

# University Funded Research Program (UFRP) (Seed Money)

Proposal Submitted by



**Central University of Rajasthan**

## **Introduction**

The Central University of Rajasthan (CURAJ) has been established by an Act of Parliament as a new Central University in 2009, and is fully funded by the Government of India. The University since its inception has created a research and innovation culture for achieving international reputation through various extramural research grants, publications, awards and recognition of faculty members in various core and interdisciplinary research areas of science, social science and humanities. The University wants to further enhance its ranking and achieve higher accreditation points in NAAC assessment to move the university towards higher position so that it can achieve greater position in national and international level. For this purpose, expenditure in research activities and to explore the new inventions including research papers is vital.

To promote the overall research ecosystem and fund research problems of impacting nature, it is proposed to grant funds in the form of *seed money* to university teachers and researchers from the financial year 2022-23 onwards under the University Funded Research Program (UFRG). Accordingly, university proposes to incur a total expenditure of Rs. 50 Lakhs per year for the University Funded Research Program (UFRG) to be disbursed in the form of a limited number of seed grants (approx. 10) to promote the research and innovation culture.

## **Objectives**

The University Funded Research Program (UFRG) provides research support to regular faculty members of the Central University of Rajasthan to undertake research and development in emerging cutting-edge research as well as trans- and inter – disciplinary areas of humanities, social science, science and engineering.

- To promote excellence in research and innovation, and intellectual capital in various disciplines.
- To identify and develop opportunities for the faculty to engage in advanced interdisciplinary and cutting-edge research areas.

## **Nature of Support**

The maximum amount of grant to a selected faculty applicant under University Funded Research Program (UFRG) is capped to Rs. 5.00 Lacs for a period of two years. The grant of Rs. 5.0 Lacs may be utilized as follows:

- Rs. 4.0 lakhs for minor equipment and accessories not available with the faculty with justification.
- Rs. 1.0 lakhs (0.5 lakhs / year) for contingency and consumables related expenses for research activities.

## **Eligibility**

All regular faculty members of the Central University Rajasthan are eligible to apply for University Research Grant (UFRG). Faculty member have an ongoing UFRG project can not apply; however, they can submit a new proposal one year after the completion of UFRG project. The regular faculty member should have at least five years' service remaining before the date of superannuation.

## **Expected Deliverables**

It is expected that faculty member will publish at least one research paper and/or apply for patent based on the research carried out and also submit a proposal for major research grant to external funding agency.

## **Application Process**

- Interested faculty member shall submit the proposal in the prescribed format along with Bio-Data to the Research and Development (R&D) Cell.
- Proposals submitted must be original in ideation and content. Plagiarism in any form will not be acceptable as per University Academic Integrity and Misconduct Policy and liable to be rejected if found plagiarised.
- Progress of the project and status of fund utilization may be furnished to the Research and Development Cell within one month of the closing of every financial year and final closure report towards the end of the project.

## **Evaluation & Selection Criteria**

- The Project Monitoring Committee (PMC) will be constituted to review ongoing and selection of fresh proposals.
- The PMC shall comprise of following members:
  - Vice Chancellor, Chairman
  - Dean of the respective School, Member
  - Two Professor's (one may be external) nominated by the Vice Chancellor
  - Director – Research & Development / Dean - Research, Member Secretary
- The PMC will meet twice a year (1<sup>st</sup> week of March and 1<sup>st</sup> week of Sept) to review ongoing projects and consider new proposals.

The committee will shortlist the candidates to be called for presentation based on the experts report and finalize the proposals to be recommended for the UFRG based on the evaluation and selection criteria of the University.

## **Terms & Conditions**

- The grant being released based on the approved research proposal is for those specific objectives only and should be exclusively spent on the project related activities within the stipulated time.
- The individual research proposals are considered for UFRG and no collaborative or joint research proposals are accepted.
- For subsequent UFRG proposals, applicant must have published at least one research paper and/or applied/granted patent based on the previous UFRG research proposal as well as submitted/sanctioned/implemented externally funded research project after sanction of previous UFRG.
- If the faculty member, to whom a grant for a project has been sanctioned, wishes to leave the University or going on long leave of six months or more, project will be terminated with immediate effect and faculty has to submit the Utilization Certificate and ~~final~~ a project report of the project before leaving the University.
- The University reserves the right to terminate the project at any stage if appropriate progress is not being made or the grant has not been properly utilized.