

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EoI)
Empanelment of Academic Institutions for Collaboration in
Information Technology Domain**



Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)

**A Scientific Society under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Government
of India**

**Tidel Park, 8th Floor, 'D' Block (North & South), No.4 Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Taramani,
Chennai- 600113, Tamil Nadu (India)**

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The EoI document may be downloaded from <https://www.cdac.in>

[email for queries: purchase-chennai@cdac.in](mailto:purchase-chennai@cdac.in)

Disclaimer

This Expression of Interest (EoI) is issued by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) for the purpose of identifying and empanelling eligible academic institutions for potential collaboration in specified technology domains.

The information contained in this EoI or subsequently provided to participating institutions, whether verbally or in documentary form by or on behalf of C-DAC, is provided on the terms and conditions set out in this document.

This EoI does not constitute an offer or invitation to enter into any contractual agreement, nor does it create any binding obligation on the part of C-DAC to empanel any institution or to enter into any form of collaboration.

C-DAC reserves the right to modify, amend, suspend, or cancel this EoI process at any stage without assigning any reason, and without incurring any liability to the participating institutions.

Participation in this EoI process shall be deemed to constitute acceptance of all terms and conditions specified in this document.

1. Background

The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) is a premier research and development organization under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, engaged in the development of advanced computing technologies and digital infrastructure for national strategic initiatives.

C-DAC is actively involved in the development of cutting-edge technologies including High Performance Computing (HPC), Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Embedded Systems, Cybersecurity technologies, and Semiconductor System Design.

In order to strengthen the regional ecosystem for Advanced computing, HPC, Quantum, Cyber Security, IoT, Artificial Intelligence and other emerging domains, the C-DAC Chennai Centre proposes to empanel select academic institutions across Tamil Nadu for collaboration in research, innovation, and technology development activities.

2. Objective of the EoI

The objective of this Expression of Interest (EoI) is to identify and empanel eligible academic institutions having adequate academic infrastructure, faculty expertise, and research capabilities for potential collaboration with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) in emerging and strategic technology domains. The empanelment aims to facilitate academic engagement, research collaboration, skill development, and innovation-driven activities aligned with national technology initiatives.

The proposed areas of collaboration may include, but are not limited to, the following technology domains:

- Advanced Computing
- High Performance Computing (HPC)
- Quantum Computing and Quantum Technologies
- Cyber Security
- Internet of Things (IoT)
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning
- Other emerging and strategic technology domains relevant to C-DAC's research and development activities.

C-DAC reserves the right to expand, modify, or prioritize the above domains based on evolving technological requirements and organizational priorities.

Contact Information

The Centre Head,
Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Tidel Park, 8th Floor, "D" Block (North & South),
No. 4, Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Taramani, Chennai – 600 113.
Tel : 044 – 22542226/27
E-mail: purchase-chennai@cdac.in

3. Scope of Collaboration

The academic institutions empanelled through this Expression of Interest (EoI) may collaborate with C-DAC in various academic, research, and innovation-driven activities in emerging technology domains. The areas of collaboration may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Conduct of academic and technical training programs for students and faculty in advanced and emerging technology areas.
- Joint research and development activities in domains such as advanced computing, HPC, Quantum, Cyber Security, IoT, Artificial Intelligence and other emerging domains.
- Innovation-driven engineering projects and prototype development aligned with industry and national technology requirements.
- Facilitation of industry interaction programs, including expert lectures, technical workshops, and collaborative research initiatives.
- Support for innovation, entrepreneurship, and startup incubation activities through institutional innovation ecosystems and incubation centers.
- Establishment and operation of specialized laboratories or Centres of Excellence (CoE) within the participating institutions to support collaborative academic and research initiatives.

The specific nature and scope of collaboration with empanelled institutions shall be finalized separately through mutually agreed arrangements, including execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), wherever applicable.

4. Eligibility Criteria and Supporting Documents

Sl. No.	Eligibility Criteria	Supporting Documents to be Submitted
1	The institution must be a recognized engineering college, university (including deemed universities), or technical institute in India duly approved by the competent statutory authorities.	Copy of AICTE / UGC approval letter or relevant statutory recognition certificate.
2	The institution must offer B.E./B.Tech or equivalent undergraduate programs in relevant disciplines such as Computer Science, Electronics, Electrical Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Information Technology, or related fields.	Copy of approval for academic programs issued by AICTE / University / relevant regulatory authority.
3	The institution should possess adequate faculty expertise in relevant technology domains.	List of faculty members with qualification, designation, and area of expertise in relevant disciplines.

