



عمادة الاشراف والتنسيق البحثي
Deanship of Research Oversight and Coordination

Guidelines for Early Career Research Award

Established October 2018
(Updated January, 2022)

Deanship of Research Oversight and Coordination
King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals



Table of Contents

A. Preamble	2
B. Eligibility	2
C. Criteria for Awards	2
D. Nominations for the Award	2
E. Selection of the Candidate	3
F. Criteria for Numerical Ratings	3
G. Benefits	3
H. APPENDIX – I.....	4



A. Preamble

The primary function of the University is the creation, advancement and dissemination of knowledge. Thus a successful University provides fertile ground where knowledge is advanced. Through imaginative and relevant research, the faculty and researchers contributes to and provides leadership in the solution of many of the problems faced by society. It is a truism that the quality of teaching at the university, and the viability of its graduate programs are directly related to the quality of research and scholarship of its faculty/researcher. To reward research achievements and foster an environment in which significant and meaningful research can blossom, King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals has established an annual award to be bestowed to its faculty and researchers who has achieved excellence in research early in their academic careers under the KFUPM Early Career Research Award.

B. Eligibility

1. The candidate must be a professorial rank academic faculty or RI researcher at KFUPM and had his PhD conferred within Five (5) years from the date of applying for the award; out of these years, the faculty/researcher member must have served at least two continuous academic years at KFUPM.
2. The candidate should score a minimum of 100 points, according to the point system outlined in Appendix I.
3. A candidate may receive the award only once during his entire service at the University.

C. Criteria for Awards

The main criterion for the research awards shall be the quality and significance of research accomplished during his stay at KFUPM as per the eligibility and as evidenced by publications in reputed, refereed scientific and/or professional journals. Research grants, development of intramural research programs, R&D work, patents, design and planning of nationally and internationally recognized projects, and such shall, be taken into consideration. The evaluation criteria along with relative numerical ratings are shown in Appendix I. Candidates evaluate their own research performance using the criteria listed in Appendix I and compete for the award if they meet the minimum requirements. For the purposes of the award, research papers accepted for publication can be included for consideration.

D. Nominations for the Award

Faculty members and researchers may nominate themselves for the award. Nominations should be sent to the Chairman of the University Research Committee. For an applicant to be



eligible, he/she must score at least 100 points on the achievement criteria listed in Appendix I for work during service at KFUPM. The candidate must fill out application form.

E. Selection of the Candidate

The KFUPM Research Committee shall appoint an ad hoc committee representing the area of specialization with candidates from senior faculty members having outstanding research records. Each application shall be reviewed by one member from the applicant's department preferably from the same specialty as the applicant and concurred by ad hoc committee chairman. If the member is not in the area of specialization of the applicant, the member, as part of his review process, should consult with an expert from the area of specialization of the applicant.

The main task of the ad hoc committee is to evaluate the research output of each candidate as per the criteria specified in Appendix I. The committee shall critically review duplications of any research activity and eliminate credit claimed more than once for essentially the same activity. The committee must ensure the proper implementation of all aspects of the policy. The committee may request additional input from leading candidates. The top four candidates with the highest scores as per Appendix I will be nominated for the award. The final recommendations should be made in a meeting of the KFUPM Research Committee on the basis of recommendations of the ad hoc committee. If necessary, the chairman of the ad hoc committee may be asked to defend his committee's recommendations in a meeting of the Research Committee.

The Research Committee will forward its recommendations to the chairman of the Committee on Convocation, Honors, and Public Events (CHPE). The chairman of the CHPE will inform the faculty members/researcher selected for the research award, under intimation to the Dean/chairman concerned.

F. Criteria for Numerical Ratings

The most important objectives of these Research Awards are to encourage excellence and productivity in research from young researchers. These objectives are best demonstrated through original and significant research in the form of publications, books, patents, designs and planning projects and related academic output. The numerical ratings given in Appendix I are suggested while keeping the relative importance of various achievement criteria in view.

G. Benefits

Four (4) awards are granted every year to the top applicants satisfying the eligibility criteria and that awardee receives SR 5,000 cash prize, certification, and a plaque.



H. APPENDIX – I

Relative Numerical Rating

Credit for published research work is only for items published in eligible period with KFUPM affiliation, and activities during the service at University after beginning his/her professorial rank academic faculty or RI researcher position at KFUPM.

A. Research Quality and Impact	
1. Publications in ISI/Scopus-indexed journals and conferences	Points
Q1 Journal	10
Q2 Journal	8
Flagship conferences (A* or A)	3
Points for publications with multiple authors will be scaled by number of authors, first/corresponding author in papers earns 0.25 additional point.	
2. Citations	Points
Each citation of a journal or conference article/book, excluding self-citation, over the last 4 years will be given 0.5 point. Only work of last 8 years can be counted in citation. Citations of the candidate's work in MS or PhD thesis are not included. Only citations appearing in Scopus will be considered.	0.5
3. h5-index (number of articles cited at least h times over the last 5 years)	h5-index value

B. Research Productivity	
1. Research-Oriented Books or Volumes	Points
Author of research-oriented book (Graduate Level Research Oriented Books; May include graduate textbooks; Do not include dictionaries and undergraduate textbooks)	15
Editor of research-oriented book or volume	10
Author of Book Chapter of a research-oriented book or a monograph	5
2. Other Publications in ISI/Scopus-indexed journals and conferences	Points
Journal paper not Q1/Q2	5
Conference paper not flagship (A* or A)	1
3. Patents	Points
Issued patent	5
Points for authored books, or publications (or patents) with multiple authors (or inventors) will be scaled by number of contributors, first or corresponding author in papers earns 0.25 additional point. First author in an authored book obtains 1 additional point.	



C. Research Leadership	
1. External Funded Research Projects (ongoing/completed)	Points
Principle Investigator	6
Co-Investigator	5
2. Internal Funded Research Projects (ongoing/completed)	Points
Principle Investigator	4
Co-Investigator	3
3. MS Thesis and PhD Dissertations (ongoing/completed)	Points
Advisor or Co-advisor (per PhD Dissertation)	4
Advisor or Co-advisor (per MS Thesis)	2
Committee Member of Graduate Student	1
4. Overall Leadership and Recognition by professional societies Applicant will write a concise statement of approximately 100-200 words describing his/her major research achievements, their significance, and impact on knowledge in his field of research. Below are examples that might be considered by the ad hoc committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership in editorial boards • Organizing conferences/symposia • Being invited to deliver keynote speeches • Participation in International Conferences Scientific Committees • Development of Research Center and research laboratories at KFUPM • Serving on review boards, etc. • Consultancy to National and International Scientific Institutions. Points will be assigned by the ad-hoc committee based on the statement.	10
Total points under Research Leadership is capped to 50% of total points under Research Productivity and earned points in publications under A.1 Research Quality and Impact (both Sections A.1 and B).	