20 April 2017

TO : Deans/Directors/Department Chairs/Faculty/REPS

FROM : Eva Maria Cutiongco-Dela Paz, MD, FPPS
Vice Chancellor for Research, UPM and
Executive Director, NIH

SUBJECT : CHED Research Call for Proposal 2017

We are pleased to announce that the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) is now accepting grant applications for 2017. The platforms to be covered are as follows:

1. Food Production and Security
2. Environment, Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change and Energy
3. Terrestrial and Marine Resources: Economy, Biodiversity and Conservation
4. Smart Analytics and Engineering Innovations
5. Health Systems
6. Education for STEAM
7. Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities

You may also apply to the following GIA Grant Themes:

1. Regular Grant-in-Aid for Research and Innovation
2. Special Grants
   a. Mathematics as applied to Health and the Life Sciences (MAHAL)
   b. ICT and Citizen Science for Biodiversity Conservation
   c. Interdisciplinary Studies on Institutionalizing PHederalism

Attached is the call for proposal and other essential information for your reference.

The **deadline** for submission of concept proposals is on 01 May 2017. For inquiries, kindly coordinate with the Research Grants Administration Office (rgao@post.upm.edu.ph, 567-2054)

Thank you for your continued interest in health research and development.
CHED Research Call for Proposals 2017

https://chedresearch.wordpress.com/

Pursuant to Republic Act 7722 or “An Act Creating the Commission on Higher Education (CHED)”, it is the mandate of the Commission “to inspire and enable Philippine higher education institutions (HEIs) in becoming platforms for research and development, innovation and extension in pursuit of inclusive social and economic development.”

CHED’s Research Management Division, the office tasked to strategize, manage and fund research and extension programs for higher education institutes (HEIs), is now accepting grant applications for 2017. Our research & innovation Grant-In-Aid (GIA) Program provides a competitive enable grant amounting to a maximum of Ten Million Pesos (Php 10M) for 1-2 years per research project. The GIA Program aims to build a higher education strategic research portfolio through collaborative and disruptive research and innovation projects among Philippine HEIs.

Further, the role of research and development as a necessary component of national development and progress is articulated in Republic Act No. 10055, or the Philippine Technology Transfer Act of 2009. Through this Act, the State commits to “facilitate the transfer and promote the utilization of intellectual property for the national benefit”, through public or private organizations, association, partnership, joint venture, higher education institutions, or corporations*, otherwise known as Research and Development Institute or Institutions (RDIs).

Platforms Covered

1. Food Production and Security
2. Environment, Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change and Energy
3. Terrestrial and Marine Resources: Economy, Biodiversity and Conservation
4. Smart Analytics and Engineering Innovations
5. Health Systems
6. Education for STEAM
7. Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities

GIA Grant Themes

1. Regular Grant-in-Aid for research & innovation
2. Special Grants
   - **Mathematics as Applied to Health and the Life Sciences (MAHAL)**

   Do you know that the research outputs by Filipino scientists in mathematics and computer science are the weakest concerning citation? From 2011-2015, an analysis of the Scopus database reveals that the field-weighted citation impact of mathematics and computer science are only 0.59 and 0.40, respectively. They both have lower citation performance compared to medicine (2.04); pharmacology, toxicology and pharmaceutics (1.65); biochemistry, genetics and molecular biology (1.50) and agriculture (1.20).

   Mathematics expresses itself in almost every facet of life. With many areas of the health and life sciences becoming increasingly quantitative and given the availability of advanced mathematical, statistical and modeling tools, the computational life sciences is one of the fastest growing research areas in mathematics and is now at the forefront of global scientific research and innovation. In an attempt to boost local research impact, the idea of this grant is to bring a fruitful cross-fertilization between the computational sciences and the life sciences in our
research community. CHED is also hoping to develop the next generation of Filipino life scientists with expertise and interest in bioinformatics, computer science, statistics, and other related skill sets. This unique breed of scientists is expected to be the leaders in this emerging field, both internationally and locally.