Sl. No.	Eligibility Criteria	Supporting Documents to be Submitted
4	The institution should have necessary academic infrastructure and laboratory facilities relevant to computing, electronics, or semiconductor related domains.	Details of laboratory infrastructure along with photographs, equipment list, and available computing facilities.
5	The institution should demonstrate research, innovation, or technology development activities.	Details of research publications, patents, funded projects, innovation initiatives, or incubation activities (if available).
6	The institution should be willing to support collaborative activities with C-DAC by providing required infrastructure and institutional support.	Undertaking or declaration signed by the authorized signatory of the institution.

5. Infrastructure Requirement for Centre of Excellence (CoE)

The participating institution shall provide dedicated infrastructure within its campus to support collaborative academic and research activities. The infrastructure shall be capable of accommodating a minimum of 40 students and shall include necessary IT and laboratory facilities.

Sl. No.	Infrastructure Requirement	Minimum Requirement	Supporting Documents to be Submitted
1	Dedicated space for Centre of Excellence / Laboratory	Minimum space sufficient to accommodate 40 students	Details of proposed space with floor area (Sq. Ft.) and photographs of the facility
2	Seating capacity	Seating arrangement for minimum 40 students	Layout plan or photographs of the proposed facility
3	Computing infrastructure	Desktop/workstations or equivalent computing systems	List of available computing systems with specifications
4	Networking and internet connectivity	Local network and high-speed internet connectivity	Details of network infrastructure and internet bandwidth

Sl. No.	Infrastructure Requirement	Minimum Requirement	Supporting Documents to be Submitted
5	Electrical and power backup	Adequate power supply with UPS or backup facilities	Details of electrical infrastructure and power backup arrangements
6	Access to relevant laboratories	Access to electronics/computing laboratories within the institution	List of available laboratories and major equipment
7	Institutional commitment	Willingness to provide infrastructure free of cost to C-DAC	Undertaking from institution signed by authorized signatory

6. Institutional Coordinator

The participating institution shall nominate a senior faculty member as the Institutional Coordinator who shall act as the nodal point of contact between the institution and C-DAC for all matters related to the proposed collaboration.

The Institutional Coordinator shall be responsible for facilitating coordination of academic, research, and innovation activities undertaken under this initiative. The coordinator shall also support communication between C-DAC and the institution, ensure availability of the required infrastructure and institutional support, and assist in effective implementation and monitoring of collaborative programs.

The institution shall provide the name, designation, contact details, and area of expertise of the nominated coordinator as part of the EoI submission.

7. Validity

The EOI proposal submitted shall remain valid for a period of at least **120 days** from the date of submission.

8. C-DAC's Right to Amend/Cancel

C-DAC reserves the right to amend, modify, suspend, or cancel this Expression of Interest (EoI), in whole or in part, at any stage of the process without assigning any reason and without incurring any liability to the participating institutions.

C-DAC also reserves the right to change, update, or revise the terms and conditions, scope of collaboration, eligibility criteria, or evaluation process specified in this EoI, if deemed necessary.

Any such amendments or modifications shall be notified through the official website of C-DAC, and the participating institutions are advised to regularly check the website for updates.

Participation in this EoI shall be deemed to constitute acceptance of such amendments or modifications, if any.

9. Empanelment Process

The empanelment of academic institutions under this Expression of Interest (EoI) shall be carried out through a structured evaluation process, which may commence immediately upon receipt of applications from the date of publication of the EoI on the C-DAC website, without waiting for the closure of the EoI submission window.

The empanelment process shall consist of the following stages:

Stage 1 – Eligibility Screening

All EoI submissions received from institutions shall be reviewed to verify compliance with the prescribed eligibility criteria and submission requirements specified in this document. Applications that do not meet the eligibility conditions or are found to be incomplete or lacking the required supporting documents may be rejected at this stage.

Stage 2 – Technical Evaluation

Institutions meeting the eligibility requirements shall be evaluated by an Evaluation Committee constituted by C-DAC, based on parameters such as academic capability, faculty expertise, research and innovation ecosystem, infrastructure availability, and alignment with the objectives of the proposed collaboration.

Based on the recommendations of the Evaluation Committee and fulfilment of the required criteria, eligible institutions may be empanelled by C-DAC for potential collaboration.

Institutions securing a minimum of 75 marks in the technical evaluation shall be considered eligible for empanelment, subject to fulfilment of other requirements specified in this EoI.

Empanelment of eligible institutions shall be carried out on a First-In-First-Out (FIFO) basis, based on the order of receipt of complete EoI applications.

C-DAC reserves the right to seek additional information, supporting documents, or clarifications from the participating institutions during the evaluation process, if deemed necessary.

The decision of C-DAC with respect to evaluation and empanelment shall be final and binding on all participating institutions.

10. Evaluation Criteria

The eligible institutions shall be evaluated by the Evaluation Committee constituted by C-DAC based on the following technical parameters to be submitted by the applicant through online presentation:

Sl. No.	Evaluation Parameter	Maximum Marks
1	Institutional reputation and accreditation	15
2	Availability of relevant academic programs	10
3	Faculty expertise in relevant technology domains	15
4	Research publications, patents, and funded projects	15

Sl. No.	Evaluation Parameter	Maximum Marks
5	Availability of laboratory infrastructure and computing facilities	15
6	Capability to provide Centre of Excellence (CoE) infrastructure	10
7	Industry collaboration ecosystem and partnerships	10
8	Institutional commitment towards research and innovation activities	10
Total		100 Marks

Institutions securing a minimum of 75 marks in the technical evaluation shall be considered eligible for empanelment, subject to fulfilment of other requirements specified in this EoI.

The decision of C-DAC regarding evaluation and empanelment shall be final and binding.

11. Number of Institutions

C-DAC intends to empanel up to ten (10) academic institutions under this Expression of Interest (EoI) for potential collaboration in the identified technology domains.

The empanelment shall be considered based on fulfilment of the eligibility criteria and securing the minimum qualifying marks in the technical evaluation as specified in this EoI.

Among the institutions meeting the prescribed requirements, empanelment may be carried out on a First-In-First-Out (FIFO) basis, based on the order of receipt of complete EoI submissions.

C-DAC reserves the right to increase the number of institutions to be empanelled or modify the empanelment process, depending on organizational requirements and the quality of proposals received.

12. Execution of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

Institutions empanelled through this Expression of Interest (EoI) shall enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with C-DAC to formalize the terms and conditions governing the collaboration. The MoU shall define, inter alia, the roles and responsibilities of C-DAC and the participating institution, including provisions related to infrastructure support, academic and research activities, operational modalities, confidentiality, and intellectual property rights arising from collaborative activities.

A common MoU framework may be adopted for all empanelled institutions, with suitable modifications, if required, depending on the specific nature of collaboration.

The collaborative activities between C-DAC and the empanelled institution shall commence only after the execution of the MoU by both parties.

C-DAC reserves the right to review, modify, or terminate the MoU in accordance with the terms specified therein, if deemed necessary.

13. Period of Engagement

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) shall remain in force for a period of **three (3) years** from the date of its execution by both parties, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the provisions contained herein.

Upon expiry of the initial term, the validity of this MoU may be extended for a **further period of up to two (2) years**, subject to mutual consent of both parties and satisfactory progress of the collaborative activities, on such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon in writing.

During the period of engagement, the parties may undertake collaborative activities including academic programs, research initiatives, technology development, training programs, and innovation-related activities as mutually agreed from time to time.

The progress and performance of the collaboration may be reviewed periodically by C-DAC, and based on such review, the scope of engagement may be continued, modified, or discontinued as deemed appropriate.

Either party may terminate this MoU by providing prior written notice of ninety (90) days to the other party, without assigning any reason.

14. Confidentiality

The participating institutions shall maintain strict confidentiality with respect to any technical information, research data, documents, software, designs, or other materials shared by C-DAC during the course of evaluation or collaboration.

Such information shall not be disclosed, published, or shared with any third party without the prior written consent of C-DAC. The participating institution shall ensure that its faculty members, students, researchers, and staff involved in the program comply with the confidentiality obligations.

