



Office of Research Support

**Collaborative Grants
Cycle 08
2025-2026**

Guidelines

Table of Contents

1.	3
2.	4
4.	4
5.	4
6.	5
7.	5
8.	7
9.	7
10.	7
11.	7

1. Collaborative Grant Program Summary

Launch of the Call for Proposal	Please check ORS website for more information
Deadline for Proposal Submission	Please check ORS website for more information
Proposals Pre-Screening (ineligibility)	2 weeks after submission
Award Announcement	Please check ORS website for more information
Project duration	12 months to 24 months
Budget	300,000 QR per project (max 150,000 per year)
Submission	Upload the full application online through iGrants
Program Contact	igrants@qu.edu.qa

2. Program Overview

Collaborative Grants funding program will enable research activities through working in collaborative research groups with members from different disciplines. Research groups will facilitate collaboration by building mixed teams of qualified researchers along with junior researchers and students to ensure capacity building and training of researchers while conducting cutting-edge research.

3. Program Objectives

- Build capacity in cutting-edge research areas
- Empower the scattered critical research mass in QU to establish clusters of research activities in the university
- Foster the collaboration between various entities at QU and within Qatar
- Becoming regional leaders by conducting cutting-edge research
- Mentor junior faculty, staff and students to enhance their capabilities
- Focus on research areas that are strategic to the country and serve the community by helping them to provide solutions to their problems
- Build collaboration with government and private stockholders
- Enhance the local expertise by building collaborations with regional and international partners for knowledge transfer

4. Research Team Structure

Research groups should have at least two faculty members (from colleges, and research centers), researcher(s), and a number of graduate students. The presence of undergraduate students will be an advantage. It is preferred that members of research groups have different research disciplines to tackle research challenges from an interdisciplinary perspective. Research groups are encouraged to include high profile international experts as research consultants. Research groups may recruit graduate assistants (GA) students or undergraduate students to serve in the research team. Research centers, colleges, and central lab units should provide all support needed to research groups in terms of equipment.

5. Eligibility

1. Lead PIs with active HIG/CG/T2RP/NCBP-2 from the previous cycle are not eligible to submit to this grant.
2. The total number of participations in all on going HIG/CG/T2RP projects (LPI/PI) are three, and one submission per type of grant (i.e. LPI cannot submit 2 CG applications in this cycle)

3. Lead PI must have a track record of successful research with peer-reviewed journal publications; and experience in leading research teams and managing grants. In case of Energy and Environment, Health and Biomedical Sciences and Information and Communication Technologies. Published articles must be indexed in ISI/Web of Science.
4. Lead PI, PIs and QU group members, should be full time faculty Ph.D. holders
5. The research group should have at least 2 faculty members with different expertise(in addition to the LPI), and graduate students. Having undergraduate students will be an advantage.
6. All budget categories should comply with the QU Internal Grants Policy
7. Research papers produced, as an output should reflect the contribution of the group members. Work needs to be collaborative with contributions from all team members.
8. Each research group should provide specific KPI's as indicators for its research activities in the proposal.
9. The required documents (Application, Budget sheet, CV's, Similarity Report) should be provided at the time of submission
10. The research plan and expected outcomes section in the Application Template should not exceed the number of allowed pages.
11. The submitted application should be signed by the LPI

6. Budget

Collaborative Grant (CG) has funding of QR 300,000 over two years with a maximum budget of QR 150,000 per year. The funding for the second year is subject to satisfactory performance of the first year.

7. Proposals Evaluation

Upon submission of a proposal through the iGrants system, ORS will endeavor to proceed with all checks, screenings and reviews. Each proposal will be screened for the CG Eligibility Criteria. Any proposal not meeting the above Eligibility Criteria will be pre-screened and not sent out for technical review. The proposals Pre-Award lifecycle is provided hereunder:



Any proposals that have met the Eligibility Criteria will then be sent out for Technical review. Proposals will go through a technical review by external peer reviewers using the published evaluation criteria.

Peer Review (Technical)

The reviewers will evaluate the proposals, make recommendations to the Pre-Award as to “approve funding” or “reject funding,” hence Pre-Award will provide narrative feedback to applicants via email through iGrants. The evaluation criteria consist of the following:

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%)

QU Committee Validation

After the technical feedback, QU committee will finalize its ranking mainly based on the technical peer review, while considering other non-technical criteria such as the LPI outcome during the last 2 years, the LPI availability and capacity to manage the proposal. Only 1 application could be awarded per LPI per submission cycle

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
Very Good	B	The proposal meets expectations in general and have some have some minor limitations
Fair	C	The proposal does not meet expectations

* 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.

8. Rebuttal

Only projects from previous cycles with grade B are allowed to resubmit once for the current or future cycles of the internal grants. Resubmitted proposals are required to provide a rebuttal to comments made by the reviewers in the Application template.

Any project graded two times B will be automatically considered as grade C.

Any ranked C proposal needs further enhancement to be resubmitted. It cannot be considered for this cycle's call, but could be re-submitted for Cycle 9 or beyond, with the rebuttal clarifying the updates and enhancements.

9. Appeals

The competition for research awards is intense and many high quality applications may not receive support. All applications receive careful scrutiny by the peer reviewers, in the context of competing claims on available funding. Appeals may therefore not be made against the academic judgment of the peer reviewers or ORS committees. The sole ground on which an appeal may be made is one of improper procedure. Anyone wishing to make an appeal against a decision should fill the related e-form no later than 2 weeks after the award announcement, citing the specific decision and setting out clearly the substantive basis of the appeal. Only LPIs themselves may appeal. The Director will communicate to the LPI the decision of the committee within 30 days.

10. Acknowledgement of Support

CG LPIs shall ensure that all research publications resulting from this grant includes the following statement:

"This [publication, poster, report, etc.] was jointly supported by Qatar University CG-XXX-XX-XX [GRANT CODE]. The findings achieved herein are solely the responsibility of the authors."

11. Inquiries

For any inquiry regarding this document and the proposal submission process please send an email to igrants@qu.edu.qa