



**RESEARCH MANAGEMENT CENTRE  
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA**

**IIUM RESEARCH ACCULTURATION GRANT SCHEME  
GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES 2018**

**1. OBJECTIVE**

The objective of the IIUM Research Acculturation Grant Scheme Guidelines and Procedures 2018 is to provide information with regards to the management of this grant and other matters related to its research. It is intended as a source of reference to academic staff, research coordinators, and research committees at the Kulliyah / Centre / Division / Institute (K/C/D/I) and Research Management Centre.

**2. RESEARCH CLUSTER**

Clusters of research for the IIUM Research Acculturation Grant Scheme are:

- a. Pure and Applied Science
- b. Technology and Engineering
- c. Clinical and Health Sciences
- d. Social Sciences and Humanities
- e. Arts and Applied Arts
- f. Natural Sciences and National Heritage
- g. Information and Communication

**3. RESEARCH AREA**

- a. Transportation and Urbanization
- b. Environment and Climate Change
- c. Healthcare and Medicine
- d. Bio Diversity
- e. Water Security
- f. Food Security
- g. Energy Security
- h. Plantation Crops
- i. Cyber Security
- j. Nationhood, B40 and Societal Wellbeing (Values-based)
- k. Tropical Disease
- l. Islamic Finance



#### **4. DURATION OF PROJECT**

Research projects shall be completed within a period of 24 months from the commencement date with up to 1 year extension (**subject to a good progress report**).

#### **5. ELIGIBILITY**

5.1 Only ONE application per staff. Minimum of one (1) co-researcher is required;

5.2 Open to ALL young (45 years and below) academic staff who obtained PhDs within the past SIX (6) years;

*Note: Staff who recently completed their Clinical Master's within the past 6 years may be considered.*

5.3 The applicant is not on study leave;

5.4 The budget is appropriate and meets the objectives of the grant;

5.5 Priority will be given to those who have :  
a) applied for national grants in the past 6 years  
b) never been a Principal Investigator.

#### **6. BUDGET**

6.1 The budget is RM 20,000.00 for both Non- Science and Technology, and Science and Technology.

6.2 All publication and related costs are to be borne by this grant.

6.3 Conferences are not supported by this grant unless the outputs have been produced and there is surplus money to support that conference and subject to the approval of the University.

#### **7. APPROVING AUTHORITY**

Panel of Evaluators to evaluate the research proposals shall be appointed by the University with the responsibility for ensuring that the proposals support the vision and mission of the University as well as meet the guidelines of the grant.

#### **8. APPROVAL PROCESS**

8.1 The application shall be based on the announcement. Application shall be submitted to the RMC using the form provided.

8.2 Applications shall include a co-researcher / researchers.



- 8.3 The University shall appoint a panel of evaluators to evaluate the proposals. Only recommended proposals may be approved.
- 8.4 Subject to decision of the evaluators, a researcher may be given the opportunity to revise the proposal based on the feedback from the evaluators.
- 8.5 Approval and unsuccessful letters shall be sent to the Principal Investigators, co-researchers and respective Deans.
- 8.6 Researchers are to fill-in and sign the acceptance form i.e. Letter of Undertaking before embarking on the research.
- 8.7 The registration of the research and release of fund shall be made after all the conditions set by the University are fulfilled.

## 9. REQUIRED OUTPUT OF RESEARCH

- 9.1 Researchers are required to generate (complete with evidence), within the 24-month research duration, 0.003 MyRA marks. The table of reference for calculating MyRA marks are as follows :

No	Item	Quantity	MyRA Section	MyRA Mark
1	Indexed Journal	1	C1a(i)	0.0015
2	Non-Indexed Journal	1	C1c	0.0010

For example:

2 indexed journals x 0.0015 = 0.003; OR

3 non-indexed journals x 0.0010 = 0.003; OR

OR any combination of the above to achieve the 0.003 MyRA mark.

- 9.2 Researchers shall acknowledge all fellow research collaborators and all sources of funding openly in any publication or publicity.

