

Program Manager – BCD Neural Implants Project

TL;DR: Understanding how the brain works, and restoring its function following damage, are landmark challenges for 21st century science. To meet this challenge, we invite applications from enthusiastic candidates for a program manager role.

[The Brain Computation and Data Science \(BCD\)](#) Initiative at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, was established in 2015 to develop computational approaches to understanding brain function and to develop brain-inspired computational algorithms. Several BCD faculty have come together to embark on a major initiative to develop **implantable and non-invasive brain co-processors** for augmenting and restoring brain function. This [BCD “Moonshot” project](#) (details in website) has received generous funding from the Pratiksha Trust for 5 years (Jan 2026-Dec 2030).

The project spans the areas of neuromorphic hardware and hybrid systems, computational models for representation and processing of information in the brain, brain-inspired AI models, neural plasticity, models of learning, signal processing, machine learning, big data analytics, etc. The project seeks to achieve significant breakthroughs in our ability to understand the brain, to restore brain function following injury (e.g., after stroke) and nucleate a national brain initiative.

We invite applications for the position of “Program Manager – BCD Neural Implants project”. The Program Manager will take strategic directions from the Project Review and Management Committee (PRMC), and its Convenors, but have the freedom and responsibility to manage the program. We are looking for experienced professionals who are comfortable in leadership roles. This full-time, contractual position is based in IISc, Bengaluru. The initial contract is for one year, with a 2-month probationary period, and will be renewed annually based on performance.

Responsibilities

1. Develop and oversee the implementation of the Moonshot project goals, timelines, and deliverables.
2. Ensure coordination between faculty, students, external collaborators, IISc legal team and other stakeholders.
3. Handle day-to-day administrative activities, such as meetings, documentation, and correspondence.
4. Organize semi-annual progress reviews necessary for the smooth continuation of the project.
5. Create and maintain semi-annual reports documenting the project progress in a time-bound manner.
6. Monitor the financial status of the project, working with the finance department or funding agencies.
7. Organize and run international workshops annually relevant to the project theme.
8. Create and update that the program’s website is updated with current research, achievements, and event details.
9. Promote project activities periodically through various communication channels, including newsletters, social media, etc.
10. Assist with recruiting and hiring other personnel, as required, for the success of the project.

11. Communicate and coordinate with the PRMC, collaborators, and handle logistics related to their visits and stay at IISc (typically, twice a year).
12. Track progress toward the program's objectives and finances and regularly report to the program Convenors and PRMC during bi-monthly meetings.

Educational Background & Experience

1. Candidates must have a B.E/B.Tech in engineering (4Y) or B.S/M.S. (5 years) or M.Sc (2Y) in science or an equivalent stream. An advanced degree (such as a Ph.D.) in streams relevant to the Moonshot project (neuroscience, AI, chip design) or an MBA is desirable.
2. Candidates must have at least 3 years' work experience managing projects either in academia or industry.

Salary

Commensurate with experience, up to INR 3.0 lakhs/month.

Skills & Competencies

1. Experienced professionals who have worked with diverse stakeholders at senior levels, including the government, academia and/or industry.
2. Ready to handle a diversity of roles including liaising with other faculty, IISc legal cell, financial team and others.
3. Self-motivated with strong interpersonal and stakeholder management skills.
4. Excellent organizational skills and the ability to prioritise objectives, based on tight deadlines.
5. Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to analyse, summarise and communicate information.
6. Ensure smooth coordination between BCD Steering committee, faculty, and external stakeholders.

Application Process

Please send the following information with the subject line: **"Application for Program Manager – BCD Moonshot project"** via email to pratiksha.sac@iisc.ac.in on or before Dec 15, 2025.

1. Detailed Curriculum Vitae.
2. A 500-word writeup explaining why you are uniquely qualified for the position.
3. Name and address of two referees

Following application screening, selected candidates will be called for an interview. The decision of the Program Manager recruitment committee will be final and binding.