

Scientific Research Policy at the Arab Open University

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Article (1): Objective

This policy aims to regulate scientific research grants at the Arab Open University, support research projects that contribute to achieving the University's mission and strategic objectives, enhance the quality of research outputs, and ensure fairness and transparency in application, evaluation, and approval procedures, thereby supporting the development and improvement of the educational process at the University.

Article (2): Scope of Application

The provisions of this policy shall apply to all research projects submitted for research grants at the Arab Open University, whether individual or joint research projects, or projects conducted in collaboration with external research entities.

Article (3): Types of Supported Research

The Arab Open University encourages and supports research grants in the following areas:

- Scientific research related to the specializations of faculty members.
- Institutional research that contributes to developing and improving the educational process and achieving the University's mission.
- Joint research among branches of the Arab Open University.
- External collaborative research with universities or research centers, provided that the principal investigator is affiliated with the Arab Open University.

Article (4): Supervising Authority

The Higher Committee for Scientific Research shall supervise scientific research grants at the Arab Open University and oversee application, evaluation, and approval procedures in accordance with approved policies and regulations.

Article (5): Application Procedures

- Applications for research grants shall be submitted in accordance with the approved forms and mechanisms at the University.
- The application must include a complete research proposal outlining the project objectives, methodology, timeline, and proposed budget.

Article (6): Evaluation of Research Project Proposals

- All research projects submitted for research grants shall be subject to approved evaluation procedures.
- The Higher Committee for Scientific Research shall review project proposals to verify:
 - The importance and scientific feasibility of the project.

- The expected benefits of its outputs.
- The appropriateness of the proposed budget for implementation.
- The Committee may seek the assistance of internal or external reviewers or experts to review and evaluate research project proposals.

Article (7): Grant Decisions

Based on the evaluation results, the Higher Committee for Scientific Research shall make one of the following decisions:

1. Approval of the project for a research grant in accordance with approved conditions.
2. Requesting amendments to one or more parts of the project proposal and reconsidering it after fulfilling the required amendments.
3. Rejection of the project proposal with justification of the reasons for rejection.

Article (8): Researcher Obligations

The researcher shall be obligated to:

- Implement the project in accordance with the approved proposal and research ethics.
- Comply with the University's approved financial and administrative regulations.
- Submit interim and final reports within the specified timelines.
- Publish research results in accordance with approved policies, while observing intellectual property rights.

Article (9): Follow-up and Reporting

The Higher Committee for Scientific Research shall monitor the implementation of funded research projects and may request reports or take appropriate actions to ensure proper implementation.

Article (10): Suspension or Cancellation of the Grant

The Higher Committee for Scientific Research may suspend or cancel the research grant in the event of violation of its conditions, non-compliance with the approved proposal, or breach of research ethics, in accordance with approved procedures.

Article (11): General Provisions

- This policy supersedes any previous policies related to research grants at the Arab Open University.
- The University President shall be responsible for implementing the provisions of this policy.
- The University Council shall decide on cases not addressed by this policy.