

Pre-incubation policy at IIT Jammu

IIT Jammu fraternity is continuously engaged in knowledge generation and dissemination. A large number of R&D activities are being carried out by faculty members, students and staff in several cutting-edge science and technology areas. However, most of these research outcomes and innovative concepts do not get translated into complete prototypes and thus not properly evaluated for their long term potential in benefiting the society in general.

To fill this gap in the innovation chain, IIT Jammu, in line with the best practices of other institutes of higher learning across the world, encourages interested faculty members, students and staff to carry forward their ideas and research work into useful products to a technology readiness level at which its commercialization potential can be evaluated.

Further the institute will like to encourage the faculty members, students and staff to incorporate companies to take these products/services to market, provided they meet the necessary criterion of economic viability and scalability.

Procedure:

Any faculty member, student and staff or a group of them, can make an application to Professor-in-charge I2EDC on a prescribed format for funding support to develop a proof of concept or a prototype based upon his idea and/or research.

The application will be reviewed by **Internal Project Evaluation Committee of I2EDC** to assess its potential and feasibility. Adequate supporting information must be provided by the applicant, for the committee to make an informed decision. The decision to support or otherwise will be communicated to the applicants within 15 days of application.

For a proof of concept and/or prototype development, I2EDC will fund the applicant with up to Rs. 2.5 lakh up to Technology demonstration level. This funding support is committed immediately on approval, and disbursement is done as per agreed timeline of the project and achievement of milestones.

The funding support is provided in terms of procurement of raw materials, components etc. and also includes in-house job work required from the institute workshop, Tinkerer's lab, I3C facility at marginal costs. However all of these facilities would be charged at very nominal costs, which will be significantly cheaper than similar facilities on commercial basis. If job work is required from outside source, that will be funded too. All other costs are to be explicitly specified and agreed upon beforehand.

No cash support is provided to the applicant. It is expected that the applicants invest at least 5 % of the overall cost of development from their own resources to ensure they have their skin in the game. In case of genuine hardship, this funding will be arranged to the extent possible from other sources.

Funding support is based upon the progress of the project and the evaluation committee will evaluate the progress at regular intervals (generally once a month, maximum once a

quarter if the the project is long duration) and further funding will be dependent upon adequate progress of the project.

Once a project has Proof of concept stage, further funding of Rs. 1.5 lakh may be considered by I2EDC for System development/Subsystem development (TRL 7 and 8).

Beyond TRL 8, the project is to be taken up by I3C and further funding/ company incorporation etc. will be the responsibility of I3C, which is an independent body with its own board of directors and policies. If the project is too big for I3C's resources, they can rope in other institutions including venture capital for commercializing the project.

Up to System development stage, any intellectual property will exclusively belong to the applicant and his team.

If the applicant chooses to go commercial thru I3C, then IPR will be governed as per institute policy.

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