

Sree Sakthi Engineering College

An Autonomous Institution

Karamadai, Coimbatore 641 104.



Research Policy



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Vision & Mission

Vision

To emerge as a center of excellence in engineering education, research, innovation, and entrepreneurship by fostering industry collaboration, practical skills, and ethical values, thereby empowering students to address global challenges with creativity, sustainability, and social responsibility.

Mission

To nurture competent professionals and future leaders through learner-centric, innovative teaching and experiential learning practices.

To cultivate a scientific temperament that empowers students to provide sustainable solutions to real-world problems.

To promote ethical values, social responsibility, and inclusive development through holistic education.

To create a dynamic research ecosystem by building strong collaborations with industry, academia, and research institutions.

To encourage entrepreneurship through structured support systems, incubation centers, and start-up development initiatives.



Sree Sakthi Engineering College, Coimbatore, gives utmost importance to encouraging the scholars and faculty members to conduct research by adopting specific codes, rules, and policies relating to research ethics which are as follows:

Honesty

Honesty and fairness must be upheld throughout the planning, execution, and reporting of research. Researchers are expected to present data, results, methods, procedures, and publication status truthfully. Any form of data fabrication, falsification, or misrepresentation is considered unethical.

Objectivity

Objectivity emphasizes maintaining impartiality toward the subject of study, ensuring that research findings are shaped by the evidence rather than the researcher's personal beliefs, values, or preferences. Researchers should make every effort to minimize bias in experimental design, data analysis and interpretation, peer review, personnel decisions, grant writing, expert testimony, and all other aspects of the research process.

Integrity

Integrity applies to both research institutions and the individuals within them. For researchers, it reflects moral character and professional experience, while institutions are responsible for fostering an environment that promotes responsible conduct by upholding standards of quality, reliability, and legitimacy.

Carefulness

Carefulness refers to exercising caution throughout the research process to prevent avoidable errors. Researchers should continually review their work to ensure accuracy, reliability, and credibility of results. When acting as peer reviewers, they are expected to perform their duties diligently, with no negligence or disregard in identifying and correcting mistakes.

Openness

Openness involves a willingness to share data, results, and newly developed tools when publishing research in order to advance knowledge. Researchers should also be receptive to criticism and open to new and innovative ideas.

Respect for Intellectual Property

Respect for intellectual property requires avoiding the use of others' work without proper acknowledgment. Since plagiarism can lead to serious consequences, researchers should seek permission before using others' tools, methods, unpublished data, or results. They must also respect copyright and patent laws and develop a clear understanding of intellectual property rights.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality requires giving the highest priority to information shared in confidence. Researchers must follow established guidelines to safeguard sensitive data and protect confidential communications, including materials submitted for publication or grants, as well as trade, military, or other protected information.

Responsible Publication

Responsible publication means sharing research findings to advance knowledge and improve research quality, rather than solely for personal career advancement. Research contributions should ultimately benefit society and the broader scientific community.

Responsible Mentoring

Responsible mentoring involves educating, guiding, and advising students while supporting their well-being and independence. Mentors should conduct research responsibly and competently to set a positive example for future researchers. They are also responsible for clearly communicating expectations, fostering open communication, and establishing structured timelines to help scholars or trainees achieve specific goals.

Legality

Know and obey relevant laws and institutional and governmental policies.

Plagiarism Check

Plagiarism check is another important focus that the Institute insists for **all the UG/ PG/ Ph.D. levels. Before all report's submission, must be checked for plagiarism as per UGC guidelines.**

The plagiarism score sheet and similarity index must be included in all reports at the end with authentication.

Institute **encourages various departments to conduct workshops on research methodology**, where ethics in research is an integral part of the workshops. Awareness is also created for faculty members by **inviting talks on ethics in research**. Ethics in research is also taught to Ph.D. research scholars as part of their course work, where ethics is an essential part of course work.

