



Seed Grant Policy V 2.0

January 2022

Preamble

Early career researchers (faculty with at least six months of tenure) are eligible to apply for 'Research Seeding Grant'. The 'Seeding Grant' scheme will be administered by the URIC.

It aims to support early career researchers to undertake studies that can be potential pathways to develop proposals for nationally and internationally competitive research projects. For purposes of this policy, the term 'early career researchers' is defined as a faculty at the 'Assistant Professor' level who earned the PhD within five years prior to applying for the 'Research Seeding Grant'.

1. Scope of the policy

Funding is limited to Rs 1 Lac per project with project duration of two years. If the project duration exceeds one year, funding will be disbursed in two equal annual tranches. In exceptional cases, funding of up to Rs 2 Lacs with project duration of two years will also be considered. In this case, funding will be disbursed in two equal annual tranches.

Joint proposals, particularly in collaboration with the University's international partners, are encouraged. The Chief Investigator/Principal Investigator must be from the University.

1.1 The project proposal should clearly articulate the justifications for the study and explain how the study will lead to actions on proposals for nationally or internationally competitive grants.

1.2 The University would fund a maximum of ten research projects annually.

1.3 Only one project per School shall be approved per School

1.4 The selection and subsequent monitoring of project progress will be the responsibility of a specially constituted Committee. Funding for the second year will only be disbursed on evidence that project milestones for the first year had been achieved.

2. Application process

2.1. The call for proposals may limit research funding to a few strategic areas. In case no specific call for proposals is announced, the proposals shall be submitted before the semester commencement dates.

2.2. Preliminary proposals of no more than 1 page (approximately 500 words) should be submitted for short-listing.

2.3. Short-listed applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal of about maximum 7 pages including figures and references typed single-spaced (approximately 3,500 words).

2.4. Full proposals will be reviewed by a committee. The Principal Investigator/Chief Investigator (PI/CI) will be invited to make a presentation to the selection committee.

2.5. Decision on the grant award will be announced.

3. Selection Criteria

3.1. Contribution to advancement of theory and practice

3.2. Expertise of the research team

3.3. Potential to expand the scope of the research and attract external funding

3.4. Project budget - line items and whether costs are realistic

3.5. Potential to generate intellectual property, including product and process development

4. Conditions

4.1. The decision of the selection committee will be conveyed to the PI/CI who will be the contact person for all administrative matters regarding the project.

4.2. The PI/CI is responsible for the conduct of the research in accordance to the University's research policy.

4.3. Procurement, utilization and maintenance of equipment will be as per University policy

4.4. Funds have to be drawn-down in conformity to the project schedule and budget

4.5. PI/CI should submit a progress report every six months in the prescribed format

4.6. PI/CI will also be required to report progress or outcomes at the end of one year after the termination of the 'Seed Grant' including grants received and publication/IPR arising out of the seed grant.

4.7. In any research communication arising out of the funded project, the contribution of the University should be acknowledged.

4.9. If the PI/CI ceases to work in the University before the completion of the project, a co-investigator from the University will assume responsibility as PI. In case there is no co-investigator, the Head of the academic Unit shall be handed over all the outcomes and rights of the project.

5. Deliverables

5.1. Externally funded projects should be generated as an outcome of the 'Seed Grant' scheme.

5.2. Publication in peer-reviewed journals/intellectual property generation including product/process development would be expected as outcomes of the project. Further, it is understood that any IP emerging out of research funded GDGU will be owned by GDGU. Such IPR will recognize contributions by all researchers as 'inventors' and any resulting royalties will be shared by GDGU with the inventors.



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