

**Qatar University**

**Research Support (Grants and Contracts)**

**Post-Doc Initiative Program**

**PDOC**

**Guidelines for QU Referent**

**Table of Contents**

[1. Post-DOC Program Timeline 3](#_Toc85926450)

[2. Program Overview 4](#_Toc85926451)

[3. Program Objectives 4](#_Toc85926452)

[4. Research Area 4](#_Toc85926453)

[5. Eligibility (Referent) 4](#_Toc85926454)

[6. Eligibility (Post-Doc Applicant) 4](#_Toc85926455)

[7. Obligations of Postdoctoral Researcher 5](#_Toc85926456)

[8. Benefits 5](#_Toc85926457)

[9. Submission 5](#_Toc85926458)

[10. Evaluation Process 6](#_Toc85926459)

# Post-DOC Program Timeline

**Stage 1: Research Proposal Submission (Referent)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  **Launch of the Call for Research Topic Proposals** |  **Fall 2022**  |
|  **Deadline for Proposals Submission** |  **Dec 11, 2023 (12:00 PM) Noon.** |
|  ***Proposals Selection Announcement***  | **Spring 2024** |

**Stage 2: Application Submission (Post-Doc Applicant)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  **Launch of the Call for Applications**  |  **Spring 2024** |
|  **Deadline for Application Submission** | **Summer 2024** |
| **Short listed Candidates Announcement**  | **Beg. Fall 2024** |
| **Post-Doc Start date** | **Fall 2024** |
| **Grant Duration** |  **2 Years** |
| **Post-Doc Program Contact** |  igrants@qu.edu.qa |

# Program Overview

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 industry, and promote research-informed education in Qatar and the region. Qatar University has successfully attracted leading academic researchers and pioneer scholars in most areas of higher education. Faculty members at QU have established platforms of research in various fields of science and engineering relaying on generously funded grants from the Qatar National Research Fund (member in Qatar Foundation) and internal funding schemes within QU. This was translated into significant jumps of the university in international ranking during the past few years. To consolidate the momentum of proceeding towards the achievement of its initiatives developed as part of its strategic research excellence and impact framework, and promotion of international endeavors, QU is willing to host a number of high caliber Postdoctoral researchers at various research areas that meet fundamental technological and scientific challenges, involves multidisciplinary work and a high degree of novelty.

# Program Objectives

Widen QU research culture and increase its research capacity

Enrich QU research ecosystem by engaging young talented researchers from international institutions outside of Qatar

Boost the creativity and productivity of researchers and academics at QU

Train the next generation of scientists, with a special emphasis on fulfilling the QU research strategy and addressing the countries challenges and needs

# Research Area

This program is focusing on all QU Research Priorities, detailed on this link:

<http://www.qu.edu.qa/research/research-priorities>

# Eligibility (Referent)

The proposer (referent) should be QU full-time faculty member or Researcher.

The proposer must have a track record of successful research with peer-reviewed journal publications related to the proposal, experience in supervising PhD students and/or Post-Docs, experience in leading research teams and managing grants (min 2 years’ experience after PhD)

The submitted research proposal must align with QU Research Priorities

Only one submission per Faculty/Researcher is allowed for this Post-Doc call

Priority of awards is given to first time applicants

* Topics that have been ranked B the last 2 cycles are not eligible to submit for this cycle

The Post-Doc research proposal ideas are original and are not a duplicate of any previous work

# Eligibility (Post-Doc Applicant)

The successful candidate has well-recognized experience in a high impact research field with a new experience that can be brought to QU. Postdoctoral experience at academia or industry is an asset. The candidate should have experience with mentoring junior researchers and students, and be able to adapt his/her skills and qualifications to serve the strategic plan of QU.

* **Minimum qualifications and achievements**
1. The candidate should hold a PhD degree in QU research priorities fields, granted by a **leading foreign international university**, preferably having established international outstanding reputation after having his/her PhD through experience in research programs leading to high impact publications.
2. The candidate should have recognized scholarly output in Q1/Q2 reputable journals in his/her field.
3. The candidate should be able to be involved in interdisciplinary research projects involving large teams.
* **Other desirable qualifications and achievements**
1. Other academic or executive qualifications.
2. Evidence of writing grant applications.
3. Teaching experience is advantageous but not essential.
4. Industrial experience is an advantage.

# Obligations of Postdoctoral Researcher

Recipients of this award are required to undertake several of the followings:

* Establish research collaboration with faculty members from QU
* Generate at least 6 high quality peer reviewed publications, during the timeframe of their stay at QU, from collaborative research at QU
* Act as a mentor for QU junior researchers and students by teaching them new techniques and training them on writing research manuscripts and funding applications
* Participate in co-supervision of graduate students at QU
* Collaboration with QU researchers to file patents and in the transfer of technology to serve development in Qatar, if applicable
* Teach at selected classes offered by the University as a guest lecturer on the graduate level
* Present at specially arranged seminars for students/faculty/community members

# Benefits

* A monthly salary will be provided according to QU regulations
* Accommodation/housing and other benefits according to QU rules and regulations

# Submission

**Stage 1: Research topic proposal submission**

Research proposals should be sent through ORS iGrantsExtent submission system.

**Stage 2: Applicant proposal submission**

The applicant proposalshould be sent through ORS iGrantsExtent submission system. The proposal consists in:

* CV
* Copy of Master and PhD degrees
* Copy of PhD transcripts
* Copy of PhD Thesis
* A description of the proposed research, including a statement explaining why QU is an appropriate setting for the work
* 2 reference letters

#  Evaluation Process

The evaluation process will follow two stages:

**Stage 1: Research Topics Proposal evaluation**

Upon submission of the Research Topic Proposals through the iGrantsExtent system, the Office of Research Support (ORS) will endeavor to proceed with screenings and reviews. Each Research Topic Proposal will be screened according to the Eligibility Criteria (any proposal not meeting the Eligibility Criteria will be pre-screened). Based on the technical review (from the peer-reviewers) and the compliance with the eligibility criteria, ORS will select the top-ranked Research Topic Proposals and open the submission for Post-Doc applicants for these selected proposals (Stage 2).

**Stage 2: Post-Doc Applications evaluation**

The selected Research Topic Proposals will be broadcasted internationally. The Referents, owners of the selected Research Topic Proposals will be encouraged to advertise the call from their sides to a maximum of external candidates. All the submitted Post-Doc applications (through iGrantsExtent system), will be reviewed and short-listed (3 to 5 candidates per research topic) by each Pillar Review Committee (ORS, Referents, Associate-Deans/Directors). The referents should initiate the hiring process with ORS at the earliest.

The full Process lifecycle is provided hereunder:

Research Proposal

Submission

Pre-Screening

Review of Research Proposal

Research Proposal

Selection

Post-Doc Application Submission

Review of Applications

Award Announcement

 **Stage 1** (Referent Research Topics Proposals) **Stage 2** (Post-Doc Applications)

# Rebuttal

Only topics from previous cycle with rank B are allowed to resubmit once for the current or future cycles. Resubmitted proposals are required to provide a rebuttal to comments made by the reviewers in the Application template.