Constitution of Research Ethics Committee

The Research Ethics Committee shall consist of the following members, namely:

President – The Principal

Member Secretary – Head / Research Coordinator

All Research Advisory Council (RAC) Member (s) nominated by the President

- The Institutional Academic Integrity Panel (IAIP) consists of the Principal as President, the Head/Research Coordinator as Member Secretary, and all Research Advisory Committee (RAC) members nominated by the President. This committee, constituted by the President, will function for a period of two years and will oversee all activities related to research and development publications.
- All faculty members are instructed to obtain prior approval from the RAC before submitting their research work—such as journal articles, book chapters, or books—for publication using Sree Sakthi Engineering College as the affiliation. Research submitted without proper permission will not be counted toward official publication targets, and the concerned authors must provide a valid explanation to the RAC.
- To evaluate the originality and quality of research manuscripts, a Turnitin-based plagiarism check must be conducted using facilities available at the Central Library. Only manuscripts with a plagiarism level below 10% should be submitted to the RAC. Authors must complete a consent form detailing manuscript information, plagiarism percentage, and the intended journal or publication platform. Any comments or suggestions provided by RAC members must be carefully addressed by the authors.
- After incorporating the RAC's feedback, authors are required to resubmit the revised documents along with the updated plagiarism report. Once RAC clearance is obtained, authors may proceed with submission to the selected journal and must periodically update the RAC on the manuscript's progress. Any editorial or reviewer comments received must be shared with the RAC, and the same review and resubmission process should be followed accordingly.

- All faculty members must obtain prior approval from the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) before submitting research work—such as journal articles, book chapters, or books—using Sree Sakthi Engineering College as the institutional affiliation. Publications submitted without RAC permission will not be included in the official target count, and the authors must provide a valid explanation to the RAC.
- To ensure the originality and quality of research manuscripts, a Turnitin-based plagiarism check must be carried out using the facilities available in the Central Library. Only manuscripts with a plagiarism level below 10% may be submitted to the RAC. Authors are required to complete a consent form that includes manuscript details, the plagiarism percentage, and the intended journal or publication platform. Any comments or suggestions provided by RAC members must be carefully addressed by the authors.
- After revising the manuscript based on RAC feedback, authors must resubmit the updated documents along with the revised plagiarism report. Once RAC clearance is obtained, authors may proceed with submission to the chosen journal and are required to periodically report the manuscript's progress to the RAC. Any feedback received from editors or reviewers must be shared with the RAC, and the same review and resubmission process must be followed.

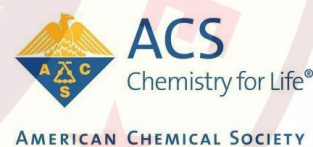
- During the review process, if any RAC member inappropriately suggests adding their name as an author without valid contribution, the matter must be reported to the President for further necessary action.
- Research manuscripts should generally include no more than three authors with equal contributions, and single-author submissions are encouraged by the RAC. In the case of converting final-year projects into manuscripts, a maximum of five authors is permitted (for example, one supervisor and three or four UG project members, as per regulations). The inclusion of unnecessary authors or granting authorship as a favor is strictly prohibited and will be treated as a serious offense, with appropriate action taken by the RAC.
- Authors are strongly advised not to pay any Article Processing Charges (APCs) to journals without the prior knowledge and approval of the RAC. Any collaboration involving monetary benefits with colleagues or staff from other institutions to publish research articles is considered unethical and will result in necessary disciplinary action.
- Only conference submissions associated with institutions ranked within the top 100 of the 2022 NIRF rankings are encouraged. An upgraded journal version of such conference papers will be counted for only one Scopus target. Authors must submit the required details to the RAC and obtain prior approval before submitting to the conference portal
- For Ph.D. research publications, the scholar must be listed as the first author, with the supervisor as the second author. The corresponding author may be decided through mutual agreement. Assigning first authorship to the supervisor is discouraged and will be regarded as unethical conduct, subject to serious review.
- For all research submissions, proper permission must be obtained from the RAC before submitting to the Journal; if any foreign collaborative research-based publication is

Initiated means that the RAC appreciates the faculty effort and will consider the case and recommend submitting the PDF generated by the manuscript submission portal.

