Penn India Research and Engagement Fund
(Penn IREF) Requirements

Last updated November 2019

Purpose

The Penn India Research and Engagement Fund is a competitive grant program designed to stimulate and support activity in and on India with a goal of positioning Penn as a key contributor toward the generation of transformative and impactful ideas on major debates in India. The primary objectives of the fund are:

➢ To support outstanding faculty research projects from across the University and academic disciplines that are poised to:
  o generate new and critical insights on key debates in India,
  o make significant contributions to their field, and
  o increase Penn's substantive visibility among peers in India, and around the world.
➢ To support new or enhance existing educational and curricular programs across campus that focus on the study and understanding of India.
➢ To identify synergies between projects that could be brought together under unified faculty leadership to enhance research or educational initiatives and yield greater impact.
➢ To leverage existing University resources and develop new, or strengthen existing, institutional and faculty-to-faculty relationships with Indian partners.

Types of Support

The Penn India Research and Engagement Fund will support a wide range of activities including:

➢ **Research and Educational Collaborations**: Development of international partnerships, research networks, or global programs on Penn's campus, including but not limited to the development of a cross- or multi-School initiative on a particular topic or theme.

➢ **Curricular and Course Development Initiatives**. Development of new educational or extracurricular programming on Penn's campus, including but not limited to the design of new short-term or embedded course that bring students to India.

➢ **Research Travel & Associated Costs.** Travel for faculty research activities or related work in India, and costs associated with Penn faculty doing extended research in India. In-country travel for partners and/or collaborators.

➢ **Field Work**: Costs associated with conducting field work, which may include but is not limited to: data collection (e.g., surveys, focus groups, observations, etc.); data analysis, reporting, and archiving; manuscript preparation and publication; equipment necessary to perform the work, etc.

- ➢ **Training & Capacity Building.** Support for Penn faculty and/or teams to partner with organizations in India to develop or enhance skills, methods, and the expertise needed to address well defined issues of local, regional and global importance.

- ➢ **Convenings**: Support for meetings, workshops and conference integral to the project. Such convenings may support the faculty member's efforts to frame, launch, or sustain the project, or provide a platform for the faculty member to share his or her findings with a public audience.

- ➢ **Student Participation.** Support for students to participate in the project (e.g., as research assistants), thereby providing them with significant research, educational, or service experiences.

Technical Requirements

Beyond contributing to the goals of the fund, there are two technical requirements for all applicants:

- Matching funds from internal or external sources as described below.
- Robust collaboration with academic partners or other institutions in India.

Matching Funds

All awards will require matching funds of equal or greater amount to be contributed by the applicant's School, center, or department or from an external source. As a general rule, the Provost's Office will provide a 50% match to project requests. However, the goal of the Fund is to stimulate transformative research, and proposers are welcome to submit proposals with alternative matching ratios.

Matching funds do not have to be in-hand when proposals are submitted; however Review Committees will take into consideration the likelihood of securing match funds as evidenced by letters of intent or other documented expressions of support. Should the application be successful, matching funds must be secured _before_ the Provost Office is able to transfer its portion of the award.

Collaborating with Partners

The University of Pennsylvania maintains an on-going record of international agreements generated across campus. Prospective Penn IREF applicants may wish to explore potential areas for collaboration with Indian institutions who have already established a relationship with Penn. For a complete list of active agreements with Indian institutions, please visit Penn Global's website: https://global.upenn.edu/gss/search-agreements

Please note that this list may not capture _all_ active partnerships between Penn Schools and Indian institutions. Should you wish to learn more about any of these partnerships, please contact Global Support Services at globalsupport@pobox.upenn.edu.

Working with UPIASI

Whenever possible, applicants are also strongly encouraged to work with the University of Pennsylvania Institute for the Advanced Study of India (UPIASI) to perform project activities in India.

The University of Pennsylvania Institute for the Advanced Study of India (UPIASI) was established in 1997, as CASI's counterpart institution, in India, to ensure a stronger network for collaborative research and scholarship. UPIASI may be able to provide research guidance and logistical support to your project. Based at the Habitat Centre, UPIASI has access to meeting and conference facilities as well as hotel rooms that can be reserved for Penn activities. More information about UPIASI can be found on their website at: https://casi.sas.upenn.edu/upiasi/welcome. To begin working with UPIASI, please contact info@upiasi.org.

Note: UPIASI charges a 10% overhead fee, so applicants must include this as part of their budget if they intend to work with UPIASI.

Term & Budget

Fund terms will be up to three years.

There is no minimum or maximum award size; however, historically awards have ranged from $50,000 to $100,000.

For a list of allowable and unallowable costs, please refer to our FAQs.

Please note that all applicants are expected to exercise prudence, proposing reasonable costs for expenses associated with the project.

Eligibility

All Penn faculty and senior administrators are eligible to apply.

Proposals must be endorsed by the applicant's School Dean and senior Financial Administrator. For proposals that are generated by more than one School or Center, the leadership of all institutions must endorse the proposal.

Survey Monkey Apply

Penn Global now uses Survey Monkey Apply, an online grant management system, to run almost all aspects of the India Research and Engagement Fund, from proposal to post award.

Whether you wish to submit an application or manage your award, please log into Survey Monkey Apply by clicking on the following link: https://upenn-provost.smapply.io/prog.

Interested in Applying?

For those interested in applying, or simply interested in learning more about the Fund, please visit our website at: https://global.upenn.edu/global-initiatives/penn-india-research-and-engagement-fund#

If you have any questions about the Fund, please contact Penn Global by email at global@upenn.edu.