

BOOST Programme 2019-20
(Biotechnology based Opportunities Offered to Science & Technology Departments)

**An academic programme for improvement of infrastructure
in UG/PG colleges in West Bengal**

The Biotechnology Branch of Department of Science & Technology and Biotechnology, Government of West Bengal (DSTBT, GoWB) conducts an academic programme for improvement of infrastructure in UG/PG colleges in West Bengal as an integral part of promotion of biotechnology. This aims to enhance the availability of trained man-power which will serve as a national intellectual corpus repository in Biotechnology and Science & Technology sectors. The Department will fund state funded / aided Colleges (UG and PG) and Universities offering various courses in Biological Sciences with evidence of a biotechnology component. Proposals are invited for consideration of support under a scheme entitled "**Biotechnology based Opportunities Offered to Science & Technology Departments**" or **BOOST** to be provided at three levels.

Nature of Support: The Scheme will provide funds for development of infrastructure for teaching and research (including Summer Internship Programmes) in terms of acquisition of essential equipment and consumables involved in UG/PG teaching and research along with library facilities. The facilities will support efforts of the Department as a whole; individual R&D support would not be considered under this Scheme. The eligibility criteria for the grant are given below.

The support received from the DSTBT, GoWB under BOOST Programme, must be highlighted on the website of the recipient college/university with the declaration that 'Access to these equipment would be available for teaching purpose to all other Departments/Institutes'.

Any department can reapply for a BOOST Grant provided the Utilization Certificate, audited Statement of Expenditure and Final Progress Report have been submitted as also the performance of the applying department as evaluated by the Department and the BOOST Committee was outstanding.

Beneficiary: Apart from the applicant departments, students from other departments may also avail the facility for their study or research purposes. Students from other universities and colleges should also be allowed to use the facility for academic upliftment.

Duration: The duration of support for each project will be for a maximum of 3 years subject to timely utilization of the grant and submission of yearly Progress Report, audited Statement of Expenditure and Utilization Certificate.

Type of support: The support will be offered at three levels: BOOST-I, II & III.

BOOST – I (Colleges with UG courses)

- The funding will be up to Rs. 25 lakhs spread over a period of 3 years (Equipment to be procured in 1st year and consumables and books for 2nd and 3rd year).
- College must have an accreditation to any University of West Bengal.
- The minimum number of UG students will be 30 per discipline per academic session.
- The minimum number of regular faculty shall be 3 per department (of which 2 should have PhD/equivalent degree). Guest faculties do not qualify as faculty.
- The departments selected should not have received an infrastructure development grant from any national funding agency in the last 3 years of above 25 lakhs (sanction letter if any, of the last grant received to be attached at the time of application).

BOOST – II (Colleges with UG & PG courses)

- The funding will be up to Rs. 50 lakhs spread over a period of 3 years (Equipment to be procured in 1st year and consumables and books for 2nd and 3rd year).
- Colleges must have accreditation to any University of West Bengal.
- The minimum number of PG and UG students was to be 10 and 30 respectively per discipline per academic session.
- The minimum number of regular faculty shall be at least 4 per department (at least 2 holding a PhD/equivalent degree); preference may be accorded to departments having additional faculty registered for PhD/equivalent degree.
- Evidence of reasonably high quality teaching and academic research.
- The departments should not have received an infrastructure development grant in the last 3 years of above 50 lakhs (sanction letter if any, of the last grant received to be attached at the time of application).

BOOST - III (Centres of Excellence in Biotechnology)

- The funding will be up to Rs. 100 lakhs spread over a period of 3 years (Equipment to be procured in 1st year and consumables and books for 2nd and 3rd year).
- All Universities in West Bengal are eligible and PG colleges that can fulfill the below mentioned criteria, they may also apply.
- The minimum number of PG students per department shall be 10 per discipline per academic session.
- Preferably three departments per university should benefit from the scheme with one of the departments being Biotechnology.
- Minimal laboratory facilities should be existing at the time of application.
- Evidence of extra-mural research grants received in the last 3 years.
- Awards received by faculty members of the Department.

- The minimum number of permanent regular faculty members per department shall be at least 4, and all must have a Ph.D/equivalent degree; preference may be accorded to departments having additional faculty registered for Ph.D/equivalent degree.
- The individual University departments selected should not have received an infrastructure development grant from any agency in the last 3 years of a value above 50 lakhs (sanction letter if any, of the last grant received to be attached at the time of application).

Selection: The selection will be through a peer review mechanism and visit to the Colleges/Universities, if necessary.

How to apply: Online applications (complete in all respect) are invited from eligible UG/PG Departments at West Bengal State Govt./Govt. funded Colleges or Universities through Departmental Portal 'Vigyansathi' (www.vigyansathi.in) on or before **28th February, 2020** till **05.00 pm**.

Prescribed Guidelines and Format are also available on the website: www.wbdstbt.in.

One hard copy of complete proposal is to be submitted to the following address:

To
The Joint Secretary
Department of Science & Technology
Government of West Bengal
Vigyan Chetana Bhavan
26/B, DD Block, Sector-I, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700064.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS
FOR GRANT RELEASED UNDER 'BOOST PROGRAMME 2019-20'

In recent years, a genuine concern about the lack of infrastructure facilities for imparting good quality of higher education and conducting research in emerging fields of Biotechnology prompted the department to initiate a scheme 'Biotechnology based Opportunities Offered to Science & Technology Departments' i.e. BOOST in Govt./partly aided Govt. colleges & Universities.

