



Association of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons of India.

Research Committee 2023-2024

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1. AOMSI Research grant [AOMSI-RG]

Happy to initiate the AOMSI research Grants for all Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and postgraduates of the OMFS specialty. It will be a breakthrough in the journey of AOMSI research, a small step towards the inculcation of research attitude among the OMFS fraternity to showcase the robust evidence from AOMSI. The pioneering steps in the field of OMFS from AOMSI are applauded. It is a matter of pride to announce the first-of-its-kind decision to support research work. On behalf of the research committee, we are happy to invite Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and PGs to apply for a research grant. It is beginning steps to recognize and encourage OMFS colleagues to step forward for better evidence creation. Looking forward to receiving the proposal across all thematic areas, request everyone to encourage the colleagues and come forward as a team to accomplish the goal.

Warm regards,

Dr. Bhagavandas Rai A
President
AOMSI

Dr. S Girish Rao
Hon. General Secretary
AOMSI

Dr.Vivekanand Kattimani
Chairman. Research Committee
AOMSI

Guidelines for grant of Financial Assistance from AOMSI.

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1. AOMSI RESEARCH GRANTS: [AOMSI-RG]

Introduction:

AOMSI-RG is funded and administered by AOMSI to support **Oral and Maxillofacial surgeons (OMFS)** (in this context OMFS includes Postgraduates) to carry out research in oral and maxillofacial surgery, advanced technology, Innovations, Plan concepts, and design [PoC] for translational research for self-sustainability & self-reliance to make Indian protocols, designs, etc.

Oral and Maxillofacial surgeons who have shown excellence in their fields are considered for the grant. The Research grant is given to only Oral and Maxillofacial surgery specialty consisting of Postgraduates, fellows, Clinicians, senior lecturers, readers, and professors who are in continuous regular service in a recognized institution/hospital, or organizations on permanent/part-time posts and are under 60 years of age at the time of submission of application.

Financial Assistance for Research Programs is meant to allow teams of independent researchers to develop new lines of research through collaboration. Priority will be given to novel research projects. Applicants for research proposals are encouraged to include independent investigators early in their careers.

Objectives:

- i. To provide opportunities to Oral and Maxillofacial surgeons/ clinicians/ permanent/ part-time teachers at universities/ institutions to pursue research in their area(s) of specialization for a period of one year.
- ii. Encourage the young generation to inculcate a research attitude for better evidence creation.
- iii. To remain in touch with the latest developments in respective areas of teaching, research, and practice that enhance the skill and knowledge levels of the OMFS fraternity.
- iv. To encourage academia, industry, and clinician/surgeon collaboration for research and development for innovative solutions.

Target Group/ Eligibility:

- i. Must be an Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon and at least attended three national AOMSI conferences and have shown an aptitude for research.
- ii. Regarding post-graduate trainees the conference attendance should be a minimum of two at the time of Submission of the final report.
- iii. The oral and maxillofacial surgeons in their early careers are encouraged to apply.
- iv. They must have published papers/ articles in reputed/referred journals and have made contributions to collaborative research earlier.
- v. Applicants will be eligible for only one grant in each funding period. Grants are subject to an all-inclusive maximum of Rs.20000/- for any application.
- vi. The applicant should be able to take lectures/discussions and demonstrations as part of the research.
- vii. The PI is not eligible to reapply for another grant at one point in time until the PI completes the project with publication from the date of receipt of the first grant.
- viii. **Proposals will be considered based on the following:**
 - a) Scholarly quality that will enhance the visibility of the AOMSI which values high-quality research.
 - b) Residents/post-graduate students must have a letter of support from their supervisor who is an AOMSI member.
 - c) The applicant must have a letter of support from their institution where applicable.
 - d) Postgraduates also can apply provided they have a guide with a proven track record as PI and another faculty as Co-PI to complete the responsibility of research objectives.

