



HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

Sector H-9, Islamabad (Pakistan) Website: <http://www.hec.gov.pk>

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Subject: Funding Opportunities under HEC-R&D Programs

It is with reference to our earlier letter of even number dated February 13, 2017 on the subject cited above. It has been noticed that rare number of applications/proposal are received under HEC sponsored research projects. This shows that faculty and students are still not familiar to this opportunity. The brief of HEC sponsored research support program/projects is re-submitted for awareness of your university's department.

1. **Pakistan Program for Collaborative Research (PPCR)** facilitates the faculty of Pakistani universities and foreign universities for collaboration in research activities. The program allows for university faculty in Pakistan to go abroad, or for researchers from technological advanced countries to come to Pakistan. The visits can last between one week to four weeks while its can be extended up to six months in case of sabbaticals and are limited to one person (the visiting fellow) visit to an institute/department in the host institution.

Following activities are supported under this program;

1. Submission of papers to peer-reviewed scientific journals (co-authored by the visiting fellow and the host). The paper must be an effort of the joint research work being carried out by the applicants.
2. Preparation of joint research proposals to be submitted for funding bodies. There must be previous communication with the applicant on the matter.
3. Training for lab techniques in Pakistan for postgraduate students.
4. Scientific or academic sabbatical for Pakistani faculty.
5. Curriculum review by the international experts invited by Pakistani universities and/or HEC.
6. Academic consultancy to review processes and procedures in the universities and/or HEC.

✦ For details please visit <http://hec.gov.pk/site/ppcr>

2. **HEC Outstanding Research Awards:** The program aims to recognize and reward the achievements of Pakistani researchers/scholars for research, innovation and publication in all fields of study. The objectives of these awards are to acknowledge the high performance of the Pakistani faculty and researchers and thus promote a competitive research culture in higher education and R&D institutions.

The awards are given in the following categories;

1. Best Research Paper Award
2. Best Young Research Scholar Award
3. Best Innovation Award
4. Best Book Award

✦ For details please visit <http://hec.gov.pk/site/ora>

3. **Pak-France PERIDOT Research Program:** PERIDOT is the Franco-Pakistani Hubert Curien Partnership (PHC) Program providing opportunities to Pakistani and French researchers to interact for joint research activities. The program is implemented in Pakistan by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) and in France, jointly by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development (MAEDI) and the Ministry of Higher Education and Research (MESR). The objective of this program is to develop new scientific and technological cooperation between French and Pakistani higher education institutions/research laboratories by supporting the mobility of young researchers, specially doctoral or post-doctoral students from both sides.

The funding for the core research project will be borne by the concerned Pakistani and the French Universities/Labs/Institutes. HEC and the French counterpart will provide funding for travel and living expenses to the researchers involved in the projects. Partners will have to submit the project simultaneously in Pakistan and France. The project life will be for three years.

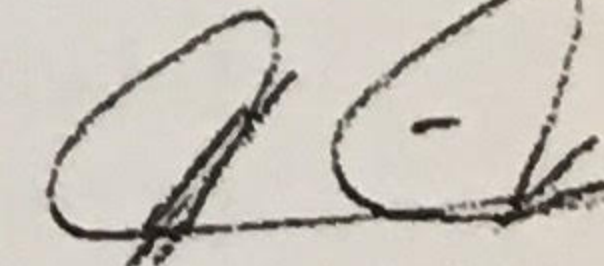
Following are the priority areas for the call of proposals in 2017

1. Health
2. Energy
3. Climate Change
4. Archeology /Heritage
5. Water

- ✚ For details please visit <http://hec.gov.pk/site/peridot>
4. **Patent Support Program:** By securing a patent, the inventor not only works for the larger benefit of mankind but also provides opportunity to one's institution, and the country to gain financial benefits of the invention. Scientists and researchers from universities/institutions and R&D organizations of Pakistan are supported by funding filing of their patent-able research/invention. An amount of USD 6,000 is extended for patent filing per case.
✚ For details please visit <http://hec.gov.pk/site/PSP>
 5. **Access to Scientific Instrumentation Program:** The HEC encourages sharing of scientific instrumentation/facilities by the universities with the researchers for academic purposes. The institutions that share their research facility are compensated by the HEC under this program. The research support grant (up to Rs. 75,000/- per annum) is available for postgraduate students (MS/M.Phil./PhD.)
✚ For details please visit <http://hec.gov.pk/site/ASIP>
 6. **Social Integration Outreach Program:** This specific program is designed to push universities to integrate their research and teaching activities to address local issues, by community involvement, to provide on ground solutions.
✚ For details please visit <http://hec.gov.pk/site/SIOP>
 7. **Grant for Repair & Maintenance of Scientific Equipment:** Cutting edge research in the higher education sector requires state-of-the art facilities. To ensure that Pakistan's universities have access to the best laboratory equipment and research services, the Higher Education Commission has instituted a special grant program. Under this program, funds are provided to eligible public sector universities and degree awarding institutions for repair and maintenance of scientific equipment. The grants range from Rs.60,000 to Rs.1,000,000 per award.
✚ For details please visit <http://hec.gov.pk/site/GRSE>
 8. **Start-up Research Grant for Fresh Ph.D. Holders:** The Program is designed to assist the fresh PhD holders to establish research facilities upon joining higher education institutions as faculty members. The program enables the newly appointed PhD faculty to setup basic research infrastructure to start research activities without delay. The program helps to engage both the faculty and students in research through provision of financial assistance and basic lab/experimental facilities. The support grant up to Rs.500,000/- is extended to a researcher.
✚ For details please visit <http://hec.gov.pk/site/SRGP>
 9. **Establishment of Office of Research Innovation & Commercialization (ORIC):** HEC in 2011, in recognition of impact oriented research started establishing ORICs to organize the research activities of universities/HEIs and develop powerful linkages with the community/industry. Currently 48 ORIC are working in universities across Pakistan.
✚ For details please visit <http://hec.gov.pk/site/oric>
 10. **Establishment of Business Incubation Centers (BIC):** The main objective of establishment of BIC is to promote entrepreneurship among youth. Currently 20 BICs are working in universities across Pakistan.
✚ For details please visit <http://hec.gov.pk/site/EBIC>
 11. **Technology Development Fund (TDF):** in order to cater the dearth of program where the hands on practices on technologies can be harnessed to develop prototype for commercialization, HEC has recently initiated a new program "Establishment of Technology Development Fund" approved under PSDP with a total cost of Rs.2,905 million.
✚ For details please visit <http://hec.gov.pk/site/TDF>

Your good self is requested to please disseminate the above information across your institution and encourage the faculty to apply and avail these funding opportunities.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. Muhammad Latif)

The Registrar

All Public Sector Universities/HEIs of Pakistan

C.C.

PS. to Vice Chancellor/Rector

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