

## **Questions and Answers (Q & A)**

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

Ans1. The minimum requirement to create a research group includes one PI, one Co-I 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/15 points, 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 officially.

**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 full payment will be released on completion of the research group.

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

Ans20. No, only after submitting the published papers with 15 points.

**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.