



Policy for Seed Funding for Full time Ph.D. Scholars of the Institute

Introduction

The Seed Grant scheme for full time Ph.D. scholars of Dr. MGR Educational and Research Institute 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 external funding.

Objectives

- To create an enabling environment within university in order to foster research.
- Culture as well as provide required support through research framework and guidelines.
- To nurture an environment of undertaking socially useful research with potential for commercialization.
- For creating opportunities for full time Ph.D. scholars of the University to involve themselves in real life research projects and obtaining sponsorships.
- To aid a scholar to start a research program that has the potential to sustain by attracting funds from external agencies.
- To test a novel idea and to generate preliminary results before submitting proposals to external agencies.
- To promote inter-faculty collaboration in emerging areas.
- To promote generation of IPR and product/process development.
- To attract and retain talent.

Award

1. Grants shall be awarded with a maximum value of Rs.1 Lakhs.
2. A maximum of 10 grants can be awarded in a year
3. The duration of the Grant will be 3 years. It could be extended by another year after a complete review of the outcomes.
4. Incentives shall be granted to departments with highest number of grants received.

Eligibility

1. Any PhD scholar, who has finished course work and availing fellowship from the university.
2. At any time, a scholar can submit only one application.

Application process

1. The call for proposals may limit research funding to a few strategic areas.
2. Pre-proposals should be submitted for short-listing.
3. The short-listed applicants will be asked to submit a full proposal of maximum 7 pages including figures and references.
4. The full proposals will be reviewed by a selection committee. The scholar will be invited to make a presentation before the selection committee.





5. Decision on the grant award will be announced.

Selection criteria

1. Innovative interdisciplinary research
2. Promise of sustainable research and development attracting external funds.
3. Potential to generate intellectual property. (Including product and process development)

Conditions

1. The decision of the selection committee will be conveyed to the scholar and the guide who will be the contact person for all administrative matters regarding the project.
2. The scholar and the guide are responsible for the conduct of the research in accordance with the institute research policy.
3. Procurement, utilization and maintenance of equipment will be as per institute policy
4. The funds have to be utilized within the stipulated period.
5. The grant money has to be utilized in accordance with the approved budget.
6. The scholar 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 scholar 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.
8. In any research communication arising out of the funded project, the contribution of the institute should be duly acknowledged.

Expected deliverables

1. Externally funded projects should be generated as outcome of seed grant scheme.
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 by university will be owned by university. Such IPR will recognize contributions by all researchers as "inventors", and any resulting royalties will be shared by university with the inventors.

