

# FINANCIAL SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY BY ISLAMIC RELIEF PAKISTAN (IRP)



UNIVERSITY OF BALOCHISTAN, QUETTA



**Funded by:** *Islamic Relief Pakistan (IRP) – WASYLA Project*

**Total Number of Scholarships:** 04 (for MS/M.Phil. candidates only)

**Grant Amount:** PKR 100,000/- per scholar

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants must be currently enrolled in an MS/M.Phil. program at the University of Balochistan in one of the following departments/institutes/centers

- |                           |                                  |                    |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Disaster Management    | 4. Biotechnology / Life sciences | 9. Psychology      |
| 2. Development Studies    | 5. Geology                       | 10. Gender Studies |
| 3. Environmental Sciences | 6. Forestry                      | 11. Education      |
|                           | 7. Sociology                     | 12. Philosophy     |
|                           | 8. Social Work                   |                    |

## ELIGIBLE RESEARCH THEMES:

- Livelihood and Economic Empowerment
- Gender Mainstreaming and Social Inclusion
  - Social Cohesion and Protection
- Resilience, Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation
  - Poverty Graduation Approach
  - Integrated Water Resource Management.
  - Biodiversity and eco-tourism

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- A **minimum CGPA of 3.00/4.00**. Applicants must **either not yet have submitted** their synopsis to the Graduate Studies Office (GSO) or **have submitted it within the last 2–3 months** and be working on research related to the thematic areas listed above.
- Preference will be given to **financially disadvantaged students**, subject to submission of a verified **family income certificate**.
- Scholarships are open to both male and female candidates, with a **gender allocation of 60% female and 40% male** to promote women's representation.
- Selection will be based on:
  - Academic merit of the research proposal
  - Alignment with WASYLA project objectives
  - Applicant's ability to conduct fieldwork and deliver actionable, policy-relevant findings

## PROPOSAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants are required to submit a detailed **research proposal / synopsis** outlining the research objectives, methodology, work plan and timeline, proposed budget, and expected outcomes, along with an **updated Curriculum Vitae (CV)** and a **letter of endorsement** from both their research supervisor and the head of the department.

## HOW TO APPLY:

Submit your complete application package to:

**Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC)**, 1st Floor, Administration Block,  
Room No. 26, **University of Balochistan, Quetta**

Last Date to Apply:

**(TUESDAY) MAY 06, 2025**

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## **TERMS OF REFERENCES (TORs)**

### **“RESEARCH GRANTS TO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS/ACADEMIA TO INFORM POLICY DECISIONS” UNDER WOMEN ALIGNED FOR SUSTAINABLE YOUTH CANTERED LIVELIHOOD ACTION (WASYLA) PROJECT, DISTRICT QUETTA, BALOCHISTAN**

#### **ISLAMIC RELIEF**

Islamic Relief is a UK-based International Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) providing humanitarian aid during emergencies and working for the long-term development of the world’s poorest people. In Pakistan, Islamic Relief started its operations in 1992 and is currently working through its offices in Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Baluchistan, Sindh & Punjab provinces. The main focus areas are sustainable livelihoods, water and sanitation, orphans’ welfare, microfinance, poverty graduation, disaster preparedness, and climate change.

#### **WASYLA PROJECT**

Women Aligned Sustainable Youth-Centred Livelihood Action (WASYLA) is being implemented in the Semi-urban areas of districts Islamabad, Rawalpindi, and Quetta. The project aims to uplift the most vulnerable and at-risk groups of society i.e., ultra-poor women, people with disabilities, older people, widowed families, and unemployed youth affected by urban poverty through the Poverty Graduation Approach. The project focuses on Protection Inclusion, Gender Mainstreaming, Social Cohesion, social care, support services improving resilience, and adaptation to climate change along with natural disasters of the targeted community youth and women in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, and Quetta. This will be achieved by investing in livelihood opportunities and providing skill development opportunities for the next generations.

#### **RESEARCH GRANTS TO CONDUCT RESEARCH STUDIES ON THE WASYLA PROJECT THEMES THROUGH UNIVERSITY STUDENTS TO INFORM POLICY DECISIONS**

To further enhance the project’s impact and inform policy decisions, Islamic Relief Pakistan seeks to engage university students and academia to conduct research that aligns with the project’s thematic areas under the WASYLA project. The research will provide evidence-based insights to help shape policies and programs for sustainable development in these communities.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH GRANTS**

The research grants are designed to:

1. Encourage and facilitate academic research that generates actionable insights to support policy and decision-making processes.
2. Generate evidence on the impact of livelihood interventions, gender mainstreaming, social cohesion, and resilience on vulnerable communities.
3. Explore innovative solutions to enhance climate change adaptation, social protection, and sustainable livelihoods.
4. Inform policy recommendations based on findings that can benefit the most vulnerable and at-risk populations in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, and Quetta.

