ASNEngr Research and Development Grant – call for proposal

The American Society of Nepalese Engineers (ASNEngr) announces a research and collaboration grant open to anyone conducting engineering research or developmental work related to Nepal, either from academia or industry. However, the proposed research must be conducted under the supervision of a faculty member or the society's active member following the latest methods, tools, and techniques. We value collaboration with personally accountable individuals contributing to the greater good. Projects can be of any size - large or small, including but not limited to senior capstone projects, thesis, dissertation, pedagogies, or independent studies in any field of engineering and computer science. A faculty member must be the principal investigator (PI) for a proposal that involves graduate and undergraduate students.

Applicants can request either one or both technical and financial support. Technical support will be provided by our members with appropriate expertise in the related field voluntarily. The grant award will provide up to US$1,500 to applicants who are currently working on or would like to start research projects that align with the ASNEngr Research Agenda or any relevant topics. A project with high-impact results may be considered for a higher grant amount. Preference will be given to collaborative research that involves a combination of education (faculty and students) and industry partners. Allowable expenses include research or development equipment, software licenses, conference registration, field travel, membership, database & journal subscriptions, consumables, and stipends, etc.

Award recipients are expected to submit a final report and present their findings at the ASNEngr Annual Conference and, if possible, publish in a peer-reviewed engineering journal. ASNEngr may assign a sponsor to collaborate in the research work and administer the grant.

Proposal Format

Proposals must use 1-inch margins, 12-point font and single line spacing. The required proposal format is outlined below.

Title page (1 page)

Title of the proposed project, name, affiliation, and contact information for the Principal Investigator (PI) and co-Principal Investigators (co-PIs)

Proposed Research (up to 5 pages)

Rationale: Discussion of the technical background and engineering/scientific justification. This should include project objectives and the intellectual merit of the proposed work.

Research Plan: What exactly will be done? How will the objectives be met? What are the motivations, methods, likely outcomes, milestones, and future directions?

Timeline and deliverables: Describe the timeline and expected deliverables for the project (publications, demonstrations, intellectual property, etc.).

Letters of collaboration, if relevant, can be attached as an appendix (not included in the page count).

Bibliography/References (not included in the page count)

Budget: A detailed budget sheet must be included, followed by a budget justification.

Biosketch: up to 2 pages for each investigator

Proposal Submission

The proposal must be submitted via email to **rbhatta2@illinois.edu** no later than *Saturday, October 21, 2023*, 11:59 PM U.S. Eastern Time. All proposals must be submitted as a single PDF attachment to an email with the subject line ASNEngr Research and Development Grant.

Contact Information

If you have any questions, please contact the ASNEngr Technical Committee Chair, Rabin Bhattarai (email: rbhatta2@illinois.edu).

Application Review Process and Timeline

Proposals will be reviewed by the ASNEngr Technical Committee, composed of members from both academia and industry. After screening the applications, the committee may ask for more details before making a final selection. Award recipients will be notified of the selection decision by *October 31, 2023*. If selected, the applicants agree to the following:

- sign an agreement with ASNEngr representing their organization regarding the scope of work to be undertaken.
- submit a revised detailed work schedule to the ER subcommittee by *November 30, 2023*
- participate in the project kick-off (will be scheduled around mid-December) and other meetings, and submit semi-annual progress reports; the first report is due on *June 30, 2024*, and the subsequent semi-annual progress reports are due every six months thereafter
- submit a final report by *December 31, 2025* (or as agreed upon during the grant approval) and, if possible, publish at least one article in a peer-reviewed engineering journal (ASNEngr support should be acknowledged on the article)
- authorize ASNEngr to post the report on the ASNEngr website