



## **ASHOKA UNIVERSITY-IITD Collaborative Project Proposal Scheme**

### **Introduction**

Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD) and Ashoka University (ASHOKA) have signed an agreement to establish the "ASHOKA-IITD Collaborative Platform" for initiating wide ranging collaborations involving academics, research, product, process and human resource development which will have profound social and economic impact for our country.

### **About the Scheme and its Objectives**

IITD & ASHOKA are contributing matching funds to support collaborative and interdisciplinary education and research initiatives, through a joint call for proposals, for the development of collaborative activities that will lead to impactful research outcomes.

This will be through Multi Institutional Faculty Interdisciplinary Projects (MFIRP) scheme at IITD.

Faculty members of IITD and ASHOKA will jointly prepare a project proposal for the seed grant of total Rs. 10 Lakh per year for 2 years. It is expected that these interdisciplinary research groups will attract strong support from external funding agencies and catalyze the 'cross-research activity' between the two institutes, leading to joint research publications, patents etc. These projects are to be considered as one-time grant and the success of these projects will be judged based on how these project have contributed to joint research activity between the two institutes leading to external grants the team is able to generate.

### **Project Areas**

This call invites research proposals in areas of mutual interest and complementarity that will further strengthen the partnership between IITD and ASHOKA.

Proposals are invited for joint basic/applied/translational research projects in interdisciplinary areas such as, but not limited to, Air Pollution, Sustainable Mobility, AMR/MDR Infectious Bacteria, Epidemiology, Immunology, AI/ML in Healthcare, Economic Data, Socio-economic and Gender Inequality etc.

### **Eligibility**

- Call is open to faculty members of IITD and ASHOKA

### **Value and Duration**

- Up to seven successful project proposals will be chosen for joint funding from IITD and ASHOKA.
- A successful project proposal will receive seed grant up to Rs. 10 Lakh per year for a maximum period of 2 years.
- Funding from IITD will be Rs. 5 Lakh per year for participating faculty of IITD and a matching contribution for ASHOKA faculty member from ASHOKA for the first year.

- Funding for the second year is subjected to satisfactory review of the project progress and evidence of a full joint proposal being developed & submitted to external funding agencies.
- The funds can be used for consumables, contingencies and support staff salary. However, the supporting staff should not receive funding from two sources at a time.
- Faculty member needs to ensure that the same project proposal has not been submitted to any other funding agency including the internal schemes of the institute.
- It is expected that a faculty member should not submit more than one project proposal.

### Identifying Academics at IITD and ASHOKA

- In order to identify academics at either institution, please refer to the institutional websites in the first instance. These are <http://www.iitd.ac.in/> and <https://www.ashoka.edu.in/>
- If further help is required, then IIT Delhi applicants should contact Professor Sunil Kumar Khare at [deanrnd@admin.iitd.ac.in](mailto:deanrnd@admin.iitd.ac.in) whilst ASHOKA applicants should touch base with Professor Anirban Chakraborty at [anirban.chakraborty@ashoka.edu.in](mailto:anirban.chakraborty@ashoka.edu.in) to seek help.

### How to apply and important timelines

- Faculty members of IITD and ASHOKA will jointly prepare suitable project proposals.
- Faculty PI from IITD will submit the joint project proposal online in IRIS under MFIRP with collaborating institute as ASHOKA. Faculty PI from ASHOKA should submit the hard copy of the same proposal to Professor Anirban Chakraborty at [anirban.chakraborty@ashoka.edu.in](mailto:anirban.chakraborty@ashoka.edu.in).
- A copy of the MFIRP online form can be found in the link given below.  
[http://ird.iitd.ac.in/sites/default/files/ird\\_circulars/MFIRP-Proposal%20Format.pdf](http://ird.iitd.ac.in/sites/default/files/ird_circulars/MFIRP-Proposal%20Format.pdf)
- It is crucial that there is full agreement on all aspects of the proposal between IITD and ASHOKA applicants prior to submission.

### Timeline

<b>Call for proposals</b>	12 April 2021 (Monday)
<b>Deadline for submission of proposal</b>	31 May 2021 (Monday)
<b>Communication of Results to applicants</b>	By 28 June 2021 (Monday)
<b>Start date of Awards</b>	1 July, 2021 (Thursday)

### Collaboration Activities

Collaboration activities may be based on joint projects set up by faculty members of both institutions, including:

- The project work can be part of the thesis/dissertation work of MD/MS/MCh/DM/MTech etc. However, the supporting staff should not receive funding from two sources at a time (the student will have joint supervisor as co-guide).
- Collaborative Research Agreement, Intellectual Property Right and joint supervision issues will be addressed as per the guidelines of the two institutes described in detail in the IITD and ASHOKA MoU.
- It is expected that the joint research team will submit at least one research project to an external funding agency on completion of the first year.
- A final technical report highlighting the achievements vis-à-vis proposed objectives, outcome in terms of publications, patents, conference proceedings, etc. and details on project/projects submitted to external agency will be submitted within 3 months after completion of joint project tenure.

### Evaluation Methodologies

- Proposals will be assessed by an expert committee composed by both the institutions.
- Project proposal shall be majority assessed on following aspects:
  - Novelty & Originality
  - Expertise of PIs & Co-PIs in the proposed area
  - Inter-disciplinary component
  - Capacity for Future Collaboration

### Contacts

For any clarification points or questions on the joint call, please do not hesitate to contact the colleagues listed below.

<b>IITD, New Delhi</b>	<b>ASHOKA, Haryana</b>
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