The confidentiality obligations shall continue to remain in force even after completion or termination of the collaboration, unless otherwise agreed in writing.

15. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

The ownership, management, and utilization of intellectual property generated through collaborative activities between C-DAC and the participating institution shall be governed by mutually agreed terms as specified in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) or any other agreement executed between the parties.

The participating institution shall ensure compliance with applicable intellectual property laws, policies, and procedures while undertaking collaborative research and innovation activities with C-DAC.

16. No Financial Commitment

This Expression of Interest (EoI) is issued solely for the purpose of identifying and empanelling eligible academic institutions for potential collaboration with C-DAC.

Submission of an EoI shall not create any financial commitment or obligation on the part of C-DAC, nor shall it be construed as a guarantee for award of any project, funding, or engagement.

C-DAC shall not be responsible for any costs incurred by the participating institutions in preparing or submitting their EoI responses.

17. Right to Accept or Reject

C-DAC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Expressions of Interest (EoIs) received in response to this notice without assigning any reason thereof.

C-DAC also reserves the right to modify, cancel, or withdraw the EoI process at any stage, if deemed necessary, without incurring any liability towards the participating institutions.

18. Force Majeure

C-DAC shall not be liable for any failure or delay in the performance of its obligations under this Expression of Interest (EoI) if such failure or delay arises due to circumstances beyond its reasonable control. Such circumstances may include, but are not limited to, natural disasters, acts of God, war, civil disturbances, strikes, government actions, epidemics, pandemics, or any other unforeseen events.

In the event of occurrence of a force majeure situation, C-DAC reserves the right to modify, suspend, extend, or cancel the EoI process, including the timelines specified in this document, without incurring any liability towards the participating institutions.

The participating institutions shall also not hold C-DAC responsible for any costs or losses incurred due to such force majeure events affecting the EoI process.

19. Dispute Resolution

Any dispute or difference arising out of or in connection with this EoI or any subsequent agreement executed pursuant to this EoI shall, in the first instance, be resolved through mutual consultation and amicable settlement between the parties.

In the event that such disputes cannot be resolved amicably, the matter shall be referred to arbitration in accordance with the provisions of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, as amended from time to time.

20. Indemnity

The participating institution shall indemnify and hold harmless C-DAC, its officers, employees, and representatives from and against any claims, liabilities, damages, losses, or expenses arising out of or in connection with the participation of the institution in this EoI process or any subsequent collaboration, including but not limited to claims arising from violation of applicable laws, infringement of intellectual property rights, or misuse of confidential information.

C-DAC shall not be liable for any claims or losses arising from actions or omissions of the participating institution, its faculty members, students, or representatives.

21. Limitation of Liability

In no event shall C-DAC be liable to the participating institutions for any indirect, incidental, consequential, special, or punitive damages, including but not limited to loss of data, loss of profits, loss of business opportunities, or any other financial loss arising out of or in connection with the submission of the Expression of Interest (EoI) or participation in the empanelment process.

C-DAC shall not be responsible for any costs, expenses, or liabilities incurred by the participating institutions in connection with the preparation, submission, or processing of their EoI.

Participation in this EoI process shall be entirely at the sole risk and responsibility of the participating institution, and C-DAC shall not be liable for any claims, damages, or losses arising out of actions or omissions of the institution, its faculty members, students, or representatives.

The total liability of C-DAC, if any, arising under this EoI or in connection with any subsequent collaboration shall be limited to the extent expressly agreed upon in a separate written agreement or Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) executed between the parties.

22. Termination

C-DAC reserves the right to terminate the empanelment of any participating institution at any time if it is found that:

- The institution has provided false, misleading, or incomplete information in its EoI submission.
- The institution fails to comply with the terms and conditions specified in this EoI or any subsequent agreement.
- The institution's activities are found to be inconsistent with the objectives of the proposed collaboration.

Such termination shall be effective upon written communication from C-DAC, and the institution shall not be entitled to any compensation or claims against C-DAC.

23. Assignment

The participating institution shall not assign, transfer, or delegate any of its rights or obligations arising from this EoI or any subsequent agreement to any third party without the prior written consent of C-DAC.

