

DIGITAL SOCIETY RESEARCH GRANT 2021

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

1. What is the Digital Society Research Grant (DSRG)?

The DSRG was first launched on 3 July 2020 with the aim to grow a broader evidence-based research studies with a shorter time frame bearing data that is current. The value of each grant is limited to a maximum of RM10,000 for a project duration no longer than six months.

2. What is the objective of the DSRG?

The objective of this grant is to contribute to the evidence base that is necessary for the nation to optimize on the advancements made in the deployment of communications infrastructure and service. Research under the DSRG takes cognizance that beyond deployment of technology and services there is a need to address the human and social factors and understand the implication of technology and services, the factors enabling user adoption, and impact of MCMC and national initiatives towards the realisation of a Digitally Connected and Informed Society (Digital Society).

3. What are the research focus areas for the grants?

The research focus areas are 1) Digital Citizenship and Cyberwellness and 2) Digital Inclusion. Please refer to section 1.4 of the CFP guidelines for details.

4. Who is eligible to apply?

The grant is open to full-time academics and researchers in the school of communications, social sciences, humanities or related fields of private and public institutions of higher learning (IHLs). Each proposal must have a lead researcher who will be subject to the general terms and conditions for granting. Please refer to section 2.1 of the CFP guidelines for details.

5. I am a PhD student. Can I apply for DSRG as the Lead Researcher?

No, the Lead Researcher must already have a PhD to be eligible. However, you may be named as a Co-Researcher for the project.

6. When can I apply?

Applications may be submitted at any time from 1 March 2021 until 12:00 noon, 31 March 2021.

7. How to submit my application?

The electronic copy of the proposal and other documents should be emailed to the Secretariat with '**DSRG 2021 Research Proposal**' in the subject

line and addressed to research.enterprise@mcmc.gov.my. Hardcopy is not required.

8. Can I submit the proposal in Bahasa Melayu?

Yes, proposals in Bahasa Melayu will be accepted.

9. Can I submit more than one proposal?

Yes, you can submit more than one proposal. However, researchers can only submit one proposal as Lead Researcher and each researcher can act no more than twice as applicant.

10. Are the CVs of the research team members required to be submitted?

Yes, CVs of all research team members is an important element of the submission requirement.

11. Do I need to submit my PhD certificate?

Yes, you need to only submit a verified copy of your PhD certificate. Other academic qualification certificates (e.g. Master's degree) are not necessary.

12. Is it advisable to include preliminary data?

We do not have specific guidelines on this. We recommend adding it only if the proposer thinks it will give additional strength to the proposal.

13. How would I know if the Secretariat has received my application?

An acknowledgement will be sent once the proposal has been received by the Secretariat. Those submitting proposals and NOT receiving an email confirmation within a week should contact the Secretariat by sending an email to research.enterprise@mcmc.gov.my.

14. I have an existing grant and would like to apply for a supplemental grant. Am I eligible?

No, the MCMC will not consider supplementing existing grants.

15. I missed the March 2021 submission deadline. Can I still submit my proposal?

Any submissions submitted after the closing date will be rejected. You may consider responding to the second 2021 DSRG Cycle which is expected to be announced in the second half of 2021.

16. Who are the Technical Panel members?

The Technical Panel is a select panel of specialist and experts from academia and industry responsible for evaluation and selection of the award of DSRG. This panel is chaired by MCMC.

17. Would I be requested to present my proposal to the Technical Panel? How will I know if my proposal has been shortlisted?

MCMC may request for the shortlisted proposals to be presented to the Technical Panel. Only shortlisted submissions will be contacted for this purpose.

18. I was unsuccessful in the previous round. Are re-submissions accepted?

Yes, re-submission of the same proposal may be made, however, the applicant is strongly encouraged to re-apply with a revised or improved proposal according to the priority focus areas and as long as they meet the eligibility criteria and requirements of the current Call.

- **End of Document-**