## 10. FUNDING SCOPE

### 10.1 Vote 11000 (Salary and wages for Research Assistant)

10.1.2 Graduate Research Assistant may be appointed from Malaysian or non-Malaysian nationality.

10.1.3 The appointment of Graduate Research Assistant shall be made by the Research Management Centre upon recommendation of the principal investigator.

10.1.4 The researcher is required to fill-up the Research Assistant application and submit to the Research Management Centre together with the required documents which include a photocopy of the following :



- a) IIUM Admission offer letter;
- b) Identification Card;
- c) Matric Card; and
- d) Bank Account.

10.1.5 The rates of payment for research assistants are as follows:

Degree (RM)	Master's (RM)	PhD (RM)
Maximum is RM800.00	Maximum is RM1,800.00	Maximum is RM2,300.00

10.1.6 Record of every research assistant's attendance is required prior to the release of payment.

10.1.7 Research assistants shall not be appointed from amongst members of immediate or extended family of the researcher. Neither do staff members of IIUM qualify.

10.1.8 The items above shall be read together with the Guidelines on Appointment of Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) 2018

## 10.2 **Vote 21000 (Travelling, lodging and transportation)**

10.2.1 Travelling is allowed particularly for conducting research.

10.2.2 **"Travelling allowance"** means expenses incurred for travelling, inclusive of mileage, accommodation and food.

### 10.2.3 **Air fare**

#### 10.2.3.1 Researcher

Air travel is limited to economy class or the cheapest fare and the shortest direct routes.

#### 10.2.3.2 Research Assistant

Research assistants are eligible for travelling but it is limited to economy class.

### 10.2.4 **Mileage**

10.2.4.1 A researcher or research assistant is encouraged to travel by air or train when the distance is more than 240km and the cost is cheaper. **Claims based on petrol receipts are not acceptable.**

10.2.4.2 Claims shall be made using the current Travelling Claim Form of IIUM and the rates are as follows:

Researcher

The current procedures adopted by IIUM shall be followed.

Research Assistant

RM0.50 per kilometer.

**10.2.5 Lodging, hotel and food allowance**

10.2.5.1 Food allowances are given only to those who carry out official duties outside the office for at least 24 hours from the time of departure.

10.2.5.2 If the researcher or research assistant carries out official duties outside the office for more than 8 hours but fewer than 24 hours, he or she is entitled half of the food allowance (daily allowance).

Researcher

The current procedures adopted by IIUM shall be followed for the above allowances.

Research Assistant

The rates for research assistants are as follows:

Type of allowance	Rate
Lodging	RM50 per day
Hotel	RM100 per day and supported with receipts
Food	RM20 per day

10.2.6 The researcher shall fill up the “**Form for attending seminar/ conference/ workshop/ visit /data collection**”. The researcher may also request for advancement by filling up the “Travelling Advance for IIUM Staff” form. The form is available at the Research Management Centre’s website.

**10.3 Vote 24000 (Rental)**

Rental is only allowed for building, equipment, transportation and other items directly involved in the research.

**10.4 Vote 27000 (Research Materials & Supplies)**

- 10.4.1 Only expenses for research materials and supplies directly related to the project shall be included.
- 10.4.2 The purchase of chemical reagents, consumables, glassware, biological resources, academic publications and stationery shall be made through the Research Management Centre. The purchasing procedure shall comply with the IIUM Financial Policies and Procedures.
- 10.4.3 Academic publications purchased using research grant shall be returned to and registered as inventory of the Kulliyah's Resource Centre or IIUM Library.
- 10.4.4 The researcher may claim for reimbursement from the Research Management Centre by producing original receipts for supplies already purchased using the "**Claim Application Form**" which is available at the **Research Management Centre's website**.
- 10.5 **Vote 29000 (Professional services, hospitality & other services including printing)**
- 10.5.1 These are expenses incurred for services in the course of conducting research and they include consultation with experts, payment for enumerators, chemical analyses, data processing, editing and proofreading. Engagement of expert(s) will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- 10.5.2 The maximum allowance for enumerators is RM15 per questionnaire. The rate to be approved is based on the workload that has been decided by the researcher for a particular research.
- 10.5.3 Publication fee is also included under these services.
- 10.5.4 Permission from Research Management Centre is compulsory for Vote 29000 engagement except publication fee
- 10.6 **Vote 35000 (Research Equipment)**
- 10.6.1 A maximum of 40% of the total grant approved may be allocated for equipment.
- 10.6.2 Equipment and accessories, including accessories to upgrade the capability of existing equipment directly related to the project, may be purchased.
- 10.6.3 The approval to purchase equipment is at the discretion of the appropriate approving authority and is made on a case-by-case basis.



