



UNIVERSITY OF EMBU

Call for the Vice-Chancellor's Research Grant to support University of
Embu's Postgraduate Scholarship Students

October 2026

Introduction

The University of Embu (UoEm) is committed to providing an enabling environment for research and development to all staff members and students. In alignment with the University's strategic commitment to postgraduate capacity development and research excellence, the Vice-Chancellor invites proposals to be submitted under the *Vice Chancellor's Grant Scheme* with explicit consideration of their direct contribution to the advancement of Postgraduate Research. The proposals must be under the supervision of a UoEm academic member of staff. The supervising Lecturer and Postgraduate Student shall be jointly accountable for the prudent and documented utilization of allocated funds, with progress and expenditure reports submitted at designated intervals. The inclusion of postgraduate researchers as active, funded collaborators rather than peripheral assistants shall serve as a key differentiator in the competitive assessment of proposals. This initiative seeks not only to advance discrete research projects, but to cultivate a new generation of scholar-practitioners equipped to competitively win grants.

Scope

Applications should clearly indicate how their research will address and/or fit within the University of Embu Strategic Plan, Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), Medium Term Plan 4 (MTP 4), Kenya Vision 2030, and specific United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The research proposals can be in any one of the following thematic areas.

1. Agriculture and Food Security
2. Natural Sciences
3. Business and Economics
4. Education and Social Sciences
5. Health Sciences
6. Legal Education
7. Vocational Training

General Guidelines to Grant Applications

- i. The University shall award grants for direct support of Postgraduate Research Activities to cover Essential Research Costs including but not limited to: Fieldwork, Laboratory Consumables, Data Collection Tools, and all other Discipline-Specific Research Expenditures Directly Tied to Thesis or Dissertation Work.
- ii. To be eligible for the Vice-Chancellor's Research Grant, applicants must be:-
 - a. full-time students enrolled under the UoEm postgraduate scholarship.

- b. Scholarship awardees from the 2025/2026 Academic Year in the research phase of their studies who can demonstrate good progress and justify their need for the research funds.
- c. Tutorial Fellows and Teaching Assistants who are at least in their second/third year of studies, can demonstrate good progress and can justify their need for the Research funds.
- iii. Successful grants will be processed through a teaching member of staff recommended by the Chairperson of the respective department and approved by the Vice-Chancellor. Preferentially, the designated teaching member of staff shall be the student's supervisor or, in special circumstances, another member of the respective department or school.
- iv. The level of funding will be up to KES. 200,000 for Masters students and KES 500,000 for PhD. students
- v. Applicants who have a similar project funded from other sources must justify their application for the UoEm Vice-Chancellor's Research Grant.
- vi. All investigators in a research team must give consent by signing the Research Proposal before submission
- vii. A researcher will be eligible to make only one application as Principal Investigator.

Application procedure

Applicants are required to submit a signed soft copy of the proposal, which should **not exceed 15 pages in times new Roman, font size 12, 1.5 spacing.**

The following are key dates in the application process

Application Stage	Date
Issuance date	5 th October 2026
Deadline for applications	16 th October 2026
Notification of results	2 nd November, 2026
Project Commencement	9 th November, 2026

Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.

Evaluation of Proposals

- i. All proposals received on or before the deadline will be evaluated against the Call requirements and plagiarism check done as per University policy.
- ii. Any proposal with a plagiarism level above 10% will not be processed further.

The verdict of the selection panel is final

Award of Grants

- i. Each successful applicant will be required to sign a *Grant Award Acceptance Letter* and a *Grant Registration Form*.
- ii. Successful applicants will also be invited to present their work in a workshop to be organized by Director of Research and Extension (DRE).
- iii. Recipients of the Internal Research Grant will be required to publish at least one (1) paper on the findings from the funded project in a reputable peer reviewed non-predatory journal within six (6) months of project closure.
- iv. The University will be at liberty to recover the funds disbursed if there is no publication from the research project after the six (6) months of the project closure.
- v. Any intellectual property (patents, innovations etc.) from the research will be co-registered with the University of Embu.

Monitoring and evaluation

The Directorate of Research and Extension will be responsible for monitoring and evaluation of the progress made in implementing the projects. Awardees are expected to adhere to the award guidelines in the acceptance letter.

Further information

For enquiries and clarifications, please contact the Directorate of Research and Extension through the contacts provided below:

Directorate of Research and Extension,
University of Embu,
P.O Box 6-60100,
Embu
Email: dre@embuni.ac.ke

Please send your proposal to:

Directorate of Research and Extension,
University of Embu,
P.O Box 6-60100,
Embu
Email: dre@embuni.ac.ke