

Call For Seed Grant Under Manipal Research Board

Collaborate Learn and Grow

No.: Session: 2(Phase 1)

Date: 1st April 2024

Overview and purpose:

To promote and fund research projects between Manipal group of universities.

Nature & Duration of Support:

- The proposed research in response to Call for Proposals should be clearly defined. The objectives should be smart, measurable, achievable, relevant and time bound and in alignment with MRB priorities.
- Multidisciplinary projects having topics of research of global and national importance or priority issues or topics aligned to SDG, however not limited to, would be preferred.
- The joint research should have the potential for publications in high-end journals and translatable patents in addition to scaling to secondary extramural grant.
- Seed money up to Rs. 10.0 Lakhs (Ten lakh) will be provided under MRB grant.
- Maximum duration of project will be two years. An additional period of up to six months (with no additional costs) can be considered by the monitoring committee.
- The research grant will cover equipment (only if justified), consumables, and contingency. Travel of PI and Co-PI once in year to be utilized by mobility grant. Manpower will not be covered in the grant.

Mode of Application, selection, and monitoring:

- A proposal to be submitted to respective Directorate of Research (collaborating partners parent institutes) through proper channel, (through the Head of the Department and Head of the Institute), in hard copy and/or soft copy, in the prescribed format. Annexure-I (Part A & B)
- Proposal will be evaluated for feasibility & potential by a Selection Committee and result to be notified as:
 - Date of announcement of first call April 2, 2024
 - Last date of project submission to respective DOR: 15th May 2024
 - Announcing awardees 2 months after last date
- All subsequent filing applications received as per format with respective DoRs will be evaluated for feasibility and the decision will be made known.
- The Committee will also monitor the progress of the projects periodically.

Eligibility:

- Full time Faculty member of Manipal group of Institutions holding a PhD degree (MD/MS only in case of Medicine and Dental faculty) with a proven track record of quality research and having at least two years for retirement.
- Faculty in the post of Associate professor and below will be eligible for Principal Investigator.
- Faculty in the post of Professor will be eligible only as a co-investigator.
- Faculty on probation will be eligible only as co-investigator.
- Project should consist of collaborators from different institute of Manipal group.

- Each collaborating institute must have at least two investigators (One as PI and other as Co-PI).
- One person can only handle one project at a time. Once awarded a person cannot apply again for next two years.

Details about utilization:

- The amount to be utilized for actual cost towards research activities for consumable, field visit for collection of data (Capped at 40% of total grant), testing/diagnostics expenses.
- The amount excludes incentives, salaries, publication charges, conference/workshop registration and fellowship.
- All the bills to be finalized as per the Finance policy of the respective institutions.

Termination clause:

- If in case the lead investigator drops from the project the co-investigator in consultation with another investigator may choose to continue with the project or terminate the project, with no further financial assistance.
- Project which does not submit progress report for two consecutive cycles will be treated discontinued.
- Projects that have not utilized at least 20% of the prescribed grant during the first year will be terminated.
- Projects deviating from the projected objective will not be considered for further funding.

Withdrawal clause:

- Researchers may withdraw the project by submitting an application to respective DoR before six months of the project sanction.

Expected Outcome:

- Mandatory:
 - At least two original research papers in SCOPUS (Q1 or Q2) or JCR listed journals. (Minimum one by end of one year)
 - Submission of one major grant proposal for extramural funding agency. (by end of one year)
- Desirable:
 - Patent (s).

ANNEXURE-I

Format for submission of Project Proposal

PART-A

1. Title of the proposed research project (up to 25 words): should be specific, concise, and yet sufficiently descriptive and informative.
2. Summary (up to 250 words): A structured summary should contain the following subheadings: Rationale/ gaps in existing knowledge, Novelty, Objectives, Methods, and Expected outcome.
3. Does it cover a priority area/ is it aligned to SDG? If yes, please specify.
4. Keywords: Six keywords separated by comma which best describe your project may be provided.
5. Abbreviations: Only standard abbreviations should be used in the text. List of abbreviations maximum of ten may be given as a list.
6. Problem Statement (up to 500 words): State the currently available information to present the problem adequately.
7. Rationale (up to 250 words): Mention how the research question addresses the critical barrier(s) in scientific knowledge, technical, Capability, and/or programmatic/clinical/lab practice and its relevance to local, national, and international context with relevant bibliography.
8. Hypothesis/ Research question (up to 100 words): Please provide details.
9. Objectives (up to 25 words/ objective): Define the objectives clearly and in measurable terms; mention as primary and secondary objectives, if necessary. Do not include more than 3-4 objectives.
10. Methodology
11. Implementation strategy
12. Statistical analysis
13. Ethical issues (if any)
14. Expected outcome/ Deliverables aligned with research question and MRB Expected outcome (up to 100 words):
15. Future plan based on expected outcomes and MRB Expected outcome (up to 100 words):
16. Whether the study is going to generate new intellectual property Please provide details
17. Timelines with achievable targets: GANTT/ PERT chart to be included.

