



Biotechnology Ignition Grant (BIG) by BIRAC

Current BIG Round: Deadline 17th Feb 2014



Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council

(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

Set up by Department of Biotechnology, Government of India

4th Call for Proposal under **BIOTECHNOLOGY IGNITION GRANT (BIG)**

For Igniting New Ideas

(1st January to 17th February, 2014)

BIG scheme encourages and supports Biotech Entrepreneurs

Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), a Section 25 'Not-for-Profit Company' of Government of India, has been set up as DBT's interface agency, to serve as a single window for emerging biotech companies.

How to Apply?

Proposal under BIG scheme has to be submitted online only. Register on BIRAC website under "BIG User" for submission of proposal. User registrations open round the clock. For further details on the scheme, eligibility criteria, FAQs and registration log on to www.birac.nic.in

Support under the BIG Scheme is aimed to help establish & validate proof of concept

BIRAC invites proposals from

- **Biotechnology start-ups / entrepreneurs**
 - having a registered company incorporated on/after 1st January 2011.

OR

- **Academicians, Scientists, Researchers, PhDs, Medical Degree holders, Biomedical Engg. Graduates**
 - Incubated in a Technology Business Incubator who have an exciting idea which may be in a planning or nascent stage.

The BIG scheme is implemented by our BIG Partners



Scope & Support

- BIG is for high level of innovation in the Biotechnology sector.
- BIG scheme supports only up to Proof-of-Concept stage.
- Grant-in-Aid up to ₹ 50 lakh.
- Grant period is 18 months.
- Mentoring support and Project Monitoring by BIG Partner.

Proposal Submission Starts: **1st January, 2014**

Proposal Submission Closes (midnight of): **17th February, 2014**

For any queries, please contact: **Mr. Rajneesh Kumar**, Manager-IP & TM, BIRAC E-mail: biracbig.dbt@nic.in

Ministry of Science and
Technology

Department of
Biotechnology

Biotechnology Industry
Research Assistance Council
(BIRAC)

Section 25 not for profit
company established: March
2012

Biotechnology Ignition Grant (BIG)

Purpose of BIG

- Foster generation of ideas with commercialisation potential
- Upscale and validate of proof of concept
- Encourage researchers to take technology closer to market through a start up
- Stimulate enterprise formation

Eligibility for applying to BIG

- Biotechnology start-ups :
 - Registered company under 3 years old
 - Company should have a functional R&D lab
 - If company does not have R&D lab then it should be associated with an Incubator

- Entrepreneurs/ potential entrepreneur from academia, research institute/ Individuals/ Researchers/ Biomed engg graduates :
 - Incubated in a Technology Business Incubator

Scope and Support

- BIG is for high level innovation in the Biotechnology (“broadly defined”) sector.
- BIG supports only up to proof-of-concept stage.
- Funding in the form of grant-in-aid limited up to Rs 50 lakh for 18 months.

Tips and Pointers to apply for BIG

Key screening parameters

- Project must have “proof-of-concept” nature
- Novelty in the proposed work or it should address unmet need in the country
- Technical feasibility/ do-ability
- Clear indication of PI’s commitment to commercialization
- A credible and complete team
- Goals (proof of concept) achievable in 18 months
- Achievable in proposed budget (equal to or less than Rs 50 lakhs)

We recommend

- A clear PoC definition which would encompass all the aspects of the project highlighting novelty and importance
- Take efforts to write concept note
- Stating generation of IP where ever possible
- Clear plan of work plan in stages
- Constitution of the team
- Divide whole study in to milestone like:

Target months	Milestone targets	Funds requested (Rs lakhs)
0		
3		
9		
12		
15		
18		

Contd...

- CapEx not exceeding 30% of the requested funds
- Budget heads :

Heads	Amount (Rs lakh)	Basis
Equipment		
Consumables		
Man power		
Incubation services		
Travel		
External services		
Contingency		



Broad domains allowed for BIG proposal

- Health care & medical biotech: Therapeutics, Biologicals, Vaccines & preventives, Diagnostics, Biomedical devices, Tissue engineering, Oncology etc
- Agriculture, food security, secondary agriculture and allied: Agro and plant biotech, Animal biotech, Marine biotech, medicinal and aromatic plants, Seri biotech, Biocontrol/biofertilizers, Food and nutrition, etc
- Industrial product and processes
- Green technology & industrial biotechnology: Biochemical engineering, Biomass value addition to fuels/ chemicals/ materials
- Others: Bio-IT interface, bioinformatics, Analytical methods and new techniques, etc