

AICTE SSPCA (SUPPORT TO STUDENTS FOR PARTICIPATING IN COMPETITIONS ABROAD)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q1. What is AICTE SSPCA Scheme?

The scheme aims to provide financial assistance to students in the field of technical education to compete in an international scientific/technical event. This scheme also inculcates the research, innovation and competition culture amongst the students.

SSPCA scheme provides travel assistance to a student or a team of students for attending competition at an international level in order to encourage engineering students to improve their knowledge in technical education.

Q2. What are the categories under which students can apply for AICTE SSPCA scheme?

AICTE invites proposal for SSPCA scheme under two categories:

Category A: For participating in a renowned competition in abroad that will be announced by AICTE.

*(Pre-defined competitions will be decided by the expert committee periodically)

Category B: For participating in a renowned competition in abroad that will be proposed by a student.

Q3. What are the Eligibility criteria for the Scheme?

(a) Students must be enrolled and undergoing a technical course from an AICTE approved institution.

(b) Student or a team of 2 to 6 students are eligible for participating in competition abroad under SSPCA scheme.

(c) Students of AICTE approved Diploma, B.E./ B.Tech., Integrated M.Tech., M.E./ M.Tech., MBA, MCA and Hotel Management are eligible for participating in completion abroad.

(d) The Student or team of students should participate in a national level event where they have won the top honours.

(e) A student will be eligible only once during the course of his/ her study for financial support under the scheme.

(f) The maximum duration of the competition is limited to 10 days.

Q4. How much amount is provided to the students under this scheme?

Scheme will provide assistance up to Rs 2 Lakh per student, including all related expenses, to the eligible students.

Q5. What is the Nature and extent of financial support?

The Conditions are mentioned below:

i. **International Travel** - This scheme provides to and fro economic class air fare to the place of competition abroad.

ii. **Domestic Travel** - Actual airfare not exceeding AC III Class train fare will be admissible for travel from the AICTE approved Institution to the nearest airport and back, Local public transport charges for the place of stay in abroad to the event venue.

iii. Registration fee (as per actual or Rs. 50,000/- whichever is less will be provided to the participating student)

iv. Visa application fee

v. Lodging & boarding.

vi. Airport tax

vii. Travel health Insurance

viii. Cost incurred for taking equipment related to competition

The support is provided for reimbursement basis as per the actual expenditure incurred by the participant within the guideline of the scheme.

Q6. Which documents are required at the time of application?

Following documents are required at the time of application:

- i. Application duly signed by the competent authority of the institute should be sent to the AICTE, New Delhi
- ii. A copy of the letter of Acceptance from the organizers of the competition reflecting the name of the student.
- iii. Expected details of expenditure likely to be occurred so that the expert committee may take a decision for the reimbursement.
- iv. A copy of complete details of competition abroad.
- v. A copy of related documents in which the student or team has participated and has won the top honours in the National event.

Q7. When should students apply for getting the benefits of the scheme?

The required documents should be submitted at least three months prior to the commencement of the event.

Q8. What are the guidelines for handling the multiple applications for the same competition or multiple teams from the same institutions?

In case of two or more applications for the same competition or two or more than two teams from the same institution has arrived, final decision will be taken by council on the recommendation of the committee. Priority will be given to the first author.

Q9. What is the deadline for submitting the required documents after the participation?

The applicant should submit the required documents within one month after the international scientific competition is over.

Q10. What are the list of documents required/needed after the international scientific competition?

In order to ensure prompt action in releasing the grant, the applicants shall submit the following documents through their Head of the institutes within one month after the international scientific competition is over.

- i) A statement of account giving details of expenditure incurred on various items viz., travel (air/train/bus/other tickets), airport tax, registration fee, visa fee, Travel health insurance, boarding pass, boarding & lodging, cost incurred for taking equipment related to competition.
- ii) A technical report and audited utilization certificate in the prescribed format for the total expenditure incurred on the visit.
- iii) The details of assistance received or facilities provided by the organizer of the competition of any other similar Indian/foreign agency.
- iv) The amount made available by the Technical Institution approved by the Council/ University/ State Government and other sources.
- v) Certificate of participation in the competition.
- vi) Conversion rate of the US dollar into Indian currency. (From any bank or other financial institution).

Q11. What is the procedure for the approval of the proposal?

The proposal(s) received duly completed in all respects will be evaluated by an expert.

1. If the competition mentioned in the received proposal falls under the Category- 'A', then it will be automatically selected and the final decision of the expert committee is only for the expenditure to occur.

2. For those cases, which fall under Category- 'B', the proposal shall be assessed by an expert committee. Based on their recommendation, a final decision will be taken by the AICTE.

Q12. What is the Procedure for release of grant?

The entire amount will be disbursed in one instalment after competition is over and the relevant documents are submitted by the applicants/Institute.