

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006)
(Ministry of Health & Family Welfare)
FDA Bhavan, Kotla Road, New Delhi – 110002

Call to apply for membership in the Scientific Committee & Scientific Panels of the Food Authority

Overview of the Food Authority

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India, is a statutory body established under the Food Safety and Standards Act 2006, for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption.

The Food Authority's major scientific arms are the Scientific Committee (SC) and Scientific Panels (SPs). Both of these bodies provide necessary scientific opinion and assist in development of standards through a well-defined process. In addition to these two statutory scientific entities, the Food Authority has also established some non- statutory bodies which interface with the SC and SPs.

Scientific Committee (SC)

The Scientific Committee (SC) is constituted by the Food Authority under Section 14 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (FSS Act). SC is a statutory body consisting of six independent experts (nominated by the Food Authority and not belonging to any of the SPs) and Chairpersons of all the SP's, as Members. Currently, it has a strength of 27 Members. The SC, acts as the link between SPs and the Food Authority. It mainly examines the recommendations made by each of the panel and further recommends them for approval by the Food Authority. This is the highest body that is responsible for providing scientific opinion to the Food Authority.

Scientific Panels (SPs)

The SPs are constituted by the Food Authority under Section 13 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (FSS Act) for the purpose of developing standards, and also to provide scientific opinion/inputs to the Food Authority, as and when sought. The Food Authority can establish as many SPs as it deems necessary. The FSS Act clearly provides the term, number of Members, and eligibility criteria for selection of Members of SPs. Currently, there are a total of 21 SPs (listed below) covering aspects related to particular food commodities (called the vertical panels; e.g., milk and milk products) and aspects that span across different commodities (referred to as horizontal panels; e.g., pesticides residues in food commodities).

Panel Nos.	Name of Scientific Panel
SP-01	Food additives, Flavourings, Processing aids & Materials in contact with food
SP-02	Pesticides Residues
SP-03	Antibiotic Residues
SP-04	Genetically Modified Organisms and Foods
SP-05	Functional foods, Nutraceuticals, Dietetic Products and Other similar products
SP-06	Biological Hazards

SP-07	Contaminants in the Food Chain
SP-08	Labelling and Claims/Advertisements
SP-09	Method of Sampling and Analysis
SP-10	Fish and Fisheries Products
SP-11	Cereals, Pulses & Legume and their products (including bakery)
SP-12	Fruits & Vegetables
SP-13	Meat & Meat Products, poultry
SP-14	Milk & Milk Products
SP-15	Oils &Fats
SP-16	Sweets, Confectionery, Sweeteners Sugar &Honey
SP-17	Water & Beverages
SP-18	Nutrition and Fortification
SP-19	Spices and Culinary Herbs
SP-20	Packaging
SP-21	Alcoholic Beverages

Call to apply for membership in the SC & SPs

The Food Authority invites application from eligible scientists / individual experts having experience in the areas of food safety, applied nutrition, regulatory food science and / or related fields for the membership in the SC and various SPs. For details, please visit FSSAI website <https://www.fssai.gov.in> or the application portal <https://spacemap.fssai.gov.in>

How to Apply?

1. Scientists / experts desirous for being considered for the membership of SC/SPs may apply on the dedicated portal <https://spacemap.fssai.gov.in>
2. Portal would be live from 05.09.22 and the last date for submission of applications is 04.11.2022
3. In case of any query, please contact the Secretariat, (Science & Standards Division), Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, FDA Bhavan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002.
Email: spacemap.fssai@gmail.com; Phone No. 011-23667480.

Points to note

1. The Food Authority follows a transparent, objective and rigorous selection procedure for short-listing the most suitable and outstanding individuals who can contribute significantly to the SC and SPs and provide independent scientific opinion in arriving to its decisions.
2. The evaluation and selection of the experts will be done by the Food Authority on the basis of clearly defined selection criteria. The experts may go through the procedure for selection available in the Eligibility / Guidelines tab of the above said website.
3. Membership would be given in their individual capacities and not as representative of the organization, if any, for which they may be working. Such members are required to avoid conflicts of interest.
4. Members selected for the SC and SPs would need to undertake periodic visits to New Delhi where the meetings are normally held and shall have a commitment to devote time & resources for the deliberations in the meetings. The Food Authority has notified the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (Transaction of Business and Procedures for the Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels) Regulations, 2016 that specifies the modus operandi in which the SC & SPs would work.

(https://www.fssai.gov.in/upload/uploadfiles/files/Compendium_SCSP_Version_I_29_09_2021.pdf)