

Questions and Answers

Q1. What is the acceptable number of members to form a research group?

Ans 1. The minimum requirement to create a research group includes one PI, two Co-Is and one student. Whereas you may have maximum four Co-Is and two students along with PI.

Q2. In how many research groups a researcher may participate?

Ans3. A researcher can participate in maximum of three research groups but can be PI in only one research group.

Q3. Is it must to complete the research group in one year?

Ans3. The normal duration to complete a research group is one year which can be extended by submitting application with solid reasons.

Q4. How many times in maximum can I complete my research group in a year?

Ans4. You may complete maximum two times in a year.

Q5. How many publications a researcher must have in preceding two years in order to be eligible to apply for the research group?

Ans5. The PI must have at least 4 publications.

Q6. Is it possible to have a research group team member/s from other universities?

Ans6. No, but they may appear as co-author/s in the publications.

Q7. After publishing 5 papers, is it necessary to wait for them in order to appear in web of science?

Ans7. No, you may submit after they are fully published with page numbers and volumes and also available on journal's website. In some cases, DSR may wait for any paper/s to appear in web of science in order to clarify some doubts.

Q8. What is the acceptable similarity rate for a paper?

Ans8. The acceptable similarity ratio shouldn't exceed 25%.

Q9. What is the criteria to check the similarity ratio if the paper is first submitted to conference and then extended to full length paper?

Ans9. The conference paper will be excluded and resulting similarity % will be considered with the condition that at least one of the authors from a conference paper is also the author in the full length article.

Q10. Can a scientific production from a research group have more than two papers in the same journal?

Ans10. Scientific production submitted from the research group must not be more than two papers in the same journal, an exception to this is for Q1 journals only.

Q11. Can a PI be changed?

Ans11. In the case of leaving the research group for any reason accepted by the first party, the Principal Investigator may make a request to the DSR in which he suggests one of the co-investigators as a new PI, and the authorized person in the Deanship to do what he deems appropriate in this regard.

Q12. Can I get the first payment (SR.60,000) on renewal?

Ans12. No, you will get the full amount of SR.150, 000 on completion of the research group.

Q13. In terms of 50% authors from the research group team, can a student be considered as a team member?

Ans13. Yes, the student will be considered as a member for one paper.

Q14. Will the research group number be changed on renewal?

Ans14. No, the research group number stays same on each renewal.

Q15. Can there be more than one corresponding authors in a paper to fulfil one of the requirements of article 2 and section 8?

Ans15. No, there should be a single corresponding author in at least one paper to be considered for the research group.

Q16. Can a single author paper be acceptable for the research group?

Ans16. No, since it is a research group so you must include at least 50% of the team members in each paper.

Q17. Which time shall I apply for a new research group?

Ans17. You may apply for a new research group once the DSR announces.

Q18. Is the reward amount of Q's a loan (Sulfah)?

Ans18. Yes, any cheque you receive from the DSR against research group program is a loan (Sulfah).

Q19. What if I have less than four ISI publications, can I apply for a new research group?

Ans19. Yes, but your first payment will be released after publishing two papers.

Q20. Am I eligible for a first payment (Sr.60,000) on getting the new research group?

Ans20. Yes, if you have 4 ISI publications (original articles) appeared in WOS.

Q21. If I do not belong to any department/college, can I get the research group?

Ans21. Any PI belongs to non-academic units such as center of excellences, KAIN, SET, Central Lab, etc must provide a letter of consent in order to obtain their research group from the Head of their units.