

NOTICE

REVISED TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR RESEARCH INITIATION GRANT FOR THE FACULTY

Introduction:

The Research Initiation Fund is designed to attract faculty to BITS to perform quality research. This policy together with the Seed Grant Scheme provides a substantial package to begin a scholarly research program at BITS.

Objectives:

1. Enable the beginning of research and related activities for a newly recruited faculty who has significant potential to attract external funding.
2. To attract high quality faculty in the present scenario.

Awards:

Grants shall be awarded soon after joining BITS for upto Rs. 2 Lakhs and the amount should be spent within 24 months of appointment. (Based on requirement and progress an additional amount of Rs. 2 Lakhs may be considered after an year.)

Eligibility:

1. Any new faculty of BITS appointed at the level of an Assistant Professor or above.
2. All faculty members who joined BITS on or after August 1, 2009 at the level of Assistant Professor or above or were promoted as Assistant Professors on or after August 1, 2009 will be eligible for this grant.
3. The initiation grant can also be considered for those recruited in the last three years provided they have not received funding under the new 'Seed Grant' scheme of BITS. The grant will, however, be contingent upon their performance in the past few months/years, and upon the strength of the proposal.
4. The faculty should commit to do research and to seek external funding for R & D projects.

Application Process:

Faculty members should apply for Research Initiation Grant, to his/her Head of the Department, soon after joining BITS by providing details of the research to be carried out in the prescribed form. Total budget should not exceed the prescribed limit.

Selection Criteria:

1. Research plan should describe research that is sustainable and has potential to attract external funding.
2. Itemized budget should be consistent with research plan.

Evaluation Process:

The application/proposal will be reviewed by respective Departmental Research Committee (DRC). On recommendation of DRC, Director of the campus will consider, approve and sanction the fund. The Head of Department will play a key role in monitoring the expenditure of funds.

Guidelines for Expenditure:

1. The funds may be used to purchase specialized research equipment, databases, software and laboratory supplies (chemicals/glasswares/plastiwares), sample collection and analysis.
2. The funds may also be used to buy books and subscribe to journals not available at BITS.
3. The funds may be used to engage students at all levels on part time basis providing stipend.
4. The funds may be used to travel to technical conferences or for travel for the purpose of data collection, meeting or to initiate collaborations. But attending training programme may not be permitted.
5. Desktops, laptops, printers and peripherals may not be purchased with this amount. However, Servers, storage systems, network equipment may be permitted.
6. The fund is not to be used for secretarial assistance and any other such expenditure.
7. Record of purchase will be maintained by the department

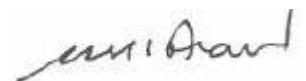
Conditions:

All purchases/expenses should be processed in accordance with BITS policies and procedures.

Expected Outcomes:

BITS expect that faculty who avail Research Initiation grant will seek external funds to support their research program within two years of the commencement of the grant. And otherwise enhance their teaching performance. The report of the faculty on the use and outcome of the grant will be part of the Faculty appraisal.

For existing Faculty: Those who were recruited during last three years may submit a proposal and similar support can be provided based on (i) strength of proposal and (ii) faculty performance as per the appraisal during last three years. It will not be automatic. If the concerned faculty is covered under the new seed grant policy, he/she will not be eligible to this additional grant.



(M.M.S.Anand)
Registrar

cc: Directors: Pilani Campus/Goa Campus/Hyderabad Campus
Deputy Directors
Deans/Unit Chiefs/HODs
Budget Officer
PS to the Vice Chancellor