



Ref: UGC/ICSETEP/RDG Manual/2024/15/1201

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## Research and Development Grant (RDG) Call for Proposal (2<sup>nd</sup> Round)

**Improving Computer and Software Engineering Tertiary Education Project (ICSETEP)** is a unique project in Bangladesh to improve tertiary level CSE/IT education to meet the challenges of 4IR and to lead of the country in IT sectors. The implementation period of ICSETEP is from March 2023 to June 2028 (as per DPP). **The Research and Development Grant (RDG)** is one of the major components of ICSETEP. In its first round, twenty (20) sub-project proposals were approved for award by the RDG Board. Following the successful completion of the first round of the RDG, ICSETEP now announces the Call for Proposals for the second round.

**Invitation for Proposals:** The universities are invited to submit sub-project proposals (SPPs) in prescribed format under four areas mentioned below. Drafting and submission of SPPs shall have to be strictly in accordance with the guidelines and formats given in the **RDG Operations Manual (RDGOM)**. Proposal submitting entities and faculty members are requested to consult the **RDGOM** thoroughly before conceiving and drafting the proposal. The **RDGOM** is available online at <https://icsetep.ugc.gov.bd/>. The following entities of eligible universities may submit project proposals: departments, institutes, centers, and combination of two or more of them.

### Description of RDG Areas:

Area Number and Name	Duration	Remarks
<b>Area-1 Academy-Industry Collaboration</b> Address industry problems or develop new products or services through CSE/IT technologies	Max. 2 years	collaboration includes both industry and/or foreign universities
<b>Area-2 Interdisciplinary R&amp;D</b> IT solutions combined with other engineering and non-engineering academic disciplines	Max. 2 years	non-engineering academic disciplines such as medicine, education, public services, infrastructure development and maintenance
<b>Area-3 Cutting Edge CSE/IT Research</b> Research in newly emerging fields, such as artificial intelligence, internet of things, big data analytics, cyber security, bioinformatics, computer vision, machine learning, robotics, etc.	Max. 2 years	
<b>Area-4 IT Solutions Addressing Disability Issues</b> Develop systems addressing different disability issues (e.g., autism, blindness, deafness, dementia, disability due to injury, etc.)	Max. 2 years	collaboration includes civil society and/or organizations (governmental or non-governmental) working for people with disabilities

**Budget for the Sub-project:** Budget for the sub-project ranges from BDT 25.0 Lac to 250.0 Lac.

**Eligibility for Receiving RDG:** Public universities and Private universities possessing permanent certificates are eligible to apply. Please check <https://icsetep.ugc.gov.bd/> for detailed eligibility criteria.

### Submission of Proposal:

- Sub-project proposals should be submitted both (i) online at <https://icsetep.ugc.gov.bd/> and (ii) as signed hard copies to the Project Director, ICSETEP. **Four (04)** hard copies of the proposal should be submitted to the office of the ICSETEP (Bangladesh Copyright Bhaban, Level-9, Plot F, 20/B Agargaon Administrative Area, Dhaka 1207) by 09-02-2026.
- Section A and Section B of each SPP must be submitted separately. Section A shall be anonymized and shall not disclose, directly or indirectly, any individual or institutional identity of the PI, Co-PI, or any collaborating institution or entity (if applicable).
- Faculty members from Departments/ Institutes/ Centers of a university and/or representative of university management/ authority may submit sub-project proposals. No individual teacher/official of a university shall be eligible to submit a proposal in individual capacity. Sub-project proposals must be submitted after obtaining endorsement/signature of the Vice-Chancellor.
- ICSETEP strongly encourages female faculty members (either or both as PI and Co-PI) to apply and welcomes mixed-group formation, reaffirming our commitment to ensure equal opportunity, access, support, and participation regardless of gender, disability, and marginalization.

RDG URL:



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