



RESEARCH PROMOTION POLICY

(Approved in the 56th Meeting of the Board of Management held on 04.04.2019)

Vellore Institute of Technology strives to be one amongst top 200 top-class universities across the world in the shortest possible time. This document provides information on research policy and research promotional activities of VIT.

1. PROLOGUE

Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) is committed to the pursuit of excellence in research and aims to achieve international recognition through interdepartmental and inter-institutional collaborative research programmes across the spectrum of Science, Engineering and Technology namely, Mechanical Engineering, Civil engineering, Electrical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Computer Science and Engineering, Information Technology, Bio-Sciences and Technology, Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry, Management Sciences as well as Social Sciences. VIT shall ensure that research in all fields that include trans and multidisciplinary types grows exponentially, keeping the ethical norms and research standards intact.

2. OBJECTIVES

- To create an excellent research ambiance and infrastructure
- To facilitate inter, multi and transdisciplinary research
- To publish papers in journals of international repute, file patents and transfer technologies to relevant industries
- To continuously monitor the research outputs for ensuring quality by appropriate committees
- To create quality human resources for scientific research
- To recognize both faculty and students on their research output by a research award
- To aim to stand among the top-notch Research Universities across the globe
- To promote the globalization of research to achieve Global visibility

3. VIT – RESEARCH PROMOTION SUPPORT SCHEMES

- The institute recognizes the research carried out by its faculty members and research students by granting “Research Awards” for publishing papers, contribution to h-index of the university through citations, funded projects, and patents.
- To encourage research scholars to publish in reputed journals, an incentive scheme

entitled “Raman Research Award” has been constituted. Under this scheme, scholars will get an incentive for each of their publications.

- Effective from January 1, 2019, the fellowship for scholars who are identified as Teaching cum Research Assistants has been enhanced up to 300%.
- Partial financial support is given to faculty members who like to publish their work in Open Access journals.
- Post-Doctoral Fellowship (PDF) position available to enhance the research and innovation ecosystem of VIT by attracting young exceptionally talented scientists and engineers with a diverse background to work on challenging and frontier areas, It provides a platform for the development of future science and technology leaders.

(a) RESEARCH AWARD

VIT recognizes the research carried out by its faculty members and research students by granting “Research Awards” for publishing papers, contribution to h-index of the university through citations, funded projects, and patents.

Category I: Publications

1) Journal Publications:

Description	Points		
(i) For the first author and the corresponding author			
Scopus indexed	Yes		No
	Non-paid & Refereed Journal	Paid	
	5 Points	2 Point	0
TR impact factor paper			
	Yes		No
	7 Points: $0 < IF \leq 0.5$		0
	8 Points: $0.5 < IF \leq 1$		
	10 Points: $1 < IF \leq 2$		
	12 Points: $2 < IF \leq 3$		
15 Points: $> 3 IF$			
(ii) Co-author	(Points = Score Point/Number of VIT authors)		0

Note:

- Full points for the first author and the corresponding author shared points for other co-authors of VIT.
- In a paper, if the first author is the corresponding author, points can be claimed either for being the first author or the corresponding author, but not for both.

- iii) Only published articles with volume/issue/page numbers are to be considered. If the paper is accepted and published online but not yet assigned with volume/issue/page numbers is not considered.

2) Bonus Points: (applicable only for first and corresponding authors)

(i) High impact journal papers:

For every paper published in a journal with more than 5 impact factor, the first and corresponding author will get 5 bonus points each.

(ii) Collaborative research publications:

Papers in Scopus indexed (refereed, non-predatory) journals without impact factor:

- Papers with National collaboration: 2 Bonus points per paper.
- Papers with International collaboration: 3 Bonus points per paper.

Papers in Impact Factor journals:

- Papers with National collaboration: 4 Bonus points per paper
- Papers with International collaboration: 5 Bonus points per paper

Note:

- i) *Bonus points for collaborative research publication will be for the first and corresponding authors only.*
- ii) *Scopus indexed journal papers, but predatory in nature will not be considered for Bonus points under collaborative research publications.*
- iii) *Publications with EPT scholar as co-author or publications with Research advisor from outside VIT are not considered for collaborative publication category.*

3) Books/Chapter:

Category	Applicable Points	Restricted to a maximum of
Per Chapter	5 Points	10 Points
Per Edited Book	10 Points	20 Points
Per Text Book	15 Points	No ceiling

Note:

- i) *Textbooks, edited books or book chapters published by reputed publishers with ISBN number only are eligible. Quality of publishers will be verified by a School level committee.*
- ii) *One who claims for an edited book cannot claim for his/her contribution to a chapter in the same book.*
- iii) *Thesis as a book and manuals will not be considered.*
- iv) *Conference proceedings published as Lecture notes are not considered as Book chapter.*

4) Patents:

Filed		Awarded	
Indian	International	Indian	International
5 Points	10 Points	10 Points	20 Points

Note: Equal points for the Inventor and the Co-inventor.

Category II: Funded Project

5) Funded Project:

- i) Both PI and Co-PI are eligible for a cash award.
- ii) For a funded project, cash award can be claimed only once and thereafter certificate of appreciation (CoA) will be given every year until the end of the project.
- iii) For sanctioned amount not received by VIT, the investigator will receive only CoA.

