SAGI RAMA KRISHNAM RAJU ENGINEERING COLLEGE
(AUTONOMOUS)

(Approved by AICTE, New Delhi, Affiliated to JNTUK, Kakinada)
Accredited by NAAC with A+ Grade, Accredited by NBA (UG: Civil, CSE, ECE, EEE, IT & ME)
Recognised as Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation

SRKR Marg, CHINA AMIRAM, BHIMAVARAM-534204, W.G.Dt., A.P., India.

Estd. 1980

RESEARCH POLICY

2024-2025

RESEARCH POLICY

Sagi Rama Krishnam Raju Engineering College (SRKREC) strives toward vision and mission that places a significant emphasis on research, recognizing its pivotal role in fostering social and economic development at local, national, and global levels. The College aims not only to contribute to the advancement of knowledge but also to enhance its standing among higher education institutions by maintaining a high standard of quality. The ecosystem supporting research promotion at SRKREC is carefully structured and prioritizes the following key elements:

1. Strategic mobilization of funds to promote research
2. Encouragement and recognition for faculty research accomplishments
3. Empowering faculty through continuous learning initiatives
4. Implementation of research ethics
5. Research advisory committee to foster research promotion

1. Strategic mobilization of funds to promote research

SRKREC strategically allocates funds to strengthen the research infrastructure within its departments. These funds support various facets of research, including the acquisition of books and journals, subscriptions to e-books/e-journals, anti-plagiarism tool and the maintenance of research laboratories/centers. The college actively facilitates its faculty to secure funds from various government funding agencies such as ANRF, DBT, UGC, AICTE, and others. In addition, the college encourages its faculty to obtain research funds from corporate entities, both in the private and public sectors, as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Encouraging collaboration, the institution supports multi-disciplinary projects with industry partners and other research institutions. Furthermore, seed money is earmarked from college funds up to Rs.3,00,000/- to initiate research work in specialized fields. This financial support is allocated based on the expert committee evaluation (Annexure - I).

2. Encouragement and recognition for faculty research accomplishments

The SRKREC actively encourages the faculty to participate in conferences, workshops, seminars, and training programs by providing travel grants and other financial assistance. Moreover, the institution extends partial financial support for the organization of workshops/conferences/FDPs, reinforcing its commitment to knowledge dissemination. The college takes pride in recognizing and honoring the accomplishments of the faculty who have made noteworthy contributions through significant research and receiving awards and honors from outside institutions. As a gesture of appreciation, the college not only felicitates these individuals but also gives them certificates that acknowledge their outstanding achievements. Furthermore, the institution actively supports and encourages the faculty by offering incentives for their publications, patents, and research projects. Detailed information regarding the incentives for publications, patents, and research projects is shown in Tables I, II and III, respectively.

Table I. Incentives for publications

S. No	Type	Quality of publication	Amount
01	SCOPUS/WoS indexed Q1 Journals	Impact Factor >/=10	30000
		Impact Factor 8 to 9.9	15000
		Impact Factor 5 to 7.9	10000
		Impact Factor 2.1 to 4.9	9000
		Impact Factor </= 2	7000
02	SCOPUS/WoS indexed journals	Q2 Journals	5000
03	SCOPUS/WoS indexed Journals	Q3 and Q4 Journals	3000
04	Book Authored	SCOPUS/WoS indexed	12000
05	Book Edited	SCOPUS/WoS indexed	10000
06	Book chapters	SCOPUS/WoS indexed Only edited/authored international books	3000

Note:

i. For each publication, author/s will be given one time incentive based on quality of the Journal.
ii. In case of joint authorship only one faculty can avail the facility.
iii. If the First Author/Corresponding Author of the paper is the faculty of SRKREC, the amount payable to the Publication is 100% of the incentive amount. The Co-Author (applicant for incentive) will be offered 40% of the amount as shown in Table I.
iv. Beyond fourth authorship, no consideration will be given for award of incentive.
v. United Nations proposed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) keywords in the publication was encouraged.
vi. Online date is to be considered as the date of publication.
vii. Publications without the affiliation of SRKREC will not be considered for incentive payment.
viii. Articles in press will not be considered for incentive. The same can be submitted for consideration once the article is published.
ix. Whenever paper is to be communicated to any journal/book/conference, it is necessary to obtain Unique Identification Communicating Code (UICC) from the office of R&D through Department Research Coordinator.
x. As soon as the paper gets published in the journal/book/conference paper gets indexed in Scopus/WoS, the Unique Identification Publication Code (UIPC) is to be obtained from R&D office.

