

## RCB-IITD Collaborative Project Proposal Scheme

### Introduction

Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD) and Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB) have signed an agreement to establish the "RCB-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 & RCB 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 RCB will jointly prepare a project proposal for the seed grant of total Rs. 10 Lakh 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

- i) This call invites research proposals in areas of mutual interest and complementarity that will further strengthen the partnership between IITD and RCB
- ii) Proposals are invited in the below mentioned areas such as:
  - Infectious Disease Biology
  - Molecular Medicine
  - Cancer Biology & Therapeutics
  - Agricultural Biotechnology
  - Systems & Synthetic Biology
  - Structural Biology

### Eligibility

- i) Call is open to faculty members of IITD and RCB

## Value and Duration

1. Successful project proposals will receive seed fund of Rs. 5 Lakh per year for IITD faculty member and a matching contribution for RCB faculty member from RCB for the first year.
2. Similar funds in the second year will be given after the review of the annual project progress and submission of full proposal to external agency.
3. It is expected that the faculty members of IITD and RCB, will jointly prepare a suitable full proposal for further, possibly external funding post completion of the successful project tenure of one year.

## Identifying Academics at IITD and RCB

1. 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.rcb.res.in/index.php>
2. 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 RCB applicants should touch base with Prof. Deepak T. Nair [deepak@rcb.res.in](mailto:deepak@rcb.res.in) to seek help.

## How to apply and important timelines

1. Faculty members of IITD and RCB will jointly prepare suitable project proposals.
2. Faculty PI from IITD will submit the joint project proposal online in IRIS under MFIRP with collaborating institute as RCB. Faculty PI from RCB should submit the hard copy of the same proposal to Prof. Deepak T. Nair of RCB.
3. 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)
4. It is crucial that there is full agreement on all aspects of the proposal between IITD and RCB applicants prior to submission.
5. Deadline for submitting the final proposal is **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021.**

## 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 RCB 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

- i) Proposals will be assessed by an expert committee composed by both the institutions.
- ii) Project proposal shall be majority assessed on following aspects:
  - **Novelty, Originality & Feasibility**
  - **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>RCB, Haryana</b>
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