AOMSI-RG: General Guidelines and Selection Criteria

- i. Funds may be requested for research project support, including research assistance, computer time, printing and copying, secretarial support, etc. Travel will not be included and only funding that is directed at the research project will be considered. AOMSI-RG that supports the work of clinicians/residents/post-graduate students is especially encouraged.
- ii. Funds may be allocated specifically for the purchase of consumables/materials required for a research project but not for asset creation (the fund is meant for the recurring budget that includes manpower, consumables, contingency, testing, and characterization, etc but not for capital/non-recurring utility purpose like the purchase of equipment).
- iii. All financial utility requests must be supported by a vendor quotation wherever applicable and should follow Govt finance rules.
- iv. Funds may be requested for start-up, or pilot projects, or to permit the completion of a project already substantially underway.
- v. For applications where the approval of an ethics/ review committee or other such committees needs to be sought (e.g., research involving human or animal subjects or research with considerable environmental impact), documentation showing approval from the applicant's institution is required before funds will be released from the AOMSI. A person can apply for a research grant with an ethics application pending and the funds will be released upon approval.
- vi. **The following projects are not eligible for funding:**
 - a) Any project relating to work that is deemed by the Research Committee as done primarily with a commercial intent sponsored by pharma companies as opposed to a scholarly or creative objective.
 - b) Any project funded by a contracting agency (e.g., government, private business) that is deemed by the Research Committee as done primarily with a commercial intent as opposed to a scholarly or creative objective.
 - c) Any project already funded fully or partly and yet to complete the previous funding objective is not eligible, if the committee finds duplication or overlapping objectives in due course of time after the sanction of AOMSI-RG; the committee will have the right to reject out rightly the proposal and explanation will be asked for ethical misconduct, if found guilty then PI

application for funding will not be considered for 10 years as a penal measure to keep up highest standard of research ethics.

d) The unrealistic projects that have objectives not possible to complete within the prescribed timeslot.

vii. Selection process/ mechanism of funding

- a) The members of the AOMSI Research Committee constitute the Expert/ Selection/Review Committee. AOMSI Research Committee receives the recommendations of the expert/ selection/ review committee and will make the final Grant decision with approval from EC.
- b) The Research committee members will not be a part of the review/ expert/ selection board/ committee.
- c) Each proposal undergoes a technical check for eligibility as per the criteria, if receives a 100% score then it will be sent for review or else it will be rejected with reasons and the same will be displayed on the AOMSI website.
- d) The review committee consists total of 5 members. Out of them, three will be subject/ domain experts and 2 will be either researchers good in methodology, statistics, and technical aspects of research or may be external members apart from OMFS based on the research proposal.
- e) If the proposal gets a 20% scoring difference in the valuation, then it will be referred to another set of evaluators.
- f) The minimum score for a proposal to become eligible for funding is 80%. If the committee doesn't receive the proposal with such a score, then the committee may take the decision not to allow the grant for that particular year.
- g) If the number of eligible proposals crosses more than the required number, then the committee will decide to fund only the top 10 proposals.
- h) In case the research committee receives eligible proposals of more than 10 with the same score then the committee reserves the right to either divide the available funds among the finalists or else set elimination criteria based on the expert committee opinion or it may consider funding in the next cycle if PI agrees for the same to carry out the work and decision will be in concurrence with EC.

- i) A total number of minimum 10 grants (with a maximum of Rs.20000 each) are available under the scheme every year starting from year 2024. The number may increase or decrease based on fund availability.
- j) The committee reserves the right to fund the PI project based on the eligibility, capability, area of work, expertise, etc.
- k) No correspondence on reasons for non-selection of the proposal will be entertained by the AOMSI.
- l) The selected grantee's names will be announced at conferences and a sanction letter will be handed over to the PI.
- m) The proposal should have a minimum of one CO-PI who is responsible for completing the project objectives in unforeseen conditions and if the PI is unable to continue the work.

