



# National Grassroots ICT Research Initiative 2021

## Terms & Conditions

### 1. Definitions:

In this document, the following terms shall have the meaning ascribed thereto below:

- 1.1. **“Program”**: means National Grassroots ICT Research Initiative 2021
- 1.2. **“ICT”**: means Information and Communication Technologies
- 1.3. **“Institution”**: means Higher Education Commission’s (HEC) recognized public & private University or Degree Awarding Institution (DAI) or Constituent Campus/College of HEC’s recognized University/DAI
- 1.4. **“Department”**: means departments offering degree programs referred in clause 3.2 (b) of this document
- 1.5. **“Final Year Project”**: means Final Year Project (FYP) to be undertaken or being carried out by Undergraduate Final Year Students, of ICT related disciplines, studying in Institutions
- 1.6. **“Championship”**: means event where prototypes/working models of approved FYPs, selected by Ignite are displayed for ranking and awards
- 1.7. **“NGIRI Portal”** means online portal for submission of FYP applications for further processing

### 2. Objective:

The Program aims to assist final year undergraduate students of ICT related disciplines studying in the Institutions by providing them financial assistance for developing prototypes / working models of their Final Year Projects (FYP) in order to increase creativity, innovation and hands on engineering and development skills.

### 3. Eligibility Criteria for Participation:

#### 3.1. Eligibility Criteria for Participation of Institutions:

All Institutions are eligible to participate in the Program. Constituent Campus/college of Universities/DAI shall be treated as a separate Institution for the purpose of subject Program.

#### 3.2. Eligibility Criteria for Participation of Students:

- a) Students must be studying in final year (4<sup>th</sup> academic year) of their undergraduate degree program of the Institutions.



b) Students must have enrolled in related departments offering following undergraduate degree programs:

- Avionics Engineering
- Avionics/Aeronautical Engineering
- Biomedical Engineering
- Bioinformatics
- Computer & Information System Engineering
- Computer Engineering
- Computer Science
- Computer Science & IT
- Computer System
- Computer System Engineering
- Computing and Technology
- Electrical
- Electrical Engineering
- Electrical Power Engineering
- Electrical/Electronic Engineering
- Electronics
- Electronics Engineering
- Engineering and Sciences
- Industrial Electronics
- Information & Communication Technology
- Information Technology
- Management and Information Sciences
- Mechatronics Engineering
- Science & Technology
- Software Engineering
- Space Science
- Telecom Engineering
- Telecommunication & Networking
- Mechanical Engineering

Any other related department offering similar degree program may be considered if approved by Ignite.

## 4. Terms & Conditions:

- 4.1. Application of FYP can only be submitted via NGIRI Portal.
- 4.2. Maximum up to five (05) FYP can be approved for funding against each Department of an Institution.
- 4.3. Maximum funding of Rs. 80,000/- (Inclusive of all applicable taxes) can be reimbursed against one (01) approved FYP. This funding is further divided into following budget heads:
  - i. Equipment: Maximum up to Rs. 70,000/- (Inclusive of all applicable taxes)
  - ii. Miscellaneous: Maximum up to Rs. 10,000/- (Inclusive of all applicable taxes)



Where;

- i. Equipment means “Set of tools/Items or objects used for development of prototype/working model of FYP submitted under the Program”. Some examples of Equipment include but not limited to followings:
    - Integrated Chips (ICs)
    - Printed Circuit Board (PCB) and its Fabrication
    - Electronic Components like Resistors, Diodes, and Capacitors etc.
    - Electric Motors, Switch Boards, PLC
    - Sensors, AV Cards
    - Foundry Work
    - Smart Devices & Screens
  - ii. Miscellaneous means the expenditures (other than equipment) required to complete the prototype/working model of FYP. For example, stationery, printing, overheads etc.
- 4.4. Purchase of smart devices like mobile phones, tablet etc. are not encouraged but may be allowed in case of dire need for completion of the project. At maximum, smart device(s) of Rs.35,000/- out of total equipment budget of Rs. 70,000 can be utilized. Smart devices and screens preferably be purchased through authorized dealers/resellers only.
  - 4.5. Devices like Laptops, Personal Computers (PC), Scanners, Printer etc. shall **NOT** be funded by Ignite under the Program.
  - 4.6. All purchases / procurements to be made as per the Institution’s policy and record of the original receipts / paid bills of both Equipment & Miscellaneous shall be maintained by the Institution. Ignite may ask for submission of original receipts/bills/invoices at later stage or visit the Institution for verification of the same.
  - 4.7. All Ignite funded equipment purchased under this Program will remain in ownership of the Institution.
  - 4.8. Each participating Institution shall submit FYP applications within the stipulated time as announced by Ignite.
  - 4.9. All FYP applications submitted via NGIRI Portal will be evaluated by Panel of Judges comprising of industry & academia experts. However, Ignite reserves the right to approve/reject/defer or cancel any FYP application submitted through NGIRI Portal at any stage of the Program without providing any reason.
  - 4.10. List of “Approved FYP”, selected for reimbursement along with approved budget shall be conveyed by Ignite to respective participating Institutions.
  - 4.11. Each participating Institution shall submit Expenditure Report(s) on prescribed format of their approved FYP, selected for funding.



- 4.12. The Expenditure Report must be submitted to Ignite within the stipulated time (to be communicated later).
- 4.13. The Expenditure Report(s) must be duly signed by the Focal Person, Head of Finance/Accounts and Head of the Institution. The same must be submitted in soft copy via NIGIR Portal and in hard copy to Ignite's office.
- 4.14. The funds against the approved FYP would be released to Institution after acceptance of submitted Expenditure Report(s).
- 4.15. Incomplete submission or late submission of Expenditure Report(s) of approved FYP shall not be considered for reimbursement.
- 4.16. Final selection for participation in the national level Championship shall be decided by Ignite.
- 4.17. The Institution will ensure participation in the national level Championship and will facilitate the supervisor/co-supervisor & students of selected FYP.
- 4.18. Nomination of focal person is a mandatory requirement for participation of Institution in Program
- 4.19. Ignite reserves the right to cancel or terminate the funding of approved FYP at any stage of the Program without providing any reason.
- 4.20. Ignite may at its discretion ask for additional reports/datasets and/or carry out detailed evaluation of the FYP, operational as well as financial, during or within 12 months after the conclusion of the Program. In case of any unsatisfactory findings or submission of fake, overwritten or mutilated documents pursuant to this monitoring and evaluation, Ignite has the right to conclude the FYP unilaterally at the risks and costs of the Institution.
- 4.21. Nothing contained herein, or the offering made herein or the acceptance of these terms and conditions create any right of institution to require the Ignite, issue the requisite payments for this Program as the same is subject to fulfillment of legal and other administrative requirements which shall attain finality once these "terms and conditions" become effective and the Program is awarded in favor of the Institution and requisite payment is made.
- 4.22. The terms and conditions are applicable on all participating Institutions and will remain in effect until modified or terminated by Ignite. On breaching any terms and condition, the Ignite has exclusive right to terminate the funding without any prior notice and the head of Institution shall be responsible to indemnify for such non-compliance.