



AICTE- RESEARCH PROMOTION SCHEME (RPS)

Scheme Document for the year 2020-21

1.1 Objectives:

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| (a) | RPS Promotes Research in identified thrust areas of in Technical Education. RPS is aimed to create research ambience in the institutes by promoting research in engineering sciences and innovations in established and newer technologies; and to generate Master's and Doctoral degree candidates to augment the quality of faculty and research personnel in the country. |
| (b) | Research and development activities are considered as an essential component of higher education because of their role in creating new knowledge and insight and imparting excitement and dynamism to the educational process, as well as make them need based in view of the national requirements. The objective of this scheme is to create and update the general research capabilities of the faculty members of the various Technical Institutes. The proposal should include a specific project theme with a clear statement of the objectives, details of equipment and other research facilities proposed to be acquired and the expected deliverables from the project. |

1.2 Eligibility:

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| (a) | AICTE approved Technical Institutions/University Departments with relevant PG programme. |
| (b) | Full time regular faculty with research experience and publications. |
| (c) | The preliminary research facilities should be available in the institute. |
| (d) | One proposal from one PI (Principal Investigator) will be sanctioned at any point of time within the duration of project. |
| (e) | Maximum number of proposals acceptable per institute (including sanctioned earlier but not completed) shall be five and three from Govt. institute and Pvt. Institute respectively. However, maximum number of proposal acceptable to be approved per institute shall be two for Govt. and Pvt. Institute both. |

1.3 Duration of the Project:

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| | Duration of project will be three years from the date of receipt of funds in the institute's account. |
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1.4 Limit of Funding:

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| (a) | Maximum limit of funding is Rs.25Lakh. |
| (b) | Non-Recurring 75% and Recurring 25% of the total sanctioned grant. |

1.5 Disbursement of the Funds:

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| | (a) 100% Non-recurring and 50% of Recurring grant of total sanctioned amount. |
| | 50% of total sanctioned recurring grant only after submission of Audited Utilization Certificate and all requisite documents. |
| 1.6 Processing Methodology: | |
| | The proposal shall be assessed by an expert committee constituted as follows: |
| | (a) Three member expert committee not below the rank of Associate Professor. |
| | (b) At least two members among the experts shall be from the concerned stream. |
| 1.7 Terms and conditions: | |
| | (a) The Principal Investigator already having ongoing RPS projects from AICTE shall not be considered unless the ongoing projects are completed. |
| | (b) The departments of the institute not having relevant Post Graduate Programme intended for execution of the proposed project as well as Diploma level Courses are not eligible for financial assistance under RPS Scheme. |
| | (c) The Principal Investigator has the primary responsibility for the implementation and completion of the project within the stipulated time period. |
| | (d) In case the Principal Investigator leaves the Institution without transfer of the project or goes on long leave, the Co- Principal Investigator would be allowed to continue with the project, subject to the consent of the Principal Investigator in case of long leave and approval of AICTE. All such requests should be sent to AICTE in advance. Therefore, association of a Co- Principal Investigator in the project is MUST. |
| | (e) In case the Principal Investigator and the Co- Principal Investigator leaves the Institute and there is no other associated Co-Investigator to carry out the project, the Head of the Department should take the responsibility for identifying a competent person in the Institution in the relevant subject area and submit his/her bio-data to the Council for further consideration. |
| | (f) The date of receipt of the grant by Institute shall be taken as the date of commencement of the project. The Registrar/Director/Principal of the Institute shall intimate receipt of the grant to AICTE. If the Institute/ PI do not take-up the project work within 6 months of the receipt of the grant, approval shall ipso facto lapse and the Institute shall become liable to refund the entire grant along with interest generated to AICTE. |
| | (g) The grant will be utilized strictly for the purpose as specified in the sanction letter. Re-appropriation of funds from Recurring to Non-Recurring is allowed but not vice versa; Non-Recurring and Recurring heads are 75% and 25% respectively of the total grant, unless otherwise recommended by AICTE experts. The list of equipment decided by the experts is final and there can be no changes later on. |

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| (h) | The equipment(s)/item(s) purchased from out of non-recurring should be as per the specifications sanctioned by AICTE. The purchase cost below the sanction cost shall be restricted to actual cost, and in vice versa restricted to sanctioned cost. Excess cost shall be met by the Institute from its own resources. |
| (i) | The recurring grant can be utilized for the items sanctioned by the AICTE. This should not be used for travel abroad to attend Conference / seminars. However, for presenting a Paper in a Seminar / Conference within the country, the travel expenses may be met from the recurring grant. Further, expenditure incurred towards hiring of staff on contract basis shall be considered only if the same was recommended by the Experts and approved by AICTE. No budget be utilized for hiring permanent staff. |
| (j) | Interest accrued on the sanctioned grant-in-aid will be reported and refunded back to AICTE and not adjusted against the subsequent second instalment. Similarly, unspent amount should also be refunded. Both should be refunded through RTGS to Member Secretary AICTE' State Bank of India, Account number 55113199952, IFSC Code: SBIN0050203, Shashtri Bhawan, New Delhi. |
| (k) | Once the project is sanctioned, the Council shall not consider any request for additional grant and replacement of equipment. |
| (l) | Separate institutional overheads for execution of the project shall not be provided by AICTE. |

1.8 Submission of Mandatory documents in AICTE prescribed formats:

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| (a) | APR, AUC, R&P, Statement of Expenditure on completion of each financial year |
| (b) | Copies of GFR-19, copies of bills & vouchers and stock entry register duly attested |
| (c) | PCR with consolidated AUC & R&P |
| (d) | Feedback Form |

