

**Standard Operating Manual**  
**for**  
**TMA Pai University Research Fund Management**

*approved by*

**University Research Committee**



**Sikkim Manipal University**  
**5<sup>TH</sup> Mile, Tadong, Gangtok**  
**Sikkim (India)**

## **TMA Pai University Research Fund Management**

Sikkim Manipal University (SMU) has set its objective to encourage research, creation and dissemination of knowledge. SMU firmly believes that one's horizon of knowledge has potential of endless expansion with involvement in research, creativity and innovations. Therefore, SMU has created a corpus of research fund and is budgeted annually. This research fund is distributed / granted under different heads;

### **1. TMA Pai Seed Grant**

#### **(a) Major Grant-Up to 10 Lacs [2 projects/year]**

**TMA Pai Seed Grant-Major** is to promote and fund research projects between various departments / constituent units of SMU, between Indian Institutions (top-100 rankings as per NIRF) and between Global Universities (top-500 of QS World University Rankings or top-200 QS World University Rankings by subject).

#### **Nature and Duration of Support:**

- Topic of the research should be India centric where the country can gain as a whole.
- This is an annual grant up to Rs. 10.0 Lakhs to a research project for a period maximum up to two years.
- The research grant may cover equipment, consumables, travels and contingencies.

#### **Selection and Mode of Application:**

- Research proposals shall be submitted to the Associate Dean (Research), SMIMS / Associate Director (Research & Development), SMIT. Research proposals, if any, from SMCON, SMCPT, Hospital Administration, Medical Biotechnology and Humanities & Social Sciences shall be submitted to the Associate Dean (Research), SMIMS.

- Institute Research Protocol Evaluation Committee (IRPEC) at SMIMS and SMIT shall scrutinize and shortlist the research proposals.
- University Research Committee (URC) finally selects and the Chairman, URC approves the research proposals forwarded by the respective IRPEC. URC shall monitor the regular progress of work under this grant.
- Associate Dean (Research), SMIMS / Associate Director (Research & Development), SMIT shall call the research proposals in the month of December and shortlisted proposals shall be forwarded to URC by April every year.

### **Eligibility:**

- Any faculty member with a proven track record of quality research and employed in SMU for at least one year.
- Any group consisting of faculty of SMU and collaborators from other departments /constituent units of SMU/Manipal group institutions/institutes of national importance/Indian Institutions (top-100 rankings as per NIRF) and between Global Universities (top-500 of QS World University Rankings or top-200 QS World University Rankings by subject)

### **Expected Outcome:**

- Submission of one major research grant proposal to Government funding agency.
- Two publications in SCOPUS/WEB OF SCIENCE / SCI/ SCIE/ SSCI/ PubMed/PubMed Central indexed journals.
- Demonstrable technologies or action research outcomes and products.
- The joint research should result in joint development of niche courses, world-class books and monographs and translatable patents as *preferable outcomes*.

## **(b) Minor Grant-Up to 2 Lakhs [15/year]**

**TMA Pai Seed Grant-Minor** aims to provide quick research support and encouragement to the young researchers who are in their early career for pursuing exciting and innovative research in the frontier areas of Health Science, Arts and Humanities, Science, Management and Engineering.

### **Nature & Duration of Support:**

- This carries a research grant up to Rs. 2.0 Lakhs annually for a period of two years.
- The research grant covers equipment, consumables, travel and contingency.
- 15 such grants will be released each year (4 for SMIMS, 2 for SMCON, 2 for SMCPT, 4 for SMIT and one each for Hospital Administration, Medical Biotechnology and Humanities & Social Sciences).

### **Eligibility:**

- Assistant / Associate Professor with upper age limit upto 40 years.
- Young researchers must be on regular roll of SMU for at least one year. Those who are appointed in a tenure post, but are likely to be renewed after the end of the tenure are also eligible for this award.
- Only one Co-PI shall be allowed in this type of grant.

### **Selection & Mode of Application:**

- The selection procedure of the research proposals under this grant is same as that of TMA Pai Seed Grant -Major under 1(a).
- Dean (SMIMS & Medical Biotechnology) / Director (SMIT) / Principal (SMCON & SMCPT) / Registrar (for Hospital Administration / Humanities & Social Sciences) is the approving authority.
- Approving authority shall ensure the regular progress of research under this grant.

### **Expected Outcome:**

- Submission of one research grant proposal to Government funding agency. In other words, the seed grant is aimed for seeding bigger projects.
- Two publications/year in SCOPUS/WEB OF SCIENCE/SCI/SCIE/SSCI/PubMed/PubMed Central indexed journals.

### **c) Student Grant-Up to 50 thousand [20 students/year]**

Students under SMU must be strongly motivated towards research and innovations. Students must ideate and create newer thoughts and products.

#### **Nature & Support:**

TMA Pai Seed Grant for students encourages students to formulate projects that could be projected at Institutional, National or International level. Such research should lead to publications of their works in SCOPUS/WEB OF SCIENCE/PubMed indexed journals.

Grant up to Rs.50, 000 to 20 students (5 student projects from SMIT, 5 from SMIMS,2 each from SMCON / SMCPT / MHA / H&SS / Medical Biotech).

#### **Selection Mode:**

- Students' project shall be under the supervision of faculty member(s).
- The grant is released jointly in the name of project supervisor and student.
- Selection and approval of this grant is solely at the discretion of Dean (SMIMS & Medical Biotechnology) / Director (SMIT) / Principal (SMCON & SMCPT) / Course Coordinator (for Hospital Administration / Humanities & Social Sciences).