- An Authors' Published Research Article Database will be created and updated regularly. The RAC encourages faculty members to cite relevant institutional research in their manuscripts to enhance overall citation metrics. During submission to the RAC, authors are encouraged to highlight or bold cited articles for quick verification and are recommended to include a minimum of six research references in each manuscript.
- While submitting manuscripts to the RAC, authors are required to align their research with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030, making this mapping mandatory.
- Authors are encouraged to use software tools such as EDRAW MAX and ORIGIN to create innovative and trend-aligned figures and graphs instead of traditional presentation styles. Full software versions may be procured for RAC use upon prior request, if necessary.
- If bibliometric or analytical information is required from SciVal, authors should approach the RAC, and the necessary data will be provided.
- All faculty members are requested to maintain an up-to-date Google Scholar profile with public visibility and Sree Sakthi Engineering College as the affiliation. Faculty should also verify their Scopus profiles for correct affiliation and publication details. In addition, faculty members are encouraged to create and actively maintain a ResearchGate account by engaging with relevant research and researchers worldwide.

- To inculcate quality publication forum in Sree Sakthi Engineering College, **Research Articles published with more than a 3.0 Impact factor will be rewarded**, and the SSEC faculty must be the First or Second Author.
- Published research articles (First page) for every Academic Year will be organized as per department and will be published as Digest Research Forum Special Issues.
- It is proposed to conduct Publication Seminar Series to present and share the ideas/ views of quality research articles published by faculty members with an impact factor of > 2 every month.

Preferred Publication Journal Platforms (Research Articles/ Book Chapters)



S. No.	Designation	SCI / ESCI	Scopus
1.	Professor	ONE (with impact factor > 3 only in Elsevier, Springer, ACS, RSC, Taylor & Francis, Wiley, Sage, ASME)	TWO (with or without impact factor only in Elsevier, Springer, ACS, RSC, Taylor & Francis, Wiley, Sage, ASME)
		First or Second Author	First or Second Author
2.	Associate Professor	ONE (with impact factor > 2 only in Elsevier, Springer, ACS, RSC, Taylor & Francis, Wiley, Sage, ASME)	TWO (with or without impact factor only in Elsevier, Springer, ACS, RSC, Taylor & Francis, Wiley, Sage, ASME)
		First or Second Author	First or Second Author
3.	Assistant Professor (> 3 years of experience)	Preferably ONE (with or without impact factor only in Elsevier, Springer, ACS, RSC, Taylor & Francis, Wiley, Sage, ASME)	TWO (with or without impact factor only in Elsevier, Springer, ACS, RSC, Taylor & Francis, Wiley, Sage, ASME)
		First or Second Author	First or Second Author
4.	Assistant Professor (1-3 years of experience)	Preferably ONE (with or without impact factor only in Elsevier, Springer, ACS, RSC, Taylor & Francis, Wiley, Sage, ASME)	ONE (with or without impact factor only in Elsevier, Springer, ACS, RSC, Taylor & Francis, Wiley, Sage, ASME)
		First or Second Author	First or Second Author

National and International Collaboration

S.No.	Designation	Collaborator	SCI/ ESCI/ Scopus
1.	Professor	Recommend collaborating only with NIRF Top 100 Ranking Institution. International collaborations are encouraged.	ONE research article with Impact Factor per year is mandatory.
2.	Associate Professor	Recommend collaborating only with NIRF Top 100 Ranking Institution. International collaborations are encouraged.	ONE research article with Impact Factor per year is mandatory.
3.	Assistant Professor (> 3 years experience and Doctorates)	Recommend collaborating only with NIRF Top 100 Ranking Institution. International collaborations are encouraged.	ONE research article with or without Impact Factor per year is mandatory.
4.	Assistant Professor (1-3 years experience)	Recommend collaborating only with NIRF Top 100 Ranking Institution. International collaborations are encouraged.	ONE research article with or without Impact Factor per year is preferable.

