Important notice and FAQ for candidates (SLS PhD admission 2019-2020)

1. At the time of filling up the application form, a candidate may choose ANY TWO areas of research (out of five listed below) in the order of their preference.
2. Based on the performance in the computerized test, eligible candidates would be short-listed and invited for an interview.
3. The interview will be conducted for admission to the chosen area/s of research only.
4. The final selection would be in one of the research groups opted by the candidate, based on the prevailing admission policy of the University as described in the prospectus (https://jnu.ac.in/admission/e-prospectus-2019-20.pdf).

Frequently asked questions

1. How do I apply for Ph.D. programme in the School of Life Sciences?

A candidate has to submit an application form in the online mode for admission to the entire university. A candidate is permitted to choose a maximum of THREE streams/ programmes offered by the entire university at various Schools/Centres giving the order of preference. Out of the Three choices permitted at the entire university level, a candidate is allowed to select any TWO of the five research groups offered in the SLS for admission to its Ph.D. programme.

2. What do the research groups in SLS mean?

Research in SLS is inter-disciplinary in nature, and the faculty members collaborate, jointly supervise Ph.D. students and publish papers. To provide a focussed training during the stay as a Ph.D. student, the ongoing research activities in SLS are thematically organized into five research groups, with each group containing multiple faculty members (see Table below). Accordingly, all incoming students would be admitted for Ph.D. into one of these five research groups.

3. How would I be selected for admission in SLS?

You have to take the online computer-based test for admission to the SLS, and based on the performance in the test, you could be short-listed for an interview. The instructions for appearing in the SLS interview is provided in the admission prospectus and further details would be made available to the short-listed candidates (https://www.jnu.ac.in/sls).

4. How do I choose which group/s to apply to?

Based on your future research interest, you can choose a maximum of two research groups at the time of submitting the application. You may visit the website of SLS and read about the Ph.D. programme and the research being conducted in the different laboratories in SLS (https://www.jnu.ac.in/sls).

5. Would I be able to change my choice or the order of preference of the research groups after I am short-listed for interview?

No. The choice of the research group and the order of preference exercised during the submission of your application is final.

6. **If I selected two research groups in SLS in my application, would I be selected for admission to both the research groups?**
   No. Since you would be providing an order of your preference in the application form, you would only be offered admission, if qualified based on the test and interview, to only one of the two groups.

For the benefit of the applicants, an example of an imaginary candidate is provided:

Geeta (a dummy name) is a candidate for admission to Ph.D.in the School of Life Sciences (SLS), JNU. She has to decide what research area to pursue, if selected. Therefore, Geeta visits the website of SLS and reads about the Ph.D. programme and the research being conducted in SLS.

Geeta finds that research in the School of Life Sciences is organized into five research groups with each group containing multiple faculty members (see Table below). Accordingly, she understands that each incoming student would be admitted for Ph.D. into one of these five research groups.

Based on her future research interest, Geeta chooses GONH (892) and GFIH (896) as two research areas at the time of submitting her application. As per the current JNU admission policy, Geeta is permitted to apply to a maximum of THREE streams/programmes in JNU during the application stage, and therefore, she has to make payment for the requisite number of programmes.

As Geeta has already chosen to apply to GONH (892) and GFIH (896) research groups in SLS, she can only choose one more stream if she wishes to, at the time of submitting her application, out of the several other Ph.D. programmes being offered by other Schools and Centres of JNU.

Geeta takes a single computer-based test for SLS, and based on her performance in the test, she is short-listed for interview. Geeta goes through the instructions for appearing in the SLS interview as provided on page 28-29 of the admission prospectus (https://jnu.ac.in/admission/e-prospectus-2019-20.pdf). Any further details would be available in the SLS website.

After appearing in the interview, Geeta is offered admission to only one of the three choices she exercised during the application stage.

If any further clarification is required, candidates may email or call the office of the Dean, SLS.

Research Groups in the School of Life Sciences

School of Life Sciences is a multi disciplinary school where the research is being carried out in diverse areas of life sciences. Research in the School of Life Sciences is organized into five thematic research areas. Though, each faculty member is listed alongside one Research Group, the faculty members may also be conducting research in other areas either independently or jointly with faculty members in the other groups.

Research Group		Topics (For a detailed list, see SLS website www.jnu.ac.in/sls)	Faculty Members conducting research in the area mentioned *Faculty not taking students in 2019-2020
No. Code	Group Name		
Life Sciences Group-I GONH (892)	**Plant Biology; Virology; Biotechnology**	Biology of Plant-virus Interactions; Plant-microbe Interactions; Functional Genomics and Metabolomics of Abiotic stress in Crop Plants; Comparative, Functional and Evolutionary Genomics of Capsicum species	SC, AN, AP, NR*
Life Sciences Group-II GTWH (893)	**Microbiology; Immunology; Infectology, Radiation and Cancer Biology**	Parasitology/Basic biology; Carcinogenesis, Cancer Chemoprevention and Therapeutics; Yeast Molecular and Cell Biology; Microbiology; Cell Signaling and Cancer Biology; Yeast Molecular Genetics in *S. cerevisiae* and the pathogenic fungus *Candida albicans;* Radiation and Cancer therapeutics; Molecular Mechanisms and protein traffic during immune cell effector responses; Cell and molecular biology of the malaria parasite, *Plasmodium falciparum*	RPS, AKM, AKJ, ASK, NM, SLP*, ABT, NP, AB
Life Sciences Group-III GTRH (894)	**Genetics; Cell & Molecular Biology; Developmental Biology**	Non-coding RNA, Stem Cells; Chromatin, transcription and Gene Regulation; Developmental biology with emphasis on autophagy in *Dictyostelium;* Epigenetics & Chromatin Remodeling	PCR, KN, SS, RM*
Life Sciences Group-IV GFOH (895)	**Animal Physiology; Neurosciences and Systems Biology**	Neurobiology of Sleep-Waking-REM Sleep; Brain Ageing and its counter strategies; Sleep, Learning and Memory; Neuro degenerative disorders	BNM*, DS, ACM, SKJ
Life Sciences Group-V GFIH (896)	**Biochemistry; Biophysics; Bioinformatics; Nanobiology**	Biochemistry & Redoxbiology of degenerative diseases; Structural Biology; Structural & Parasite Biology; Biophysical Chemistry; Biophysics, Nanobiotechnology	SKG*, AKS, SGN, SSK, KK

Faculty Members: Prof. Birendra Nath Mallick (BNM), Prof. Shyamal Kumar Goswami (SKG), Prof. Pramod Rath (PCR), Prof. K. Natarajan (KN), Prof. Shweta Saran (SS), Prof. Supriya Chakrabarty (SC), Prof. Ajay Kumar Saxena (AKS), Prof. Deepak Sharma (DS), Prof. Rana Pratap Singh (RPS), Prof. Ashis Kumar Nandi (AKN), Prof. Ashwani Pareek (AP), Prof. Alok Kumar Mondal (AKM), Prof. Atul Kumar Johri (AKJ), Prof. Sneha Sudha Komath (SSK), Prof. S. Gourinath (SGN), Prof. Arun S. Kharat (ASK), Dr. Neelima Mandal (NM), Dr. Sushil Kumar Jha (SKJ), Dr. Rohini Muthuswami (RM), Dr. Amal C. Mandal (ACM), Dr. Sneh Panwar (SLP), Dr. Ashu Bhan Tiku (ABT), Dr. Niti Puri (NP), Dr. Nirala Ramchiary (NR), Dr. Karunakar Kar (KK), Dr. Abhisheka Bansal (AB).