

10 Points for Winning NRPU Projects

Grant winning is an art and one cannot be the successful grant writer without considering its insights. The Higher Education of Pakistan launches different research programs to promote the research culture in Pakistan. National Research Programs for Universities (NRPU) is one of the HEC programs to promote the research. NRPU is the basic research which asks the academic researchers to actively participate in different research projects. Here are few points that have been analyzed on identifying the potential opportunities to win NRPU Projects.

1. Feasibility of the Project

The feasibility of the NRPU projects in terms of funds and its implication is crucial point. The feasibility of the projects must be realistic and within the availability of the fund provided. Your project must be feasible within the time frame mentioned.

2. Societal Impact

The projects under NRPU must consist of applied research. The main point considered in NRPU is the impact on society. Your research not includes only paper work but actually for the benefits of the society.

3. Project Completion Duration

The time frame for NRPU projects is maximum 3 years. This limit is strictly followed and for winning the projects. Your projects must meet the 3 years' time span, rather than only for one year or two years. Time span is very crucial and you must design your project within 3 years' time period.

4. Reasonable Equipment Costs with Quotations

Your equipment costing is very important. You must provide the realistic process and also mention the need for the equipment. If the equipment is already available in the host University then please cut it down. One main point is that the equipment costing greater than Rs. 100,000 requires quotations to be attached with project file. This requirement is mandatory and most of the projects got rejected having this reason.

5. Realistic Aims of the Project

Aims and purposes of the project are very important. These must be clear and simple and must be practically applicable within the time frame mentioned. The vague and ambiguous aims and purposes of the project got rejected. You should provide a brief aim of the project with is eye catching and catches the reader's attention.

6. Correct Citations and Relevant References

Reference and citations section is important and must not be ignored. This sections provides readers that researchers thoroughly studied the background of the problem and then finds gap to carry on this research. Moreover the reference must be latest and properly cited. Incorrect citations must be avoided for winning the research proposal. The referencing style must be proper and according to the reader requirements i.e. APA style is more demanding style by the reviewers. Cite your all reference in same format.

7. Eye Catching Introduction

The background of your study is the central part of your proposal. It catches the reader's attention for reading it till end. If the introduction is not interesting and doesn't provides background of your problem then it puts bad impression on the reviewer and the chances of the rejection of your proposal is increased.

8. Justification for the Need of Project

Principal investigator must provide the need and justification of the project. It must be provided that why this research is needed actually and why HEC funds it. You must mention the significance of your proposal in concise and good manner that reviewer finds your proposal interesting. You must provide the justification of the each and every thing you mentioned in your proposal i.e. Equipment, supplies, traveling expenses, experiments and etc. The NRPU reviewers demand justification of each and every item you mentioned in your project.

9. Define the Delimitations or Boundaries of the Project

A project proposal without limitations is vague and unclear. For increase the chances of winning the NRPU proposal, you must mention the limitations or boundaries of your research project in order to properly investigate the project by the reviewers. Boundaries incudes in which limits you are going to conduct this project. A project with complete limitations increases the chance for winning the projects.

10. Avoid Ambiguous / Doubtful Experimental Plans

In order to win your research project, you must provide the clear and practically implacable research plans if any. Doubtful experimental plans means that you include an experiment plan in your proposal whose execution is doubtful practically and one cannot confidently execute the experiment. If your project includes such types of experiments then it difficult for the reviewer for accepting your project for funding.

Note: This short article is extracted from continuous studies conducted by SATHA on Research Grants and NRPU projects



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