

**CONTRACT FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER SINDH
RESEARCH SUPPORT PROGRAM (SRSP) FOR FACULTY
MEMBRES OF PUBLIC SECTOR UNIVERSITIES IN SINDH**

FOR PROJECT APPLICATION / PROPOSAL NO. /2025-26

Whereas the Sindh Higher Education Commission, subsequently referred to as the "**Commission**" has agreed to grant a financial assistance to (**Name of PI & University address**) -----
----- subsequently referred to as the '**Party**' for the **Project Proposal No. _____**; entitled "**-----**"

Now it is mutually agreed between the Party, University/Institute (as Guarantee/ Surety) and the Commission as under that:

1. Provisional award letter issued vide No. _____ dated-----is acceptable to the Party & that Party will execute project as per terms and conditions given in the agreement in letter & spirit.
2. ***The party has already incorporated all comments/revisions/amendments in the revised proposal in letter & spirit as suggested by evaluator(s)/reviewers review reports and duly signed revised proposal is being submitted to Commission along with this duly signed agreement on stamp paper.***
3. The Project will be cancelled, if party is not following the terms & conditions laid down by the Commission and/or failure to comply with any of the clause of agreement will lead to refund of the whole released amount by the Party to the Commission.
4. The Party has already taken clearance from Institutional Ethical Review Committee (if required) and if proved otherwise project will stand closed automatically and Party will refund the whole released amount to the Commission.
5. Under studentship party may hire (following SPPRA/ university rules & regulations) a full-time regular student who must not be receiving any type of scholarship/ any other funds/remunerations/any salary and must not be on study leave.
6. The Party is a full-time regular Ph.D. faculty member (BPS or TTS) of public sector university/DAI and/or if Party is on contract, remaining contract life of the party is not less than project life and that Party is not an adjunct professor or other. And that Party has never been blacklisted by Commission.
7. Party is not executing or submitting for consideration more than two projects simultaneously under SRSP/NRPU. And that the Party is not executing any SRSP/NRPU/other project that has already been delayed or that project life has been expired.
8. Subject project is genuinely novel and that there is no plagiarized material including self-plagiarism. And that no portion of this project has already been submitted by the Party for funding to any funding agency and/or Commission and/or been funded to Party by any funding agency and/or Commission.
9. Machine(s), equipment(s), apparatus demanded for the subject project is/are not available in the University / Institute.
10. Travel expenditure as per actual will be reimbursed from the head of local travel. And that the Party will not conduct any foreign/abroad visits utilizing funds released under the project of SRSP. And that any type of food/entertainment expenditure will not be reimbursed out of any budget head of SRSP released grant.
11. ***No foreign payments will be made neither to any foreign firm for the purchase of any item/equipment etc. nor to any foreigner (as Co-PI)/consultant etc. Hence Party will not open any LC for foreign payments from SRSP released grant.***
12. The grant received by Party from Commission will be exclusively utilized for project strictly in accordance with approved plan.
13. Any deviation in the approved plan, i.e. arrangement for supervision/ execution of the project or in the approved technical program shall require prior approval of Commission, and Party is well aware that same is not encouraged/liked by Commission.
14. The Party will submit annual reports (1st or 2nd) within one year after release of installments (cheque issuance date).

15. Project will not be shifted to any new PI/Co-PI or to any other university (in case of new appointment) during first year of the project because of any reason like study leave/postdoc leave/new appointment etc. However, after submitting first annual report linked with its satisfactory review, the party may intend to go abroad or leave university or for postdoc/study leave etc.
16. However during 2nd year(if applicable), if Party intend to go abroad, or leave university for any reason, Party should not only to inform Commission well before of his/her departure, but Party would also have to nominate a substitute (new PI or Co-PI as new PI) for the period of his/her absence with a plan of activities of project and party would do needful as well for getting nominee notified as substitute/new PI by the Commission prior to his departure/leaving the university so that necessary project activities in absence of Party may be carried out by the nominee/substitute and will be bound to get NOC from SRSP prior to his/her departure. **Moreover, new PI will undertake that** he/she will submit next annual report(s) within one year from the date of release of 2nd installment and will be held responsible till the completion of the Project. Failure to comply with this clause (16) would lead to refund of the whole released amount by the Party.
17. In subsequent year (only 2nd), no project would be shifted from one university/DAI to another without provision of NOC from both universities/DAI(s), Party & Co-PI. In case of any conflict, Party has to refund whole released amount to Commission. Party itself is responsible for completion/ settle down of any project under SRSP. If any project is already delayed on part of the Party, same will not be transferred until the submission of annual reports and decision will be made as per SOPs of delay policy.
18. The financial Assistance will be for a total amount of Rs. _____ /- (as per award letter) over a period of ----- months (as per award letter).
19. The assistance will be given to the Party in installments as shown below:

1st Installment	Rs. _____	/- (as per award letter)
2nd Installment	Rs. _____	/(as per award letter)
20. The project funds shall be maintained in a separate account to be operated jointly by the Party & Vice Chancellor/Rector/Treasurer/Accounts Officer (in case of centers).
21. All purchases will be made as per prescribed rules & regulations of Govt./University (like SPPRA rules) where project is located. And all payments will be made by observing all codal formalities of university/ Government rules and regulations like SPPRA rules etc.
22. The expenditure incurred from the grant will also be subject to periodical audit by the Commission and the Party shall produce the books of accounts to the persons(s) appointed for this purpose by the Commission.
23. Any other income (bank interest etc.) accruing therefrom any of the component of the project would be returned back to the Commission before closure of the project and same cannot be used in any of the project activity that may lead to refund from the Party.
24. Machines, equipment, apparatus or any other thing purchased out of the grant given by the Commission will remain the property of the Commission, or with the permission of the Commission, the University where the project is located.
25. All equipment/items purchased under the project along with specification and costs will be taken on stock register of the concerned department under the head “**permanent equipment**” and a certificate in this regard, duly countersigned by the Chairman of the Department and Institutional Head, along with copies of relevant pages of the Stock Register will be sent to Commission (SRSP) for record & audit purpose.
26. The Party must keep the Commission properly informed about any applications of the results obtained. And that any discovery made, patent and/or license obtained based on the research carried out with this grant will be in the name of the Commission and any income accruing there from, will be shared by the Commission and the Party according to a formula to be established by the Commission.
27. The Party will submit his/her expenditure statement after paying his/her all due payments of expenditures on the specimen of annual expenditure statements (1st, 2nd & consolidated).
28. Two progress reports (hard copies) with expenditure statement (3 copies) duly countersigned by Resident Auditor/Treasurer of the University/DAI etc. will be submitted by the Party to the Commission within fifteen days of the completion of each year in accordance with the instructions issued from time to time by the Commission to the Party and soft copy of all documents via email as well.

29. The Commission shall have the right to evaluate the progress of research/ investigation/work done by the party through an evaluation Committee of experts/ reviewers/Independent reviewer/ expert to be appointed by the Commission for this purpose. This evaluation may include on-site inspections also (if required by Commission or expert(s)).
30. The release of the subsequent year award/next installment will be tied up with the satisfactory recommendations/approval of the Annual Progress Report by the expert/reviewer/committee of experts/ reviewers as per their advice/recommendations. Party will have to revise his/her annual/final reports if so desired by the Commission/expert(s).
31. **Next installment will be released after deducting previous unspent amount (if any)/committed amount if any reflected by PI in his/her annual audited expenditure statement submits to Commission.**
32. The party will refund whole released amount if Commission refuses either to pay the next installment or closes the project based on a) unsatisfactory progress report(s), or b) issues in the statement of accounts, or c) the manner in which expenditure has been incurred by party.
33. Party will have to submit following document in the end of the final year of the project so that his/her project could be notified as completed in order to issue the party Project Completion Certificate (PCC) linked with the satisfactory review of the report.
 - a) Final Annual Progress Report in hard form via surface mail & soft form via email
 - b) Codal Formalities Proforma/Project Completion Proforma
 - c) Consolidated Expenditure Statement duly audited by Resident Auditor of University.
34. In all publications, reports or presentations concerning project, support provided by the Commission will be duly acknowledged by the Party.
35. In case project is delayed on part of the Party due to any reason thereof, the Party will be bound to comply with Commission's decision that may lead to refund of whole released amount, and relevant university (**who is Guarantee/ Surety**) will be responsible to make necessary arrangement for refund from the Party. The party will be responsible to pursue the case for release of subsequent installments. The Commission will not be responsible for any informal communication except that the party its-self must take on record if there is any delay on part of Sindh HEC for more than 6 months. The party must pursue the release of next tranche of funds so that the research may not be suffered.
36. Host University/DAI Guarantee /Surety that the party will be facilitated and support will be provided to the party for the establishment & operation of this project, and also provide other facilities necessary for the project including land, building, space, laboratories, machinery, equipment, transport, amenities including utilities and other services throughout the life cycle of this project.
37. Moreover, host University/DAI of the party Guarantee /Surety will not issue NOC for any purpose, e.g. postdoc leave/EOL/study leave/ university leaving etc. to the party and that the party will not be relieved from his/her parent institution/university until & unless the party may not submit **Project Completion Certificate /Project Clearance Certificate (PCC)** duly issued by the Commission to the university/institution. Additionally, university/institute will not replace any principal investigator of any of the SRSP project by itself without getting prior permission from Commission. For this purpose, university/institution will request the Commission which will notify new PI if policy guidelines permit. Failing to comply with these clauses (36 & 37) will make university responsible for refund of whole released amount from party or university/institute itself.
38. The party will refund the expenditure incurred on the project, in case the party fails to complete the project within the stipulated time without any valid reason acceptable to Commission.
39. Failure to comply with any of the clause of this agreement will lead to refund of the whole released amount by the Party and university will be responsible as **Guarantee/ Surety** for making arrangement for said refund.
40. Vice Chancellor/Institutional Head of the said University (hereinafter called the **Guarantee/Surety**) is held and firmly bound either to make sure that Party must submit all annual technical reports and final annual technical report within approved duration of Project to the Commission or to make necessary arrangement to refund whole released amount together with bank interest thereon for which grant to be awarded.
41. University do hereby bind itself jointly and severely to make necessary arrangement for making whole released amount refund from the party if party fails to submit all annual technical report within approved duration linked with their satisfactory review from the Commission's technical

experts. Hence, the said university will not issue NOC to the party until party get clearance from the Commission.

42. In witness hereof, I/we _____ put my/our signature(s) here below on the _____ day of _____.

Signature of the Party Name of the PI: Designation: Dated:	Signature of the Vice-Chancellor / Institutional Head/Guarantee/Surety Organization with Official Stamp/ Dated:
Signature of Director ORIC Name: Dated	Signature of Director (Finance) Sindh Higher Education Commission Dated: