

2021/22 Call for Proposals: HU Research Grants Competition

HU Staff Research Grants

The Office of Research Affairs of Haramaya University invite staff members of the university to submit small/medium scale research projects under four Research Grant categories. The grants are intended to fund research projects with researchable ideas that realistically can be completed in two years and require limited levels of funding. A maximum of 500,000 birr for a two year project with a maximum of 250,000 per year will be provided per project. The scope of these grants cover wide range of research areas under six thematic areas of the university. Proposed projects should be in line identified priority research areas of 2021/22 and shall be submitted under either of the following grant categories.

HU Regular Research Grant (HURG): HURG aims to fund original research proposals with ideas that address societal problems, produce scientific knowledge, advance discovery, and yield tangible output and demonstrate intellectual merits.

HU Innovative Fund (HUIF): HUIF aims to encourage out-of-the-box research and encourage curiosity driven research that lead to critical discoveries or major advancements that will accelerate the field of the suggested research. HUIF funds research proposals that focus on creating new ideas, challenging current paradigms and analyzing existing problems from new perspectives. Main focus areas could be on life easing and problem solving technologies.

HU Women Research Grant (HUWG): HUWG is meant to encourage and make women researchers engage in research by submitting competitive research projects that would benefit the community in general and women in particular. The project PI should be female and at least 50% of the other team members should also be females.

HU Knowledge Transfer Grant (HUKT): HUKT is meant to encourage and facilitates the application of a wide range of knowledge generated elsewhere through basic research and very useful to industry and society. HUKT supports the wider adoption and use of models, tools and technologies with proven societal impacts through the transfer of knowledge, skills and expertise. The proposals with activities that have the potential to inform decisions about public policy, professional practice and societal problems are highly in demand and preferred.

Research Priority Area

Proposed projects should be in line with thematic area and identified research priority areas of 2021/22. The research priority areas are provided below as downloadable files can. **Indigenous, Basic and Applied Research are accepted for application.**

Eligibility and Restrictions

- ✓ The research project principal investigator should have a minimum MSc degree.
- ✓ Any academic, research and technical staff members of Haramaya University can be members of a Research Group.
- ✓ A staff member can only apply as a Principal Investigator for one research topic and two research topics as a Co-investigator per year. OR a staff member can only apply for three research topics as a Co-investigator per year.
- ✓ The research project should directly address the priority research area identified for 2021/22 call for HU Grand Challenge Research Grant.
- ✓ Geographical area of implementation of the proposed project should be in the eastern part of Ethiopia except for compelling reasons.
- ✓ A staff member who is currently on a study leave cannot be a member of the Research Group.
- ✓ Inclusion of individuals of same background without specific roles and responsibilities in the project implementation is not encouraged.
- ✓ A staff member who has not yet submitted overdue previous research reports shall not be eligible. *Single staff member with overdue project in the Research Group may result in rejection of the applications. Therefore, the principal investigator should make sure that all members of the Research Group have no overdue project.* All HU grant holders with a research grant awarded **BEFORE 2018/2019** are considered overdue projects and hence, not eligible to apply unless they submit their overdue project before the concept note submission deadline.

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted via online Research Grant Management System (<http://grant.haramaya.edu/>). Researchers need to create an account or log in to their existing account to apply for research grant under either of five research grants.

The submitted proposal must

- ✓ Strictly follow the proposal writing format. *A proposal which doesn't follow the format will be automatically rejected and will not be considered for screening and evaluation*
- ✓ not exceed 20 pages (12 pts, Times New Roman, 1.5 spacing, 1 inch margin in all sides).

When to apply

The deadline for receiving applications is **10 August 2021**. Researchers are recommended to submit the application as early as they can than waiting until the deadline for their application to avoid any difficulties which might occur on the deadline day. The online Research Grant Management System closes at 10 August 2021 at 6:00 pm.

Evaluation criteria

The evaluation consists of a three-stage formal assessment: primary screening, secondary evaluation (expert review) and final RSC committee decision. The primary screening is an administrative process to verify that eligibility requirements are met, and that required formatting is complete. The merit of the proposal addressing a research area specified in this call for proposals. Secondary evaluation is conducted by experts from subject area of the submitted proposal and it is blind review. The shortlisted proposals will be reviewed at the RSC level and a list of proposals that may be funded will be drawn up from the list based on the available budget. There is different criteria for evaluation of grant applications submitted under four grant categories.