1.9 Constitution of Project Monitoring Committee (PMC):

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| | Institute must constitute a Project Monitoring Committee (PMC) in the manner and for the purpose prescribed in RPS Guidelines. |
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Extension of Research Promotion Scheme:

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| (A) | Research Promotion Scheme for North Eastern Region (RPS-NER) |
| (i) | Objectives: |
| (a) | To enhance the coverage of the RPS Scheme only for North Eastern Region to provide support to Technical Institutes located in the far flung areas of NER. |
| (b) | To improve infrastructure, quality, Capacity Enhancement, Modernization of Lab, Competence of faculty and to improve learning outcomes in institutes of NER. |

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| (ii) Eligibility: | |
| | AICTE approved technical Institutions/University Departments with relevant PG Programme. |
| (iii) Processing Methodology: | |
| | Application will be called from AICTE approved technical institutions in North Eastern Region only |
| (iv) Duration of Project/Funding Pattern: | |
| | Duration of the Project, Limit of funding and disbursement of funds will be as per the existing RPS Scheme. |
| (v) Terms & Conditions: | |
| (a) | The RPS-NER is an exclusive scheme for the Professors or PI working in institutes in North Eastern Region. The Professors/Pis of other departments of same institute are eligible to submit application under General RPS scheme, which is already in existence. The funding shall accordingly be made. |
| (b) | The release of grant-in-aid under RPS-NER shall be made as per the existing guidelines and provision contained in Research Promotion Scheme. |
| (c) | All other Terms & Conditions shall be same as prescribed in Research Promotion Scheme. |
| (B) Research Promotion Scheme for National Doctoral Fellowship Centres (RPS-NDF) | |
| (i) Objective: | |
| | To enhance the coverage of the RPS Scheme. To create and improve the research facilities/equipment available in the Research Centres. To create research ambience in Research Centres by promoting research in engineering sciences. To place the overall academic and research standing of the Research Centres on sound footing. To strengthen the culture for research among the students and increase their employability in the industry. To augment the supply of well-qualified faculty and research personnel in the country. |
| (ii) Eligibility: | |
| (a) | AICTE approved Research Centres |
| (b) | Professors/Pis working in NDF Research Centres guiding a research scholar |
| (iii) Processing Methodology: | |
| | Application will be called from NDF Centres only. |
| (iv) Duration of Project/Funding Pattern: | |
| | Duration of the Project, Limit of funding and disbursement of funds will be as per the existing RPS Scheme. |
| (v) Terms and conditions: | |
| (a) | The RPS-NDF is an exclusive scheme for the Professors or PI where the scholars of NDF scheme are working directly under their supervision. The Professors/Pis of other departments of same institute |

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| | are eligible to submit application under General RPS scheme which is already in existence. The funding shall accordingly be made. |
| (b) | The release of grant-in-aid to the NDF Centres shall be made as per the existing guidelines and provision contained in Research Promotion Scheme. |
| (c) | All other Terms & Conditions shall be same as prescribed in Research Promotion Scheme. |
| (C) | Research Promotion Scheme (Management) |
| (i) | Objectives: |
| (a) | To enable management institutes in carrying out data survey and analysis towards management of health, sanitation and allied subjects of a particular area. |
| (b) | To enable empowerment of women/weaker section of the society by means of survey and analysis of impact of creating sustainable livelihood in rural area. |
| (ii) | Eligibility: |
| | As per the existing guideline and provision contained in Research Promotion Scheme only for AICTE approved Management institutes |
| (iii) | Duration of Project: |
| | Duration of the Project will be 2 years from the date of receipt of funds in the institutes account |
| (iv) | Limit of funding/Disbursement of funds |
| (a) | Maximum limit of funding is Rs. 5 lakh |
| (b) | 100% of sanctioned recurring grant |
| (v) | Terms & Conditions: |
| (a) | No funds for purchase of equipment shall be utilized only recurring expenditure is to be incurred. |
| (a) | All Terms & Conditions shall be same as per the existing Guidelines of RPS Scheme. |
| (E) | Research Promotion Scheme for Rural Area (RPS-Rural) |
| (i) | Objective: |
| | The higher education in particular technical education in Rural areas is not upto the standard compared with other institutes in urban areas of the country. The problem is due to poor infrastructure and lack of equipment etc. for research work and struggling institutes are not getting grants. In order to extend the benefit of RPS to the institute specially situated in rural areas of the country (Z category) with the relaxation criteria. |
| (ii) | Eligibility: |
| (a) | Proposals would be invited from the institutions located in Z categories cities as per Ministry of Finance OM No.2/5/2017-E.II (B) dated 07.07.2017. |
| (b) | Qualifying criteria be reduced to 50% marks as average of all the 3 evaluators |
| (c) | Other eligibility criteria remain same as per the existing RPS Scheme |
| (iii) | Duration of the Project: |

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| | Duration of project will be three year from the date of receipt of funds in the institute's account. |
| (iv) Limit of Funding: | |
| (a) | Maximum limit of funding is Rs.25Lakh. |
| (b) | Non-Recurring 75% and Recurring 25% of the total sanctioned grant. |
| (iv) Disbursement of the Funds: | |
| | Disbursement of funds shall be same as per the existing Guidelines of RPS Scheme. |
| (v) Processing Methodology: | |
| | Processing Methodology shall be same as per the existing Guidelines of RPS Scheme. |
| (vi) Terms and conditions: | |
| | All Terms & Conditions shall be same as per the existing Guidelines of RPS Scheme. |