**Areas Covered By CHED-MAHAL Grant**
- Computational engineering
- Information systems and applications in life sciences, medicine & health
- Systems biology and bioinformatics for characterization of biological pathways, regulatory and metabolic networks
- Computational biophysics
- Ecological modeling and mathematical biology
- Theoretical and computational chemistry, including modeling & simulation-based prediction of new compounds
- Imaging and modeling in medicine
- Applied mathematics and numerical methods
- Big data analysis for biology (e.g. next-generation sequencing data, metabolic flux, transcriptomics, etc.) and health care information with machine learning techniques and other approaches
- Design and application of new bioinformatics and data management tools
- Translational data science

**Grant Categories**

Category A1/A2, B

- **ICT and Citizen Science for Biodiversity Conservation**

Did you know that taking snapshots of insects or even recording bird songs with your mobile phone can help scientists? For the first time, the Philippines is initiating an exciting new grant scheme to encourage Filipino scientists to develop and implement citizen science platforms in which the lay public (or citizen scientists) will be able to participate in answering serious real-world questions. Through an ICT platform, citizen scientists can make hands-on and intellectual contributions to the research process, usually through data collection and analysis.

This CHED research grant hopes to bring more Filipinos to be part of the growing number of citizen scientists globally. In addition to achieving specific research goals, the Research Management Office hopes to establish a portfolio of Filipino citizen science projects that can help educate participants about the research subject and introduce them to methods of scientific investigation and thinking.

We seek proposals for innovative and high-impact scientific research projects on biodiversity conservation and monitoring with the use of ICT technologies, such as smartphone apps, games and citizen ‘cyberscience’ (online crowdsourcing). Here, we are looking for a fruitful collaboration between biologists, environmental scientists, IT experts, mathematicians, physicists, engineers and computer scientists.

Citizen science is regarded to play a significant role in today’s ecological science and biodiversity research. Citizen Science Projects that include bird and butterfly monitoring,
species identification of mangroves, detection of tree pests and invasive species, monitoring of diseases are just some of the many ways in which the public can become involved in high-level scientific research.

Grant Categories
3. A1/A2, B, C

- **Interdisciplinary Studies on Institutionalizing PHederalism (ISIP)**

Scholars argue that no single model of federalism fits all and that federalism may take so many forms and permutations, e.g. institutional, cooperative, symmetrical/asymmetrical, financial, participatory federalism. If each country must discern its version according to the peculiar conditions of its societies, then what form of federalism would be best suited for us? Can we conduct a comparative analysis of federal systems around the world to help develop an "optimized" model of Philippine federalism? What are the key challenges towards its adoption and how can we address them? Will federalism amplify or reduce secessionist sentiments in Philippine society, particularly in Mindanao? How will states be best divided based on economic, socio-political and cultural features to allow them to function effectively as states under a federal government? How shall their financial relations be managed? How can a federal government be configured to reduce the chances of states to behave opportunistically? How do we prevent federalism from perpetuating political dynasties? Can we mathematically model the behavior of a federal system in the country using game theory?

In support of the move by the current administration to shift to a federal setup from a Presidential form of government, the Research Management Division of CHED issues this call for methodological, rigorous and cutting-edge research proposals. Invited to submit their innovative ideas are scholars from higher education institutes working in diverse fields of expertise such as, but not limited to political science, economics, anthropology and culture studies, psychology, industrial engineering, mathematics, physics, neuroscience, law, strategic studies, etc.

We are currently amidst a critical moment in the transitional process, and scholarly data generated on Philippine federalism will help enable key stakeholders in the country to make informed decisions about our future state structure.

Grant Categories
A1/A2, B

**Grant Limits**

Depending on the project's goals and breadth, our GIA comes in different categories in terms of grant ceilings.

- **Category A1**: Php 2 Million, ≤ Php 5 Million for up to 2 years
- **Category D**: ≥ Php 5 Million, ≤ Php 10 Million for up to 2 years
General Eligibility

1. Open to all State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs), and private HEIs who meet the following requirements:
   o Must be a CHED-recognized HEI;
   o Must have functioning University Research Council (URCs) and Institutional Research Boards (IRBs)

2. The grant application must be submitted by an HEI in collaboration with one or more HEIs and/or an industry partner. Under a collaborative set-up, it is the Lead HEI, assigned through internal agreement, that shall coordinate with the Commission throughout the entire application process. It shall be also responsible for coordinating with and disseminating all pertinent information to the other consortium members.

3. The research grant application may be submitted by a department, office or unit within the HEI, or by a full-time faculty (teaching or non-teaching) provided that the research proposal is endorsed by the president of the HEI, or the equivalent.

4. Members of the CHED – Philippine Higher Education Research Network (PHERNet) and Higher Education Regional Research Centers (HERRC), or other entities convened by the Commission for the advancement of research and extension, are given priority in accessing funds provided that the proposed research:
   o Involves a partnership with a non-PHERNet/HERRC school, to allow for the transfer of best practices, and institutional capacity building; and
   o is meritorious proposal and is clearly responsive to the call.

