

International Immersion Experience Travel Award

Objective:-

The International Immersion Experience (IIE) program aims to facilitate highly motivated students who work on cutting edge research at IIT Madras to travel to a partner institution abroad. Some of the present day research activities require interdisciplinary research expertise that spans across the globe. International Immersion Experience (IIE) Travel Award is committed to providing partial financial support to students who can benefit from international exchanges. This award aims to push our best students beyond borders and increase their international research exposure. These visits will potentially improve the quality of the research outcome and the global standing of our institution.

As a part of the IIE Travel Awards 54 PhD scholars have been selected through a competitive proposal call in the year 2022. These awards will be based on the academic credentials of the student, the merit of the proposal, and the quality of the host lab. Since in many cases the support will be partial, the scholar is expected to demonstrate availability of remaining funds to take advantage of the IIE Travel Award. In a few cases of extremely meritorious students, complete support to a maximum amount may be provided.

Eligibility criteria

- (i) The research scholars who have completed their course work with a minimum CGPA of 8 are eligible to apply.
- (ii) The applicant is expected to have cleared their PhD comprehensive exam in their respective departments.
- (iii) Should have identified a collaborator abroad who works on complementary research (visit to an existing collaborator is allowed)
- (iv) Applicants should have obtained concurrences from their guide(s), HoD, and the supervisor at the host lab.
- (v) Host lab should be from a reputed university or research institute with a strong international standing.

Important information

- (i) Partial financial support is preferred from the applicant's supervisor at IITM.
- (ii) Partial stipend/scholarship is preferred from the host faculty.
- (iii) The awards are valid for ten months from the date of the issue.
- (iv) This award is established to cover the cost of living of the selected students during their stay at the host university.

- (v) The students are expected to couple their IIE visit with the international conference travel grant and use the travel grant to support travel expenses, visa, and insurance charges.
- (vi) A report highlighting the work carried out at the host lab must be submitted within two months from the date of return.
- (vii) The awardees are expected to make a poster presentation in the OGE IIE symposium to showcase the outcomes of their visit. The symposium is expected to happen after twelve months from the date of award announcement.
- (viii) Information regarding the publications/patents filed as outcomes of this collaboration must be submitted to OGE.

Application Procedure:-

- Submit form A (Biographic Information), form B (Statement of Purpose) & form C (Letter of Approval from supervisor & the HoD at IITM)
- Submit the acceptance /approval letter from the host faculty

Application Requirements:

- Valid proposal for the plan of work at the partner institution.
- Approval from the supervisor in the home institution.
- Letter of support from the faculty at the host institution.

Value of Award:-

- Up to Rs. 3 Lakhs (IIE Award from the institute)
- Additional Up to Rs. 1 Lakh (from the Alumni Travel Grant); however, combining the IIE travel grant with conference travel grant from IITM is highly recommended

Duration of Program:-

- The students are expected to spend a minimum of 45 days at the host lab.
- The IIE Travel Grant can be used for a maximum stay of 3 months in the host lab. If additional time at the host lab is planned, the funds for this has to be arranged by the student working with her/his guide.