- 10.6.4 The purchase of equipment shall be made through the Research Management Centre and shall comply with the IIUM Financial Policies and Procedures.
- 10.6.5 The purchase of telecommunication gadgets i.e. tablets or smart phones etc. is not allowed using this grant.
- 10.6.6 The purchase of computers, notebooks and printers with strong justifications and valid reasons may be considered and approved on a case-by-case basis.
- 10.6.7 Any equipment purchased under the grant shall be registered with the respective K/C/D/Is upon completion of the research project and it shall be indexed under the inventory policy.
- 10.6.8 Expenses advanced by the researcher may be claimed using the "Claim Application Form", which is available at the Research Management Centre's website. Claims shall be supported with the original receipts.
- 10.6.9 Guidelines for purchasing supplies and equipment under vote 27000 and 35000 (*adopted from the IIUM Financial Policies and Procedures and may change from time to time*) are as follows:
- 10.6.9.1 Purchase of RM20,000.00 and below
- 1 original quotation
  - Complete Procurement Approval Form that has been vetted by the Kulliyah
- 10.6.9.2 Purchase of above RM20,000.00 and below RM200,000.00
- To call for at least five (5) original quotations
  - The purchase proposal shall include an explanation of the need for the purchase
  - Approval from kulliyah (Dean/ Deputy Dean), Director of Research Management Centre, Executive Director of Finance Division and Rector
- 10.6.10 All vendors shall register with the Finance Division, IIUM. Failure to do so will delay the payment process.
- 10.6.11 All expenses shall be accounted for through receipts in accordance with the budget approved. The maximum amount for the allowed expenditure without receipt is RM100 for the whole duration of the research grant. The researcher is required to fill in the Non-receipts Expenses form which shall be endorsed by the K/C/D/I.

## 11 CASH ADVANCEMENT



- 11.1 Disbursement of fund may be made in stages throughout the duration of conducting the research. Upon successful completion of all required documentation and registration of the project with the RMC, up to a maximum of RM10,000.00 of the approved grant may be disbursed as cash advancement. This advancement does not cover V11000 – Salary and Wages for Research Assistant, V21000 - Travelling advancement and V35000 - Purchasing of equipment.
- 11.2 Salary and Wages for Research Assistant shall be paid directly to the bank account of the Research Assistant. Relevant Travelling Advancement or Claims forms need to be filled-up if the researcher intends to utilise budget from V21000. As to purchase of equipment, the necessary procurement form needs to be filled up.
- 11.3 By the end of the sixth month, the researcher is required to send the financial progress report for account reconciliation.
- 11.4 A researcher who fails to return unused cash advances and / or proper substantiation of financial disbursement within the maximum period of six months and / or upon completion of the research project, whichever date is earlier, shall be subjected to **payroll deduction**.

## **12 RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT**

- 12.1 Researchers are responsible to submit timely progress reports to the Research Management Centre twice a year i.e. in **June and December**.
- 12.2 Researchers who fail to submit the progress report twice consecutively, the University has the right to suspend, revoke or terminate the project and retract the allocated grant.

## **13 RESEARCH PROJECT EXTENSION**

Requests for research project extensions shall be made to the Grant Management Unit for approval. Extension may be considered based on the progress report and clearly revised research schedule. No extension shall exceed six (6) months from the expected date of completion. The approval of the extension is made by the Deputy Director, Research Management Centre.

