



## Saudi Basic Science Initiative

Project-level Funding

### **Young Scholars Grant (YSG)**

Call For Proposal

Stable and Sustainable R&D Funding

# Saudi Basic Science (SBS) Initiative for Project-level Funding

## Young Scholars Grant (YSG)

### About Saudi Basic Science Initiative

The Saudi Basic Science (SBS) is a multi-track Initiative of the Research, Development, and Innovation Authority (RDIA) to support basic and fundamental science research activities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). Designed with the broader goal of creating economic, societal, and environmental impact, the initiative seeks to contribute to the development of the research ecosystem continuum. This initiative aims to foster scientific excellence and promote innovation in basic scientific research, ultimately leading to significant breakthroughs and advancements across the four areas of the national research and innovation priorities. The funding provided through the initiative targets efforts that will expand the pool of national talented researchers, stimulate their participation in areas that will lead to breakthroughs in targeted fields, and enable them to pursue their scientific activities and ideas at the early stages of discovery at the Technology Readiness Level (TRL).

### Goals and Objectives

Young Scholars Grant (YSG) is dedicated to nurturing and empowering the next generation of national research leaders. As a competitive funding track under the SBS initiative, **the grant awards funds of up to SAR 1,500,000 over a period of 5 years**. Through this grant, early-career researchers with promising potential and innovative scientific ideas will compete for funding to pursue research, develop expertise, and advance in their fields. By investing in this pool of talent, the grant aims to cultivate a vibrant community of future research leaders who will make significant contributions to their respective fields and the wider research community. The research output of successful proposals should contribute to addressing one or more of the four areas of the national research priorities. In summary, the grant will:

- **Support** diverse research fields, encourage researchers to pursue groundbreaking research
- **Provide** project-based funding for fundamental research in the KSA
- **Develop** the scientific talent and skills of young scholars
- **Enable** researchers to contribute to the advancement of knowledge and the scientific community
- **Assist** in the career development of new researchers
- **Encourage** early-career researchers to pursue a career in RDI

**Core activities in the TRL:** Discovery stage TRL 1–3 (for TRL definitions, refer to the grant guidelines document)

### Applicant Eligibility

Applicants should meet the following criteria:

- Applicant must have received their doctoral degrees within five years of this application (i.e., postdoctoral fellow or junior faculty), or those who are away from research (evidence should be provided), or have not published at least one journal paper in the last three years
- Applicant must be from a university, research center, ministry, corporation, or company across KSA
- Applicant can only apply for one project as a Principle Investigator
- Applicant should be able to understand and distinguish between the different stages of the TRL

## Focus Areas

The grant will consider proposals in any subarea of the four main areas of the national research priorities for RDI. These focus areas have been identified to help guide research, development, and innovation (RDI) efforts across the Kingdom to address short-, medium-, and long-term needs and challenges. The four areas are as follows (for additional details, please check the grant's guidelines):

1. Health and Wellness
2. Sustainability and Essential Needs
3. Energy and Industrials
4. Economies of the Future

## Terms and Conditions

1. This grant is subject to the RDIA's policies and national regulations for research grants that govern all award personnel and activities.
2. All applicants should comply with the grant's guidelines.
3. Proposals must not duplicate or have significant overlap with existing grants.
4. Applicants must provide information on their CVs about ongoing grants and grants awarded after receiving a doctoral degree, if any.
5. The final grant amount may differ from the requested amount based on review recommendations and availability of funds.
6. All applicant institutions must have a science and technology unit (STU)<sup>1</sup> to manage the grant cycle.

## Important Dates

Grant Announcement	30-Aug-2023
Deadline to Submit the Proposal	30-Sep-2023
To submit your application, please visit the link: <a href="https://rdia.gov.sa/grants">https://rdia.gov.sa/grants</a>	

For additional details on the grant, regulations, and policies, please refer to the grant guidelines.  
For the proposal template, kindly refer to the template document.

## Contact Information

For application enquiries, such as eligibility queries, budget preparation questions, or technical issues with the portal, please contact:

[GRANTS-INFO@rdia.gov.sa](mailto:GRANTS-INFO@rdia.gov.sa)

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<sup>1</sup> The STU is an independent unit that supervises the plans and follow-up of strategic programs and projects related to scientific and technical activities at the institution.