Publisher: Elsevier, Springer, ACS, RSC, Taylor & Francis, Wiley, Sage, ASME (anyone)

Review Schedule by The Principal

First Review	First week of December (Target: Minimum one target (40%) needs to be completed)
Second Review	Second week of March (Target: 70% of publication task need to be completed)
Final Review	First week of July (Target: 100% of publication task need to be completed)



- Institutional Academic Integrity Panel (IAIP) comprises a. President - The Principal, Sree Sakthi Engineering College, Member Secretary- Head, Research and All RAC Member (s) nominated by the President. The committee framed by President will be in power for TWO years to take care of all progress of the IPR activity.
- IPR Categories
 1. Patent application
 2. Copyright application
 3. Industrial design application
 4. Trademark application
 5. Trade secret application
- The RAC–IPR Team is responsible for sponsoring the application fees for innovative and novel patent proposals after conducting a thorough prior-art search using appropriate IPR databases. If any similar existing IPR is identified, the applicant will be informed and advised to revise the application accordingly.
- Once the prior-art search is cleared, the RAC–IPR Team will circulate the application among other team members to gather observations and feedback. If necessary, the applicant may be requested to present the details of the application to the RAC members on a scheduled date.
- If the RAC Team recommends the application without objection, it will be forwarded for submission to the appropriate IPR office through online or offline mode, with the required submission fees sponsored by the Management. The request for examination must also be filed at the time of application submission.
- In the event that comments or objections are received from the Patent Office, a copy of the communication must be submitted to the RAC. The applicant, in consultation with the RAC–IPR Team, will then prepare and submit appropriate responses to address the comments and obtain approval.

- It is essential to mention that **‘Sree Sakthi Engineering College, Coimbatore’ must be nominated as the ‘Applicant and the members as ‘Inventors.’**
- Faculty collaborations for IPR filings are encouraged, limited to 3–6 applicants with equal contributions, and single-inventor applications are also promoted. For final-year projects converted into IPR applications, only 3–6 members are allowed (for example, one supervisor and four UG project members). Adding extra inventors or granting authorship as a favor is strictly prohibited and will be treated as a serious violation, with strict action taken by the RAC.
- Filing any IPR application without the knowledge and approval of the RAC is strictly discouraged. Collaborating with colleagues or staff from other institutions for monetary gain to file IPRs is considered unethical and will result in disciplinary action.
- Only collaborative IPR applications associated with institutions ranked in the top 100 of the 2022 NIRF are encouraged. Prior permission must be obtained from the RAC to represent ‘Sree Sakthi Engineering College’ before submitting to the Patent Office. Applications submitted without approval will not be counted toward faculty R&D target achievements.
- When submitting an IPR application to the RAC, inventors are required to map their innovative or novel work with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2030, making this a mandatory requirement.

- If any foreign collaborative research-based IPR application is initiated, the RAC appreciates the faculty effort and will be considered as a particular case and recommends submitting the PDF generated by the IPR submission portal.

S.No.	Designation	National IPR	International IPR
1.	Professor	ONE IPR application need to be submitted with request to evaluation. ONE Copyright and Industrial Design need to be sanction. If possible one Trademark and Trade secrets are encouraged to submit Only as First inventor	ONE application needs to be submitted in abroad either by self or collaboration.
2.	Associate Professor	ONE IPR application need to be submitted with request to evaluation. ONE Copyright and Industrial Design need to be sanction. If possible one Trademark and Trade secrets are encouraged to submit Only as First inventor	ONE application needs to be submitted in abroad either by self or collaboration.

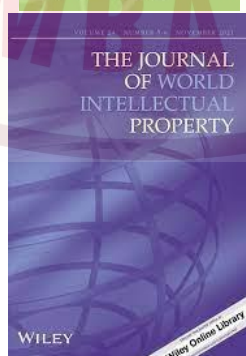
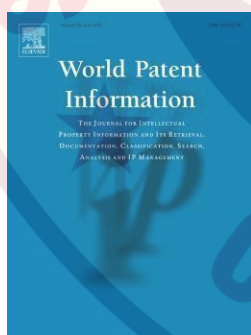
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| 3. | Assistant Professor (> 3 years of experience and Doctorates) | ONE IPR application need to be submitted with request to evaluation.

