Call for Expression of Interest for inclusion in Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels of the Authority.

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has been established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, distribution and sale.

This is a call for an Expression of Interest for inclusion in Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India. Applications are invited from scientists with outstanding records / achievements to their credit in the field of food science and subjects relevant to the scientific Panels and the Scientific Committee, for appointment as members of the Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels for a period of three years which shall be renewable for a further period three years. Existing members of the Scientific Panels & Scientific Committee are also eligible to apply. In accordance with the decision taken in the Public Interest Litigation Writ Petition Civil No. 681 of 2004 filed in the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India wherein the petitioner had submitted that the Scientific Panel should consist of independent scientific experts and that Scientific Panels in turn shall invite relevant industry and consumer representatives in its deliberations, the members of the Scientific Panels and Scientific Committee are to be appointed in accordance with section 13 (1) of the FSS Act, 2006 and shall consist of independent scientific experts only.
How to Apply?

Candidates are invited to submit application as indicated in the proforma available at www.fssai.gov.in. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India adopts a transparent, objective and rigorous selection procedure for shortlisting the most suitable and outstanding individuals who can contribute significantly to the working of the Authority and provide a scientific basis to its decisions. The scientists so selected for the panels / committee will be working in their individual capacity as subject expert and not represent the organization if any for which they are working. The candidates may go through the procedure for selection available at website before applying and particularly familiarise themselves with the conflict of interest provisions. The evaluation and selection of the candidates will be done by the Authority on the basis of clearly defined selection criteria. The final recommendations will be made by an evaluation team who will identify suitable individuals on the basis of their outstanding scientific reputation, ability and willingness to contribute to the working of the Authority and provide independent scientific advice on issues related to food safety and standards by participation in its panels and Committee. Based on recommendations of the evaluation team, Authority will notify the various Panels/Committee.

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India is looking for suitable individuals in the following areas in which Scientific Panels are to be set up by the Authority:

(a) food additives, flavourings, processing aids and materials in contact with food;
(b) pesticides and antibiotics residues;
(c) genetically modified organisms and foods;
(d) functional foods, nutraceuticals, dietetic products and other similar products;
(e) biological hazards;
(f) contaminants in the food chain;
(g) labelling; and
(h) method of sampling and analysis.

Members selected in the Scientific Committee and Panels involve periodic visits to New Delhi where most of the meetings will be held and a commitment to devote time and resources to contribute to their deliberation. Scientists participate in their individual capacities and are required to avoid conflicts of interest. Authority will meet the travel and lodging expenses of members.

The last date of submission of applications is **31st January, 2012**. The applications may be sent to Shri Anil Mehta, Deputy Director, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Food and Drug Authority Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002, Email: anil.mehta76@yahoo.in, anilmeheta@fssai.gov.in, Phone No. 011-23220997, Fax No. 011-23220992. Scientists are encouraged to suggest suitable candidates or forward the above details to them so that there is maximum dissemination of information and wider participation by the Scientific Community.