Table II. Incentives for Patents

S. No	Type	Quality of patent	Amount
01	Granted	Work carried out in-house/work carried out with collaboration SRKREC as an applicant	45,000

Table III. Incentives for projects

S. No	Type	Amount
01	Research projects with provision for institutional overhead charges	50% from overhead budget head
02	Research projects without provision for institutional overhead charges	Incentive at the rate of 2% of the project amount sanctioned

3. Empowering faculty through continuous learning initiatives

Faculty members attending international conferences at IITs, NITs, or Central Universities are eligible to receive a Travel Allowance (TA) and a Daily Allowance (DA) to cover travel and accommodation expenses (Annexure-II). Attending such conferences is encouraged to support faculty in networking, sharing research insights, and enhancing academic visibility.

Faculty are encouraged to attend training programs at IITs based on recommendations from their Head of the Department. The institution will fully cover registration fees, TA, and DA for such training programs to support faculty professional development. Upon completion of any sponsored training program, faculty are required to present and share their key learnings and insights with colleagues in their department. To promote effective knowledge sharing and collaborative growth within the department, an honorarium will be granted to faculty who contribute their expertise.

4. Implementation of research ethics

The establishment of the Research Ethics Committee at SRKREC is a crucial step towards upholding ethical standards across various facets of research. The committee is formed with the Principal as the Chairperson, the Dean of Research and Development as the Coordinator, and includes Heads of Departments, Associate Deans (R&D), and other key faculty members to oversee research ethics guidelines and regulations. This committee plays a pivotal role in overseeing and ensuring the ethical conduct of research activities, ranging from inception and execution of research projects to the utilization of resources and dissemination of research findings. Its responsibilities extend to fostering a commitment to societal well-being through research, addressing any instances of scientific misconduct, and enforcing regulations to uphold the integrity of the research process. The committee bears the responsibility of meticulously

verifying research documents to ensure they are devoid of plagiarism. To facilitate this, it is imperative to make plagiarism detection software readily accessible to faculty members. The establishment of clear and effective norms is essential for the supervision and regulation of plagiarism in publications and research reports produced by faculty and research scholars. By adopting these measures, the committee aims to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity within the research community. In addition to its core responsibilities, the committee is tasked with organizing awareness and training programs. These initiatives are aimed to enlighten and educate individuals on various critical aspects, including intellectual property rights, authorship credit, confidentiality, privacy, and ethical considerations in research. By fostering a comprehensive understanding of these vital elements, the committee strives to enhance the ethical consciousness and competence of researchers within the SRKREC Faculty.

5. Research Advisory Committee to foster research promotion

The Research Advisory Committee at SRKREC is formed with the Principal as the Chairperson, and the Dean of Research and Development serving as the Coordinator, and includes Heads of Departments, Associate Deans (R&D), and other key faculty members from various disciplines. The Research Advisory Committee plays a central role within the institution, providing strategic guidance, evaluating research proposals, allocating resources, monitoring progress, fostering collaboration, managing intellectual property, organizing training programs, and promoting the dissemination of high-quality research findings for the benefit of both the SRKREC faculty and society.

ANNEXURE -I

Procedure for SRKREC Seed Money Grant

Preamble

SRKR Engineering College (SRKREC) aims to encourage its faculty members to actively participate in the activities of research and innovation so as to enhance the institute's intellectual property (IP) wealth. The current policy document related to release of seed money and financial assistance for promotion of research/ capacity building/outreach/knowledge upgradation will be implemented with effect from January, 2025. Most funding agencies expect the applicant to have prior experience in carrying out research work. Consequently, faculty who are at the early stages of their career find it difficult to get funds for their projects. The SRKREC Seed Money Grant scheme is directed to tackle this challenge by providing early-career faculty an initial grant to start their research projects.

Objective of Seed Money Grant

- To test a novel idea and to generate preliminary results before submitting proposals to external agencies
- To promote high quality publications
- To promote generation of IP and product/process development
- To encourage innovation that address Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Proponents seeking financial support for research projects under this framework must submit a well-defined project proposal. This proposal should clearly outline the resources expected from the college and specify the time commitment required from the faculty and students involved. The SRKREC Research and Development Committee reviews these research proposals annually, with final decisions made by the Management based on recommendations from the Seed Money Evaluation Committee. This thorough evaluation process ensures that resources are allocated to projects that demonstrate clear objectives and align with the college's research priorities.

Eligibility

The eligible criteria as follows:

1. The applicant must be a regular faculty member.
2. The applicant must hold a Ph.D. and have a minimum of two Q1 research publications.
3. Faculty members applying for a seed grant proposal must form a team with Principal investigator (PI) and Co-investigator(s) comprising members from two or more departments**.** This requirement aims to foster multidisciplinary research collaborations and broaden the scope and impact of research initiatives.
4. The PI at the time of submission of application shall not have a running project funded by the external funding scheme in which he or she is the PI.
5. At any time, PI can submit only ONE application. However, they can be co-investigator in more than one proposal.

