

Innovation and Knowledge Transfer Grant 2026



Program Summary

Launch of the Call for Proposal submission	Please refer to the website to check the schedule
Deadline for Proposal Submission	
Award Announcement	
Project Duration	Student Track: One year Innovation Teams Track: Up to two years
Budget	Student Track: Up to QAR 20,000 per year Innovation Teams Track: Up to QAR 100,000 per year
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Program Overview

The Innovation and Knowledge Transfer Grant is an internal funding initiative aimed at empowering faculty members and students to develop innovative solutions that address critical challenges in priority areas such as energy, sustainable resources, health, society, and information technology. This initiative aligns with Qatar University's commitment to fostering innovation and knowledge transfer, and to supporting the transition from scientific discovery to the development and commercialization of innovative ideas.

The grant contributes to turning ideas into practical applications, thereby reinforcing Qatar University's position as a regional leader in research and innovation. It also supports interdisciplinary collaboration, encourages creative thinking, and provides the necessary resources to move from concept to implementation.

The Innovation and Knowledge Transfer Grant supports innovative ideas in the following stages:

Development Stage:

The grant supports inventions at Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) 4 to 6. It aims to advance

innovations through prototyping, validation, and testing in controlled environments to bridge the gap between scientific research and practical application.

Commercialization Stage:

Funding is allocated to inventions at TRL 7 to 9. This stage focuses on refining, scaling, and preparing technologies for market entry, including activities related to business development, commercialization strategies, and applying technologies in real-world settings.

The grant is divided into two tracks:

- **Track One:** Student Track
- **Track Two:** Innovation Teams Track

Program Objectives

Track One: Student Track

Aims to support students' innovative projects and accelerate the transformation of ideas into real-world applications or marketable solutions. It targets both undergraduate and graduate students.

Track Two: Innovation Teams Track

The Innovation and Knowledge Transfer Grant encourages a collaborative approach to innovation through:

- Enabling faculty members and students to develop innovative solutions and practical applications that address national challenges.
- Bridging the gap between discovery and commercialisation of innovative ideas.
- Promoting the commercialization of research outputs to maximize their practical impact.

Eligibility Criteria

Track One: Student Track

- The team must consist of two or more students currently enrolled at Qatar University.

- An academic supervisor must be a full-time faculty member at Qatar University, and the research proposal must be submitted by the supervisor.
- A clear innovative idea and a business model are required.
- If the supervisor is affiliated with a research center, approval from the relevant college must be obtained for the supervision, and the **Student Research Grant Delegation Form** must be submitted.

Track Two: Innovation Teams Track

- The Lead Principal Investigator must be an academic or research staff member holding the position of Research Associate/Lecturer, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Professor from a college or research center.
- A Letter of Interest and participation of stakeholders from governmental institutions, or industries.
- It is encouraged to form interdisciplinary teams from both research centers and academic departments to ensure integration of efforts and expertise.
- It is preferred to have a provisional patent or obtain approval from the Intellectual Property Advisory Committee to proceed with filing a permanent patent through the Innovation Office.

Please refer to Qatar University's Internal Grants Guidelines (Team Structure section and Application Requirements section).

Research Team Structure

Track One: Student Track:

- A supervisor from Qatar University
- Undergraduate and/or graduate students

Track Two: Innovation Teams Track:

- Lead Principal Investigator and the Principal Investigators, with preference for involving graduate students and/or undergraduate students
- Letter of Interest from a government or industry partner
 - External collaborating institutions provide expertise, resources, or industry insights to enhance the practical applicability of the project and ensure its alignment with community needs

Please refer to Qatar University's Internal Grants Guidelines (Team Structure section and Application Requirements section).

Proposal Submission

The application link will be shared at the time of the grant announcement.

Please refer to the Qatar University Internal Grants Guide (Electronic Platforms section, Research Proposal Submission section, Required Documents section) for more details.

Budget

The research proposal budget must be prepared accurately and realistically, in compliance with the guidelines and limits specified in the Grants Guide, as well as the financial regulations in effect at Qatar University.

Student Track:

- Up to QAR 20,000 for one year

Innovation Teams Track:

- Up to QAR 100,000 per year
- Up to QAR 200,000 over two years

Please refer to the Qatar University Internal Grants Guide (Budget section, Financial Procedures and Project Management section) for more details.

Acknowledgment

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

"This (research, research poster, report, etc.) is funded by Qatar University – Innovation and Knowledge Transfer Grant [Project Number]. The research findings are the responsibility of the investigators."

Contact Information

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