Only as First inventor | Preferably ONE application needs to be submitted in abroad either by self or collaboration. |
| 4. | Assistant Professor (1-3 years of experience) | ONE IPR application need to be submitted with request to evaluation.

Only as First inventor | Preferably ONE application needs to be submitted in abroad either by self or collaboration. |



Scopus®
Patent Search



IPR Targets

Review Schedule by The Principal

First Review	First week of December (Target: Minimum one target (40%) needs to be completed)
Second Review	Second week of March (Target: 70% of publication task need to be completed)
Final Review	First week of July (Target: 100% of publication task need to be completed)

- The Institutional Academic Integrity Panel (IAIP) consists of the Principal of Sree Sakthi Engineering College as President, the Head of Research as Member Secretary, and all RAC members nominated by the President. The committee, appointed by the President, will serve for two years and oversee all activities related to RAC funding proposals.
- Funding proposals developed by faculty members must be innovative, with objectives that emphasize societal benefit, environmental impact, and technological advancement. Proposals focused on a single domain or specialization is discouraged. Faculty are encouraged to collaborate across two or three different domains or specializations to create more comprehensive and compelling proposals for potential funding.
- The RAC will issue calls for funding proposals, and Heads of Departments are responsible for assigning faculty members to each scheme. Contributions from faculty members regarding funding opportunities are highly valued.
- Assigned faculty members should collaborate with colleagues from other departments to strengthen the proposal. For projects with a budget exceeding ₹10 Lakhs, it is recommended to involve a junior faculty member in proposal development to ensure proper management.
- All proposals must be plagiarism-free, and the completed draft must be submitted to the RAC. Any comments or suggestions provided by RAC members must be addressed, and approval must be obtained before further submission. Faculty members are advised not to seek any external approvals or submit proposals to higher authorities without RAC clearance.
- If a faculty is planning to submit a project proposal to a funding agency, **a camera-ready application hard copy must be submitted to the RAC minimum of three weeks**