PART-B

18. Details of involvement the individual PI have to fill PI details from 19(a) to 19(f) separately.

(a) Principal Investigator

Name Designation

Department Institute /University Name and Address

Date of Birth Likely Date of retirement

Gender (M/F)

Mobile

Email

(b) Education and Training (Graduation onwards):

Degree Year University Institute Field of Specialization

(c) Field of Experience (Keywords)

(d) Number of Papers published

(e) Significant publications (Maximum 5, from last two years)

Title	Authors	Journal Volume	Page	Year
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19. Co-Investigator: Details as 18 (a to e) to be filled.

20. Preliminary work done by the PI including the source of funding (up to 250 words):
Proof of concept (if any)

21. Skill and experience of the research team: Highlight only salient points (along with 5 relevant publications) that provides confidence to reviewers that team can implement the project with quality.

22. Institutional Support/ Facilities: Details of coordination between the universities/institutes involved with clear details of what work is done in the collaborating universities with specific information regarding breakup among participating institutions.

23. Laboratory facilities (in-vitro/ in-silico): Mention the institutional resources (such as animal house, instruments/ equipment etc.) available for use in the proposed project.

24. Budget: Budget should be as per the format. Justifications for all sub-headings under budget is to be provided in detail. (Separate breakup to be provided for PI and Co-PI)

	Year -1	Year -2
Consumables (Operational)		
Equipment/ Instrument (Capital)*		
Contingency		
Travel		
Total		

*Projects under MRB should not be for capital procurement unless most essential. The collaborators must utilise the equipment available in their respective institutions. No IT equipment like laptops, printers etc is permitted to be procured out of project funds. Capex should not be more than 20% of the project cost when fully justified.

** APC for publications is not covered under MRB. OA publications will be supported from existing agreements of MAHE, as per the prescribed guidelines. In situations when MAHE is not a collaborating university, APC support as applicable in respective institutions policy will be applicable.

25. Justification of budget under each heading

26. Conflict of interest declaration (if any): PI will be asked to submit declaration if shortlisted.

27. Details of Research Projects being implemented/ completed/ submitted by the Principal Investigator(s), Co-Principal Investigator(s) and other Investigator, including Investigator(s)Name & Institute

i. Project Title

ii. Project Status:

	Project Title	Project Duration	Funding Agency	Total Cost
	From	To		
a.	Completed Projects			
b.	Ongoing Projects			
c.	Submitted proposals			

28. Biodata -Detailed Biodata of the Principal Investigator(s) and Co- Principal Investigator(s) (Attach separately)

Name and signature of Principal Investigator

Name and signature of Co-Investigator (s)

Forwarded by Head of Department

Forwarded and Recommended by Head of Institute

Forwarded and Approved by Director, Directorate of Research

Undertaking from PI

Project Title:

1. I/ We agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the MRB.
2. I/ We have explored and ensured that equipment and basic facilities which are available in the collaborating universities will be available as and when required for the purpose of the projects and have not been budgeted for purchase.
3. I/We certify that a project with similar title or objective has not been funded or submitted for funding to any other funding agency.
4. The Research proposal submitted for possible funding by MRB is my original idea and has not been copied / taken verbatim from anyone or from any other sources. I further certify that this proposal has been checked for plagiarism by Turnitin (has less than 12% similarity index, Turnitin report enclosed)) and the contents are original and not copied/taken from any one or from any other sources. I also declare that there are no plagiarism charges established or pending against me in the last five years. If the funding agency notices any plagiarism or any other discrepancies in the above proposal of mine, I would abide by the action taken against me by the funding agency, as deemed necessary by the authorities.

Name and signature of Principal Investigator

Name and signature of Co-Investigator(s)