to the i3c BRIC-RCB PhD Programme in Biosciences 2024-25**

The Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council (BRIC) is a newly formed society tasked with implementing and giving effect to the cabinet approval accorded to the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) for the creation of one autonomous body subsuming 14 of its autonomous institutes. The objectives of BRIC are diverse and aimed at promoting cutting-edge research in biotechnology aligned with national priorities, fostering innovation and translation across institutional boundaries, and developing indigenous technologies and capabilities in line with the principles of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

BRIC seeks to nurture the next generation of scientific leaders by enabling the pursuit of knowledge and innovation in globally competitive and nationally relevant ecosystems. To support research endeavours, BRIC will develop and maintain world-class facilities with advanced platform technologies, capabilities, and instrumentation at its research institutes, providing access and training to researchers across the country. BRIC aims to work in partnership with the Regional Centre of Biotechnology (RCB) to offer globally competitive interdisciplinary education and research programs in biosciences.

The Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB) is an Institution of National Importance created by an Act of Parliament, established by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, under the auspices of UNESCO. RCB has emerged as a pioneering institute for research in Biotechnology and is defining new horizons in providing world-class education, training and research at the interface of multiple disciplines. RCB is committed to exploring new frontiers, furthering science and connecting contemporary and emergent areas of Biotechnology through cutting-edge research.

### **The i3c BRIC-RCB PhD Programme in Biosciences**

A need was felt to establish a nationally cohesive, interdisciplinary Ph.D. programme in biosciences to expand the scale of generating highly skilled, globally competitive human resource. It was envisioned that the trained human resource produced through this programme would be better equipped to provide bioscience-based pioneering solutions to contemporary problems relevant nationally and globally. The main objective of the proposed programme would be to foster greater academic and research interaction among the institutions of the DBT BRIC (iBRICs), RCB and ICGEB, and to increase the professional networking opportunities for the Ph.D. scholars.

As a part of this programme, all scholars will undergo one semester of coursework physically at RCB, Faridabad immediately after joining. They will subsequently also undergo a 3-month field immersion programme following the coursework, before reporting back to their

respective iBRIC+ institutions for the remainder of their PhD. More details of the program can be found at <https://rcb.res.in/i3c/index.php>.

## **Eligibility Criteria**

### *Track I*

Indian students with an MSc/ MTech in any of Life Sciences, Chemistry, Physics, MPharm, MVSc, MBBS or an equivalent degree are eligible to apply. An aggregate score of 55% or an equivalent grade in the preceding qualifying degree examination is an essential qualification (with a 5% relaxation for SC/ST/OBC- NCL/differently-abled (PwBD) allowed as per extant statutory norms). Four-year undergraduates from all of the above disciplines are also eligible as per UGC guidelines. All applicants must have a five-year valid national level fellowship such as the DBT-JRF, CSIR-JRF, UGC-JRF, ICMR-JRF, or similar.

### *Track II*

Undergraduation in any branch of engineering from non-biological sciences (BTech/ BE) or medicine (MBBS) with 55 % aggregate marks in the preceding qualifying degree examination is an essential qualification (with a 5% relaxation for SC/ST/OBC-NCL/differently-abled (PwBD) allowed as per extant statutory norms). Age limit: 30 years on the application deadline.

**No of seats: Track I – 70, Track II – upto 10.**

**Reservation of seats:** As per Gol guidelines.

## **Selection Process**

Only online applications will be accepted at <https://i3cbricphd.rcb.ac.in/>, which includes payment of an application fee of Rs. 500/-, if applicable. SC/ST/PwBD/EWS candidates are exempted from payment of the application fee. The selection process is likely to be as per the following schedule:

Intimation to shortlisted candidates for 1 <sup>st</sup> interview (online)	June 7, 2024
First interview (online)	June 12-13, 2024
Announcement of results for candidates selected for 2 <sup>nd</sup> interview	June 15, 2024
Second interview (at RCB, in person)	July 1-2, 2024
Declaration of final results	July 3, 2024
Interaction of selected and waitlisted candidates with iBRIC+ institutions (in person at RCB)	July 3-5, 2024
Deadline for selected candidates to accept offer by email and pay fees online	July 7, 2024
Offers sent to waitlisted candidates	July 8, 2024
Deadline for waitlisted candidates to accept offer by email and pay fees online	July 11, 2024
Registration, enrolment and fellowship activation of all scholars who have accepted the offer (at the respective iBRICs)	July 12-22, 2024
All scholars report to RCB for orientation and commencement of the coursework	August 1, 2024

Providing false/incorrect information in the application form or non-possession of essential qualifications detected at any stage of the selection process will lead to the disqualification of the candidate. The decision of the Competent Authority at RCB shall be final and binding in this regard.

The fee structure for the i3C BRIC-RCB Ph.D. programme in biosciences will follow extant RCB norms.

**The last date for submitting online applications is June 2, 2024.**

For any queries, please write to [i3cadmissions@rcb.res.in](mailto:i3cadmissions@rcb.res.in).