- Approving authority shall ensure the regular progress of these projects.

### **Expected Outcome:**

- One paper presentation in National/International conference with publication in proceedings (with ISBN)
- One publication/year in SCOPUS/WEB OF SCIENCE/SCI/SCIE/SSCI/PubMed/PubMed Central indexed journals

### **2. TMA Pai Research Fellowship- Rs.20,000 per month (10 Students/year)**

SMU encourages full time research scholars in every department of its constituent units.

#### **Nature & Support:**

Initially, SMU offers 10 full time research fellowship (three from SMIMS, one from University Departments and six from SMIT) with monthly fellowship of Rs. 20,000 and free accommodation (with chargeable electricity and water). Subsequently, SMU aims at increasing this fellowship with increase in full time scholars in every department. In case of non-availability of candidates, the fellowship will be attached to the Institute where the demand is high.

#### **Eligibility:**

- Candidate shall clear the SMU PhD Entrance Examination.
- Candidate has to fulfill all requirements as per SMU PhD Regulations.

#### **Mode of Selection:**

- Institute Research Protocol Evaluation (IRPEC) committee recommends the names of the suitable candidates for full time PhD fellowships.

- Based on the recommendation of the IRPEC, University Research Committee (URC) approves the fellowships.
- With no satisfactory progress in the research, this fellowship may be withdrawn with the recommendation of IRPEC.

### **Expected Outcome:**

Besides the required number of research publications as per SMU PhD regulations, one more publication in WEB OF SCIENCE/SCI/SCIE/ SSCI/PubMed/PubMed Central indexed journals and one in SCOPUS are mandatory.

### **3. TMA Pai Research Awareness Grant**

SMU believes in building strong research environment through various research awareness activities in the form of workshops, symposia, conferences etc.

#### **Nature & Support:**

SMU builds a corpus of Rs. 10.0 Lakhs every year for various research awareness activities. It involves regular workshops / symposia / conferences on:

- (a) Intellectual Property Rights/Plagiarism/Patenting
- (b) Research Methodology
- (c) Cochrane Review (for medical researchers)
- (d) Lecture by Eminent Researchers
- (e) Other activities relevant to promotion of research

#### **Mode of Release of Grant:**

- General research awareness activities / workshops / conferences / symposia shall be conducted in close coordination between Associate Dean (Research) – SMIMS and Associate Director (Research & Development) – SMIT unless specific.
- Reports on effective utilization of this grant shall be submitted to the University Research Committee by the

Associate Dean / Associate Director as and when it is scheduled.

- Approving authority is Chairman, URC.

#### **4. TMA Pai Patent/Start-up Grant**

SMU encourages its faculty members and students for patenting their research outcomes and facilitate registration of their start-ups.

##### **Nature & Support:**

The grant of Rs. 3.0 Lakhs for filing international patenting and Rs. 1.0 Lakh for national patenting; grant for registration of start-up in Ministry of corporate affairs.

##### **Mode of Grant:**

With recommendation of IRPEC and grant shall be approved by the Chairman, URC.

##### **Expected Outcome:**

- IP emerging out of research funded by SMU will be owned by SMU
- Inventor must include “Sikkim Manipal University” as affiliation in Patent/Start-up application.

**NOTE:** a) Progress on TMA Pai Seed Grant – Major is monitored in every University Research Committee (URC) Meeting. All other grants and their outcomes shall be monitored annually by URC.



## Annexure-I

<b>Grant Type</b>	<b>Allocated amount</b>	<b>Expected Outcome</b>
1 (a)-TMA Pai Seed Grant: Major Grant- Up to 10 Lakhs [2 projects/year]	20 Lakhs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submission of 1 major research grant proposal to Govt funding agency</li> <li>• 2 Publications in SCOPUS/WEB OF SCIENCE/SCI/SCIE/SSCI/PubMed/PubMed Central indexed journals.</li> </ul>
1 (b)-TMA Pai Seed Grant: Minor Grant- Up to 2 Lakhs [15/year]	30 Lakhs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submission of 1 research grant proposal to Govt funding agency</li> <li>• 2 Publications/year in SCOPUS/WEB OF SCIENCE/SCI/SCIE/SSCI/PubMed/PubMed Central indexed journals</li> </ul>
1 (c)-TMA Pai Seed Grant Student Grant- Up to 50 thousand [20 students/year]	10 Lakhs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Paper presentation in National/International conference with publication in proceedings (with ISBN)</li> <li>• 1 Publication/year in SCOPUS/WEB OF SCIENCE/SCI/SCIE/SSCI/PubMed/PubMed Central indexed journals</li> </ul>
2. TMA Pai Research Fellowship- Rs.20,000 per month (10 Students/year)	20 Lakhs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Besides the required number of publications as per SMU PhD Regulations, 1 Publication in WEB OF SCIENCE/SCI/SCIE/SSCI/PubMed/PubMed Central indexed journals and 1 publication in SCOPUS.</li> </ul>
3. TMA Pai Research Awareness Grant	10 Lakhs	-
4. TMA Pai Patent/Start-up Grant	10 Lakhs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IP emerging out of research funded by SMU will be owned by SMU</li> <li>• Inventor must include “Sikkim Manipal University” as affiliation in Patent/Start-up application.</li> </ul>

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