

Policy for Seed Grants for Research

Introduction:

The Seed Grant scheme of KG College of Arts and Science (KGCAS) is designed to stimulate competitive research in strategic areas of national or international importance, to promote innovative product and technology development, and / or to facilitate the start of research programs which will potentially develop into creative ventures on their own through funding.

Objectives:

1. To aid the members of faculty to initiate research projects that have the potential to sustain by attracting funds from external agencies.
2. To test a novel idea and to generate preliminary results before submitting a final proposal to external agencies for funding.
3. To promote inter-faculty collaboration in emerging areas.
4. To incentivize the inventors of innovative product / process development and to commercialize the same through patents.
5. To attract and retain talent.

Awards:

1. Grants shall be awarded with 50% of the project budget with a maximum of Rs. 2 Lakhs, if proposed by the faculty applying for grants.
2. Grants shall be awarded with 100% of project budget, if the problem statement is proposed by the Institution's Research Committee.
3. The duration of the grant will be two years. Project review is done once in six months from the granted date and is extended on the basis of review / approval by the Research Committee.
4. Grants will be given in instalments, non-recurring as initial grant and recurring as reimbursement
5. 50% of the publication cost for eligible publication in SCI, Scopus and Web of Science.

Eligibility:

1. Any faculty member of KGCAS with a proven track record of quality research and employed in KGCAS for at least one semester.
2. Any group comprising faculty and students belonging to KGCAS with the Principal Investigator (PI) being a KGCAS faculty. Only faculty can be PI. Participation by students is encouraged but they may be only named as personnel in the project.
3. At any time, one faculty member can submit only one application as PI. However, he/she can be a co-investigator in more than one proposal.
4. Any group consisting of faculty of KGCAS and collaborators from other institutions who shall provide an undertaking that they will submit a proposal for an external agency for funding with the same proposers during or within 6 months of the completion of the seed funded project. External collaborator cannot be Co- PI in the seed grant. However, when required, letters from such collaborators may be attached in the proposal with commitment (such as facility use) clearly specified. They should also demonstrate that they do not have funding from external agencies for their proposed research.
5. Once seed money is received, PI is eligible to apply for funding only after a gap of one year after submitting the report with detailed budget required

Important Dates:

S. No.	Application Process	Submission Deadline
1.	Pre proposal submission	Before 30 th March
2.	Detailed Project Proposal Submission	Before 15 th May
3.	Presentation before the selection committee for short-listing	2 nd and 3 rd week of May
4.	Announcement of the award	1 st week of June

Selection Criteria:

1. Goals and objectives of the proposal.
2. Innovativeness of the proposal.
3. Scope for interdisciplinary research.
4. Scope for promoting the research idea for further funding from external agencies.
5. Budgetary requirement with justification.
6. Complementarity of team members.

7. Potential to generate Intellectual Property. (Including product and process development)

Conditions:

1. The decision of the selection committee will be conveyed to the PI through the principal who will be the contact person for all administrative matters regarding the project.
2. The PI is responsible for the conduct of the research in accordance with the research policy of the institution.
3. Procurement, utilization and maintenance of equipment will be as per policy of the institution
4. The funds have to be utilized within the stipulated period.
5. The granted money has to be utilized in accordance with the approved budget.
6. The PI should submit a progress report every six months in the prescribed format for evaluation by the committee mandated to monitor individual projects. In case it is found that proper efforts are not being made, further release of funding may cease.
7. The PI will also be required to record the outcome of the research by way of publication / IPR to be eligible for the release of grant (final instalment)
8. The contribution of the institution should be duly acknowledged in all the research publication / patent / IPR arising out of the funded projects,
9. In case PI leaves the institution before the completion of the project, a co-investigator from KGCAS assumes responsibility as PI. No collaborator from another institution can become PI under such conditions.