



الوكالة القطرية
لمكافحة المنشطات
Qatar Anti-Doping Agency

جامعة قطر
QATAR UNIVERSITY



قطاع البحث والدراسات العليا
RESEARCH & GRADUATE STUDIES SECTOR

Qatar Anti-Doping Agency Call (QADA)

2027



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1. Program Summary

Launch of the Call for Proposal	Please visit our website to check the dates
Deadline for Proposal Submission	
Award Announcement	
Awards Parameters	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Duration is one to two years• Scientific/Lab: QAR 300,000 over two years (QAR 150,000 per year)• Social Science/Education: QAR 200,000 over two years (QAR 100,000 per year)
Contact	igrants@qu.edu.qa

2. Program Overview and Objectives

In line with the Qatar Anti-Doping Agency's commitment to advancing specialized scientific research and supporting evidence-based policies, the Agency, in collaboration with Qatar University, intends to launch the Qatar Anti-Doping Research Grant for the period 2026–2027, which will be officially announced in 2026 and fully funded by the Agency.

The grant aims to support high-quality research projects, including scientific studies in the fields of science, medicine, pharmacy, and technology related to anti-doping, and social research studies focusing on behavioral, cultural, and environmental factors influencing athletes and the sporting ecosystem. The initiative seeks to strengthen the production of impactful scientific and social knowledge, promote integrity in sport in the State of Qatar, contribute to protecting athletes' health, reinforce fair sporting practices, and advance the anti-doping system at both national and international levels. The grant will be open to academic researchers and postgraduate students at

Qatar University, as the national university of the State of Qatar, and a leading institution in academic research. Through this initiative, the Qatar Anti-Doping Agency also aims to empower national research capacity, foster innovation, and strengthen its strategic partnership with Qatar University, while ensuring that research outcomes are published in accordance with internationally recognized scientific standards, thereby reinforcing the State of Qatar's position as a regional and international leader in specialized anti-doping research.

3. Research Priority

The proposals must be within one of the research priority areas described below:

1.1. Scientific Focus Areas:

- Advanced detection technologies for emerging doping methods
- Athlete biological passport enhancement and biomarker discovery
- AI-enhanced anti-doping biomarker discovery via reference-supported omics and machine learning

1.2. Social Focus Areas

- Athletes: Pathways, Pressures, and Support Networks
- Policies: Design, Implementation, and Outcomes
- Norms: Cultural Contexts and Shifting Expectations in Sport

4. Research Team Structure

Team Structure

- **Lead Principal Investigator (LPI):** Each research team must have one Lead Principal Investigator who is a full-time faculty member or researcher at Qatar University. The LPI holds full responsible for the technical, administrative, and financial management of the project.
- **Principal Investigators (PIs):** The team may include additional Principal Investigators from within or outside Qatar University, contributing their expertise to the project's implementation.
- **Student Participation:** Inclusion of graduate and/or undergraduate students in the research team is required to build research capacity and provide training opportunities for students.

5. Eligibility Criteria

1.3. Qatar University Eligibility Criteria

1. Eligibility of the Lead Principal Investigator (LPI)

- Professors, Associate Professors, and Assistant Professors at Qatar University who can develop research partnerships with leading academic institutions locally, regionally, and internationally, in line with Qatar University's research priorities.
- A researcher may participate as an LPI in only one research proposal per grant call.

2. Eligibility of the Principal Investigator (PI)

- Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors, and/or Research Associate/Lecturer at Qatar University.

3. Submission and Participation Limits

- The proposal should be submitted by the Lead Principal Investigator (LPI); otherwise, it will not be acceptable.
- To ensure fair distribution of opportunities and allow the largest number of researchers to participate, the following limits are applied to submissions in each grant cycle:
 - **Principal Investigator (PI):** A researcher may participate as PI in up to 4 research proposals per grant cycle.
 - **Multiple Roles:** A researcher can combine roles within the same cycle, such as serving as LPI on one project and as PI on up to four other projects, provided the maximum participation limits for each role are not exceeded.
 - **Multiple Applications as LPI:** The number of LPI roles per call is limited to one. If more than one application is submitted in the same cycle by the same researcher as LPI, only the first submission will be processed further.
 - **Maximum Across Cycles:** There is no maximum limit on participation as PI across different grant cycles. Researchers may participate in each grant cycle within the limits stated above, subject to other eligibility restrictions related to active grants.

