



Collaborative Research Grant Scheme

UQ-IITD Research Academy



2024 Guidelines for Applicants

Background

The UQ-IITD Academy of Research (Academy) was established in 2018 as an unincorporated joint venture between The University of Queensland (UQ) and the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD). UQ and IITD share a vision for success to contribute to the world through research excellence. This collaboration aims to support research impact and build a long-term, sustainable and mutually beneficial partnership to both institutions.

The Academy represents an innovative partnership that aims to develop a substantial transnational collaborative research program with the flagship initiative of a joint PhD program involving all faculties and research institutes at both institutions.

In support of this vision, the UQ-IITD Research Academy will offer collaborative research grant funding each year to promote a broadening of collaboration between UQ and IITD from 2024.

The inaugural round of the Collaborative Research Grant Scheme is now open to applications, with a closing date of **26 June 2024**.

For more information about the UQ-IITD Research Academy, visit www.uqidar.org

CRICOS 00025B • TEQSA PRV12080



Indian Institute of Technology Delhi





Objectives

The UQ-IITD Research Academy Collaborative Research Grant scheme aims to broaden international research and engagement between IITD and UQ. It is expected that these initial projects will lead to long-term collaborations, generate publications, new external funding and achieve impact.

Applicants from all schools, departments, and disciplines are encouraged to submit funding applications for innovative and sustainable projects built around **the six research themes** of the UQ-IITD Research Academy.

The research and engagement activities may take place in any country or region as long as it is done collaboratively between the two institutions. Third parties may also be included in the Collaborative Research Grant, so long as it can be demonstrated that those institutions bring a specific and needed expertise, alongside their own research funding.

The key aims of the Collaborative Research Grant are:

- To support enabling activities that bring together academic staff with excellent and complementary expertise and capability.
- To address research questions with potential for high impact that could not be as effectively carried out by a partner on its own.
- To facilitate exploration of novel research concepts to a point at which significant external funding can be sought.
- To facilitate the development of new, shared educational provision leading to significant curriculum enhancement and student experience.
- To promote and facilitate ground breaking interdisciplinary research.
- To demonstrate clearly the added value of the UQ-IITD Research Academy.

In 2024, joint applications of UQ and IITD academics are sought from the current six research themes of the UQ-IITD Research Academy including:

- Healthcare and Biotechnology
- Quantum Technologies
- Digital Futures and Artificial Intelligence
- Societal Transformations and Livelihoods
- Clean Energy and Sustainability
- Advanced Materials and Manufacturing

Funding details

Applications up to a maximum **A\$10,000/(INR5,50,000)** are invited.

Up to six collaborative research awards will be funded in 2024. All funded applications will be promoted via the UQ-IITD Research Academy website and are expected to be completed in a twelve-month period from the award date.

Eligibility criteria

The Collaborative Research Grant will be available to the whole UQ and IITD academic community.

Eligible costs under the grant include:

- Travel and subsistence.
- External speakers/facilitators.
- Research consumables.
- Equipment (small purchases only, justifiable in line with project deliverables).
- Venue and catering costs.

The following items are **not** eligible for funding under this scheme:

- Academic salaries.
- Student fees/tuition.
- Indirect costs and overheads associated with internal research facilities.

Application process

1. Applicants must complete the Collaborative Research Grant application form in conjunction with their counterpart(s) at the partner institution.
2. An overall lead applicant must be nominated for each application, to whom the Collaborative Research Grant funds will be transferred if successful.
3. Applicants should ensure that activities are planned and scheduled to enable completion within twelve-month. No extensions will be granted.
4. Applications should be submitted to both institutions at the below email addresses by the application deadline:
 - a. IITD: pica@admin.iitd.ac.in and
 - b. UQ: uqidarboard@uq.edu.au
5. All applications will be jointly assessed and shortlisted by the Joint Review Panel. The Joint Review Panel includes the Academy Research Theme Leads.
6. Shortlists will be submitted to the Academy Management and Program Committee (AMPC) for final funding decisions.
7. Lead applicants will be notified within the specified timeframe.