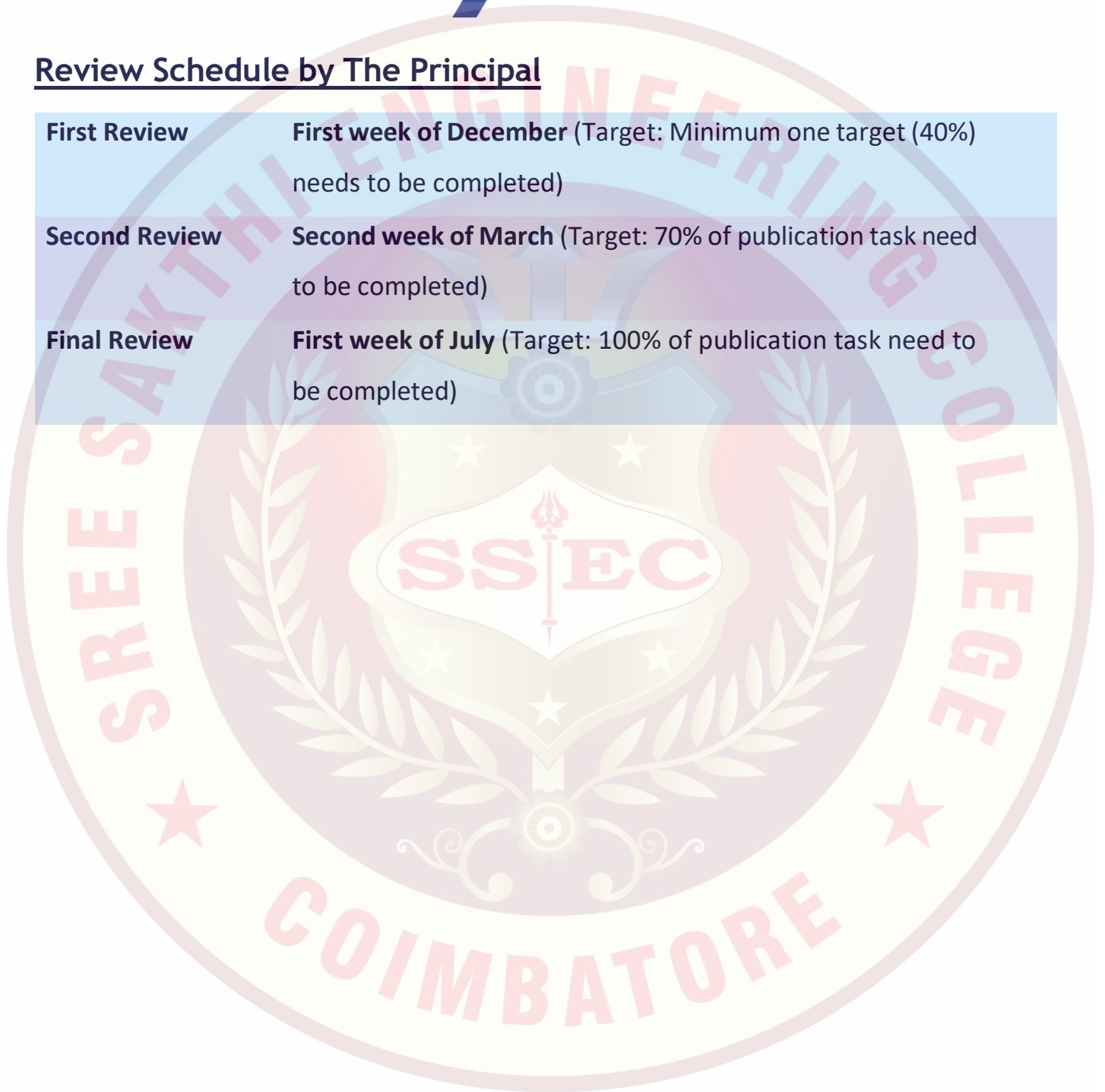
before the deadline, and the RAC will refer and provide comments/suggestions within three working days. After revision, once again, the application's hardcopy must be submitted to the RAC for clearance.

- Faculty members who receive SEED funding are required to submit at least two separate funding proposals with a value exceeding ₹10 Lakhs for potential funding. Additionally, portions of their work may be submitted as ideas or concepts to reputable national and international hackathon events.
- Faculty members must present their final project proposals to the Principal and RAC members prior to submission. This presentation should take place during the last week before the deadline. Any comments or suggestions provided must be incorporated carefully before final submission.
- For programs such as International/National Conferences, Seminars, Faculty Development Programs, AICTE schemes, Incubation Center applications, and Funded Symposia, all proposals to funding agencies must be processed through the RAC. After RAC clearance, faculty members may seek approval from higher authorities and submit the applications.
- National conference planning should begin at least six months before the proposed date, while International Conference preparations must start at least nine months in advance. The Chief Guest, panel members, and chairs should be selected from reputed international or national universities, laboratories, or industries, with RAC approval mandatory. Other events must be planned at least two months prior to the scheduled date and must also receive RAC approval.

S.No.	Designation	Target
1.	Professor	Two major project proposal with a budget of > 10 Lakhs is mandatory One minor project proposal with a budget of <10 Lakhs is mandatory
2.	Associate Professor	One major project proposal with a budget of > 10 Lakhs is mandatory One minor project proposal with a budget of <10 Lakhs is mandatory
3.	Assistant Professor (> 3 years of experience and Doctorates)	One major project proposal with a budget of > 10 Lakhs is mandatory
4.	Assistant Professor (1-3 years of experience)	One minor project proposal with a budget of < 10 Lakhs is preferable

Review Schedule by The Principal

First Review	First week of December (Target: Minimum one target (40%) needs to be completed)
Second Review	Second week of March (Target: 70% of publication task need to be completed)
Final Review	First week of July (Target: 100% of publication task need to be completed)