6. Regular staff currently pursuing their Ph.D's are encouraged to submit proposal through colleagues who meet the above criteria.

Procedure

1. The call for proposals may limit research funding to a few strategic areas.
2. Applicants must submit pre-proposals for short-listing.
3. The short-listed applicants will be asked to submit a full proposal of maximum 7 pages including figures and references.
4. Faculty members can submit a proposal in collaboration with multiple departments. However, only one of them can be designated “PI”.
5. The Principal will constitute an SRKREC Research and Development Committee to review the proposal.
6. The committee may choose to call the PI/Co-PIs for face-to-face interview/presentation.
7. The committee will thoroughly review the alignment of the budget with the deliverables.
8. The committee evaluates each proposal based on projected outcomes and alignment with targeted SDGs to determine the final recipients.
9. The report of the committee will be submitted to the Principal, who will approve or reject the proposal.
10. If the proposal is rejected, the faculty may reapply after incorporating the suggestions/recommendations of the committee.
11. Once approved by the Principal, the proposal will be forwarded to the Management Section for the release of funds.
12. All the expenditure will be incurred following the purchase procedure of the SRKREC. The money will not be transferred/reimbursed to the faculty; rather, the amount will be reimbursed or incurred directly to the party (as per the purchase procedure) on getting the invoices in the name of SRKREC.
13. The PI must submit a half yearly progress report to the Dean of Research and Development detailing the progress of the project. In cases where the progress of the research work is unsatisfactory, further tranche of the grant will be deferred or withheld.
14. At the end of the project, PI will submit a detailed report to the Dean of Research and Development. The report must include the work done, the output produced in terms of publications, data collected and future scope of the research.

Release of funds

The amount sanctioned for the proposal under the scheme will be released as under:

1. 40% on approval
2. 40% on completion of 6 months, accompanied by the progress report and statement of expenditure for the first installment.
3. 20% on completion of one year, accompanied by the progress report and statement of expenditure for the second installment.

Conditions

1. The duration of the grant shall not exceed two years in general. However, as per the decision of the Principal, the grant may be extended by six months.
2. The faculty member(s) can utilize the seed money for the purposes of equipment, consumables, travel expenses (related to surveys), software, research databases, stationary and testing & analysis etc.
3. The seed money cannot be utilized for manpower.
4. Publication in peer-reviewed journals/intellectual property generation including product/process development would be expected as outcomes of the project. Furthermore, any IP emerging from research funded by SRKREC will be owned by SRKREC. Such IP will acknowledge all contributors as "inventors", and any resulting royalties will be shared between SRKREC and inventors.
5. All items procured under the Seed Money Grant Scheme shall remain as the property of the SRKREC.
6. Prior approval of SRKREC will be necessary for protecting the intellectual property generated during the period of product development and prototyping of the project supported by SRKREC.
7. The PI should submit bills within one week to the accounts department after completion of project. For delays, the PI should obtain consent from the Principal to submit the bills.
8. If the bill exceeds the approved grant amount, permission from the Principal is mandatory for sanctioning the additional expenditure.

Proposal for Seed Money Grant

Details of Investigator(s)

1) Name of Principal Investigator:
2) PF ID:
3) Designation:
4) Date of Joining in SRKREC:
5) Publications Q1:
6) Publications (SCIE/ESCI):
7) Name of the Project:
8) Project Duration:
9) Details of Co-PI's
    a) Name:
    b) PF ID:
    c) Designation:
    d) Date of Joining in SRKREC:
    e) Publications Q1:
    f) Publications (SCIE/ESCI):

Description of Research Work

Objective of Research Work

Work Plan

Outcome of the Project

Proposed Budget (Total)

a) Recurring
b) Non-Recurring

Project Timeline

Declaration: I hereby declare that the particulars detailed above are true to the best of my knowledge. I am aware that if any of the information is found false, my application may be disqualified. I have read the policy for Seed Money and agree to all the rules mentioned therein.

Signature with Date

Project Completion Report

1) Name of Principal Investigator:

2) Name of Co-Principal Investigators:

3) Title of the Project:

4) Project Start Date and End Date:

5) Duration of Project:

6) Total Sanctioned Cost of the Project:

7) Total Expenditure:

8) Summary Report:

9) Publications/Patents:

9) Specific benefits/Outcomes:

10) Final Project Expenses details:

S. No	Item	Bill No.	Date	Amount

Committee Remarks:

Overall Remarks (Principal):

Seed Grant Utilization Certificate

1) Name of Principal Investigator:

2) Title of the Project:

3) Project Start Date and End Date:

4) Duration of Project:

5) Total Sanctioned Amount:

6) Total Release Amount:

S. No	Item	Amount
1	Recuring	
2	Non Recuring	

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Signature of Principal Investigator

_____ _____

Signature of Finance Officer Signature of Dean, R&D

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Signature of Principal