## **14 END OF PROJECT REPORT**

- 14.1 The researchers are responsible to submit the end of project report as well as the project output as mentioned in Clause 8 of this document to the Research Management Centre upon completion of the project.





- 14.2 They also need to fill up the “List of Equipment Purchased under Research Grant” form if they have purchased items using V35000. These items shall be properly stored at the respective K/C/D/Is upon completion of the research project and registered under the inventory policy.

## **15 FINANCIAL REPORT**

The researcher is responsible to prepare a financial report at the end of the project for the purpose of closing the project file.

## **16. RESEARCH AND RESEARCHERS**

### **16.1 Roles and Responsibilities of Principal Investigators and Co-researchers**

16.1.1 Principal Investigators (PI) and co-researchers shall at all times conduct their research professionally, in a responsible and ethical manner in accordance with the IIUM Code of Ethics for Research, Consultancy and Publication and Staff Disciplinary Rules 2015.

16.1.2 The PI is accountable for the overall technical and fiscal management of the research project. This includes adherence to reporting requirements and ensuring that projects are managed within the approved budget and schedule.

16.1.3 The co-researcher is responsible to support the PI in all matters pertaining to the management and execution of the research project when necessary.

16.1.4 Researchers are obliged to complete all assigned and agreed upon research, and to publish findings of such research as widely as possible.

### **16.2 Research Integrity**

16.2.1 Researchers are expected to be honest in their research activities. This applies to the whole range of research, including the design of research projects or experiments, generating and analysing data, applying for funding and grants, and publishing results.

16.2.2 Researchers are expected to uphold research integrity at all times. Specifically, researchers shall acknowledge the direct and indirect contributions of colleagues, research collaborators and others in their work and publications at all times.

16.2.3 Researchers are accountable to the society, their professions, the communities and K/C/D/Is where the research is taking place, the staff and students involved, and to sponsors that are funding the research.

16.2.4 Researchers are expected to declare and manage any real or potential conflicts of interest, both financial and professional. Areas of potential conflict of interest include:



- a) Existing or potential financial interest in the outcome of the research;
- b) Gaining a private or private practice benefit that is significantly dependent on the research outcome;
- c) Professional or personal gain arising from the research outcome may be more than usual / normal in a specific research undertaking.

### 16.3 Research Misconduct

Research Misconduct includes, but is not limited to:

16.3.1 **Fabrication of data** is defined as dishonesty in reporting results, ranging from fabrication of data, improper adjustment of results, and gross negligence in collecting or analysing data, to selective reporting or omission of data for deceptive purposes.

16.3.2 **Falsification of research** is defined as deliberately misrepresenting research, including the progress of research, making grossly exaggerated claims of the significance of research results, falsely claiming priority by deliberately ignoring prior relevant reports in research literature.

16.3.3 **Plagiarism** is defined as taking credit for someone else's work and ideas, stealing other's results or methods, omitting acknowledgement of significant contribution(s) received from others, copying the writing of others without proper acknowledgement, or otherwise falsely taking credit for the work and ideas of others.

16.3.4 **Failure to acknowledge**, in the context of biosafety, is defined as ignoring and failing to acknowledge the source of biological materials used in laboratory research.

16.3.5 **Abuse of confidentiality** is defined as taking or releasing ideas and data that was shared with legitimate expectation of confidentiality (e.g. use of confidential results without permission of other researchers or previous employers), stealing ideas from others' grant proposals, award applications, or manuscript publication.

16.3.6 **Dishonesty in publication** is defined as knowingly publishing material that will mislead readers (e.g. misrepresenting data, particularly its originality, misrepresenting research progress, adding the names of other authors without their permission, or including honorary authorship or excluding a major collaborator as a co-author of the paper).

16.3.7 **Property violation** is defined as stealing or destroying property of others, such as research papers, supplies, equipment or product of research.

16.3.8 **Misuse of fund** is defined as failure to spend research funds in ways consistent with the goals stated in the relevant contract documents and/or failure to maintain clear and proper records of expenditure.



16.3.9 **Mistreatment of human research subjects** is defined as failure to obtain informed consent of research informants / clinical trial patients, failure to protect the rights of informants regarding their privacy and to protect the research subject's anonymity and the confidentiality of information sources.