- The Institutional Academic Integrity Panel (IAIP) consists of the Principal of Sree Sakthi Engineering College as President, the Head of Research as Member Secretary, and all RAC members nominated by the President. This committee, appointed by the President, will serve for two years and oversee all activities related to RAC SEED funding.
- Applicants are invited to submit research projects or concepts for SEED funding, sponsored by the Management, for amounts up to INR 1 Lakh. Submissions must be novel, with a high potential to develop into a flawless prototype. The project duration is six months.
- A completed application form must be submitted to the RAC, including detailed information about the project or concept. The application should include a comprehensive literature review based on national and international sources from the past 2–3 years; older references are not recommended. Additionally, the submission must include results from IPR and copyright searches, as well as information on similar products in the market.
- The primary objective of SEED funding is to foster research motivation for novel ideas and concepts, enabling the project to progress to higher-level funding from government or private agencies, with preference given to government funding. Prototypes developed under SEED funding must meet high-quality standards to satisfy the requirements of potential funding agencies.
- Applicants who have already received funding for the same idea or concept are not encouraged to apply. Projects with significant societal impact are prioritized. Aligning prototypes with specific schemes from various funding agencies (e.g., DST, CSIR, SERB) is highly recommended for better funding prospects.

- Faculty mentors will serve as the primary point of contact for the SEED project, while student volunteers may be included as needed. Converting the same SEED project idea or concept into a final-year student project is strictly prohibited.
- Project outcomes are strongly encouraged to pursue IPR filing and Prototype Design Patents, and the idea or concept must be copyrighted. Portions of the work may also be developed into research articles, which should be submitted only to high-quality journals with an Impact Factor greater than 1, published by reputed publishers such as Elsevier, Springer, ACS, RSC, T&F, or Wiley.
- RAC members are responsible for periodically reviewing the progress of the project. Applicants are expected to fully cooperate and implement the comments or suggestions provided by the RAC to ensure successful project completion.
- Throughout the project or upon its conclusion, if RAC members identify relevant funding calls, applicants must be prepared to apply promptly and diligently. Additionally, applicants are encouraged to inform RAC members about potential funding opportunities, which will be highly appreciated.
- RAC members themselves are not permitted to submit their own ideas or concepts for SEED funding during their tenure on the committee.
- The final report submission needs to be more explicit in addressing the topics like Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Objective and Novelty, Literature Review (Research Articles, Patents, Copyrights, and Available similar products in the market), Project Methodology, Prototype Development (Model development in software as well as a final component), Results and Discussion (Focus to satisfy the objective and novelty), Conclusion and Further Recommendation, and References.

- The project report must be not less than 60 pages with all information and not limited to above said titles. Applicants are responsible for submitting Plagiarism free final report to the RAC within the stipulated time. Also, starting from day 1 to the end of the project, materials developed/ collected, including presentation materials, must be submitted in a dedicated USB to the RAC. The budget utilization report needs to submit to the RAC with the approval of The Principal, SSEC.

