



# A brief guideline for AUST Student Research Grant (ASRG)

Research and Publication Office (RPO)

Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology

## I. Who Can Apply:

Only undergraduate students of AUST with at least one year of studentship remaining.

## II. The Team:

**PI:** The Principal Investigator (PI) should be the student of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year 1<sup>st</sup> semester or above.

**Co-PI:** one to three (1-3) students from any semester as Co-Principal Investigators (Co-PIs).

To be eligible, students must have at least one year of studentship remaining from the anticipated project start date. No student is eligible to engage in more than one ASRG project simultaneously. Formation of a multidisciplinary team is encouraged.

**PM:** Only a regular faculty member of AUST can be the Project Mentor (PM). A Project Mentor (PM) can be involved in 2 (two) ASRG research projects simultaneously.

## III. Project Proposal:

The proposed research must be original, independent, and not part of any ongoing or completed project or degree requirement. Proposals must include a clear problem statement, objectives, novelty, methodology, expected outcomes, and timeline (including a flowchart or Gantt chart).

## IV. Grant Amount:

The maximum grant per project is BDT 2.5 lakh.

## V. Project Duration:

Maximum one year

## VI. Project Extension:

Up to 6 months extension (in two 3-month phases).

## VII. Project evaluation and awarding process:

**Initial Screening:** Each submitted project will be screened by the Research and Publication Office (RPO) as per guideline.

**Double-blind review:** After screening, project proposals will be double-blind reviewed by three (3) independent reviewers (outside AUST).

## Awarding of the proposals:

One project with the highest average of the scores from the reviewers from each program will be awarded in the first instant.

That means a maximum of 8 projects will be awarded (i.e., 8 UG programs) at AUST in each cycle.

If the total awarded value of selected projects (with at least one from each department) exceeds the allocated budget, a limited number of top-scoring proposals will be awarded. In such cases, proposals receiving the highest scores among the best proposals from each department will be prioritized.

## VIII. Fund Release:

50% on approval, 40% after satisfactory mid-term progress, and 10% after the final report and presentation.

## IX. Progress & Completion:

Submit mandatory Progress Report and Project Completion Report (PCR). The evaluation of the completed project will be done based on the PCR and presentation. Two consecutive failures on the final evaluation process, students will not be allowed to submit a project for the next 2 (two) years for the ASRG at AUST.

## X. Proposal Submission:

Submit your proposal **via a Google Form** and upload the following **three (3) documents**:

**Completed and Signed Form A (PDF format):** Includes signatures and affiliations of the Project Manager (PM), Principal Investigator (PI), and Co-Principal Investigators (Co-PIs).

**Blind Review Version of Form A (Word format):** Same as above, but **without** Signatures, Affiliations of the PM, PI, and Co-PIs. This version is for **blind peer review**, so ensure all identifying details are removed.

**Similarity Index Report (PDF from Turnitin):** Covers **Sections I(i) to I(vi)** of Form A. The **similarity score must not exceed 30%**.

## \*Rights of the RPO:

The Research and Publication Office (RPO) reserves the right to reject or cancel any application if inaccurate or misleading information is provided.

For details of the Terms and Conditions please visit <https://aust.edu/rpo>

Expected project commencement on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Spring 2025 or December 2025.