Category III: H-index

6) h- index:

Those whose papers newly contributed to the h-index of VIT during the period Jan. 2017 – Dec. 2017 will be awarded.

(b) RAMAN RESEARCH AWARD

To encourage research scholars to publish in reputed journals, an incentive scheme entitled “Raman Research Award” has been constituted. Under this scheme, scholars will get an incentive for each of their publications. The details of this scheme are given below:

Publication No.	Reward for publications with ZIF*	Reward for publications with PIF*
1 st Publication	Rs.6000/-	Rs.10,000/-
2 nd Publication	Rs.6000/-	Rs.15,000/-
3 rd Publication	-	Rs.20,000/-
4 th Publication	-	Rs.20,000/-
5 th Publication	-	Rs.20,000/-
From 6 th Publication	-	Rs.30,000/-

*ZIF- Zero Impact Factor and PIF – Positive Impact Factor (Refereed Scopus indexed journal]

An additional amount of Rs.3000/- per publication will be granted for review papers. In order to get this reward, the scholar should be the first author and the supervisor should be the corresponding author. This has been in practice with effect from **01.01.2019**.

(c) INSTITUTIONAL FELLOWSHIP FOR PH.D. CANDIDATES

- This Fellowship is open only to candidates opting the Ph.D. programme of VIT as full-time candidates.
- All candidates applying for this fellowship have to appear for an interview conducted by the School concerned. Those who qualify in the interview will be offered a fellowship of Rs.20,000/- p.m. for a period of 3 years. Scholars with a valid GATE score, will get an additional stipend of Rs.5,000/p.m for a period of 3 years.

(d) VIT SEED MONEY FOR FACULTY MEMBERS

- A grant of the research seed money of Rs.3 Lakhs is given to the full-time faculty members of VIT, who have submitted project proposals for funding and waiting for the sanction of grant.
- The call for research proposals would be made by Director, Sponsored Research in the month of August every year.
- All proposals received would be evaluated for their quality by a committee headed by Director, Sponsored Research and recommended applicants will receive the seed grant.
- The Project period is one year from the date of sanction and is expected to be conducted by the faculty member himself or herself. Hence no manpower would be supported in the Grant.
- It is expected that the grantee shall submit the report of the research done Director, Sponsored Research.

(e) FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- Financial support for the open access fee is open to all the faculty members of VIT guiding full-time scholars.
- Only quality open access journals with impact factor will be considered. Journals with no impact factor will not be considered.
- VIT shall pay a maximum of 50% of open access fee or up to a maximum of Rs.20,000/- per publication, whichever is less.
- The decision to support open access journal fee will be decided by a committee with Dean (Academic Research) as the Chairman, Dean/Director of the school of the guide and Director (Sponsored Research) as Members. The committee will meet once a month.
- In the publications, the research scholar shall be the first author and the guide shall be the corresponding author.
- Faculty members shall obtain written approval from the Dean of the School or Director of the Research Center concerned before submitting his/her paper to open access journals.
- Once the paper is accepted, the faculty shall submit the application with the following documents to the Dean, Academic Research through Dean/Director concerned for the financial support:
 - i. Copy of accepted article

- ii. Reviewers' comments
- iii. Copy of the Invoice
- Once the article is published, the copy of the published article and payment receipt should be submitted to the office of Academic Research.
- This support is not applicable in the case of external part-time students.

(f) POST DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP (PDF)

- The duration of the fellowship will be initially for a period of 1 year, renewable for 2nd and 3rd year on satisfactory performance of the PDF scholar in the half-yearly review meeting.
- There is no provision for providing manpower support under this scheme. The PDF scholar is expected to undertake the research objectives by himself/herself during the entire duration of the fellowship.
- The PDF scholar will be reporting to the School Dean/Centre Director.
- The PDF scholars are not eligible to receive any other fellowship from any Government or Non-Governmental source during the tenure of the fellowship.
- The PDF scholars will not be allowed to work with their Ph.D. guide/co-guide.
- The PDF scholars are entitled to a total Casual Leave (CL) of 12 days per academic year (June to May) as in the case of TRAs.
- If any PDF scholar wishes to terminate the fellowship, he/she shall inform the Dean/Director of the School/Centre giving one month notice.
- If the candidate wants to quit before 6 months, he/she should repay 50% of stipend received till that date.
- VIT reserves the right to terminate the Fellowship at any stage if it is convinced that appropriate progress is not being made or the grant has not been utilized properly.

(g) FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATION IN NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL

(i) Conferences/ Seminars/ Workshops

- Faculty members are eligible to get financial assistance up to Rs.20,000/- per annum for attending Conferences within India.
- Faculty members are eligible to get financial assistance up to Rs.50,000/- per annum for attending Conferences abroad. Financial Support Claim can be made once in two years by a faculty member.
- A faculty member can seek reimbursement only if he/she is a presenter/first author/ Invited speaker/orator, provided no other agency had given financial help for the same. A faculty is not eligible for reimbursement, for just chairing a session or attending the conference.

(ii) For Workshops/Training:

Expenses can be reimbursed if it is conducted by a national Association/national Institute/Industry/University and is supported by recommendations of the Head of the Department/Course Chairperson.