Any unauthorized assignment or transfer shall be considered null and void.

24. Severability

If any provision of this EoI or any subsequent agreement is found to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable by a competent authority or court of law, such provision shall be severed from the document without affecting the validity and enforceability of the remaining provisions.

The remaining provisions shall continue to remain in full force and effect.

25. Interpretation

In case of any ambiguity or conflict in interpretation of the provisions contained in this EoI, the interpretation and decision of C-DAC shall be final and binding on the participating institutions.

The headings used in this document are for convenience only and shall not affect the interpretation of the provisions contained herein.

26. Governing Law and Jurisdiction

This EoI and any subsequent agreements executed pursuant to this EoI shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of India.

Subject to the provisions relating to dispute resolution, the courts having jurisdiction at the location of the issuing C-DAC centre shall have exclusive jurisdiction over matters arising from this EoI.

27. Submission of Expression of Interest

Interested institutions may submit their **Expression of Interest (EoI)** by duly filling in the prescribed template as per **Annexure–I**, along with the required supporting documents, from the date of publication of this EoI on the **C-DAC website** until the last date of the EoI submission window specified in this document.

Applicants are encouraged to submit their applications at the earliest, as the **evaluation process may commence immediately upon receipt of the application without waiting for the closure of the EoI submission window**. Accordingly, priority may be given on a **First-In-First-Out (FIFO) basis**, subject to fulfilment of the eligibility criteria and evaluation requirements.

Institutions are advised to ensure that the **EoI submission is complete in all respects and accompanied by the necessary supporting documents**, failing which the application may be liable for rejection.

The completed EoI document may be submitted either in **soft copy (through email)** and/or in **hard copy** to the following address **on or before the last date and time of submission, i.e., 09.04.2026 at 17:30 HRS IST**:

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)

TIDEL Park, 8th Floor

'D' Block (North & South)

No. 4, Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Taramani

Chennai – 600113, Tamil Nadu, India

Phone: +91-44-22542226 / 22542227

Fax: +91-44-22542294

Institutions submitting the EoI through email shall ensure that **all relevant documents and annexures are duly signed and submitted in scanned format**.

C-DAC reserves the right to **seek additional documents, information, or clarifications from the participating institutions**, if required, during the evaluation process.

28. Responsibility of the Applicant

It shall be the sole responsibility of the applicant institution to ensure that the Expression of Interest (EoI) application, along with all required supporting documents, is submitted within the prescribed submission deadline as specified in this EoI.

C-DAC shall not be responsible for any delay, loss, or non-receipt of the EoI submission due to postal delays, technical issues in email transmission, or any other reasons beyond its control.

EoI submissions received after the specified deadline or found incomplete may be rejected without further consideration.

Institutional Information Format

Institutions submitting the Expression of Interest (EoI) shall provide the following information.

1. Institutional Profile

Sl. No.	Particulars	Details
1	Name of the Institution	
2	Address of the Institution	
3	Year of Establishment	
4	University Affiliation	
5	AICTE / UGC Approval Details	
6	Accreditation (NAAC / NBA etc.)	
7	Website	

2. Academic Programs Offered

Sl. No.	Program	Intake	Year Started
1	B.E./B.Tech		
2	M.E./M.Tech (if any)		
3	PhD Programs (if any)		

3. Faculty Expertise in Relevant Domains

Sl. No.	Name of Faculty	Department	Qualification	Area of Expertise	Experience (Years)

4. Infrastructure Details

Sl. No.	Infrastructure Facility	Details
1	Available Laboratory Facilities	
2	Computing Infrastructure	
3	Networking and Internet Facilities	
4	Proposed Centre of Excellence Space (Sq. Ft.)	
5	Seating Capacity for Students	

5. Industry Collaborations

Provide details of existing collaborations with industry, including MoUs, internship programs, joint research activities, or technology development initiatives.

6. Proposed Areas of Collaboration with C-DAC

Institutions may indicate the technology domains in which collaboration with C-DAC is proposed.

7. Declaration by the Institution

We hereby certify that the information provided in this Expression of Interest is true and correct to the best of our knowledge. We agree to abide by the terms and conditions specified in the EoI issued by C-DAC.

Authorized Signatory

Name

Designation

Signature & Seal

Date