

Call for proposals under the SPARC scheme

Second call for SPARC proposals are currently open and the end date for proposal submission is November 15, 2019.

Overview of the scheme

Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC) scheme of MHRD, Govt. of India, aims to facilitate academic and research collaborations between top ranked Indian Institutions and globally ranked Foreign Institutions, through Joint Research Projects involving mobility of students and faculty.

SPARC proposes to enable productive academic cooperation by supporting the following critical components:

1. Visits and long term stay (2-8 months) of international faculty/researchers in Indian Institutions to pursue teaching and research
2. Visits by Indian students for training and experimentation in premier laboratories worldwide
3. Joint development of niche courses, world class books and monographs, translatable patents, demonstrable technologies or action research outcomes and products
4. Consolidation of Bilateral cooperation through academic and research partnerships through Indo-X Workshops in India
5. Publication, Dissemination and Visibility through a high profile annual international Conference in India

Elements of SPARC Collaboration

- The project team should contain at least two international Faculty members, two Indian Faculty members and two Researchers pursuing PhD or post-doc level from each side. The Faculty members may be from one or two eligible institutions in each side. The students have to be registered full-time students or post-docs in their respective institutions. From the foreign side, it is expected that the team will be from the same country. Each side will have a Lead Institution (LI) and a Principal and co-Principal Investigator. Mobility of research students from either side is an optional component of the proposal.
 - Two visits by the Foreign Faculty to Indian Institutes totalling a combined 2 to 8 months over two years. A visit can be of duration of 15 days to 4 months.
-

Funding details

- For a visit of foreign faculty ranging from 1 to 4-month, payment will be made up to US\$ 15,000/- for the first month and US\$ 10,000/- thereafter including honorarium, travel, stay, etc. Usually, the honorarium of foreign faculty is approx \$333 per day.
- For a visit of foreign faculty of 15 days and less than a month, payment will be made upto US\$ 12,000/- including honorarium, travel, stay, etc.
- For the visit of a foreign post-doctoral/doctoral scholar, the host Institute will provide suitable free accommodation and an out-of-pocket allowance of ₹ 12,000 per month subject to an upper limit of ₹ 2 lakhs over the duration of the project. The student has to stay for a minimum period of 3 months and register as a visiting foreign student. Tuition fees will be waived by the Indian Institution. Usually, the out-of-pocket allowance for a foreign student is Rs 400 per day.
- For the visit of an Indian student to the Foreign Institution, payment will be made upto US\$ 2000 for travel and \$1000 per month for out-of-pocket allowances. Usually, the out-of-pocket allowance for an Indian student is approx \$33 per day.
- Upto ₹ 3 lakhs will be approved for Workshop subject to a maximum of two workshops.
- An overheads and contingency expense of upto 20% of the sum cost of other items mentioned above or ₹ 15 lakhs (whichever is minimum) for accessories, consumables, chemicals, video recording, field work, documentation, local travel in India, contingencies, institutional costs, miscellaneous, etc.

Additional Information

Website: <https://sparc.iitkgp.ac.in>

List of eligible foreign institutes: https://sparc.iitkgp.ac.in/foreign_institutes.php

Contact

For any further information of SPARC, please contact:

Prof. Vinita Hooda
Coordinator SPARC
Department of Botany
Maharshi Dayanand University Rohtak
Email: vinitahooda.botany@mdurohtak.ac.in
Ph: +91 9896795000
