



Bahria University College of Medicine, Islamabad

Policy on Research Elective Projects for Students

Introduction

Bahria University College of Medicine (BUCM) is committed to fostering a research-oriented mindset among its students. The Research Elective Project (REP) policy aims to provide students with structured opportunities to engage in research activities, enhancing their analytical skills, knowledge, and contribution to medical science.

Objectives

- To develop critical thinking and research skills among medical students.
- To provide practical experience in designing, conducting, and analyzing research.
- To encourage the application of evidence-based practices in medical education and healthcare.
- To facilitate contributions to medical literature and advancements in healthcare.

Eligibility

- The Research Elective Project is open to all medical students in their pre-final and final years.
- Students must be in good academic standing to apply for a research elective.

Application Process

1. Proposal Submission:

- Students must submit a research proposal outlining their intended project, including objectives, methodology, and expected outcomes.



- Proposals must be submitted to the Research Committee for approval at least three months before the intended start date.

2. **Approval Process:**

- The Research Committee will review proposals based on scientific merit, feasibility, and ethical considerations.
- Feedback and required modifications will be communicated to the student within four weeks of submission.
- Approved projects will receive a formal letter of approval from the Research Committee.

Project Supervision

- Each student must have a faculty supervisor (Research Mentor) who is responsible for guiding and mentoring throughout the research project.
- Supervisors must be full-time faculty members with relevant research experience.
- The supervisor will assist in refining the research question, methodology, data collection, and analysis.

Conducting the Research

1. **Duration:**

- The research elective project should be conducted over a minimum of six weeks and a maximum of twelve weeks.

2. **Ethical Compliance:**

- All research projects must comply with BUCM's ethical guidelines.
- Students must obtain ethical approval from the Institutional Review Board (IRB) before commencing any data collection involving human subjects.

3. **Resources:**

- BUCM will provide access to necessary resources such as laboratory facilities, library access, and statistical software.



Reporting and Evaluation

1. Interim Report:

- Students must submit an interim report halfway through the project duration to their supervisor and the Research Committee.

2. Final Report:

- Upon completion, students must submit a detailed final report including introduction, methodology, results, discussion, and conclusion sections.
- The final report should also include any challenges faced and how they were addressed.

3. Presentation:

- Students are required to present their research findings in a seminar organized by the Research Committee.
- The presentation should include an overview of the project, key findings, and implications for future research or practice.

4. Evaluation:

- The final report and presentation will be evaluated by a panel of faculty members.
- Evaluation criteria include scientific rigor, originality, clarity of presentation, and adherence to ethical standards.

Recognition and Publication

- Students who successfully complete their research projects will receive a certificate of completion.
- Exceptional projects may be nominated for awards or recognition at BUCM's annual research symposium.
- Students are encouraged to publish their findings in peer-reviewed journals or present at national/international conferences.



Support and Resources

- **Workshops and Training:** BUCM will offer workshops on research methodology, data analysis, and scientific writing.
- **Funding:** Limited funding may be available for research projects, subject to approval and availability.

Conclusion

The Research Elective Project policy at Bahria University College of Medicine is designed to enhance the research capabilities of our students, preparing them for careers as knowledgeable, competent, and research-oriented medical professionals. By engaging in research, students will contribute to the advancement of medical science and improve healthcare outcomes.

Approved by: Head of Research (Senior Prof. Dr. Wafa Omer)

Date: 20-5-2024

Reviewed by: Research Advisory Committee

Date: 20-5-2024

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it meets the evolving needs of students and aligns with the strategic goals of Bahria University College of Medicine.