

7th KNUST Research Fund (KReF) Call



1. BACKGROUND

The Office of Grants and Research (OGR) is pleased to announce the 7th Call for Research Proposals for funding support from the KNUST Research Fund (KReF). The University has established the KNUST Research Fund to provide an internal source of funding for the staff of KNUST to conduct innovative research projects that address specific developmental challenges in Ghana and beyond. The Fund has two key objectives;

1. To promote innovative and impactful research by KNUST staff through inter/multi/transdisciplinary research collaborations.
2. To provide a platform for staff to master the art of developing winning research/grant proposals to attract external funding support for research.

The 7th Call will put a premium on high-quality research proposals that provide specific solutions to contemporary or persistent challenges of society through the application of innovative technologies and multi-disciplinary approaches. Applicants are encouraged to develop research proposals that enhance the University's strategic mandate of advancing knowledge in science and technology.

2. AWARD CATEGORIES

Two types of awards will be made under this call. These are:

1. **Seed Grants:** This award will be for relatively small pilot or exploratory research projects exploring the feasibility of emerging research approaches. Seed awards allow investigators to collect preliminary data for future scale-up activities or inform significant grant applications. Seed awards shall not exceed a total of **Fifteen Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢ 15,000)** per award.
2. **Multi-disciplinary Grants:** This is for research projects that seek to address developmental issues in society through multi/inter/transdisciplinary approaches that can shape or influence policy and practice. This award category is also intended to promote research collaborations among various Departments and Colleges of the University and relevant external stakeholders. The research team should comprise members from at

least three distinct disciplines or fields of study. Funding for such proposals shall not exceed a total of **Forty-Five Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢ 45,000)** per award.

3. ELIGIBILITY

The eligibility criteria for KReF are as follows:

- All Senior Members of KNUST (academic and administrative) are eligible to apply either as a Principal Investigator or as a team member.
- Early Career Researchers and female applicants are encouraged to apply
- Eligible applicants can submit only **ONE** application as the Lead/Principal Investigator. However, they can be part of other applications as Co-investigators or team members.

The following are **NOT** eligible to apply as Principal Investigators:

- Staff on post-retirement contract, sabbatical leave, study leave, or part-time contract. They are, however, allowed to be part of a team of eligible applicants as Co-investigators or team members.
- Persons who have received KReF awards within the past three years
- Previous grantees who have not fulfilled all the conditions of their award, including submitting progress reports.
- Undergraduate or postgraduate students. However, postgraduate students can be part of a team of eligible applicants for research capacity-building purposes.

4. AWARD DURATION

All KReF grants are awarded for **12 months**, within which the approved research project must be completed. This applies to both Seed and Multi-disciplinary Grants.

5. APPLICATION INFORMATION

The KReF application process involves completing an offline application form and submission through the KReF online portal. To begin the application process, applicants must follow the under listed procedure:

1. Download the **KReF Application Form** and **General Guidelines** by clicking on [this link](#)
2. Read carefully and follow all the instructions to complete the Application Form
3. Assemble all the application documents (including the Application Form, CVs, and Letters of Support) into a single PDF file
4. Complete the application process by submitting the single application document (PDF) via the KReF online application portal.
5. Expect to receive an email or message to confirm receipt of your application by OGR

6. ONLINE SUBMISSION PROCESS

- Applicants must log in to the KReF portal at: funding.knust.edu.gh using their KNUST credentials as username and password.
- Click on "Submission" and follow the instructions to upload your application document.
- Expect an email or message to confirm that the Office of Grants and Research has successfully received your application.

7. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION

The 7th Call is open for applications from Friday 21st January 2022. The deadline for submitting applications is **Monday, 28th February 2022, 5:00 pm**. Only applications received via the KReF online platform by the deadline will be accepted.

8. EXPECTED OUTCOME

All applicants shall be notified about the outcome of their applications within three months after submission.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Any questions or further inquiries on the application process must be directed to the persons below:

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