1.4. External PIs

For PIs from Organizations outside Qatar University:

- A support letter using the approved template must be submitted, duly signed by the institution's authorized signatory, **not by the Principal Investigator (PI).**

- The institution shall waive all rights, including intellectual property rights, arising from or related to this project.
- The Principal Investigator shall personally conduct and remain solely responsible for all project activities. **No delegation, assignment, or subcontracting shall be permitted.**

6. Required documents

Letter of Intent Submission Stage:

- Letter of Intent (LOI)
- Research Team CVs- each CV should not exceed three pages

Full proposal Submission Stage:

- Application form
- Budget Breakdown
- Similarity report not exceeding 15 % (less than 3% single source)- full iThenticate report

7. Budget

The budget in the research proposal must be prepared accurately and realistically, adhering to the limits and regulations set out in the grant guidelines and Qatar University's and Qatar Anti-Doping Agency financial policies.

1. Budget Limits Expenses

- Scientific/Lab: QAR 300,000 over two years (QAR 150,000 per year)
- Social Science/Education: QAR 200,000 over two years (QAR 100,000 per year)

2. Personnel

- **Undergraduate student:** Daily rate fixed at 436.98 QAR, 2 working days per week, maximum 8 working days per calendar month.
- **Research Assistant or Graduate student:**
 - **Bachelor's degree holder:** Monthly rate: 8,000-10,000 QAR. Daily rate: 266.66-333.33 QAR.
 - **Master's degree:** Monthly rate: 11,000-15,000 QAR. Daily rate: 366.66-500 QAR/day
- **Post Doc or Research Associate:** Monthly rate: 18,000-30,000 QAR. Daily rate: 600-1,000 QAR.

3. Travel Expenses

- **Purpose:** The travel budget is primarily allocated to cover expenses for researchers attending scientific conferences to present the results of the funded research project.
- **Limits:** The travel budget must not exceed 20% of the project's total annual budget.
- **Approval:**
 - All travel expenses under any grant programs are subject to prior approval from the Research Support Department.
 - Members of the research team are required, when traveling under the research grant, to comply with all regulations and decisions issued by the President of the University, as well as the relevant university policies and/or the applicable policies of the funding agencies and the agreements signed with them.
 - All travel expenses must fall within the approved budget and available resources, after fulfilling all travel requirements and obtaining administrative approval. This applies to all members of the research team, including researchers and university students awarded the research grant. Travel expenses shall be reimbursed in accordance with the rules and procedures in force at the University and, where applicable, those of the funding agency.
 - Student

4. Textbooks Expenses

- **Purpose:** To support the purchase of essential textbooks and reference materials, or the successful execution of the project.
- **Limits:** Not available in QU Library.

5. Publication Expenses

- **Purpose:** To enable researchers to disseminate project outcomes through peer-reviewed publications that enhance research visibility and impact.

6. Miscellaneous Expenses

- **Purpose:** To cover minor, project-related expenses that do not fall under other budget categories.
- **Limitations:** The budget allocated for miscellaneous expenses must not exceed 5% of the project's total annual budget.

7. Indirect Cost

- Indirect costs should be 5% of the project's total annual budget.

8. General Notes

- Advance ITS approval is required for all software, hardware, subscriptions, cloud services, licensing renewals, specialized IT equipment, and any systems requiring integration with QU's IT environment.
- All budget items and expenditures must comply with Qatar University's financial policies and regulations.
- If there are any inquiries regarding budget items or allowable expenses, it is recommended to contact the Research Support Department directly for clarification before submitting the proposal or initiating any spending

8. Proposal Submission

The application link will be shared during the grant launch announcement.

9. Acknowledgement

The Lead Principal Investigator must ensure that Qatar University and Qatar Anti-Doping is acknowledged for its support when publishing the research results, using the following statement:

This [publication, report, etc.] was made possible by a research grant funded by [Institution Name] under research grant No. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX. The findings herein reflect the work and are solely the responsibility of the author[s].”

10. Contact Information

Please contact us at the following email address: igrants@qu.edu.qa