16.3.10 **Mistreatment of animals** is defined as failure to treat animals with care, and humaneness.

16.3.11 **Failure to report known incidents of serious research misconduct** is defined as covering up or otherwise failing to report major offences of research known to oneself; and/or

16.3.12 **Retaliation** is defined as taking punitive action against an individual for having reported alleged major research offences.

#### 16.4 Complaint procedure

16.4.1 Allegations of research misconduct made by any person about a member of the University shall be made or be referred in strictest confidence to the Deputy Rector in-charge of Research and Innovation who will determine the course of action to be followed (if any) in accordance with the provisions provided under the Staff Disciplinary Rules 2015.

16.4.2 The initiator of the allegation – who need not be a member of the University – shall be asked to set out in writing the basis for their allegation.

16.4.3 There shall be a preliminary inquiry into any allegation of research misconduct to ascertain whether there is sufficient substance to the allegation as to warrant a reference to the Disciplinary Authority of the University.

#### 16.5 Breach of Guidelines and Procedures

Where the Deputy Rector in-charge of Research and Innovation is satisfied that any researcher has committed a breach of any provision of these Guidelines and Procedures, the researcher shall be considered to have committed an offence and, the Deputy Rector shall report the breach to the Staff Disciplinary Authority for the appropriate disciplinary proceedings. If the researcher is found guilty of a disciplinary offence under these Guidelines and Procedures, he/she shall be liable to any of the disciplinary punishment as provided by Clause 29 of the Staff Disciplinary Rules 2015.

### 17. TERMINATION

17.1 Projects may be terminated based on the following:

17.1.1 Any false reporting by the project leader;

17.1.2 Any misuse of the grant provided;

- 17.1.3 Non-performance in terms of progress and non-completion of the project;
- 17.1.4 Variation of scope of project without getting prior approval from the University; and
- 17.1.5 No suitable project leaders as replacement of the original project leader (due to resignation, retirement or demise).
- 17.2 With the exception of demise of the Principal Investigator, the University shall give written notice to the Principal Investigator specifying the default and requiring the principal investigator to remedy such default within 30 days after the date of the notice. If the entity fails to remedy the relevant default within such period or such other period as may be determined by the University, the University shall have the right to terminate the agreement at any time thereafter by giving notice to the effect.
- 17.3 Upon termination of the agreement,
- The principal investigator shall:
- 17.3.1 Forthwith cease the project; and
- 17.3.2 Stop utilizing balance of the grant; and
- 17.3.3 Prepare a statement of expenditure incurred and a report in a form satisfactory to the University in connection to the project including the present state of its progress; and
- 17.3.4 Pay back the money that has been paid to the researcher for the purpose of the project.
- 17.4 In the event of demise of the Principal Investigator, the Research Management Centre, upon consultation with the project team members, shall decide whether to terminate the project or appoint a new Principal Investigator.
- 17.5 Termination on University interest
- Notwithstanding any provision of the research agreement, the University may terminate the research agreement by giving not less than thirty (30)-day notice to that effect to the principal investigator (without obligation to give any reason thereof) if it considers that such termination is necessary, in the interest of University security or for any other reason deemed appropriate.
- For the purpose of this clause, what constitute 'University interest', 'in the interest of University security' or 'for any other deemed appropriate reason' shall be solely made and determined by the University and such determination shall for all intent and purposes be final and conclusive and shall not be open to any challenge whatsoever.
- 17.6 The approving authority for termination of research is the Director of Research Management Centre.



18. **GENERAL PROVISION**

Notwithstanding these guidelines and procedures, the Director of the Research Management Centre shall have the authority to make amendments or adjustments to any of the clauses of these guidelines and procedures whenever such action is deemed necessary in the interest of the University. A small committee shall be formed by the Director of the Research Management Centre to deliberate on the amendment(s) or adjustment(s) to be made. The Director shall notify the University Research Committee and the Senate of the amendment(s) or adjustment(s) that has (have) been made.

- END -

