



University Grants Commission
Call for Letter of Intent
Entrepreneurship Support Program (ESP)-2023

UGC proposes to encourage graduate students and young faculties for entrepreneurship under the Entrepreneurship Support Program (ESP), which is a key initiative under the Nurturing Excellence in Higher Education Program (NEHEP) implemented by UGC. UGC will provide course development grants to HEIs, proposal development funds to eligible faculties and graduate students and start-up seed funds to young faculties and graduate students to run small, medium and large-scale enterprises.

UGC invites Universities/HEIs to submit a LOI focused on entrepreneurship training for and start-up seed fund grants to graduate students and young faculties.

Priority themes for entrepreneurship trainings and start-up seed fund grant

- Agriculture, food resources, agriculture technology
- High-performance (smart) materials and products
- Clean and renewable energy
- Global warming, green economy, and carbon neutrality
- Climate change and Environment
- Social inclusion and gender equality
- Population dynamics and human mobility
- Other areas having potential for growth and impact such as IT

All Universities/HEIs are eligible for the application of LOI. However, Universities/HEIs should not have received any similar funding prior to application.

LOI should include the following information:

A. Basic information of the Universities/HEIs/Incubation centers

- Research Management Cell (RMC) establishment date
- Total full-time faculty members
- Faculty members directly involved in
 - (a) Research
 - (b) Entrepreneurship
 - (c) Collaboration with other academic institutions
 - (d) Collaboration with enterprises
- Accomplishments of RMC (in brief)

B. Entrepreneurship specific information

- At least one-page strategy paper to promote partnership with private sector, to develop relevant course content and to engage experts during content preparation, training and incubation
- Other information supportive to develop entrepreneurship

Along with the LOI, HEIs are requested to submit a concept note/proposal describing the vision for conducting the entrepreneurship support program

Deadline for application submission: September 29, 2023

Applications can be submitted directly to UGC office or via email: research@ugcnepal.edu.np

Phone number: 016638548/016638549/016638550

For more information please visit:

- For list of NEHEP Program Documents: <https://www.ugcnepal.edu.np/uploads///upload/l68Esq.pdf>;
- For, Standards, Operations Policies and Guidelines on Research and Entrepreneurship: <https://www.ugcnepal.edu.np/uploads///upload/l68Esq.pdf>;

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