Terms and Conditions:

- The grant being released under the scheme is for strengthening the teaching infrastructure of the identified departments for enhancing handling and application of sophisticated equipments by the students and conducting practical for preparing to pursue Biotechnology. A Project Implementation Committee for 'BOOST Programme' may be formed with the Head of the Institution and the Project/Programme Coordinator who shall be responsible & accountable for its implementation. The composition of the Project Implementation Committee shall be informed to the Department.
- All equipment must be purchased as per the list Annexed with the Allotment/Sanction Letter. No deviation without approval from Department is permissible. The fund must be utilized for the specific purpose only as approved by the Department.
- The benefits of the Grants-in-aid being released under the scheme should be directly utilized by students and faculties of the grantee Department(s) and also other departments undertaking teaching and research in Biotechnology/Biological Science with the necessary consent from the competent authority of the Department/College/University.
- Please note that the scheme does not allow any provision for building/construction and recruitment of staff etc.
- All the assets acquired from the grant will be the property of the Department of Science & Technology and Biotechnology, Govt. of West Bengal and the instruments, at any point of time, may be withdrawn by DSTBT, GoWB or utilized for any other purposes, as decided by the DSTBT, GoWB authority.
- All the assets acquired from the grant will be the property of the Department of Science & Technology and Biotechnology, Govt. of West Bengal, and should not, without the prior sanction of the Department, be disposed off or encumbered or utilized for purposes other than those for which the grant has been sanctioned.
- All efforts should be made to procure the equipments in accordance with the list provided and other items at the earliest to avoid cost escalation due to foreign exchange fluctuation and should abide by all procedures. In case, if it is found that the

College/University is not able to use the funds within one year of its release, DSTBT, GoWB has the right to withdraw the project from the College/University and released funds must be returned with admissible interests.

- The Institute will furnish to the DSTBT, GoWB a Utilization Certificate and an audited Statement of Expenditure pertaining to the grant along with Progress Report and Photographic Documentation within one year.
- The DSTBT, GoWB may review the technical & financial progress including utilization of the grant at any point of time in consonance with the aims of the BOOST programme. The DSTBT, GoWB reserves the right to terminate the support at any stage if it is convinced that the grant has not been properly utilized or appropriate progress is not being made.
- A Register of the permanent/semi-permanent assets acquired out of this grant should be maintained in the prescribed form and a copy thereof furnished to this DSTBT, GoWB. Such register of assets and the accounts maintained shall be available or open to scrutiny by Audit.
- Any unspent amount sanctioned would be surrendered to the DSTBT, GoWB along with the interest earned. Any carry forward of funds to the next financial year may be considered only with the specific approval of the DSTBT, GoWB.
- The Accountant General of West Bengal, at his discretion shall have the right to access to the book accounts on expenditure incurred in the utilized Grant-in-aid as and when required.
- Budgetary Quotations from a reputed Equipment supplier (all-inclusive i.e. Custom Duty, Bank & other Charges) for all equipment recommended for support should be provided. Please ensure that the budgetary cost is reasonable & arrived at with due diligence, observing financial propriety. All the procurement must be done in strict adherence to the Financial Rule of the Government of West Bengal.
- Equipment should be of a reputable make and quality for providing state of the art training to the students.
- All equipment should be covered by a minimum three years Comprehensive Maintenance Contract (CMC) and two years additional Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) within the provided funds or funds provided by the respective colleges. No additional funds would be released for repair and maintenance of the procured instruments.
- In order to give visibility to the identified Department of Colleges/ Universities suitable display should be made **“Supported by BOOST Programme of Department of Science & Technology and Biotechnology, Government of West Bengal”**.

- All instruments should be clearly marked with a label stating “**BOOST Programme, DSTBT, GoWB**”. All activities under the BOOST Programme are subject to an ‘on site’ evaluation and guidance by the department at its discretion.
- A Certificate of Self-Declaration to be furnished by the Head of the Institution to the DSTBT, GoWB to the effect that he agrees to abide by the Guidelines and Terms & Conditions.

UTILISATION CERTIFICATE IN RESPECT OF GRANT-IN-AID

No.

Date:

1. Name of the Grantee Institution(s):
[Attach separate list for more than one Grantee Institutions]
2. Sanctioning Authority:
3. Sanction Order Number and Date:
4. Amount Sanctioned:
5. Drawing & Disbursing Officer:
6. Treasury/ PAO:
[From where the bill was drawn]
7. Bill No. & Date:
8. T.V. No. & Date:
9. Amount drawn:
10. Unspent balance of previous year, if any:
11. Amount utilized:
12. Unspent balance, if any, in current year:
13. Purpose of Utilization:

CERTIFICATE

Certified that I have satisfied myself that the conditions on which the Grants-in-Aid was sanctioned have been duly fulfilled/are being fulfilled and that I have exercised the following checks to see that the money was actually utilized for the purpose for which it was sanctioned. [Applicable in of unspent balance]

The unspent fund has been surrendered to the Government under appropriate head of account vide Challan No. Date / will be adjusted against the grant-in-aid to be sanctioned and paid in the current Financial Year (applicable in case of recurring grant only).

Kinds of checks exercised:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Signature of the
Coordinator (with Seal)**

**Signature of the Head of the
Institution (with Seal)**

**Signature of the Financial
Authority (with Seal)**

N.B.:

- **The Utilization of the Grant-in-Aid must be in compliance with the rules and guidelines of the Finance Department, Government of West Bengal.**
- **Interest earned, if any, on the fund released so far in respect of the said scheme should be accounted for.**
- If, as a result of a check or audit objection, some irregularity is noticed at a later stage, action will be taken to refund/adjust or regularize the objected amount.
- For any correspondence in this regard, the Department's letter number and date may please be quoted without fail.