



SEED FUNDING SCHEME POLICY

KSRM College of Engineering (Autonomous), Kadapa

Category	Research and Innovation
Approved by	College Academic Council
Effective date	16-07-2019
Next review date	16-07-2020
Policy sponsor	Dean, Center for Research and Innovation
Policy administrator	Dean, Center for Research and Innovation
Version	1.0

Purpose

The Seed Funding Scheme is designed to stimulate research culture in young faculty members of the College. The scheme aims to promote innovative product development through multidisciplinary collaborations. Faculty members may also use this funding for starting research projects as precursor to externally funded projects.

Scope and Limits

This policy applies to all persons participating and conducting research and innovation activities under the auspices of the College. The scheme will initially run until June 2020, after which it will be reviewed.

Policy Statements

1. **Objectives:** The objectives of the scheme are:
 - a. To support young faculty members to initiate research projects that have the potential to attract external funding
 - b. To fast track prospective research projects for external funding by supporting initial/preliminary work
 - c. To encourage interdisciplinary research projects
 - d. To promote research projects with an intention to get patents
 - e. To encourage faculty members without PhD degree to acquire it
 - f. To attract and retain talent
2. **Administration of Scheme:** College assigns responsibility for the oversight and implementation of the scheme to Dean, Center for Research and Innovation (CRI)
3. **Funds:**
 - a. The maximum funding limit for each project is 40,000 INR
 - b. A minimum of six projects will be awarded in each academic year
 - c. Generally, Research Promotion Policy shall apply for the scheme
 - d. Funds will be granted for expenditure towards parts, equipment, fabrication and stationery only. Costs towards travel, software and wages will not be allowed
 - e. All hardware will become property of the College
4. **Eligibility:** The following criteria shall apply:
 - a. Experience: Minimum of 3 and a maximum of 12 years of experience
 - b. Qualification: Preference will be given to faculty without PhD degree
 - c. Team: The team size is 2 or 3 of which one shall act as Principal Investigator (PI) and others as Coinvestigators (CI). Interdisciplinary teams will be given preference

- d. Restrictions:
 - i. Faculty members with current externally funded projects are not eligible
 - ii. A faculty member may avail this funding only twice in their entire career at this College
 - iii. At any time, a faculty member can have one running project only under this scheme
5. **Application Process:**
 - a. CRI will call for project proposals
 - b. Faculty members submit proposals
 - c. Presentation of projects by PIs before selection committee
 - d. Selection of projects and award of funding
 - e. Submission of project report and closure of project
6. **Selection Criteria:**
 - a. Contemporary interdisciplinary projects
 - b. Expertise of the team members
 - c. Likelihood of attracting external funding
 - d. Outcomes of the project
 - e. Budget requirements
7. **Stipulations:**
 - a. The PI is responsible for the conduct of the project
 - b. For all administrative matters regarding the project, PI will be the contact person
 - c. Procurement of parts and equipment will be as per the College policy
 - d. The funds have to be utilized within stipulated period
 - e. PI shall submit progress reports as per the award letter
 - f. In any research publication arising out of the project, the contribution of the College should be acknowledged
8. **Expected outcomes:**
 - a. Minimal working prototype of products
 - b. Research publications
 - c. Externally funded projects
 - d. Patents
9. **Review and Feedback:** Dean, CRI, will propose modifications and improvements to this policy based on experiences, and feedback from stakeholders and others. College Academic Council will review the proposed modifications and incorporate them into the policy. Any questions and feedback may be directed to cri@ksrmce.ac.in