

**Qatar University Concept Development Grant: Emergency Response (CD-ER)**

**Guidelines**

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# CD-ER Program’s Summary

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|  **Launch of the Call** |  Dec. 2019 (updated 3rd May 2020) |
|  **Deadline for Proposal Submission** |  Please check CD-ER Website for updated deadlines |
|  **Pre-Screening of ineligible Proposals** |  Please check CD-ER Website for updated deadlines |
|  **Award Announcement**  |  End-June 2020 (expected) |
|  **Projects’ Starting Period** | From 5 July 2020 to 10 August 2020 |
|  **Duration**  | Up to 3 Months |
|  **Budget**  | 25,000 QAR to 75,000 QAR Maximum |
|  **Submission**  | All applications to be submitted through iGrants submission system |
|  **CD-ER Program Contact** |   igrants@qu.edu.qa |

# Program Objectives

CD-ER grant aims at enabling researchers to take their ideas to the next step and show commercial potential. Based on the recent COVID-19 context and the current high demand for innovative solutions, the Concept Development Grant is exceptionally opening a specific edition related to current global crisis, to enable the development of innovative prototypes, processes and platforms (in replacement of the regular Concept Development 2021). This call comes in support of other ORS initiatives to tackle the pandemic diseases, such as the recent QU Emergency Response Grant (ERG).

# Eligibility

CD-ER grant is governed by the following conditions:

* Applicable only for QU regular faculty members and researchers.
* LPIs participating in QU Emergency Response Grant (ERG) cannot participate in this Call as LPIs (but can contribute as PIs).
* Due to the short term nature of the proposals of this call, LPIs having already an ongoing Internal Grant could participate as LPIs in this call.
* Collaboration with other organizations located inside Qatar is possible if necessary, however members from outside QU cannot use QU budget.
* Duration of the grants is up to 3 months.
* Only one application could be submitted per applicant for this call.
* Submissions should be aligned with this call’s priorities.

# Priorities

CD-ER seeks for solutions that can help combat current and future outbreaks of the current coronavirus (COVID-19) and other similar threats. This call is specifically looking for prototypes, technologies and platforms of at least a Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 5 (<https://www.qnrf.org/en-us/Funding/Policies-Rules-and-Regulations/QSTP-Full-Technology-Readiness-Levels>). The proposed solutions could be either:

* Directly supporting healthcare workers in their efforts to battle the COVID-19, or
* Assisting users and agencies to address the challenges and impacts posed by the COVID-19 and other public health emergencies in the future.

# Budget

* The allocated budget per project is 25,000 QAR to 75,000 QAR Maximum
* The budget should be spent in the year 2020 only
* Only the following items are included in the budget: personnel, software packages, materials and supplies, equipment and other miscellaneous items.
* Personnel: applicants and participants must be residing in Qatar.

# Evaluation

The proposal review and ranking process consists in:

1. Review of the proposals by ORS selected reviewers
2. Final ranking of the proposals in A, B, C categories by ORS and approval by VPRGS.

The reviewers will evaluate the proposals, make recommendations to ORS regarding the approval of the funding. The evaluation criteria consist of the following:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Grade**  | **Categorization**  | **Contextual Guidance**  |
| Excellent  | A | The proposal is beyond expectations\* and ALL technical / non-technical specifications have been met and the proposal is aligned with the Research Pillars – *Should be funded* |
| Very Good | B | The proposal meets expectations in general and have some minor limitations – *Could be funded if enough budget exist* |
| Fair | C | The proposal does not meet expectations – *Could not be funded* |

\* Expectations are not defined but we need experienced reviewers to use their judgments and the internal QU Task Force will look at ensuring all reviews are consistent.

1. Intellectual Merit (Excellent; Very Good; Good; Fair; Poor) (40%)
2. Expected Impact (Excellent; Very Good; Good; Fair; Poor) (25%)
3. Work Plan (Excellent; Very Good; Good; Fair; Poor) (20%)
4. Qualifications and complementarity of the Research Team (Excellent; Very Good; Good; Fair; Poor) (15%)

# Acknowledgement and Project Outcomes

CD-ER LPIs shall ensure that all research outcomes and publications resulting from this grant includes the following statement: “This [publication, poster, report, etc.] was supported by Qatar University via XXX – CD-ER [GRANT CODE]. The findings achieved herein are solely the responsibility of the authors.”

The CD-ER Project final report should be submitted to the ORS Review Committee for evaluation.

It is expected that the project prototype, technology or platform will be taken further for exploitation and comercialisation.

# Inquiries

For any inquiry regarding this document and the proposal submission process please use igrants@qu.edu.qa