Guidelines: Research Grants for Publishing Papers, and Repair and Maintenance of Equipment

This grant scheme provides financial assistance for writing papers, and repair and maintenance of equipment. The aim of the research grants is to enhance the university research profile by producing publications in high-indexed journals.

Terms and Conditions

1. The research project should be aimed at producing at least one (01) SCI/ SSCI/ AHCI and/or Scopus indexed publication in the form of a full paper or review article in scholarly journals, which has a direct impact on the university research profile.

2. Permanent academics of the University of Kelaniya are eligible to apply.

3. Applicants should have Google Scholar, ResearchGate, and ORCID accounts that have been made public. Google Scholar account should have the University of Kelaniya address and "kln.ac.lk" email verification.

4. The maximum grant is LKR. 300,000.00 and the grant period is 6 months. The grants are awarded on a competitive basis. The grant can be used for hiring of Research Assistants (RA)* and the purchase of software and data or other research expenses directly related to producing the said publications. A cash advance of the maximum of LKR. 150,000.00 may be released to purchase software/data/other directly related items with strong justification. However, if the researcher requests the full grant amount as a one-time payment (to purchase software/data), such requests should be supported with a strong justification and the recommendation will be at the discretion of the Research Council. Priority will be given to the grants that utilize funding as installments rather than one-time payments for the grants mention under 4).

5. Those who wish to produce a full paper within six months based on substantially completed research work may also hire an RA under this grant scheme. In such cases, applicants must submit the work completed so far and produce a convincing research plan for six months or less to complete the work and publish/submit a paper within six months. The maximum grant is LKR. 300,000.00 only.

6. Researcher may also apply for a grant up to LKR. 200,000.00 for equipment repair and maintenance. Those who receive this grant are also required to meet the publication requirement mentioned under 1). within one year.

7. Those who receive both grants (for writing papers, and repair and maintenance of equipment) should publish one paper in six months and another paper in 18 months from the date of the first release of funds for each grant.

8. Upon acceptance of the proposal by the Research Council, the researchers are required to inform the Research Council of the exact starting date so that funds can be released. The date of the first release of funds will be considered as the starting date of counting 6 months and **extensions will not be considered**.

9. The progress of the grants will be evaluated based on a 3-month progress report (format will be provided) and at the end of the grant period (after 6 months), the **proof of submission** or **published paper** should be submitted as the final progress report.

10. Key performance indicators should be the publication mentioned in 1)

11. The grantee may have collaborators/ co-authors. However, the grantee is responsible for the successful completion of the project.

12. Any ethical approvals or compliance certifications required for the research must be obtained before commencing the project.

13. Applications prepared as per the format should be sent to the Chairman of the Research Council with the recommendation of the Director of the Faculty Research Centre, Head of the Department, and Dean of the Faculty.

14. A Sub-committee will be appointed to evaluate proposals submitted by applicants and the grant is awarded based on the recommendations of the sub-committee. Sub-committee comprises;
    i. Chairman of the Research Council
    ii. Director of the relevant Research Centre
    iii. One expert senior researcher in the relevant field

15. Three copies of the agreement to be signed by the grantee and the Vice Chancellor indicating the grant amount, the title, and the start date.

16. Failure to provide 3 month progress report may cause suspension of further funding allocated under the grant. Those who fail to provide three-months progress report for purchases utilizing full grant as one time payment are required to return the software to the university.

17. If the applicant is unable to publish a research article as per the guidelines, they will not be considered again for the research grants under this scheme.
    *RA should have at least a Bachelor's degree.