

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the procedure to apply for the Research Productivity Award – 2017?

Please visit <http://pcst.org.pk/rpaps2017> to create and submit online application.

2. Do I need to update my user profile?

If you are already registered with the PSP/RPA online system and intend to apply for the RPA-2017 or PSP, please do review/update your profile by selecting appropriate option to be considered for the RPA/PSP.

3. How can I update my user profile?

After signing in, you'll be directed moved to the User Profile Section. However, if not please access the 'Edit User profile' link available on the top left section of the PSP/RPA Online Application.

4. I forgot my password.

Please click on 'Forgot Password' link in login window. Please be patient as it may take a few minutes before you receive the login information via your email account registered in the online system. If you do not receive your password within 24 hours then kindly send us password recovery request at our email address pcst.psp@gmail.com.

5. What are the different research parameters and period of research will be considered for the RPA.

Applicant's research contributions of the year 2016 under different research areas (such as publications, patents, published/edited books, PhDs supervised, crop varieties, external research grants etc.) will be considered except for the citations, medical/engineering applied research output, where three years period (i.e. 2014 to 2016) is considered.

6. I have published book through a Pakistani Publisher. Will it be considered?

Please note that as per revised RPA/PSP criteria books published/edited by authentic international publisher will only be considered. Books published by unauthentic publishers such as VDM or Lambert Academic Publishing (LAP) will be removed from applicants profile during the verification phase.

7. I do not have an ISBN for my book. What shall I do?

You can either search ISBN number printed on back of your book or you can search it through the publisher's online link.

8. I have a local patent with a patent Number issued by IPO. Will it be considered?

For RPA, a local patent granted in the year 2016 and listed in IPO Patents Granted List - 2016 will only be considered. List IPO patents granted by IPO during 2016 can be viewed at:

<http://www.ipo.gov.pk/ipo.php?do=MzQx>

All those patents which are accepted only and are allotted patent number but are not listed in above given list will not be considered as they may still be pending for "GRANTED STATUS".

For PSP all patents granted by IPO, upto year 2016 are being considered.

9. I do not have university notification for PhD I supervised. What to do?

Please ask your university's concerned department to provide you with the provisional notification letter. No PhD Supervision will be considered unless and until university notification clearly indicating year of qualifying the degree is provided.

10. Are there any points for PhD Co-supervision?

Yes, points will also be granted for PhD Co-supervision.

11. I am member of a PhD committee. Shall I be considered as a supervisor of a PhD.

PhD supervision points will be granted to main supervisor and co-supervisor only.

12. I won a research grant in 2014 but the grant amount was released in 2016. Will it be considered?

For RPA, grants approved in 2016 will only be considered. All those grants which were approved in previous years (Before 2016) and even its first or later instalments were released in 2016 will not be considered for RPA. Please do not enter such grants as these will be removed from your profile during verification phase, if you are applying for RPA only.

However if you are applying for PSP as well, then enter all those grants which were approved in year 2016 or before as for PSP we are accepting life time research output.

13. I do not have cheque copy to be sent to you as proof of the grant I won. What shall I do?

Please send us attested copy of grant approval letter only.

14. I do not have grant approval letter as proof of the grant I won. What shall I do?

No grant will considered in case of absence of attested copy of grant approval letter.

15. Will Awards be considered?

Awards, both national and International, will be considered for PSP only.

16. I have international publication with foreign address. Will it be considered?

International publication with foreign address only, will be considered for PSP only. However international publications with both a foreign and a Pakistani address will be considered both for RPA and PSP. Please send us an email at pcst.psp@gmail.com in case you don't find your article(s) in uploaded list.

17. I have an International publication with dual addresses i.e. a foreign and a Pakistani. Will it be considered for RPA and PSP?

Dual addresses papers with a foreign and a Pakistani address will be considered both for RPA and PSP. If you do not find your desired article in our uploaded list please send us a query at pcst.psp@gmail.com.

18. Do I need to enter/update research publications for the year 2016 only, for the RPA?

Please note that as per revised criteria, period of citation has been increased from one to three years. So you need to enter / update your research publications made in the years 2014 to 2016. However if you are applying for PSP also, then enter/update your life long research publication till 2016.

19. Am I required only to enter the publications data for 2016 only in the online applications form?. ?

For the Research Productivity Award (RPA)– 2017 you are required to enter information about your medical/engineering applied research outputs and research articles published in the years 2014 to 2016 while for the rest of research parameters such as published/edited books, patents, research grants, PhD supervision etc. enter data of the 2016 only. In case of directory of Productive Scientists of Pakistan (PSP) lifelong research contributions is required to be entered. Research Publications of the year 2017 are not being considered for the current cycle of RPA & PSP.

20. I have a research article published in Pakistani journal. Will it be considered?

All articles published in peer reviewed Pakistani journals and indexed in Journal Citation Reports will be considered for PSP and RPA. If you do not find your desired paper in our uploaded list please send us a query at pcst.psp@gmail.com.

21. I do not have an online/web link for any specific entry. What shall I do?

In case of non-availability of weblink, please provide proof / evidence of your credentials to PCST through mail / courier etc. In absence of proof / evidence we will be constrained to consider your credentials as NIL.

22. Do you divide impact factor by number of contributing authors?

As per latest revision of RPA, we'll divide impact factor by number of contributing authors. The impact factor as given in JCRs published by ISI Thomson Reuters/Web of Knowledge will be used for the purpose.

23. Will you please advise whether I have to apply fresh or additional achievements I made up till now?

Please do review your Fresh additional achievements for the period specified will be required / to be provided at your end.

24. What is the last date to apply for Research Productivity Award?

The last date to apply for the RPA – 2017 is 1st October, 2017.

25. What hard proofs are required along with the application?

Except for the claimed research parameters where online link is available and provides clear details justifying your position as contributing researcher, you'll be required to provide hard copies of the documentary proof for the claimed research contributions. However if you are already registered in PSP/RPA System, and have sent us the required proofs during the recently concluded exercise of Directory of Productive Scientists of Pakistan, please send proofs for newly entered data, only.

26. Do I need to send you hard copy of application form and what's procedure?

Definitely, hardcopy of application form, properly attested by head of organization/ department, along with all required proofs should be sent to PCST through proper channel.

27. I have an agricultural variety. What kind of proof is required for it?

For agricultural variety the applicant needs to send us Provincial Committee's "Minutes of the Meeting" clearly indicating approval of crop variety and year of meeting and proof that applicant is one of the breeders. In absence of proof / evidence we will be constrained to consider your credentials as NIL.

28. Is there any consideration for the Engineering Designs and Medical Research Outputs?

Yes both Engineering Designs and Medical Research Output will be considered alongside Approved Crop Varieties. You can enter information about your research outputs in such areas in the "Applied Research Output" Section of the online RPA system.