



SCIENCE FACULTY ALUMNI RESEARCH GRANTS UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA

GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH GRANTS – 2021 Sponsored by the science batch of 1976 -1980

1. Permanent academic staff members affiliated with the Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya are eligible to apply for the innovative research grant sponsored by the “Science Batch of 1976-1980”. The proposals should be original and should potentially produce tangible results and implementable outcomes, beneficial to society. These key considerations for the sponsorship are articulated by the sponsors (endorsed by the Faculty Board of Faculty of Science) to contribute to quality scientific research and produce high-quality researchers.
2. The financial sponsorship is a maximum LKR 3,000,000.00 (Three million Sri Lankan Rupees) and will be disbursed over 24 months subject to usual Faculty disbursement rules.
3. The research project must involve a student with a relevant degree and have registered for an M Phill degree program at the Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS), University of Peradeniya. The funds can be used only for the direct material of the research project and pay a monthly stipend (60,000.00 LKR per month) to the research student.
4. It is mandatory to submit the project outcome within three months of completion to the Faculty Research Committee (FRC), publish a paper in an indexed journal, or file a patent within one year of completing the project. It is expected to present findings at the PGIS Research Congress (RESCON) or any other global forum as appropriate.
5. As a part of sponsorship criteria, the FRC will forward the proposals received to the sponsors, who will make the final selection through an external panel appointed by them. The FRC, with the agreement of the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Science, will notify the outcome to the applicants. The decision communicated by the FRC shall be considered final.
6. Research grants may be given for multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary/basic/applied/industry-oriented research.
7. All applications for research grants from the Faculty must be made on the prescribed form available on the website.
8. The principal investigator (PI) should possess a postgraduate degree. Suppose the PI is a probationary lecturer without a postgraduate degree; in that case, he or she should nominate a supervisor who is also a permanent academic staff member, Senior Lecturer II or above. The PI is responsible for all technical and administrative work referred to in the project proposal.

9. When an application is approved, a formal agreement should be signed between the Faculty and the PI.
10. When the PI is unable to carry out the research temporarily (for three months or more) he/she must inform the FRC and make alternative arrangements in advance i.e., nominate a suitable academic staff member). If a nominee is not available and the PI is unable to continue the research, the Head of the Department will be responsible for making alternative arrangements.
11. If a researcher has to deviate from the proposed action plan due to reasons beyond the control of the PI, s/he should report with adequate justifications and propose remedial action.
12. Extensions may be granted for periods of six months or one year (maximum of two six-month extensions only). In exceptional cases, a third extension may be granted if the FRC has sufficient evidence that the reason for incompleteness is beyond the PI's control. A maximum of three years will be given for the completion of the research project, including the period of extension.
13. Failure to carry out research has to be reported immediately to the FRC without waiting for the expiry of the period. Thereupon FRC should take appropriate action.
14. The PI must obtain the necessary ethical clearance/permits for the study if required.
15. The PI must comply with the national guidelines and regulations pertaining to ownership, intellectual property, plagiarism, and best practices of publishing research findings.
16. Each grant will be monitored twice a year for financial and physical progress. The PI must submit half-yearly progress reports regularly according to the prescribed format.
17. The PI must submit the final report according to the prescribed format and settle all financial accounts/ advances within three months of completing the research.
18. When a research project is not completed successfully within the approved duration, the research agreement is considered to be violated. However, suppose a PI claims that the inability to complete the project during the approved period is beyond the control of the PI, in that case, the FRC may appoint a subcommittee comprising of three senior academics to inquire into the matter and recommend their decision. The researchers who violated the research agreement will not be considered for another research grant for three years.