Professor Srivastava received his Ph.D. from Jai Narain Vyas University, Jodhpur, in 1965. When completing his Ph.D. he did his dissertation in Hypergeometric Functions of Two and Three Variables. His advisor is unknown at the moment. Professor Srivastava began teaching at the university level in 1959, when he was 19 years old. During the academic years 1959-1960, he taught at D. M. Government College in Imphal, now Manipur University. In 1960-1963, he taught at the University of Roorkee, which is now the Indian Institute of Technology at Roorkee. He then relocated to Jodhpur University, which is now Jai Narain Vyas University, where he got his Ph. D. while working as a full-time member of the Jodhpur University teaching staff.

Professor Srivastava is currently a professor emeritus at the University of Victoria in Canada in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. He became a member of the faculty in 1969, initially as an associate professor (1969-1974) and later as a full professor (1974-2006). Professor Srivastava has held visiting roles at various universities and research centers across the world, including West Virginia University in the United States (1967-1969), Université Laval in Canada (1975), and the University of Glasgow in the United Kingdom (1975-1976).

Professor Srivastava’s over 50-year career as a university-level teacher and as a remarkably prolific researcher in many different areas of the mathematical, physical, and statistical sciences is highlighted (among other things) by the fact that he has collaborated and published joint papers with as many as 385 mathematicians, physicists, statisticians, chemists, astrophysicists, geochemists, and information and business management scientists who are scattered throughout the world.

Professor Srivastava was ranked second among Canada's best researchers in the field of Mathematics and Statistics in terms of output and impact, as determined by the number of citations to their published works. Professor Srivastava has recently received a number of awards and honors.

He has publications in over 30 subject areas, the main three being functions of complex variables, special functions, and number theory. He has made several significant contributions and has a wide range of scientific interests, including q-Series and q-polynomials, expansions for functions of multiple complex variables, extensions of Srinivasa Ramanujan's famed q-identities, and systematic introduction and analysis of multivariable basic hypergeometric series.