



**D Y PATIL INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY,
AKURDI, PUNE**

SEED MONEY POLICY

Contents

- 1. Preamble..... 2
- 2. Objectives 2
- 3. Eligibility 3
- 4. Scope of Funding..... 3
- 5. Funding Limit and Duration 4
- 6. Application Procedure 4
- 7. Evaluation and Approval Process 4
- 8. Fund Utilization and Reporting..... 4
- 9. Expected Deliverables..... 5
- 10. General Terms and Conditions..... 5

1. Preamble

In an age defined by rapid technological advancement, sustainability imperatives, and evolving societal needs, universities are increasingly expected not only to disseminate knowledge but to actively contribute to its creation through impactful research and innovation. Dr. D. Y. Patil International University (DYPIU), Akurdi, Pune, envisions becoming a globally respected institution recognized for excellence in education, innovation, and societal transformation. In line with this vision, the University is committed to fostering a culture of research-led inquiry that addresses real-world challenges and contributes meaningfully to national and global development goals.

To catalyse and nurture original research ideas that align with this vision, DYPIU has formulated its **Seed Money Policy**. The policy seeks to empower faculty members to initiate exploratory and interdisciplinary research in emerging areas of science, engineering, social innovation, sustainability, and technology. By offering institutional support in the form of initial funding, the University promotes intellectual risk-taking, experimentation, and the development of high-potential projects that can evolve into externally funded research, publications, patents, or innovations with societal impact.

This initiative reflects DYPIU's mission to prepare faculty, students and scholars for a changing world by nurturing critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration. It supports activities such as pilot studies, proof-of-concept development, data gathering, and early-stage prototyping—essential precursors to larger national or international research grants. The policy also encourages collaboration with industry, start-ups, research institutions, and international partners, thus reinforcing DYPIU's global outlook and interdisciplinary approach.

Seed funding at DYPIU acts as a catalyst that bridges the gap between ideation and impact. It reinforces the University's commitment to building a research ecosystem that values scholarly inquiry, promotes innovation, and advances knowledge aligned with societal, economic, and environmental priorities.

2. Objectives

D. Y. Patil International University (DYPIU) envisions becoming a leading academic institution committed to excellence in teaching, research, innovation, and sustainable societal development. In alignment with this vision and mission, the Seed Money Policy aims to:

1. Encourage a Culture of Innovation and Research

Encourage faculty members to pursue original, interdisciplinary, and outcome-based research that contributes to the advancement of knowledge, technology, and societal well-being.

2. Enable the Realization of Transformative Ideas

Provide initial support for developing cutting-edge concepts and technologies that have the potential to lead to real-world applications, aligning with the university's goal of becoming a catalyst for change through innovation.

3. Promote Research for Sustainable Development

Encourage faculty to undertake research projects that address contemporary global and local challenges, including sustainability, clean energy, healthcare, smart systems, and social equity, consistent with the university's commitment to societal impact.

4. Strengthen Research Competitiveness

Build research capability among faculty to generate high-quality outputs such as patents, publications, and externally funded projects, which reflect the university's mission of academic excellence and thought leadership.

5. Nurture Interdisciplinary and Collaborative Research

Support collaboration among departments, industries, research institutions, and international partners, reflecting DYPIU's multidisciplinary and global outlook.

6. Empower Early-Career Researchers

Provide young faculty members with opportunities and resources to initiate research careers, consistent with DYPIU's focus on nurturing future leaders and innovators.

3. Eligibility

- All full-time faculty members of DYPIU are eligible to apply.
- Applicants must have completed at least One Year of service at DYPIU
- Collaborative proposals—whether intra- or inter-departmental, or in partnership with industry—are strongly encouraged.
- Both Principal (PI) and Co-Principal Investigators (Co-PIs) must be full-time faculty members of the University in the grade of Assistant Professor /Associate Professor/Professor, with not less than one year of service at DYPIU
- Each applicant (Lead and Co-PI) is permitted to submit only one proposal per funding cycle.
- Preference will be given to interdisciplinary proposals that demonstrate strong potential for attracting external research funding.
- A Investigator (Lead and Co-PI) may receive a maximum of one individual or collaborative seed grant.
- Faculty members who have received seed funding in the previous funding year are not eligible to reapply for a period of **two years** from the date of grant approval.

4. Scope of Funding

Seed money may be utilized for:

- Pilot studies and feasibility analysis
- Consumables, small equipment, and software

- Fieldwork, surveys, and data collection
- Minor fabrication and prototyping

5. Funding Limit and Duration

- Maximum amount per proposal : Up to ₹ 10,00,000
- Maximum Project duration : **24 months**
(Extendable with prior permission from RAC)
- Each faculty may receive seed funding **once in two academic years**
- Maximum **2 projects per school** will be sanctioned in once academic year
- Grants will be sanctioned on prorata basis.

6. Application Procedure

- Submit a proposal to the **Dean – Research & Development** keeping school director in loop.
- Proposal format should include:
 - Title, abstract, objectives
 - Methodology and expected outcomes
 - Detailed budget with justification
 - Timeline
 - Plan for submission to external funding bodies (if applicable)

7. Evaluation and Approval Process

The **Research Advisory Committee (RAC)** will evaluate proposals based on:

- Originality and impact
- Technical feasibility
- Potential for publication/patents/external funding
- Budget justification

Final approval will be given by the **Vice Chancellor** based on RAC recommendations.

8. Fund Utilization and Reporting

- Funds must be utilized only for approved heads.
- All purchases related to the project shall be made as per DYPIU's purchase policy
- The Principal Investigator (PI) must:
 - Submit a **half yearly progress report**.

- Submit a **final report**, including outcomes and utilization certificate.
- Unutilized funds must be returned to the University within 30 days of project closure.

9. Expected Deliverables

- At least one of the following:
 - Scopus/SCI-indexed publication
 - Patent or proof-of-concept
 - Proposal submitted to funding agencies (DST, AICTE, DRDO, etc.)
 - Prototype/model development

10. General Terms and Conditions

- DYPIU affiliation must be mentioned in all publications/patents arising from the project.
- Any intellectual property generated shall be governed by DYPIU's IPR policy.
- In case of non-compliance or misuse of funds, the University reserves the right to take appropriate action.