National Grassroots ICT Research Initiative (NGIRI) 2023-24

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Note: *FAQs are provided for general guidance only. In case of any conflict and/or inconsistency between any statements, terms or provisions contained in FAQs and Terms & Conditions of the Program, the Terms & Conditions shall prevail. Ignite will carry no responsibility of any misinterpretation on student's part or any other relevant viewer's part.*

1. *What is National Grassroots ICT Research Initiative (NGIRI)?*
   NGIRI is a program executed by Ignite which aims to provide financial support to selected Final Year Projects (FYP) of undergraduate students, enrolled in ICT related disciplines to promote R&D and Innovation at grassroots level.

2. *Which Institutions are eligible to participate in the program?*
   *All Higher Education Commission's (HEC) recognized public & private University or Degree Awarding Institute (DAI) or Constituent Campus / College of HEC's recognized University / DAI are eligible to participate in the program. However, **participation must have been confirmed by respective institution by nominating focal person for NGIRI.***

3. *My Institute is recognized by HEC but not listed at NGIRI Portal. What should I do to get it listed?*
   Please download the focal person nomination form for participation from www.ignite.org.pk/ngiri and submit the duly filled form to Ignite's office by courier or email at ngiri@ignite.org.pk. Ignite will add your institution in NGIRI portal if details are verified.

4. *Which students are eligible to apply for funding under NGIRI?*
   - Students who are enrolled in Higher Education Commission's (HEC) recognized public & private University or Degree Awarding Institute (DAI) or Constituent Campus/College of HEC's recognized University/DAI.
   - Students must be studying in final year (4th academic year/final year- 7th & 8th Semester 2023-24) of their undergraduate degree program.
   - Student's respective Institution must be participating in the Program
   - Students must have enrolled in related departments offering following undergraduate degree programs:

Avionics Engineering	Electrical	Information Technology
Avionics/Aeronautical Engineering	Electrical Engineering	Management and Information Sciences
Biomedical Engineering	Electrical Power Engineering	Mechatronics Engineering
Bioinformatics	Electrical/Electronic Engineering	Science & Technology

Computer & Information System Engineering	Electronics	Software Engineering
Computer Engineering	Electronics Engineering	Space Science
Computer Science	Engineering and Sciences	Telecom Engineering
Computer Science & IT	Industrial Electronics	Telecommunication & Networking
Computer System	Information & Communication Technology	Mechanical Engineering
Computer System Engineering	Computing and Technology	Civil Engineering
Energy System Engineering		

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

5. *I am currently registered in Master's degree program. What NGIRI will offer me?*
NGIRI is not covering students of Master's degree program.

6. *How can I apply for funding under NGIRI or how do I submit my FYP application?*
Eligible students can apply for funding by signing up at NGIRI Portal via https://ignite.org.pk/ngiri

7. *How do I know about Focal Person of my Institution?*
When eligible students will sign up at NGIRI Portal, information of Focal Person will be displayed after selecting relevant information of respective institution.

8. *Can I apply for funding by submitting FYP application on older forms in hard copy or in printed form taken from NGIRI Portal?*
FYP application submitted by any mean other than submission by NGIRI Portal shall not be accepted.

9. *When we can submit the FYP application via NGIRI Portal?*
FYP applications can be submitted via NGIRI Portal from its launch to 02nd May, 2024.

10. *What is the deadline to submit FYP applications?*
Last date to submit FYP applications is 02nd May, 2024.

11. *How much funding is available for one FYP?*
Maximum funding of Rs. 96,800/- (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. 84,700/- (Inclusive of all applicable taxes)*
   ii. Miscellaneous: *Maximum up to Rs. 12,100/- (Inclusive of all applicable taxes)*

12. *What is meant by Equipment & Miscellaneous?*
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 the followings:
   • *Integrated Chips (ICs)*
   • *Breadboard, Veroboard, Printed Circuit Board (PCB) and its Fabrication*

- *Electronic Components like Resistors, Diodes, and Capacitors etc.*
- *Electric Motors, Switch Boards*
- *Sensors, AV Cards*
- *Foundry Work*
- *Smart Devices & Screens*

Miscellaneous means the expenditures (other than equipment) required to complete the prototype / working model of FYP. For example, stationery, printing, overheads etc.

13. *What are preferred areas of specialization to apply for funding under NGIRI?*
Students are encouraged to develop their FYP preferably based on 4ᵗʰ Industrial Revolution Technologies i.e. Artificial Intelligence, Cloud Infrastructure, Cyber Security, Internet of Things, Augmented and Virtual Reality, Wearables and Implantable, Shared Economy, Robotics, 3D/4D Printing, NeuroTech and Blockchain etc.

14. *How do I know that my FYP has been approved for funding?*
List of approved FYP will be published on official website of Ignite under FYP Funding or NGIRI Portal and same will be shared with respective institutions.

15. *When I will get funds of my FYP?*
Reimbursement of funds shall made upon timely & duly filled submission of Expenditure Reports. Focal Person is responsible to submit duly filled, singed and stamped Expenditure Report. However, students are required to submit original receipts/invoices/bills to focal person. Reimbursements shall be made to the respective Institution.

16. *What are the future opportunities for approved FYP under NGIRI?*
Ignite plans to hold National Championship among selected approved FYPs of NGIRI, which will provide opportunities to participating FYP Teams to win cash prizes and potential chances of connectivity with various stakeholders of industry, academia and investors.

17. *I have completed my FYP during 2022-23 or before. What will NGIRI offer me?*
This initiative is only for the year 2023-24 (July 2023 to June 2024). Students who completed their FYP in 2022-23 or earlier are not eligible to apply for funding under NGIRI 2023-24.

18. *How many projects per institute will be funded under this initiative?*

Maximum up to five (05) FYP can be approved for funding against each Department of a participating institution.