

Recruitment to the post of Program Directors, NITI Aayog
Atal Innovation Mission

About NITI Aayog

NITI Aayog, the National Institution for Transforming India is involved in proactively identifying and formulating transformational visionary initiatives that would enable an accelerated socio-economic growth of India while also assuming a global leadership position in various sectors in the 21st century leveraging its demographic dividend and other strengths.

About Atal Innovation Mission – NITI Aayog

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) is Government of India's flagship initiative under the auspices of the NITI Aayog, to create and promote a vibrant culture of innovation and entrepreneurship across the length and breadth of India. AIM's mandate is to develop new programs and policies for fostering innovation in different sectors of the economy, providing a platform and collaboration opportunities for different stakeholders, create awareness and create an umbrella structure to oversee the innovation ecosystem of the country.

NITI Aayog is looking for dynamic, experienced Program Directors (in the level of Consultant Grade II in terms of "Procedure and guidelines for engagement of Consultants/ Senior Consultants/ Young Professionals in NITI Aayog "issued vide O.M. no. A-12013/02/2015-Adm. I(B) dated 29.07.2020 and as amended from time to time) with proven track record for its highly successful Atal Innovation Mission programs, who can help drive existing and new AIM initiatives and strategies further to meet the above objectives.

Some of the major initiatives undertaken in the first phase of AIM are as follows:

1. **Atal Tinkering Labs**- Creating problem solving mindset across schools in India through tinkering labs, of which more than 6500 have already been established around the country.
2. **Atal Incubation Centers** – Setting up world class incubators fostering world class startups and adding a new dimension to the incubator model.
3. **Atal New India Challenges** - Fostering product innovations and aligning them to the needs of various sectors/ministries.
4. **Atal Community Innovation Centers**- To stimulate community centric innovation and ideas in the unserved /underserved regions of the country including Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities.

5. **Applied Research and Innovation for Small Enterprises** – To stimulate Make in India innovations in the MSME / startup industry
6. **Mentors of Change National platform** - A nation-wide Mentor network in collaboration with public sector, corporates and institutions, to support the various initiatives of the mission.

AIM is administratively mapped within the NITI Aayog, with direct budgetary support from the Govt of India. AIM has a Mission High Level Committee (MHLC) comprising of distinguished leaders from government, private sector, Indian and international academia, and industrial representatives. More details are available at aim.gov.in .

Number of positions – 2 (Two)

Mode of Recruitment - Contract Based through Open Market

Remuneration – Consolidated pay in the range of Rs 1, 45,000 to 2,65,000/-

Period of Contract - 3 years (extendable)

Essential qualifications & Experience

1. Indian citizens upto 45 years of age as on the last date of advertisement
2. B.TECH / BE / Masters in Science, Technology or Engineering/ Masters or PG Diploma in Business Management or equivalent as on the last date of advertisement.
3. 8+ years of professional work experience in one or more of the following areas – research & product development, technology development, incubating and managing a startup, strategy in academia or industry or Government of India or international locations, as on the last date of advertisement.
4. Proven experience in Innovation & entrepreneurship related management responsibilities in Government/Public / Private Sector / Start-up Incubator Industry.

Note : Experience of internship/training will not be accounted for.

Desired skill sets/experience

1. Proven Leadership experience in design, implementation and management of large programs (governments, corporates, foundations, international organizations, academic organizations, large incubators, consulting firms, etc).
2. Proven Experience in a leadership role with measurable results and outcomes oriented programs
3. Extensive experience in multiple-stakeholder management: Government, Industry and Academia
4. Strong strategic, creative and analytical skills to develop scientific pilot programs in complex environments
5. Experience in pedagogy development, open innovation programs/initiatives and understanding of 21st century skills of innovation
6. Aptitude for long-term stakeholder management, and an output-orientation for success in complex environments.
7. Excellent collaboration and communication (oral and written) skills in English and Hindi. Knowledge of more Indian languages will be a plus.
8. Direct experience in government, government-facing consulting or public sector innovation programs will be a plus.

Roles and Responsibilities

AIM has a structure envisaging a Mission Director, supported by Program Directors (PDs), Innovation Leads and Young Professionals.

The Program Directors (PDs) have management responsibilities for designing and operationalizing new AIM programs and improving existing AIM programs ensuring Quality Measurable result oriented outcomes promoting innovation and entrepreneurship, the associated program teams, enabling partnerships and providing management support to the Mission Director. These include but not limited to

1. Designing, launching and successfully running key, results and outcomes oriented innovation programs of Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog, along with a dynamic team of professionals with a strategy to scale the impact of these programs nationwide.
2. Creating strategies and implementation plans to develop a vibrant and collaborative ecosystem of research and innovation embedded in the school and higher education system, start-ups, corporates, government line ministries, civil society partners, and beyond.

3. Building global partnerships with industry, other academic institutions, government line ministries, state authorities, philanthropic foundations, international institutions and other stakeholders.
4. Enabling extensive stakeholder management for project and program funding, approvals, publicity, including stakeholders internal to government, such as MHLC, other ministries, etc.
5. Experimenting and piloting new ideas in field, with a problem-solving and output-outcomes-oriented approach, towards promoting science and technology based innovation and entrepreneurship, within academia, industry and government ministries
6. Planning, coordination and development of required pedagogy on innovation and technology, innovation events, trainings, workshops and challenges
7. Creating robust real-time governance structures, to timely report the outcomes to the high-level committee

Other terms and conditions

The other terms and conditions of engagement of the Program Directors will be according to the “Procedure and guidelines for engagement of Consultants/ Senior Consultants/ Young Professionals in NITI Aayog “ issued vide O.M. no. A-12013/02/2015-Adm. I(B) dated 29.07.2020, as amended from time to time. The guidelines are placed on NITI Aayog’s website www.niti.gov.in.

Application procedure

Eligible candidates, **who are serious of taking up the assignment in case of their selection**, may apply online, **after registering afresh**, on the link to be provided on the website of NITI Aayog/ AIM **within 30 days from the date of publication of the advertisement in the Newspaper**. Applications are to be submitted online only. Hard copy of applications will not be accepted. Direct inquiries with NITI/AIM team shall not be entertained during application period. Shortlisted applicants shall be directly contacted for the next steps in the process.
