

NIDHI- PRAYAS

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.

Therefore, **it cannot** 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**.

1. All applicants for NIDHI-PRAYAS support grant will **apply as per the application format of PRAYAS - Individual Innovator Application form. Project period: 18 months**
2. **Eligible criteria** for the grantees (PRAYASEES) are as follows
 - A. **Individual innovator: Indian Citizen at least 18 years of age on 1st of August, 2016.**
 - B. **Team of individual innovator: There has to be an **agreement among the team** about the **lead applicant** and the **lead applicant have to apply**. The **financial support** (after the selection process) will be **given to the lead applicant on behalf of the team**.**
 - C. **Existing incubatee** of a PRAYAS centre:-
 - i. 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**.
 - ii. Company **should have no significant revenue** at the **time of application**.
- **Not eligible for PRAYAS: (ref- 7 & 8 for exemption)**
 - 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 **project should involve physical product development**. The projects relating to software development and those involving **pure academic research** and students pursuing long term research projects like **doctoral research projects** or similar projects **are not eligible**.
5. **Preference** may be given **to** those innovators
 - ✓ Who have **bootstrapped** or have got **co-investment** commitment.
 - ✓ Who have **clear road map** for **commercialization** or **start up creation**.
 - ✓ **Women** innovators
 - ✓ **Young** innovators
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 **NOC** 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.

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

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