Sharjah Islamic Bank Award for Scientific Research

First: Students' Award

First: Award Terms and Conditions

1. The award includes the research work of students derived from their research projects or from their master's or doctoral dissertations that is published or accepted for publication in peer-reviewed scientific journals during the spring or summer semester of the previous academic year or the fall semester of the current academic year. Research completed outside the University of Sharjah will not be considered.
2. The minimum requirement for the journal publication is to be in the second quartile among journals in the same field, and the research topic in it be classified in the second quartile (or its equivalent for approved publications in the Arabic language).
3. Only publications in which students are the principal researchers is accepted (such as those drawn from students' research projects or from their master's or doctoral dissertations). Research in which students participate as research assistants for faculty members is not accepted. Academic supervisors must confirm in letters of recommendation that the students are the principal researchers in the submitted work.
4. The submission must include evidence of students' lead research work (i.e. submission of research report or thesis proposal or thesis, inclusive of an introduction, objectives and importance of research, research methods, research results and discussion, conclusions and reference list).
5. The students who previously won the Sharjah Islamic Bank Award are not entitled to apply again for the award. It is also not permissible to submit a publication that has previously won the award or won any other award.
6. The Sharjah Islamic Bank Award shall be issued in the name of the winning research work with all students' coauthors from the University of Sharjah who participated in the research project from which the publication was derived sharing in winning the award.
7. Students applying for the award are not permitted to communicate with members of the award committee regarding the award except in response to requests regarding completion of information and/or the evaluation of applications.
8. No exceptions will be granted with regard to the award terms/conditions or application submission deadlines unless upon special approval by the Chancellor of the University.

Second: Procedures

1. The student principal investigator, with written approval from the students participating in the research from the University of Sharjah to apply for the award and to be considered as a principal investigator, applies for the award through his department to the dean of the college, attaching all the required documents, forms, and proof, including a self-evaluation of the research according to the award evaluation form.
2. Departments shall submit students' nominations to the relevant college Deanship with a preliminary evaluation of the publication according to the award evaluation criteria.
3. The Deanship of each college shall form a committee consisting of faculty members from the college, which shall have the mandate to:
    a. Study the department nominations and select the best research publication (one per college) according to the award evaluation criteria to be nominated by the college.
    b. Coordinate with the Dean of the College to submit the committee's recommendations to the Chancellor to be presented to the Sharjah Islamic Bank Award committee before the award application deadline, and prepare the required documents, which shall be attached with the college's award nomination letters.
    c. Assist students nominated for the award to ensure the documents required are complete for submission to the Award Committee.
    d. Ensure submission of the college nomination letter and required documents to the chancellor's office using the attached nomination form.

4. The Chancellor shall form an Evaluation Committee for the Sharjah Islamic Bank Award at the beginning of each academic year. The committee shall have the mandate to:
    a. Communicate with the award applicants to complete their nomination requests so that the nominations are evaluated based on the materials received from the candidates. The committee shall not be required to search for the required documents and information except for the purpose of verifying that which has been submitted by the candidates.
    b. Evaluate submissions, place them in order according to their scores, and agree on recommendations and observations related to the projects.
    c. The Chairman of the Committee shall submit the committee deliberation results regarding refereed research, including the ranking order, recommendations, and observations, to the Chancellor for presentation to the Higher Committee for Awards and Incentives at the University.
    d. Members of the Evaluation Committee shall be excluded from the evaluation of research in which they participated or supervised and not engage in any deliberations evaluating such research, ranking the research according to scores or in making any observations or recommendations. The remaining members shall take into account the relative weight of the evaluation relating to the excluded evaluation member in ranking and making recommendations regarding the research in which the said member participated or provided supervision.

e. Each member of the committee shall evaluate research in an individual and independent manner after which the evaluation results will be collected and upon which the committee will deliberate to reach a final ranking order, according to scores, and agree upon its recommendations.
f. Evaluation committee may communicate with the concerned deans and heads of departments, or others concerned, for the purpose of completing information and evaluating applications.
g. Nominations not received by the specified award deadlines shall be excluded unless upon special approval by the Chancellor of the University.

5. The University Higher Committee for Awards and Incentives shall be chaired by the Chancellor and includes the membership of the Vice Chancellors (i.e. Academic Affairs, Research and Graduate Studies and Medical Colleges and Health Sciences) and the chairs of the awards evaluation committees. The Higher Awards Committee shall consider the results and recommendations of the Awards Evaluation Committees and shall retain the authority to reconsider such results before making its final decisions regarding the research award recipients.

Third: Evaluation Criteria

Research works nominated by the Sharjah Islamic Bank Award Evaluation Committee shall be ranked and placed in order, according to scores, after first verifying their compliance with the terms/conditions and procedures for the award. Following is the scoring table for the award evaluation criteria:

Evaluation Criteria	Highest Maximum Score
Level of the journal in which the research was published in relation to the specialization? *	35
Scientific value of research, including its originality, subject matter, theoretical or practical nature, research methods and contribution to the discovery of knowledge.	20
Importance of the research results, output and potential impact in relation to serving the community of Sharjah, wider community and/or the University of Sharjah	25
Is the volume of work commensurate with the number of research participants?	10
Evidence of students' lead research work (i.e. research report or thesis proposal or thesis, inclusive of an introduction, objectives and importance of research, research methods, research results and discussion, conclusions and reference list)	10
Total	**100**

* Taking into consideration the ranking of journals with respect to the research field.

Fourth: Documents to be Submitted by the Applicant

1. A letter of nomination for the award, signed by all students, including an email address for communication and clarification regarding the contribution of students to the research as principal researchers under the supervision of faculty members.
2. A copy of the research published or accepted for publication in a journal and information on the date of publication or acceptance for publication.
3. Information on the journal in which the research was published or accepted for publication in terms of the journal classification, impact factor, databases classifying it, and publisher information (according to the relevant form).
4. Evidence of students' lead research work (i.e. research report or thesis proposal or thesis, inclusive of an introduction, objectives and importance of research, research methods, research results and discussion, conclusions and reference list)
5. A letter of recommendation from the academic supervisor stating the contribution of the students as the principal researchers. As stated above, research in which the student participates merely as an assistant and the participating faculty member/s or supervisor is the principal investigator will not be considered.

Fifth: Documents to be Submitted by Colleges

1. A letter of nomination by the Dean for one research work that fulfils the conditions of the award with the appropriate notes and recommendations in this regard.
2. The completed evaluation form for the nominated research work which shall indicate the evaluation by the College Committee.