

PRAYAS Guidelines - Eligibility

NIDHI- PRAYAS Program as the scheme suggest is to help – young and aspiring innovators. The focus is to provide support/funding from idea to prototype. This grant, therefore, will primarily be utilised by the innovators to convert their ideas into prototype.

It cannot, however, be used for supporting:-

- Any institute/organization to develop an IP into prototype.
- Any innovators working/pertaining to an institute/organization for converting their IP into prototype.
- Any idea which is part of academic research work carried out at the institute/personal level.
- Any idea that is developed into prototype where the IP could vest with any institute/organization.

Guidelines for PRAYAS support

1. NIDHI PRAYAS program will provide funding support for converting innovative ideas into prototypes.
2. The eligibility criteria for the grantees are as follows
 - A. **Individual innovator:** He/ She is required to be Indian Citizen at least 18 years of age as on date of application. An Indian citizen is defined as one who is in possession of a government approved proof of nationality such as a valid passport, voter's id etc.
 - B. **Existing incubatee** of a PRAYAS centre:-
 - a) The company is **less than 2 years** and wants to develop the prototype for a new product, for which they may have **not received similar kind of support**.
 - b) Company should have **no significant revenue** at the time of application.
 - C. **Team of individual innovator:** If the team wants to pursue the project, then there has to be **an agreement among the team** about the lead applicant and the **lead applicant have to apply** for NIDHI-PRAYAS. The **financial support** (after the selection process) will be given **to the lead applicant on behalf of the team**.

Not eligible for PRAYAS:

- A. **Student** applicants pursuing **long term research** projects like doctoral research projects **or similar** projects will not be supported
 - B. **Professors or Academicians** engaged in teaching with any academic or R&D institute.
3. The **priority areas** for supporting innovations under NIDHI PRAYAS program are manufacturing, agriculture, healthcare, clean-tech, energy, water and Internet of Things (IOT) and other technology areas.
 4. The projects relating to **software** development and those involving **pure academic research** are **not eligible**.
 5. **Preference** may be given to those innovators
 - A. Who have **bootstrapped** or have **got co-investment commitment**.
 - B. Who have **clear road map for commercialization** or **start up creation**.
 - C. **Women** innovators
 - D. **Young** innovators

Signature of the Innovator(s) with date

6. The **maximum** support can be provided per innovator/incubatee is upto **Rs.10 lakhs**.
7. If the **innovator is pursuing to build a prototype from their institute/organization IP**, then in that case innovator will take **NOC from** the appropriate authority of their **institute/organisation for use/IP transfer / ownership in favour of the innovator/startup**.
8. If the **applicant is studying /working in an institute/organization**, they should get a **no objection certificate from that respective institute/organization** for applying to NIDHI PRAYAS.
9. The NIDHI-PRAYAS **grantee should be registered for the pre-incubation or incubation program** at the TBI for the entire duration of the program, after going through the TBI's selection process.
10. NIDHI-PRAYAS **grantee should be fully committed to work towards the prototype development** for which the support is being sought and **should not treat this as a stop gap arrangement** to support any other pursuits.
11. The **innovator can avail** the NIDHI-PRAYAS support **only once** and they **should not have sought the similar support previously**, from other Government of India organisation / Institution for the same innovative concept as proposed in the application form.

Guidelines for Use of funds by the PRAYASEE

Can be used for

- Outsourcing Charges for R&D/ Design Engg/ Consultancy/ Testing/ Expert cost
- Raw material/ Consumables/ Spares
- Fabrication / Synthesis charges of working model or process
- Business Travel and Event participation Fees (Ceiling 10% of approved project cost)
- Patent filing Cost – (PCT - Ceiling 10% of approved project cost)
- Contingency - (Ceiling 10% of approved project cost)

Cannot be used for

- To pay the grantee/relatives.
- To pay usage charges to the TBI*
- To repay loans/ commitments made earlier.
- To pay rent of own accommodation, creation of infrastructure facility like shed, etc should not form the component of support/funds.

* Subject to conditions of PC-TBI@KEC

The outcome of innovators project supported should be of any of the following:

- ❖ Should have the **working prototype within 18 months**
- ❖ Progress towards **IP filing**, commercialization in form of **licensing or Start up**
- ❖ **Funding / Investment received**
- ❖ Expression of **interest from manufacturers**

Signature of the Innovator(s) with date