



# **VICE CHANCELLORS' SEED FUNDING INITIATIVE DOW UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

## **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

### **Overview:**

The Vice Chancellors' Seed Funding Initiative (VCSFI) was established in 2019 as an outcome of the Dow University of Health Sciences (DUHS) Master Strategic Plan 2019-2030. It is an annual seed funding opportunity to support transformative research projects that align with DUHS's strategic goals, fostering innovation and enhancing the university's research capacity.

### **Purpose:**

The initiative aims to:

- Encourage faculty and postgraduate students to engage in cutting-edge research.
- Support projects that have the potential for extramural funding and high-impact publications.
- Promote interdisciplinary collaborations and address significant health challenges.

### **Funding:**

- Faculty Members:
  - Eligible to apply for funding for up to three years.
- Master's and Doctoral Students:
  - Eligible for a one-time award.

### **Eligibility:**

- All DUHS faculty and postgraduate (master's and doctoral) students are eligible.
- Faculty may serve as Principal Investigators (PIs) on one project and as collaborators on multiple projects.
- DUHS-recognized PhD Supervisors and clinical faculty are encouraged to apply
- Students must collaborate with a faculty supervisor who will act as the PI.

## **Application Requirements:**

Applicants must submit:

- A concept overview with a hypothesis (maximum 500 words).
- Specific aims of the project.
- Methodology (maximum 250 words).
- Expected results (maximum 250 words).
- Anticipated outcomes (maximum 250 words).
- Required resources (maximum 250 words).
- Sustainability and future funding potential (maximum 250 words).
- A detailed budget with line items for each activity.
  - Curriculum Vitae (CV) of the PI and resume of the student.

## **Review Criteria:**

Proposals will be evaluated based on:

- Significance/Transformational Impact:
  - Alignment with DUHS's signature programs, addressing serious health problems, and potential for extramural funding and high-impact publications.
- Research Plan Impact:
  - Originality, scientific merit, clarity, and feasibility of objectives.
- Interdisciplinary Collaboration:
  - Engagement across multiple academic units and partnerships with external investigators.
- Clinical Relevance:
  - Focus on prevalent clinical conditions that burden the community.
- Strategic Alignment:
  - Support for one or more goals within DUHS's strategic plan.

## **Post-Award Requirements:**

Awardees are expected to:

- Utilize resources as outlined in the grant application.
- Submit annual progress reports; continuation of multi-year funding depends on satisfactory progress.
- Provide outcome metrics annually for at least three years post-implementation.

## **8. Contact Information**

- For inquiries and proposal submissions, contact: Email: [VCSFI@duhs.edu.pk](mailto:VCSFI@duhs.edu.pk)