Procedure for Monitoring the Progress:

- i. The AOMSI-RG awardee shall submit a mid-term progress report of the research work through proper channels if working in the Institution.
- ii. In case the research work is found unsatisfactory during the mid-term evaluation by the expert committee the AOMSI-RG will be discontinued based on the recommendation and the same will be communicated to the PI/Guide/Head of the Institute with a discontinuation letter.
- iii. On completion of the project, one copy of the final report of the project should be submitted by the awardee for final evaluation through the proper channel to the AOMSI research committee for approval.
- iv. In the consolidated report, the awardee must outline the objectives set forth and objectives achieved, along with the possible application of the research output and names of user agencies/organizations and industries that can take advantage of the research.
- v. Copies of the final report will be retained on the AOMSI website/ in the library of the university/institution where the awardee has worked.
- vi. A provision for an extension of tenure of the Research Grant can be made for another year only based on the recommendation of the subject experts in exceptional cases without any further funding.

- vii. However, no extension is permissible beyond the total period of two years, and the awardee ceases to be AOMSI-RG immediately after the expiry date. Any claim/reference to this effect will be illegal and the individual may have to face disciplinary action.

Procedure for Release of Grants by AOMSI:

- i. The AOMSI will release the sanction letter to the PI during the announcement and 50% of the grant sanctioned is subjected to an advance claim request from the PI if wishes to receive it before the start of the project with approval of the AOMSI-EC and Research committee.
 - ii. The remaining grant will be released after the submission of the final report and submission of work to JMOSI for publication along with the statement of expenditure and utilization certificate (form SE, UC). The receipt of the final approval letter by the review committee is essential for the release of funds.
 - iii. Any claim submitted by the awardee should be forwarded through the proper channel where the awardee is working.
 - iv. If AOMSI issues 50% of the grant in advance, then PI must submit the undertaking (on 20 Rs Stamp Paper) stating that in case of any discontinuity, the team must refund the sanctioned amount to AOMSI.
- v. AOMSI has the right to take any legal action if the refund is not done by the team.

Subsequent Requirements and Publications:

- i. The AOMSI-RG recipients must submit a final report on outcomes from the project within two years.
- ii. The AOMSI-RG recipients are requested to acknowledge the AOMSI support in presentations, research thesis, and journal publications that emanate from the work supported.
- iii. The AOMSI-RG recipient is asked to supply the Research Committee with a copy of a publication related to the AOMSI-RG.
- iv. AOMSI-RG recipients are encouraged to present their research results at the AOMSI conferences.

Application procedure for the AOMSI-RG:

- i. The AOMSI will invite applications for these grants/announce them during the conferences/ through a notification in Email/social media.
- ii. Applicants should submit proposals in the prescribed application form found on the AOMSI Website. www.aomsi.com.
- iii. Respond to all items on the application form.
- iv. Research proposals should include sufficient detail for the scientific merit to be evaluated, as well as justification of the roles and qualifications of proposed research assistants, and justification of all budget items in the context of the research.
- v. Grant decisions are based on information about the proposed research project that addresses the justification of research, research objectives, feasibility to complete the work within the specified time frame applicant familiarity with the relevant literature, and the relevance of the project for the AOMSI and society.
- vi. The discussion of the project must include broadly the following subheadings:
 - a) Objective of the study
 - b) Summary of the research project
 - c) Review of literature
 - d) Materials and methods
 - e) Experimental design/statistical analysis
 - f) Expected outcomes
 - g) Relevance of findings
- vii. The form along with attachments is then forwarded to the Chairman of the Research Committee through the online submission portal; within the deadline for application/ available on the website under the research tab.
- viii. The submission portal will not accept incomplete proposals nor allow submission of proposals after the last date, in this regard no communication will be entertained. Hence requests PIs to submit the proposal ASAP without waiting till the last date to prevent any technical issues.

Topics of research interest:

- i. All thrust areas mentioned in the call for proposal document.
- ii. 3D technology
- iii. AR-VR
- iv. Stem cells
- v. Antimicrobial resistance
- vi. Maxillofacial traumatology
- vii. Facial aesthetic surgeries
- viii. Hair transplant
- ix. Any interesting topic but not limited to the above only.