



CIRCULAR

SUBJECT: - CALL FOR PROPOSALS UNDER THEMATIC RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAMME 2017

HEC is now inviting for the proposals with regard to **Thematic Research Grant Programme 2017**. This Research Grant Programme has been started by HEC to address the current issues of country in a proper way. All of the social sciences scholars and also those researchers who have a theoretical background, they can apply under this program and submit their proposals in ten deferent themes.

Research Themes:

- Theme-1: Pakistan: The Land and People.
- Theme-2: Constitution, Government and Politics.
- Theme-3: The Internal and External Challenges and Opportunities.
- Theme-4: State, Society and Culture.
- Theme-5: The New Role and Emerging Status of Pakistan.
- Theme-6: Education and Development.
- Theme-7: Communication and Traditional/Main Stream and New Media.
- Theme-8: Literature and Language / Linguistics.
- Theme-9: National Harmony and integration.
- Theme-10: General/ Miscellaneous.

Amount and Budget Estimates:

Maximum funding would be up to Rs.10.0 million for each research project. The proposed budget will be submitted on a separate sheet in the approved format provided along with the Application Form. If more than one institute is involved, the budget must clearly state the cash/kind inputs by and expenses for each institute in respect of all cost-heads. PI shall provide budget details along with justifications for each budget head as prescribed in the Application Form. The contingencies shall not exceed 10% of the total project budget. No additional budget shall be provided in case of any change in circumstances.

Duration:

Grants will be awarded for one year only to the applicants/proposals fulfilling the HEC Thematic Research Grants Criteria provided with Application Form and available at <http://hec.gov.pk/site/thematic>. In case of adverse circumstances, the application of P.I. for extension in project period may be considered on case to case basis. If the project proposal is funded, the institution will be responsible for the administration of the grant. No funds will be paid directly to the individuals.



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Eligibility Criteria:

Faculty members (permanent/full time/meritorious/emeritus/distinguished national professors) of social sciences, art/design and humanities, behavioural sciences, and such other disciplines which are not covered in the science faculties, having at least PhD degree or equivalent (in case of principal investigator) or M.S./M.Phil. or equivalent (in case of co-principal investigator(s)) of public sector universities or eligible private sector universities (list is available at HEC web site) are eligible to apply for this research grant. Faculty members retiring in the same fiscal year will not be entitled to receive research project grant.

The faculty members on study leave during the fiscal year will not be entitled for research project grant. PI must not have a history of un-successful, un-adjusted and un-accounted for previous HEC funded project. Proposal must include a cover sheet, abstract, brief survey of literature, bibliography and other details as per prescribed Application Form and CVs of the research team. Proposals must be submitted with the approval of the Vice Chancellor/Rector/Director of university/DAI. Completed proposals reach the HEC office on or before the deadline. Late submissions shall not be considered.

Guidelines:

1. An applicant cannot submit more than one project in a year.
2. Grants cannot be used for buying vehicles, huge hardware and other major acquisitions of a capital nature except minor equipment [laptop/desktop/3-in-one copier etc.]/accessories justified in proposal.
3. Utilization of the research project grant would be in line with budget proposal and no re-appropriation will be allowed without approval from HEC.
4. PI/Co-PI whether belonging to BPS or TTS scale shall receive one salary equivalent to TTS scale.
5. Research Assistants/Research Fellows/ Senior Research Fellows/Post-doctoral fellows shall be allowed to assist in the project if justified in the proposal.
6. Inter-universities/institutes/DAI's collaborative proposals involving less-developed institutions are encouraged.
7. The PI can appoint the team members as per approved project budget heads as and when needed as per proposed strategy and timeline.
8. The PI shall be required to submit the following deliverables during course of the project;
 - a. Fund Utilization duly audited by the University Auditor and Progress Report – 1 in the mid of the project.
 - b. Fund Utilization duly audited by the University Auditor and Progress Report – 2 at the end of the project.
9. An academic report containing research outcomes of the project Data CD [where applicable] Project-specific other deliverables as committed in the proposal [where applicable] upon receipt of the above documents, the HEC shall issue an NOC /certificate of project completion to the PI and the Institution.



HOW TO APPLY:

HEC shall provide all necessary Details of the program and documents [Themes/Sub-themes, budget Template etc.] on the HEC website. Click the Link for apply online <http://eportal.hec.gov.pk/trgp> .

Four copies of the application form should be submitted/ sent by registered mail/courier service through ORIC in the name of Director (Academics), Higher Education Commission, H-9, Islamabad along with email submission at: (tshah@hec.gov.pk). **Last Date for Submission of online applications has been extended till February 15, 2017.** Upon acceptance of the research proposal, the PI shall submit a Legal Deed endorsed by the respective VC/President/Rector/Director in order to receive the grant. For more details, please visit <http://hec.gov.pk/english/services/faculty/trgp/Pages/default.aspx>.

SD/
(Muhammad Adnan Khan)
Additional Director (ORIC)

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