

Indo-U.S. Bilateral Workshops/Symposia/Conferences & Training Schools

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What are the types of bilateral programs that are supported by IUSSTF?

Workshops/ Symposia/ Conferences: Indo-US bilateral activities that aim at dissemination of information and creating awareness through substantive interactions between Indian and American scientists and researchers from academia, laboratories and industry with the explicit aim to develop sustained linkages. The proposals are to be designed around a theme of common interest that has a high potential for generating follow-up activities.

Training Program/ Advanced Schools: To enhance scientific knowledge and awareness through a devised pedagogical course including conducted practical classes by assimilating a mix of faculties and trainees from both countries. The proposal is to be designed around a theme of common interest that has a high potential for generating follow-up activities.

2. What would be the review process for the submitted proposal?

The Proposal received would be reviewed on basis of exhaustive peer-reviews conducted both in India and United States towards Award. The final shortlisting takes several factors into consideration in addition to peer review, such as encouraging new groups as well as topics, background of Indian and US investigators as well as proposed speakers, perceived advantage(s) for both Indian and US sides, potential for developing mutually advantageous collaboration, etc. Theselected proposals are announced on the IUSSTF website and the PI's are also informed via electronic mail.

3. How many minimum partnering institutions are required for proposal submission? Can there be more than 2 partnering institutions from both countries?

Each proposal should have one Indian and one US partnering institution. A proposal can however have more than two partners on each side. E.g. Lead Principal Investigator (PI) and Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI).

4. Can there be partners from Industry in the proposal?

Faculty/ scientists/ researchers from all science and technology disciplines working at Indian and American institutions can be partners to the proposal. However, if it is a partnership between Academia-Industry; no travel support will be extended to Industry participants.

5. Can there be partners from countries other than the United States of America in the proposal?

IUSSTF supports only **bilateral (Indo-US)** activities, events, and initiatives that promote interactions between the scientific and research communities in India and the US.

6. What is the nature of funding in case the submitted proposal is awarded?
- International and Domestic Airfare (by economy excursion class & shortest route not exceeding prescribed limits)
 - Visa fees
 - Accommodation
 - Other event costs

7. Is there any guidance on the maximum budget/extent of funding?

After a highly competitive evaluation process, IUSSTF offers partial support to a small number of workshops due to availability of limited funds. The extent of funding is around **INR 10-12 lakhs (disbursement as per IUSSTF guidelines)**. Applicants are welcome to approach other funding agencies for additional funding.

8. How will domestic/international travel be taken care of?

The international/domestic tickets **by economy excursion class and shortest route (from participant's parent institution to event venue & back)** are facilitated by IUSSTF Travel Desk. The PI's need to contact the Travel Desk (traveldes@indousstf.org) at least 2 months before the date for travel. The tickets would be booked accordingly. No reimbursements are permissible.

9. How will the grant fund be disbursed?

The grant fund will be released to the **Lead Indian** partnering institution.

10. Would the funds cover indirect costs regarding reimbursement of administrative expenses?

The heads of expenditures covered under the grant will be strictly as per the budget format. **IUSSTF does not provide financial support for any items of expenditure (e.g. Overheads, indirect costs)** which are not mentioned in the budget format.

11. What about the protection of intellectual property (IP)?

Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) are subject to Annex I- Intellectual Property (IPR Annex) of the Agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of

India (S&T Agreement,2005), the respective standard IPR provisions of the Parties to the extent it is not in contravention with the IPR annex.

12. We understand the proposal should be no more than 25 pages. However, what is the word limit for the individual headers?

There aren't any specified word limits, but the proposal should be restricted to minimum words. The proposal should be well defined and concise.

13. How should the proposal be submitted?

The proposal needs to be submitted by email jointly by both PIs i.e either the U.S or Indian PI should submit the proposal to IUSSTF (program@indousstf.org and mcheetha@aaas.org) with a copy to the other PI and Co-PI's. No hard copies are required.

Please note that IUSSTF reserves the right to adapt its policies and priorities over time, depending on circumstances. Revisions to these FAQs may be posted at a later date.