Office of The Provost

Policies and Guidelines

Mini-Grants & Publishing Fees

MG

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Mini-Grant (MG)

i. Introduction

The Mini grant is a grant with no specific timing or deadlines. Its purpose is to catalyze the growth in quality and quantity of scholarly activities being conducted by faculty that is not covered by other types of grants through a quick and an agile process.

AUC provides Mini Grants of two Types:

- **Type A:** Assist with expenses such as the costs of reprints (for a limited number of articles, but not for books), page charges, charges for preparation of manuscripts for publishing, such as copyediting or indexing, supplies and services, the cost of data that must be purchased from external sources, relatively small materials costs related to research and teaching enhancement, etc. Mini Grants can also be used to fund the organization of multidisciplinary series of Meetings/Symposia/Seminars between at least two AUC departments (preferably from two different schools). The AUC grants a maximum of $1,000 (or the equivalent in Egyptian Pounds) per faculty member per year for this purpose. This fund is eligible for a departmental match of a maximum of $1,000.

- **Type B:** Support university faculty towards the publishing of high-quality intellectual output in top tier journals ([Q1 / A* & A]) and the publishing of books with top tier publishers. The target journals and publishers are identified by the relevant discipline, in accordance with this procedure. The maximum allowed fund for this fund type is $2000 (or the equivalent in Egyptian pounds) per faculty member per application. Each faculty member is eligible for two ([Publishing Fees]) mini grants (Type B) per academic year.

Mini-Grants applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Small amounts of requested funding do not in themselves constitute a Mini-Grant. For example, if you are planning a project that requires using research assistants, this expense should be budgeted as part of a Research Grant. Mini-Grants will generally not be awarded for general-use consumer equipment, such as laptop computers, tape recorders, external hard drives, cameras, and so forth.

ii. Eligibility Criteria

1. AUC Mini Grant funding is restricted to full time faculty members.
2. The applicant must have the status of all final reports for any previously awarded internal grants on record as submitted and approved.
3. The applicant must be employed by AUC, in his/her current position, at the time of the funded request.
4. Faculty members on “Leave without Pay” shall only be funded for the Type B Mini-Grant ([Publishing Fees]) during their leave period.
5. Faculty members on “Leave without Pay” may apply for funding for the first purpose (Type B) prior to resuming their work at AUC. No funds will be dispersed until the faculty member resumes work at AUC.
6. Faculty members on “Paid Medical Leave” are eligible for the second purpose (publication fees). Faculty members who leave the university, or accept a position elsewhere prior to the organization of the conference, will forfeit the grant or change the PI of the grant.

7. Deans and Associate Provosts are ineligible for any type of Faculty Support Grants, but shall request research funding from the Office of the Provost directly.

iii. General Guidelines

1. Mini Grants for Type A are meant to be cost shared by the department. Departments are highly encouraged to add this matching component to their respective annual budget. In the event of respective department to the application cannot provide the matching component, the grant value will be restricted to the AP-RIC maximum contribution, as per this guideline.

2. Type B Mini Grants do not require cost sharing by the department or school. All funds come from the AP-RIC office budget.

3. The grant fund will be transferred to a special WBS number created under the department’s cost center; and the payments will be processed and handled by the department.

4. All grant applications for Associate Deans and Chairs will be reviewed by the school Dean and the University Research Board (URB).

**If the grant activity starts after the first of July, the grant will be funded from the applicant’s maximum allowed fund of the corresponding fiscal year.

iv. Eligible Expenses

1. Costs of reprints;

2. Page charges, expenses related to preparation of manuscripts for publishing such as copyediting or indexing charges;

3. Supplies and services;

4. Cost of data that must be purchased from external sources, relatively small materials costs related to research and teaching enhancement, etc. References must be open and accessible to the university community.

5. Publication fees, provided that the journal paper or book is published in top tier journals and publishing houses as identified by relevant discipline (Q1/ A* & A)

v. Ineligible Expenses

1. Travel;

2. Stipend for Research Assistants;

3. Any costs that should be budgeted as part of conference, research, teaching and learning enhancement travel, teaching and learning enhancement, or organization of a conference grants Potential to contribute to the university’s stature and prestige.

4. Publishing fees of other than the discipline-identified list of Journals and publishers (for Type B).
vi. Procedures
1. Faculty member submits the application using the online grant submission system at: https://www4.aucegypt.edu/grants/Home.aspx
2. For Type B mini-grant, the applicant needs to provide the publication acceptance letter by the target journal or publishing agreement with the publisher, against which the fees are demanded.
3. Associate Deans for research will receive the application for their review against the eligibility criteria and budget before approval/ declining. For Type B (Publishing Fees), the Associate Dean will verify the standing of the target publishing venue and advise the AP-RIC office.
4. The approved applications move to the AP-RIC office for review and approval
5. An agreement is set by the AP-RIC office and signed by the applicant
6. Fund is transferred to the assigned WBS

Note: Agility for this type of grant is of the essence. The procedure is set on a two-weeks processing time (a week at the school review phase and a week at the AP-RIC office review, agreement, and money transfer)

vii. Deadlines
Mini Grants have no deadlines.

viii. Grant Management and Oversight
AP-RIC office is responsible for administering AUC Grants. AP-RIC monitors the project for administrative and financial compliance with the Grant conditions. AP-RIC also scrutinizes Grant accounts to ensure timely use. Failure to expend funds in a timely manner may jeopardize eligibility for future AUC intramural grants.

ix. Reporting
a) Technical Report: Grantee shall submit Final Evaluation/Data/Reports using the online grants’ system. The final technical report is due within (30) days of the end of the Grant period, unless otherwise specified.
b) Financial Report: The final detailed expenditure report is due within (30) days of the end of the Grant period and will demonstrate use of grant funds as outlined in the annual project budget. Any uncommitted grant funds remaining shall be returned to AUC at the time the final report is submitted online. The financial reports should include proof of payments such as (but not limited to):
   - Proof of payment for any of the funded items stated in the Agreement, on the condition that they comply with the faculty support grants guidelines and that all receipts and invoices abide by the AUC policy and procedures.

Note: submission of all Final Reports of completed projects/grants is a prerequisite for any new intramural faculty support grant application.

The reports and their templates can be found at: http://www.aucegypt.edu/research/faculty-support-grants
➢ It is the responsibility of the grantee, with the help of the finance person at the grantee’s department, to provide all financial documents of each funded item and present them to AP-RIC Office in clarity.
➢ All faculty support grants abide by AUC policies and procedures.