## RESEARCH THEMES

Students and academic institutions are invited to submit proposals on one or more of the following key themes

1. Livelihood and Economic Empowerment
2. Gender Mainstreaming and Social Inclusion
3. Social Cohesion and Protection
4. Resilience, Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation
5. Poverty Graduation Approach
6. Integrated Water Resource Management.
7. Biodiversity and eco-tourism

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Applicants must be enrolled in an **MS/MPhil program** in one of the following departments:
  1. Disaster Management
  2. Development Studies
  3. Environmental Sciences
  4. Biotechnology / Life sciences
  5. Geology
  6. Forestry
  7. Sociology
  8. Social Work
  9. Psychology
  10. Gender Studies
  11. Education
  12. Philosophy
2. Students must have completed their coursework with a minimum CGPA of 3.00/4 and not yet submitted their synopsis to the Graduate Study Office (GSO).
3. Preference will be given to poor and needy scholars who face financial constraints in continuing their research upon submitting their family income certificate.
4. Grants will be provided to both male and female scholars, with a gender distribution ratio of 60 % Female and 40 % Male to ensure women's representation.
5. The selection will be based on the academic merit of the proposal, alignment with WASYLA project objectives, and the scholar's ability to conduct fieldwork and deliver actionable findings.

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF GRANTS:

- Participating universities are required to announce these research grants on their official websites, social media pages, and University Notice Boards to ensure wider dissemination among eligible students.
- The announcement should provide clear details about the eligibility criteria, thematic focus, and application process.

**Proposal Submission:** (add clear instructions as to where to submit the proposals and medium e.g., via email, online portal, or a designated office)

- Students must submit their research proposals within 15 days of the announcement.
- The proposal should include a detailed research plan, methodology, objectives, proposed budget, and expected outcomes, along with a CV and letter of endorsement from his/her supervisor and department head.

## PRESENTATION TO SELECTION COMMITTEE:

- Shortlisted scholars will be required to present their research proposals before a Selection Committee.

## THE COMMITTEE WILL CONSIST OF:

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. Director ORIC   | <b>CHAIRPERSON</b>        |
| 2. Chairperson, Graduate Study Office                    | <b>MEMBER</b>             |
| 3. One representative from Islamic Relief Pakistan (IRP) | <b>MEMBER / SECRETARY</b> |

## SELECTION CRITERIA:

The committee will assess the proposals based on their relevance to the WASYLA project themes, research methodology, feasibility of fieldwork, and potential for policy impact.

## GRANT FUNDING

1. Each selected scholar will receive up to 100,000 Pakistani Rupees to support their research.
2. The funds will be disbursed in two instalments based on the completion of agreed-upon research milestones and progress reports.

### Total Number of Research Grants = 10

1. UoB = 04
2. BUITEMS = 03
3. SBKWU = 03

## DURATION AND MILESTONE COMPLETION TIMELINES

stone	Timeline	Description	Grant Disbursement
<b>Proposal Submission and Approval</b>	Month 1	Scholars must submit their detailed research proposals for review and approval by the selection committee within the first month.	50% of the grant will be disbursed upon successfully approving the research proposal.
<b>Data Collection Phase</b>	Months 2-5	Scholars will conduct data collection as per the approved methodology, ensuring adherence to ethical standards and predefined objectives.	50% of the grant will be disbursed upon successfully approving the research proposal.
<b>Data Analysis</b>	Months 6-8	Scholars will analyse the collected data using appropriate analytical tools and techniques, providing preliminary insights into the research findings.	-
<b>Draft Report Writing</b>	Months 9-10	Scholars will prepare a draft of their research report, including findings, discussion, and conclusions. They will seek feedback from the	-

		academic supervisor and IRP representatives.	
<b>Final Report and Case Study Submission</b>	Months 11-12	Prepare a written utilization report for the awarded amount and submit the complete report to the committee members during their meeting. The GSO office will not accept the thesis without an approval letter from the Committee Chairperson.	