

**Office of Research Support**

QU Internal Grants

**Transformative Research Priorities Readiness Program**

**(T2RP)**

2025-2024

**Guidelines**

# T2RP Program Timeline

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Launch of the Call for Proposal** | Please check ORS website for more information |
| **Deadline for Proposal Submission** | Please check ORS website for more information |
| **Proposals Pre-Screening (Ineligibility)** | 2 weeks after submission deadline |
| **Award Announcement** | Please check ORS website for more information |
| **Project Duration** | 2 Years |
| **Budget** | Max 400,000QR /project (from 100,000QR to  200,000QR /project per year) |
| **Submission** | Upload the full application online through iGrants |
| **Program Contact** | [igrants@qu.edu.qa](mailto:igrants@qu.edu.qa) |

# Background

The vision of Qatar University (QU) is to be regionally & globally recognized for distinctive excellence in education and research; an institution of choice for students and scholars, and a catalyst for the sustainable socio-economic development of Qatar. Accordingly, QU is determined to improve the quality of its research, explore opportunities for outreach and engagement with international research institutions and industries, and promote research-informed education in Qatar and the region. Faculty members at QU have established platforms of research in various fields of QU pillars transformative priorities.

# Program Objectives

# Transformative Research Priorities Readiness Program (T2RP) funding opportunity aims to support research ideas in cross-cutting-edge to be developed at Qatar. The program offers faculty members and their students' opportunities to increase the impact of their research ideas. T2RP is specifically looking for prototypes, technologies and platforms of Technology Readiness Level (TRL) between 5 and 7 or Societal Readiness Levels (SRL) between 4 and 5 for specific social science projects dealing with innovation for society.

For more details: <http://blogs.qu.edu.qa/orsg/trl-srl/>

# Moreover, TR2P is intended to foster the collaboration within Qatar and help QU research teams to become regional leaders in their fields, focus on research areas that are strategic to the country and serve the community by providing solutions to their problems.

# Research Priorities

This program is focusing on QU Transformative Research Priorities, detailed on this link: <http://www.qu.edu.qa/research/research-priorities>

# Eligibility Criteria

# Lead PIs with active HIG/CG/T2RP/NCBP2- from the previous cycle are not eligible to submit to this grant.

* The total number of participation in all on going HIG/CG/T2RP projects (LPI/PI) to three.

# The Lead PI must have a track record of successful research with peer-reviewed journal publications.

# Each application requires a Lead PI and at least One PI (full time faculty/Researchers PhD holders) and usually includes several students.

* Prototype, technologies and platforms of TRL > 5 or Social innovation of SRL > 4 as explicitly stated in the objectives.
* Each project should have as an output a minimum of six papers in Q1/Q2 indexed journals in Web of Science (Clarivate), reflecting the contribution of the team members.
* Having an external socio-economic partner (industry, business, ministries, social organization, etc.) is required (a signed support letter is requested).
* The required documents (Application, Budget sheet, CV’s, Similarity Report) should be provided at the time of submission.
* The research plan and expected outcomes section in the Application Template should not exceed 30 pages.
* Projects that have ethical requirements can submit the requested approval documentation by first progress report maximum. Hence the award is active upon receiving the award activation email from ORS (tasks that require ethical approval are not allowed to start until ethical approval is granted).

# Proposals Evaluation

Upon submission of the proposal through the iGrants system, the Office of Research Support (ORS) will endeavor to proceed with screenings and reviews. Each Research Proposal will be screened according to the Eligibility Criteria (any proposal that does not meet the Eligibility Criteria will be pre-screened and not be accepted). The full lifecycle is provided hereunder:

Research Proposal

Submission

Pre-Screening

Proposals Review

ProposalsSelection

Proposals that pass the screening go through a technical review by external peer-reviewers using the below evaluation criteria.

**Technical Peer-Review**

The reviewers evaluate the proposals, make recommendations to QU Evaluation Committee and provide narrative feedback to applicants. The evaluation criteria consists of the following:

1. Intellectual Merit (Excellent; Very Good; Good; Fair; Poor) (30%)
2. Expected Impact (Excellent; Very Good; Good; Fair; Poor) (30%)
3. Work Plan (Excellent; Very Good; Good; Fair; Poor) (25%)
4. Qualifications and complementarity of the Research Team (Excellent; Very Good; Good; Fair; Poor) (15%)

**QU Evaluation Committee**

QU Evaluation Committee finalizes its ranking based on the technical peer-review, while considering other non-technical criteria such as the LPI outcome during the last 2 years and the LPI availability to manage the proposal.

Proposals’ final ranking follows the table below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Grade** | **Categorization** | **Contextual Guidance** |
| Excellent | A | The proposal is beyond expectations and all technical/non-technical criteria have been met. |
| Very Good | B | The proposal generally meets expectations and has some minor limitations. The selection of awarded projects depends on the global budget limitations. |
| Fair | C | The proposal does not meet expectations. |

# Rebuttal

Only projects from previous cycles with grade B are allowed to resubmit once for the current or future cycles of the internal grants. Resubmitted proposals are required to provide a rebuttal to comments made by the reviewers in the Application template.

All ranked C proposals need further enhancement to be resubmitted. They cannot be considered for this Cycle call, but are welcome for re-submission, with the rebuttal clarifying the updates and enhancements, for Cycle 8 or beyond.

# Appeals

The competition for research awards is intense and many high quality applications may not receive support. All applications receive careful scrutiny by the peer reviewers, in the context of competing claims on available funding. Appeals may therefore not be made against the academic judgment of the peer reviewers or ORS committees. The sole ground on which an appeal may be made is one of improper procedure. Anyone wishing to make an appeal against a decision should write to the Director of ORS no later than 2 weeks after the award announcement, citing the specific decision and setting out clearly the substantive basis of the appeal. Only LPIs themselves may appeal. The Director will communicate to the LPI the decision of the committee within 30 days.

# Acknowledgement of Support

QU Research Submitter shall ensure that all research publications resulting from this grant include the following statement:

*“This [publication, poster, report, etc.] was supported by Qatar University [GRANT CODE]. The findings achieved herein are solely the responsibility of the authors.”*

# Inquiries

For any inquiry regarding this document and the proposal submission process please send an email to [igrants@qu.edu.qa](mailto:igrants@qu.edu.qa)