Key dates

16 May 2024	Call for applications opens
26 June 2024	Call for applications closes
15 July 2024	Applicants notified of outcome
30 July 2025	Project completion deadline
30 September 2025	Report submission deadline

Assessment criteria

Applications will be assessed via a competitive selection process using the following criteria:

- Strategic fit to one or more of the UQ-IITD Research Academy theme(s).
- Quality of initiative/activity plan as outlined in the application.
- Potential to produce tangible outputs and benefits (including how the proposed collaborative research project is considered to be the most efficient path for achieving these outputs).
- Potential to leverage external funding.
- Potential for generating non-academic benefits and impact.
- Perceived value for money.
- Potential to expand upon existing or newly identified collaboration.
- Contribution to advancing and sustaining the UQ-IITD Research Academy.

Please refer to the Appendix for further information regarding the assessment criteria.

Grant acquittal and reporting

1. Awardees must agree to comply with all terms and conditions related to the receipt of funding including deadlines and procedures for acquittal of funds and reporting on outcomes.
2. Awardees will have up to a maximum of 12 months after the award date to utilise the funds.
3. Funds that are not utilised within the specified period will be withdrawn.
4. Upon completion of the project awardees will have a maximum of 2 months to submit a brief report outlining the successes and outcomes of the project.
5. Report forms will be provided to Project Leads. A full report of outputs from the funding are to be reported a year after the project completed.
6. This report will be used by the UQ-IITD Research Academy for the follow up of potential opportunities and reporting on outcomes, and will potentially be highlighted on the Academy, UQ, and IITD.
7. If a funded project includes international travel, award holders must abide by the official reporting, insurance and registration requirements as outlined in IITD and UQ policies.

UQ: policies.uq.edu.au/travel

IITD: iitd.ac.in/policies/travel



Contact

Please contact your home institution contact if you would like any additional information.

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Indian Institute of Technology Delhi

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Appendix. Detailed assessment criteria for Collaborative Research Grant Scheme

Assessment criteria	Evidence required
Strategic fit	Clear information on how the proposed project would enhance the development of one of the established themes of the Academy.
Quality of initiative/activity	How well the application has been considered and planned, and the strength of its potential for taking forward a development or collaboration. Are the goals stretching but achievable? Using data to substantiate, the bid identifies the need for and value of the proposed research and how this ties in with the UQ and IITD research objectives. Include supporting details on how the project would be significantly enhanced as a result of it being undertaken through the UQ-IITD Research Academy rather than by an individual academic or institution.
Anticipated outcomes and benefits	Specific reference to outcomes and benefits that are anticipated to be a direct result from this project, with timetable. How likely are these? How significant?
Leveraging funding	Clear details of how the project aims to leverage external funding as a direct result of this award.
Impact	<p>Communicate how this project will create (non-academic) impact in a way that will benefit and elevate the global reputations of both UQ and IITD. What is this potential impact and when, where and by whom might it be felt?</p> <p>Examples of (non-academic) impact could include, but are not limited to, influence on government policy and decision making, changes to public service practices / guidelines (including references in guidelines), measures of improved public services, measures of improved health outcomes, measures of improved sustainability and environmental public awareness.</p>
Value for money	Is the proposal offering value for money? Is it communicating strong evidence of: a unique research opportunity that is in line with the UQ-IITD Research Academy's purpose mobilising a new or already interested, but perhaps disparate, research group, or disciplines, to come together and collaborate for the purpose of step change quality research project management capabilities of the proposers - reassurance that, if funded, the project will run on time, to budget and deliver against agreed aims, activities and outcomes tangible and quantifiable outcomes and impact for the benefit of the institutions as well as the more immediate group the potential to publish high quality papers, influence policy, and leverage external funding as part of the Research Academy.
Potential to expand upon existing or newly identified collaboration	Evidence of strength and potential of the relationship. How can the group and its work develop beyond the project? What mechanisms will be used to ensure ongoing communications and interaction? Clear sense of potential trajectory for the project and the relationship.
Advancing and sustaining the UQ-IITD Research Academy	Communicates how the project relationship would contribute to sustaining and strengthening the UQ-IITD Research Academy.