

**MAHARAJAS COLLEGE, ERNAKULAM
(A GOVERNMENT AUTONOMOUS COLLEGE)**

**Research Project for Teachers
(Major and Minor)**

Under

**Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha
Abhiyan (RUSA)**

GUIDELINES

RESEARCH PROJECTS FOR TEACHERS: MAJOR AND MINOR

- **INTRODUCTION**

The college strives to promote teaching and research in emerging areas in Humanities, Social Sciences, Languages, Literature, Pure sciences, Technology, Pharmacy, Medical, Agricultural Sciences etc. The emphasis would be supporting such areas that cut across disciplines and subjects such as health, gerontology, environment, biotechnology, nanotechnology, stress management, WTO and its impact on economy, history of science, Asian philosophy and many other areas as would be identified by subject experts. There are disciplines such as defence and strategic studies which include national security affairs, insurance and banking, economics and world trade which in a true sense are multidisciplinary in nature, cutting across disciplines of sciences, humanities and social science, and are of importance in a rapidly changing global scenario. These and allied disciplines need to be studied and researched in a more organized manner. Institutionalization of such activities is a need of the present times.

- **OBJECTIVES**

To promote excellence in research in higher education by supporting research programmes of the teachers in various disciplines.


- **ELIGIBILITY/TARGET GROUP AND CONDITIONS**

The financial support will be provided to permanent teachers working in the college. The Department of the teacher should have adequate research facilities. Research project may be undertaken by an individual teacher or a group of teachers. The financial support would be decided depending on the project/study.

In case a project is undertaken jointly, one of the teachers will function as a Principal Investigator and he/she will be responsible for all matters pertaining to the project. Project is not transferable in any case.

A teacher can have only one project/ scheme supported by the RUSA at any given time. It would be the responsibility of the Principal Investigator/Co-Investigator for total accountability of the project. The Principal Investigator should publish two papers in a reputed journal in the form of Books/Article/Presentation in seminar etc. from the said project




SPECIAL GRADE PRINCIPAL
MAHARAJA'S COLLEGE
ERNAKULAM

completed. PI may publish the results of the study on the project acknowledging the support received from the RUSA. If a Principal Investigator fails to complete the project, he/she has to refund the entire amount sanctioned with interest. Failure to abide by the rules will lead to the refunding of the amount supported by RUSA by the Principal Investigator.

- **NATURE OF ASSISTANCE**

The quantum of assistance for a research project will be as under:

- **Research Project in Sciences**

Minor Research Project - upto Rs. 5 lakhs

Major Research Project - upto Rs. 25 lakhs

- **Research Project in Humanities, Social Science, Languages, and allied disciplines**

Minor Research Project - upto Rs. 3 lakhs

Major Research Project- upto Rs. 20 lakhs

Financial support can cover for the items like Equipment, Books and Journals, Hiring Services, Contingency, Chemicals and Consumables, Travel and Field work .

a. Equipment

The equipment grant may be used to procure essential equipment needed for the proposed research work.

- The escalation, if any, in the cost of approved equipment may be met out of savings/re-appropriation from other heads only under intimation to the RUSA.
- The equipment acquired by the Principal Investigator under a Research Project must be deposited to the College at the end of the project. They should become institutional property.
- The University/Institution should make every effort to put all the equipment available in the laboratories in effective use. A maximum of 5% of the allocation made for equipment could be utilized for maintenance repair/purchase of spares/service contracts etc.

b. Books and Journals

The Books and Journals acquired by the Principal Investigator under a Research Project must be deposited to either the departmental library or the central library at the end of the project. They should become institutional property.

c. Hiring Services

Technical staff required for the implementation of the project may be hired on a fixed amount for a fixed period on contract basis. Modalities for the utilization of research funds under the head of hiring services are as under:-

- This is meant for having institutional services for specialized technical work, such as sample analysis, for which the Institution either has no infrastructure or such services are available on payment basis.
- Skilled/unskilled workers may be engaged on daily wages for expedition, field work only and not as peon, attendant, lab attendant, clerk, accountant etc.
- Such of the Principal Investigators who have not been given any research personnel on a regular basis, may hire a person for technical assistance and the person so engaged must fulfill the qualifications prescribed for Project Fellow by the UGC. He/she may be paid remuneration at par with the Project Fellow, limited to a maximum of 3 months in the total tenure of the project.
- Expenditure on payment of consultancy fees etc. shall be admissible under this head, if the payment is made to a person outside the Institution of the Principal Investigator and Co – Investigator(s). As far as possible, consultancy fee should be paid to some organized agencies only.

d. Contingency

The admissible contingency grant may be utilized on spares for apparatus, photo-stat copies and microfilms, typing, stationary, postage, telephone calls, internet, fax, computation and printing needed in connection with the project. The contingency grant is not intended for meeting expenditure on furniture etc., items normally provided by the College and registration fee of seminars/ conferences by the Principal Investigator and Co–Investigator(s).

e. Chemicals and Consumable

The grant under this head shall be utilized for meeting expenditure on chemicals, glassware and other consumable items.

f. Travel and Field Work

Modalities for the utilization of research funds under the head of Travel/Field work are as under:-

- The amount allocated under the head travel/field work is to be utilized for the implementation of the ongoing project only. This should not be used for attending

conference, seminar, workshop etc. This amount should also not be used for attending any training course either. The travel/field work is to be undertaken only for data collection and collection of other information such as consultancy, documents and libraries within the general scope and sphere of the project. No foreign travel is permissible within this scheme.

- Principal Investigator is permitted to travel for field work related to the sanctioned project by own car/taxi outside the city as per University rules within the amount allocated under travel head.
- Foreign travel is strictly prohibited in this scheme.

g. Re-Appropriation

The grant sanctioned under various heads of the Research Project will not be re-appropriated under any circumstances.

h. Tenure of the Research Project

The duration of the Research Project will be 12 months. Extension will not be granted under any circumstance.

i. Date of Implementation

The effective date of implementation of the Research project will be the date of receipt of fund by the teacher.

• PROCEDURE FOR APPLYING

All eligible teachers, who wish to avail financial assistance for Research Project should submit their proposal in the prescribed proforma (Annexure – I) along with the certificate from the Investigator duly signed by the Principal Investigator and Co-investigators. All the investigators should also attach their brief resume with the application form. Incomplete applications shall be rejected.

• PROCEDURE FOR APPROVAL

The proposals received as per prescribed format will be screened with the help of an expert committee constituted by the Principal of the college for the specific purpose. The final decision with regard to the allotment of the project and the quantum of financial assistance to be provided will be taken keeping in view the recommendations made by the Expert Committee and the availability of funds for the scheme. The number of projects sanctioned will be fixed keeping

in view the availability of the fund. The decisions of the committee with regard to the allotment of the project and the quantum of financial assistance to be provided will be final.

- **PROGRESS REPORT**

The Principal Investigator has to make a presentation with regard to the progress of the project after 6 months from the start of the project before an expert committee. Mid-term evaluation meetings will be organized by the college for assessing the progress of the project.

- **SUBMISSION OF FINAL REPORT:**

The Principal Investigator on completion of the project should submit the final report in the e-form and as hard copy to the Principal. Submission should include:

- A copy of the final report of work done of the project in CD/floppy.
- Executive summary of the report may be posted on the website of the University/College.
- Detailed information about the project in the prescribed proforma (Annexure –VIII).
- Month – wise and year – wise detailed statement of expenditure towards salary of staff hired under the project.
- A consolidated item – wise detailed statement of expenditure incurred during the complete project period in the prescribed proforma duly signed by the PI.
- A consolidated Audited Utilization Certificate for the amount actually utilized towards the project duly signed by Govt. Internal Auditor/Chartered Accountant, Principal and the Principal Investigator in the prescribed proforma.

Any expenditure incurred prior to the issue of the approval and after the expiry of tenure of the project will not be admissible. The Principal Investigator is expected to settle the accounts within two weeks on completion of the project.