

DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Guidelines for DBT-Boost to University Interdisciplinary Life Science Departments for Education and Research Programme (DBT-BUILDER) (Level I)

1. PURPOSE:

DBT-BUILDER aims to foster interaction of life science departments invigorating interdisciplinary modern bio-science research to develop world- class school of life science in universities & institutions, conducting both advanced research and education. The focus of support under **Level I** is to achieve excellence in classroom teaching and laboratory training via experiential learning.

2. OBJECTIVES:

The specific objective is to upgrade the post-graduate teaching and training laboratories in terms of optimal infrastructure such as modernization of laboratories involved in PG teaching, acquisition of essential equipment, up-gradation of existing equipment/facilities, networking & computational facilities including software & databases, Scientific & technical books/journals, maintenance & refurbishing of existing and new facilities, introduce training programmes, regroup research activities along the biotechnology innovation chain (from discovery to market). The facilities provided under the Program are intended to support the efforts of the Department as a whole or a number of faculty members in the Department. Proposal towards individual R&D support would not be accepted under this Scheme.

3. THEMATIC FOCUS:

The thematic focus for the scheme is to provide enabling interdisciplinary advanced research and teaching capacity, emphasizing discovery and innovation in proposed research areas. Addressing emerging technologies with inter-disciplinary cross talk to realize their full potential would be a priority. Increasing number of postgraduate students at M.Sc., Ph. D, and postdoctoral levels with quality education, skills and research temperament is envisaged.

4. WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

- a. Recognized PG colleges registered under section 2(f) and 12B of the UGC Act, 1956 (<http://www.ugc.ac.in/>).
- b. The applicant PG College should have proven track record of performance in the following:
 - Current status of Ph.D. students; Size of faculty; Infrastructure available;
 - Working culture and atmosphere; Readiness for administrative reforms; Areas of expertise;

- Ideas of innovation from discovery to market; Teaching activities;
- Team spirit in collaborative research; Publications; Patents, technologies developed/ transferred etc. Improving student learning through pedagogical tools and publications thereof;

5. NATURE OF SUPPORT:

The grant would be provided for establishment/up-gradation of State-of-art laboratories for post graduate teaching & research. Each postgraduate laboratory may consist the following (listed below for guidance):

- Sophisticated common instruments/ facilities (Only those which are related to the area of research and if not available are to be proposed)** The equipment/facility proposed should be supported with relevant expertise of faculty in terms of publications and supported by adequate justification as per the enhancement of teaching protocols or hands on training that shall be imparted utilizing these equipment/facility.
- Operational cost:** like consumables and contingencies for different thematic research groups.
- Salaries of the manpower:** The manpower hired would be contractual and they would devote 100% time to the DBT- BUILDER project. The contractual appointment of Manpower should be in accordance with the prevailing guidelines of DBT/DST. The DBT shall not be responsible for their continuity after the tenure of the project is concluded.

6. CRITERIA FOR CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS UNDER BUILDER PROGRAMME Level I:

- Type of Institution:** PG College with teaching and active research.
 - Funding** at this level is up to **Rs. 3.00 Crores** (Teaching & up gradation of existing laboratory) for 5 Years.
 - PG College should be accredited by NAAC with minimum of 'A' rating.
 - Minimum number of students in each participating department shall be 10 (admitted in 1st year) in PG Programs.
 - Minimum number of regular Faculty at PG level shall be 4 per Department.
 - Cumulative Extra-Mural Grant, not less than Rs 50 Lakhs in past 3 years as evidence of research in the participating PG Department(s) of the College
 - Participating departments should have existed at least for 3 years.
 - Number of members in core group having Ph D degree should be four (4) or more.
 - In case of Non-Govt. College, departments of the College should have at least 5 PhD students in each participating departments pursuing their PhD as full time Research Scholar and receiving their fellowships either by virtue of NET/GATE qualification or holder of Institute/any other agency fellowship
- i. **Criteria For Eligibility as Programme Coordinator:** The participating departments should form a core group headed by the Coordinator. The Programme coordinator shall be Principal of the College, accompanied by the Co-Coordinator, a senior Professor nominated by Principal, having at least 6 years of

service remaining before superannuation; with proven track record in life science education and research and as evidenced by publications, patents, technology developed/ transferred, research projects implemented, awards and fellowships etc pedagogical tools developed for the students etc.

(Core group shall consist of faculty from the participating departments.)

7. DURATION OF SUPPORT

Project will be supported for a maximum period of Five (05) years and subsequent year grants will be released only after submission of the necessary documents. In General, **No extension will be provided beyond Five years** though in exceptional circumstances with proper justification, project duration may be extended as follows:

- Maximum of one year within the approved budget of the project
- Maximum of two years, including (a) above, for projects shown exceptionally outstanding performance with additional budget. During extension period, **ONLY** the manpower, maintenance of equipment purchased under BUILDER Programme and consumables will be considered for financial support.

8. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

(Rs in Crores)

S. No.	Head	Level I
1.	Non-recurring	1.8
2.	Recurring for 5 years (Manpower, Consumables, Contingency, Travel, Workshop & Training, Books & Journals, Overhead, AMC/CMC)	1.2
	Total	3.0

9. HOW TO APPLY:

Applications will be invited through advertisement on DBT website. Applications should be submitted online via e-ProMIS Portal on Department of Biotechnology (its link is available on website dbtindia.gov.in) or as instructed in the advertisement.

i. EVALUATION OF A PROPOSAL:

Upon receipt of the detailed proposal, the same will be reviewed for completeness by the Internal Screening Committee (ISC). Applications that are complete and responsive will be evaluated for scientific and technical merit by a high-powered Committee or Task Force on Research Resources, Service Facilities and Platforms. The programme coordinator may be invited to make a detailed presentation before the Committee. The decision of the Committee/ Task Force will be final and binding on the applicant and no representation of any kind against the decision of the Committee/ Task Force will be entertained.

- The proposals will be evaluated based on the following criterion:

	Criteria
Level I	The major focus of proposal should be on up gradation of the post graduate (PG) Teaching component under this Level.

- iii. A “**Site Visit Committee**” comprising of the members nominated by the Chairman and Co-Chairman of the Task Force including officer from DBT and its finance may be formed to access its suitability for support prior to final approval. This can be held after the evaluation by the Screening Committee or after the presentation before the Task Force.

10. MONITORING MECHANISM:

Progress of the project will be monitored regularly by the Department of Biotechnology itself or through Project Monitoring Committee/ Task Force constituted for this purpose. The Institute is required to comply with all the regulations/ procedures as notified by this Department and other Departments/ Ministries of Government of India. The review shall be done by at least One site visit (mid-term) and two presentations during the tenure of the project and one presentation for the completion of the project. Annual release will be subject to satisfactory evaluation by either of the two Committees i.e. Project Monitoring Committee or the **Task Force on Research Resources, Service Facilities and Platforms**. The support may be discontinued at any stage if the Task Force is not satisfied with the progress of the project. The decision of the Department based on the recommendations of the PMC/ Task Force will be binding on the Institute and no representation of any kind against the decision will be entertained.

11. ASSETS RIGHTS:

The Resources/Facilities/Platforms established through this programme will be treated as Government of India assets/property. Retention of the equipment purchased out of the project grant after completion of the project in respect to Private Institutions will be as per the instructions/modalities/terms & conditions issued by the Department of Bio-technology keeping in mind overall public interest in accordance to instructions issued by Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India from time to time.

12. DATA SUBMISSION:

The coordinators are required to submit the desired data relevant to the project from time to time or whenever desired including usage, revenue generated, rent acquired, duration etc. as per the DBT format for BUILDER Programme. Subsequent release will be based on evaluation of data. The Coordinators are required to

- register the facility on I-STEM portal of Govt. of India and
- share the relevant data with IBDC (Indian biological data centre) at RCB, Faridabad.

13. OTHER TERMS & CONDITION:

- i. The institution and its departments supported under DBT-BUILDER would be eligible for application for next level after a cooling period of 2 years from date of **FINAL SETTLEMENT OF ACCOUNTS** of previous support. The Institutions/departments will have to apply afresh against the call for next stage. There will be no automatic up-gradation to next level based upon the performance/progress. The beneficiary departments those who have been supported once under BUILDER shall not be eligible for another support at the same level.
- ii. **Proposals that have been 'not recommended' for support can re-apply for this program for financial support with appropriate modifications and revisions in the subsequent year.** The revisions made may be conveyed in a cover letter to DBT and the same should be highlighted in the proposal at relevant sections.
- iii. **Rule 236 (1) Audit of Accounts.** The accounts of all Grantee Institutions or Organisations shall be open to inspection by the sanctioning authority and audit, both by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India under the provision of CAG(DPC) Act 1971 and internal audit by the Principal Accounts Office of the Ministry or Department, whenever the Institution or Organisation is called upon to do so and a provision to this effect should invariably be incorporated in all orders sanctioning Grants-in-aid.
- iv. **Rule 238 (5)** In the case of Private and Voluntary Organizations receiving recurring Grants-in-aid from Rupees ten lakhs to less than Rupees fifty lakhs, all the Ministries or Departments of Government of India should include in their Annual Report a statement showing the quantum of funds provided to each of those organizations and the purpose for which they were utilized, for the information of Parliament. The Annual Reports and accounts of Private and Voluntary Organizations receiving recurring Grants-in-aid to the tune of Rupees fifty lakhs and above should be laid on the Table of the House within nine months of the close of the succeeding financial year of the Grantee Organisations.
- v. In line with the DST OM No. SR/S9/Z-11/2013 dated 24/02/2015 and clause 18.9 of Charter of FA, the Institute has to maintain an Asset Register for proper asset management in the format laid down under Fiscal Responsibility Budget Management (FRBM) Rules, 2004. Further, the grantee institution(s) have to display the assets acquired out of DBT grants on their website strictly.

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