

No. BT/INF/22/06/07
Government of India
Ministry of Science and Technology
Department of Biotechnology

Call for Letter of Intent for Upgradation/Reengineering/Remodeling/Creation of Interdisciplinary School of Life Sciences (ISLS) for advanced research and education in Central/State universities.

The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) invites Letter of Intent (LoI) for support to establish Interdisciplinary School of Life Sciences for advanced research and education in universities known as 'DBT Interdisciplinary School of Life Sciences for advanced research and education' (DBT-ISLS) to strengthen universities for globally competitive emerging bio-economy. The overall aim is to promote coming together of existing life sciences departments of universities and invigorating interdisciplinary modern bioscience research through creation of new research agenda aiming to develop world-class School of Life Sciences in universities doing both advanced research and education.

Objective

The specific objective is to upgrade the post-graduate teaching and training laboratories in terms of infrastructure and equipment, appoint new faculty, provide fellowships for students, introduce training programmes, regroup research activities along the biotechnology innovation chain (from discovery to market), promote academia-industry interaction depending upon the strengths and weaknesses of specific universities.

Eligibility

- (i) UGC recognized Central and State universities with proven track record in life sciences research and education are eligible. The Universities of Agriculture, Veterinary Sciences, Medical Sciences and Engineering need not apply under this scheme.
- (ii) The parameters which are pre-requisite for universities to apply for support include current status of number of M.Sc., Ph.D., and postdoctoral students and increase in the number envisaged.
- (iii) The existing competence of the university in education and research in terms of the size of faculty; infrastructure available; working culture and atmosphere; readiness for administrative reforms; areas of expertise; teaching activities; research projects implemented in emerging areas; ideas of innovation from discovery to market; linkages with industry; team spirit in collective research publications, patents, technologies developed/transferred, etc. would be main criteria.

For details of the scheme and format for Letter of Intent, procedure for processing of the proposals, visit department's website www.dbtindia.org.in/www.dbtindia.nic.in. The Letter of Intent in the prescribed format should reach: Shri Bakshi Ram, Under Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, Block-2 (8th Floor), Lodi Road, New Delhi 110 003 on or before **20 December 2007**.