



Possible FAQs for Research Grants Round- 3

Eligibility Questions:

- 1) What are the eligibility criteria?

Any faculty member/ researcher of a university or R&D organization across Pakistan working in areas related to our research priorities.

- 2) In the past I have received a grant from the USPCAS-AFS, can I apply again?

Principal Investigators (PIs) who have received a grant in one of the previous two rounds of USPCAS-AFS research are not eligible for funding in this round

- 3) Are applicants whose previous applications were turned down due to some reasons allowed to apply again?

Yes

- 4) Are there any conditions that must be met for my application to be considered?

- a. **Concept notes are to be submitted via email to: casafsgrants@uaf.edu.pk**
- b. **Application must be submitted following the guidelines and using the form downloaded from <http://uspcasafs.uaf.edu.pk/Grants.aspx>.**
 1. **Form requires that text be entered in Times New Roman, 12-font, double-spaced.**
 2. **Form limits the concept note to 4 pages maximum.**
 3. **Cover page must be filled in.**
 4. **Two-page CV must be attached.**
 5. **Letter (NOC) from authorized party must be attached.**

- 5) Are there any conditions under which my application may not be considered?

The application will not be considered if:

- **It is incomplete**
- **Does not use the current application form available at <http://uspcasafs.uaf.edu.pk/Grants.aspx>.**
- **Not directly submitted to casafsgrants@uaf.edu.pk**
- **Submitted to an individual or sent as hard copy**
- **Required supporting documents are not attached**
- **Received after the deadline**



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Application Procedure Questions:

- 1) Where can I find the application forms and other templates required to submit the application?

<http://uspcasafs.uaf.edu.pk/Grants.aspx>

- 2) Will I receive an acknowledgement that my application has been received?

The applications may only be submitted via email (casafsgrants@uaf.edu.pk) and will be duly acknowledged

- 3) What is contained in the complete application for the USPCAS-AFS research grant round 3?

- **A concept note on the designated, downloaded format**
- **A support letter (NOC) from an authorized authority.**
- **Two-page CV**

- 4) What are the steps involved in processing an application? Who will be involved?

The project proposals will be handled jointly by UCD and UAF. The concept notes will be screened at three levels

- **Review by an International Review Committee**
- **Review by University Steering Committee**
- **Review by UCD Collaborative Matching Committee**

- 5) Will you accept grant applications on themes/topics that are not mentioned in the RFA?

No

- 6) What is the deadline for the submission of the application?

April 30, 2017

- 7) Will resubmission of the application be allowed?

The applications may only be submitted once via email (casafsgrants@uaf.edu.pk) and will be duly acknowledged. Resubmissions are not allowed.

- 8) Is there any limit on the number of concept notes that can be submitted?

No, a researcher can submit more than once concept note.

- 9) Can I submit the paper copy/hard copy of my application? If so, to what address should I send to?

No, only concept notes submitted on-line will be considered.

- 10) What are the criteria against which an application will be evaluated?

- i. **How well the concept note addresses the stated research priorities.**



- ii. **How the research contributes to the development or delivery of solutions.**
- iii. **Technical and methodological merit**
- iv. **Potential of the project to succeed within the time limit of the proposed work.**

11) How long does it take to learn about whether my application has been selected or not?

You will be informed about the results of the first screening by mid-June, 2017

12) Will the applicant be informed whether his/her application has been selected?

Successful applicants will be informed via email as well as the surface mail.

13) What happens if my application gets selected?

If your application gets selected in the first screening, you will be invited to present your proposal to the USPCAS-AFS Steering Committee. This will be followed by match making of your proposal with a UCD/WSU scientist.

14) What is the process of notifying USPCAS-AFS about withdrawing an application?

The applicant can convey his/her withdrawal decision through the e-mail to the following contacts:

- **Grants Officer via Ph 0412409462-64, Email: saliha.ahmad@uaf.edu.pk**
- **Deputy Chief of Party via Ph 0412409462-64, Email: sultan@uaf.edu.pk**

15) Can I view a sample of a previously successful application?

It can be accessed via web through the following link

<http://uspcasafs.uaf.edu.pk/Grants.aspx>

16) Who can I contact if I need some assistance with my application preparation?

For further queries, please contact

- **Grants Officer via Ph 0412409462-64, Email: saliha.ahmad@uaf.edu.pk**
- **Deputy Chief of Party via Ph 0412409462-64, Email: sultan@uaf.edu.pk**

17) If I cannot submit my application on the posted deadline, can I request an extension? What is the USPCAS-AFS policy on the late submission?

There will be no extension in the deadline

18) Once I have submitted my application, can I check on its status? If so, who should I contact?

You will be informed about the first screening by mid-June 2017. If you are not informed by that date, you can contact Grants Officer via Ph 0412409462-64, Email:



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saliha.ahmad@uaf.edu.pk or Deputy Chief of Party via Ph 0412409462-64, Email: sultan@uaf.edu.pk

19) Am I allowed to make any changes to my application once it has been submitted?

You cannot change your initial concept once it has been submitted. However, if successful, you will be expected to improve (but not substantively change) it during joint proposal development stage.

20) Will I receive any feedback on my application if it gets rejected?

No, you will simply be informed via email that your application has not been accepted

Others:

1) How much funding will a selected research project receive?

Grants may receive funding up to be \$80,000, but researchers should seek funding only for that amount that is needed and justified in the accompanying budget proposal.

2) Where is the money for funding the research projects under USPCAS-AFS Round 3 coming from?

It is a joint project scheme between UAF and UCD with each party contributing as much as \$40,000

3) What is the duration of the USPCAS-AFS Round 3 research grants?

The duration may be from 6 months to 3 years

4) Can a grant be extended for a longer period of time than mentioned on the RFA?

No

5) What is your definition of “Institutionally Authorized Entity/Person”?

It normally means the head of institute but some organizations may have an alternate signatory for authorizing grant applications like Director of ORIC.