

Terms & Conditions for the DBT Support For strengthening of Life Science and biotechnology education and training at undergraduate level to colleges under star college scheme of DBT.

1. The programme will receive financial support initially for a period of 3 years. Further continuation of support will be based on evaluation of the programme. After a period of 3 years, the colleges would be eligible for consideration of Star College status based on evaluation by the expert committee. Decision of expert committee will be final. DBT will measure progress by following parameters.
 - Substantial increase in proportion of 'hands on' experimental work by students.
 - Increased access of undergraduate students to laboratory and bioinformatics infrastructure.
 - Improvement in access to life sciences related journals.
 - Summer schools.
 - Percentage of students pursuing life science as a career.
 - Measure effectiveness on the basis of feedback from students, faculty.
2. The Department does not encourage starting of biotechnology teaching programme at undergraduate level. The programme should lay emphasis on strengthening biotechnology component in existing life sciences courses and practical training, industry exposure to students, upgradation of faculty skills by organizing training for faculty.
3. The grant for equipment provided by DBT will be used for purchase of minor equipment (cost not exceeding ~ 1.00 lakh) routinely used for classroom teaching for students. In case of equipment costing more than ~ 1.00 lakh and within a ceiling of ~ 3.00 lakhs, grantee institutions shall seek prior approval from DBT.
4. The college shall take all steps to ensure:
 - Timely acquisition of equipment.
 - Proper provision of dedicated laboratory, teaching space and hostel facility for outstation candidates.
 - Timely and sufficient procurement of glassware and chemicals for practical work.
 - Spare faculty improvement programme.
 - Arrange summer training / industrial visits for students.
 - Independent feedback by students.

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Annexure - I

5. ~~The Coordinator for the Star College Scheme shall be responsible for the coordination~~ between the Colleges and DBT; thus the change of coordinator shall not be entertained during the entire duration of the support unless there is some personal issue due to which the coordinator is not available, for duration of more than six months at a stretch.
6. The teaching resources generated by the colleges should be shared among them through a system duly constituted by the mutual consensus under the Star College Scheme.
7. The use of kits for UG practicals should be avoided and restricted to only those cases where it is absolutely essential.
8. A mechanism should be devised by the colleges where it is ensured that at least 60% of recurring grant should be spent for consumables for UG labs and rest may be utilized for the lab visits, guest lectures, workshops etc & no equipment should be purchased through recurring grant.
9. Studentship should not be paid from DBT Star College Scheme grant and only reimbursement should be allowed for this expenditure incurred in carrying out projects.
10. Equipment purchased under scheme should be translated into experiments & utilized for UG students projects/ practicals.
11. Projects given to students should have scientific components.
12. Faculty members should deliberate proceedings after attending workshop and share information.
13. An Advisory Committee with the following composition will be constituted by the college.
 - a) Principal - Chairman
 - b) DBT Representatives (2) - 1. Adviser, DBT and 2. Programme Officer, Star College Scheme
 - c) External Experts (2) - Members
 - d) Faculty Members (from all participating departments) - Members
 - e) Coordinator - Member-Secretary

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Annexure - I

14. ~~The college is expected to organize at least one Advisory Committee Meeting where the~~ progress shall be evaluated onsite. The Advisory committee meetings should be held regularly, at least twice in the tenure of the project, one to be held in the early phase of its implementation so as to guide the college about the scheme and another towards the middle for mid-term course correction, if required. DBT may nominate the Task Force members for this purpose, if felt necessary. Colleges should ensure that external advisory members should be representing the domain expert area while trying to avoid the potential conflict of interests that might arise due to such nominations.
15. The college coordinators must ensure their presence for review meetings and any absence by the Institutions or coordinators shall be taken very seriously. Coordinators should include a page on budget utilization and another one describing the quantum of the committed objectives achieved while presenting their progress.
16. The College will be required to submit annual utilization certificate and expenditure statement duly signed by coordinator, financial authority and head of the institution along with their rubber stamps at the end of each financial year.
17. Annual recurring outlays as shown in the sanction order are indicative and by no means the college can take claim on it. Release will however be subject to utilization of previous grants. All recurring grants for the financial year shall be utilized in the same financial year. A carry forward of unspent grants will be done with prior approval of Department of Biotechnology.
18. The college will be required to submit annual technical progress report as per the proforma prescribed by DBT as well as details of equipment procured such as item, date of purchase, cost at the time of purchase and present the progress before the expert committee once every year. The Department may appoint site visit committee, as and when required for on the spot evaluation of the programme.
19. Star Colleges should be aware about the policy of involving the maximum number of students under the activities being done under this scheme and that in order to have maximum number of student beneficiaries, the colleges should stress upon procurement of low cost multiple copies of basic equipments required for conducting experiments in the undergraduate classes.

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Annexure - I

20. ~~Colleges shall ensure that before uploading any content on website, they should get the~~ documents or compilations etc pre-reviewed by two acknowledged experts in the area and their endorsements with their details should be attached with the contents.
21. All the Star Colleges are expected to strictly follow National Guidelines for Bio-safety, Ethics for humans, animals etc. Institutions shall be solely responsible for violation of this and are liable to be prosecuted at their cost, risk and consequences. An undertaking, by the administrative head of the institution, is required to be submitted to this effect.
22. Private Colleges/Private Universities/NGO-partners/autonomous bodies/trust etc, an undertaking, by the administrative head of the institution, is required to be submitted to the effect that the institution (or participating faculty) has never been blacklisted by Central or State Government agencies. If yes, the details thereof with reasons of blacklisting and copy of de-blacklisting OM should be submitted.

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