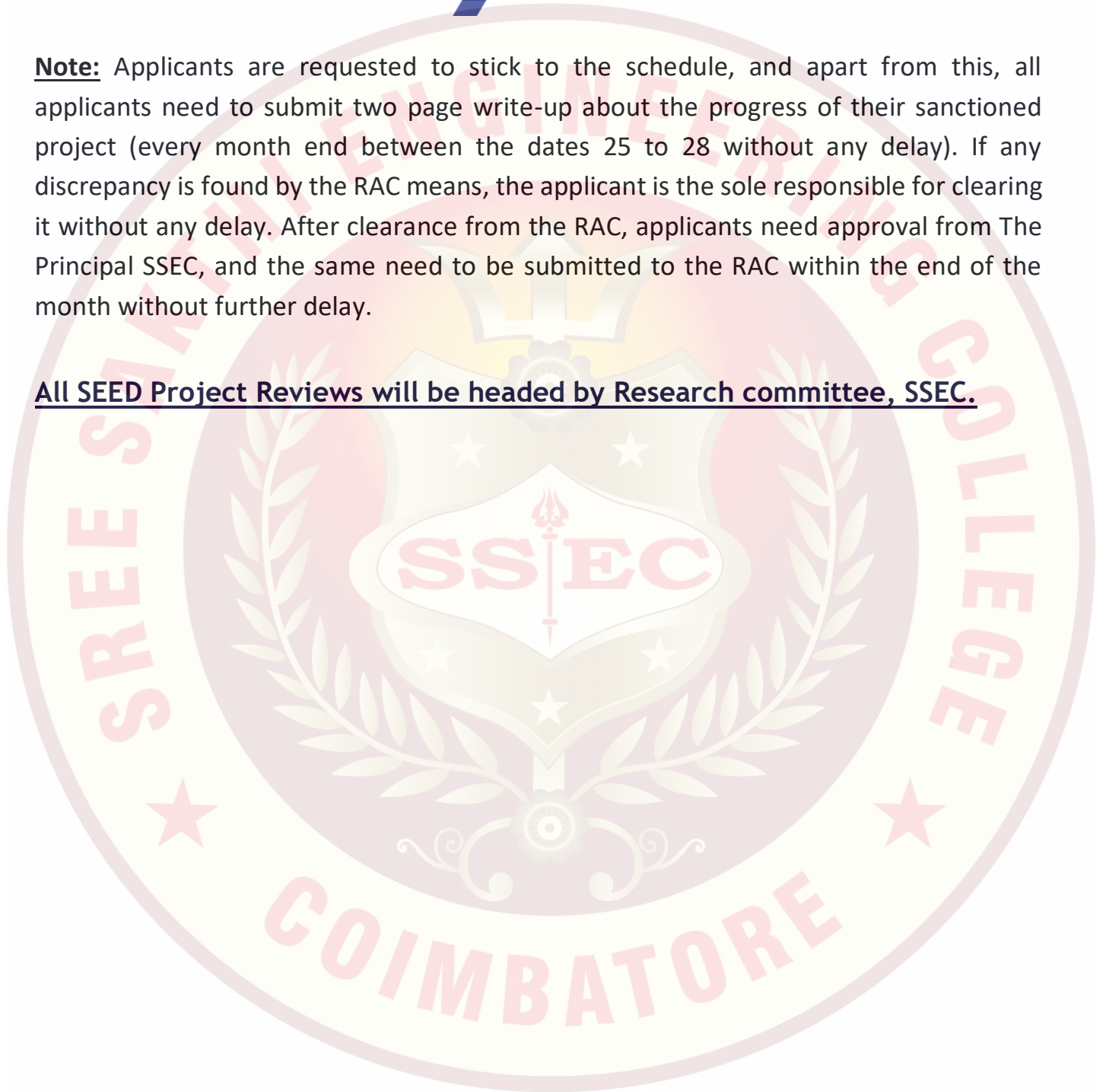
SEED project timeline

S.No.	Particulars	Months				
		0	1-2	3-4	5	6
1.	SEED Project Presentation, Selection, Funding Allocation, and Project Kick off					
2.	First Review. PF at 1 st Month: Literature Comparison, software-based model development					
3.	Second Review. PF at 3 rd Month: Part of the Hardware model needs to complete, comparison with hardware and software model and model issues (if any)					
4.	Third Review. PF at 5 th Month: Pre-final presentation, prototype submission, issues (if any)					
5.	Fourth Review. PF at 6 th Month: Technical Report submission and presentation.					
6.	Fifth Review. PF at 6 th Month: Final Presentation and submission of all materials to RAC.					

PF: Presentation Focus

Note: Applicants are requested to stick to the schedule, and apart from this, all applicants need to submit two page write-up about the progress of their sanctioned project (every month end between the dates 25 to 28 without any delay). If any discrepancy is found by the RAC means, the applicant is the sole responsible for clearing it without any delay. After clearance from the RAC, applicants need approval from The Principal SSEC, and the same need to be submitted to the RAC within the end of the month without further delay.

All SEED Project Reviews will be headed by Research committee, SSEC.





SREE SAKTHI ENGINEERING COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)