Research Eligibility

1. The research theme must be aligned with either:
   o The institution’s choice of research niche and agenda;
   o CHED’s inter-/trans-disciplinary research platforms; or
   o The various national and international research agenda as identified by National Government Agencies (i.e. National Higher Education Research Agenda, National R&D Agenda, Sustainable Development Goals).

2. Must list all targeted research outputs or products that the research intends to accomplish, including, but not limited to, papers for publication, patents, trademarks, books, public and media engagements, and others (see R.I.P.E. metrics).

3. Must have the prior approval and endorsement of the HEI’s University Research Council (URC) or Institutional Research Board (IRB). This endorsement must certify the proposal’s technical merit and ethical standards.

4. Must run for a maximum period of two (2) years. The validity of the funding will likewise be for this duration. A ‘no-cost project extension’ request may be submitted by the HEI in writing and shall be subject to the approval of the Commission, based on the preliminary evaluation of the progress of the project. Requests for extension must be submitted at least one (1) month prior to the end of the project duration.

5. In meritorious cases, additional funding may be requested for the continuation of the project beyond its original scope. This is treated as a new phase for the project, and thus will require a separate research proposal.

6. Priority will be given to projects that demonstrate a) inter- or trans-disciplinary approaches to finding solutions to a research problem, b) alliance between the academe and industry or c) solutions or services that will enhance higher education research management and/or support policies.
Guide to HEIs

1. Lead HEIs must submit an accomplished CHED Capsule Proposal Form together with its attachments.
2. All signed proposals with attachments must be submitted via e-mail, in .PDF file format on or before 01 May 2017.

Checklist of requirements

1. Capsule research proposal
2. Required attachments
   - Signed HEI endorsement form
   - Curriculum vitae of all researchers, with a maximum of ten (10) members
   - Work and financial Plan
   - Any other necessary documentation in support of the research (e.g. University Research Board [URB] and/or Institutional Research Council [IRC] approval certificate)

3. Address all submissions to Dr. Custer C. Deocaris, Chief, Research Management Division, via chedresearch@gmail.com with subject “GIA2017 – HEI – Surname of Lead Researcher”. Capsule Proposals submitted after the deadline shall be disqualified. Shortlisted concept proposals will be contacted by May 22, 2017 for further consideration. The Principal Investigator should send both soft- and hard copies of the Full Blown Proposal within fifteen (15) working days to the Research Management Division, CHED Central Office, C.P Garcia Ave., University of the Philippines-Diliman, Quezon City, 1101.

4. The Full Blown Proposal will be reviewed and subjected for revision upon recommendation by the CHED Technical Experts. A grant writing/improvement workshop may be organized by the CHED, if needed. Should the CHED Technical Expert find the proposal unacceptable after a maximum of 2 revisions, the proposal will no longer be eligible for funding for the current call.

Important dates to remember

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Apr1</td>
<td>Release of Call for Proposals</td>
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<tr>
<td>May1</td>
<td>Deadline of Submission of Concept Note (CN) and other attachment via email (COB)</td>
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<tr>
<td>May1-12</td>
<td>CHED RMD Preliminary Evaluation and Eligibility Check of CN; CN Endorsement to CHED Technical Panel; Vetting of CN by CHED Technical Panel (Note: incomplete submissions will automatically be disqualified)</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 22</td>
<td>RMD Secretariat notifies shortlisted Project Leaders to submit Full-blown Proposals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 9</td>
<td>Deadline of Submission of Full-Blown Proposals via email and (1) hard copy sent to Head Office (COB)</td>
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<td>Jun 12</td>
<td>Proposal endorsed by Technical Panel and HEDF to Mancom/CET</td>
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<td>Jun 14</td>
<td>Technical and Financial Proposal Writeshop arranged by RMD</td>
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<td>Jun 16</td>
<td>RMD Secretariat writes Project Leaders of Approved Researches Preparation of MOA</td>
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<td>Jun 23</td>
<td>MOA signing and Fund Obligation</td>
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<td>Jun 30</td>
<td>Issuance of Notice to Proceed and Start of Project Implementation (This depends on the outcome of the Technical Panel evaluation. The proposal may be revised for only a maximum of two times. Proposal that failed to obtain approval will be considered for re-vetting in the next call.)</td>
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