

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068

Guidelines for Submitting Entries for
'Best Innovation Award-2024'

Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has been promoting creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship among its students. In view of the announcement of the *Atmanirbhar Bharat* mission by the Government of India also as recommended by NEP-2020 to promote Innovation and Entrepreneurship, it becomes more important to identify, recognize and support the innovator and entrepreneur students of IGNOU. In this context, for the last six years, IGNOU has been awarding its innovator students with the Best Innovation Awards. Under this scheme, **entries are invited from IGNOU students for the "Best Innovation Award-2024"**.

Who is Eligible to Apply for the Best Innovation Award?

Any *bonafide* and registered students of IGNOU who has developed and implemented an innovative product, process or services as a solution to the problem/challenge being faced by individuals or society in any area, preferably from the given theme areas, is eligible to submit application for the '**Best Innovation Award-2024**' in the prescribed format.

Why Should You Apply for the Best Innovation Award?

1. The selected innovator Students of IGNOU will be recognized nationally.
2. The selected best three Innovators will get Best Innovation Award-2024 with Certificates, Trophies and Cash Prizes of Rs. 10,000/-, Rs. 7,000/- and Rs. 5,000/- respectively.
3. The students selected for the Best Innovation Award-2024 will be invited to IGNOU Headquarters, Delhi to receive the award.
4. The selected potential innovators will get opportunity to interact with other innovators and learn from their experience.
5. The selected other potential innovators, from amongst the applicants of the Student Innovation Award scheme, will be imparted guidance and handholding for improving their innovation further and taking it to the next level.

What are the Theme Areas?

Your innovation may be in any of the following areas :

- a. Health Care and Biomedical Devices
- b. Agriculture and Rural Development
- c. Food Processing and Packaging
- d. Smart Transport and Traffic Management
- e. Renewable and Affordable Energy and Alternate Fuel
- f. Clean and Potable Water and Water Management
- g. Waste Management and Disposal

- h. Technology Based Social Innovations
- i. E-commerce and Business Management
- j. Robotics and Drones including AI and ML
- k. Tour and Travel Management
- l. Social and Environmental Issues
- m. Smart City and Urban Development
- n. Innovation in Education Sector
- o. Innovation to Assist the Persons with Disability
- p. Any Other Emerging Area of Innovation and Startup Opportunity

How to Apply?

1. **Those who are interested in applying for Best Innovation Award-2024 may submit the filled-in Proforma dully typed in MS Word along with the supporting documents through e-mail to ncide@ignou.ac.in.**
2. You should enclose a 5-10 Minutes Video Clip on the Development and Working of your Innovation.
3. Also enclose the relevant Photographs pertaining to your Innovation.
4. The Application Form can be downloaded from the NVRIETI Portal at <https://sites.google.com/ignou.ac.in/navrieti/sia-2024>. You can also access this Portal from the IGNOU Website www.ignou.ac.in by clicking the Link **Best Innovation Award-2024** under Announcement and Notifications on Home Page of the IGNOU Website.

Important to Note

1. Applications will be received only through email at ncide@ignou.ac.in. No hard copy and handwritten or scanned copy will be entertained.
2. Simple submission of Application for the award will not entitle the candidates for any kind of Certificate or other document from the University.
3. The shortlisted students will be required to give presentation of their innovation, its development process and its working, etc. in Virtual Mode.
4. After declaration of result, the winners will be informed individually as well as through IGNOU website. No other communication will be done individually with the other applicants.
5. University's decision will be final and binding regarding the selection of the students for **Best Innovation Award-2024**.

Last Date for Submission

The last date for submission of complete Application in the prescribed format along with the required Documents and Video Clip of the innovation is **September 30, 2024**.

Director, NCIDE

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Application Proforma for
"Best Innovation Award-2024"
(Please get it Typed in MS Word Separately)

Name : _____ **Enrolment No. :** _____

Address : _____

Programme Code : _____ **Regional Centre :** _____

Mobile No. : _____ **Email :** _____

If you are developing your innovation in Team, mention the following

- a. Team Leader's Name : _____
- b. Details of Team Members mentioning their Name, Gender, Email, Phone and whether student of IGNOU or not.

*(If there are more than one member, Add details of each member of the team as above. But, **it should be noted that the award will be given to the individual main applicant only who is IGNOU Student**)*

1. **Title of Innovation :** _____

2. **What is the stage of the Innovation Readiness Level of your Innovation?**

- a. Ideation and Documentation Stage
- b. Market Research and Planning Stage
- c. Prototype or Working Model Development Stage
- d. Prototype Testing Completed
- e. Market Ready Final Product Development Stage

3. **Type of Innovation :** (You may select more than one option, Tick Appropriates)

- a. Introduction of New or Improved Services
- b. Development of New or Improvised Product
- c. Introduction of New Method of Production/Process
- d. Re-organization of Business Management Process
- e. Any other (Please Specify)

4. **Select the Theme of your Innovation :**

- a. Health Care and Biomedical Devices
- b. Agriculture and Rural Development

- c. Food Processing and Packaging
 - d. Smart Transport and Traffic Management
 - e. Renewable and Affordable Energy and Alternate Fuel
 - f. Clean and Potable Water and Water Management
 - g. Waste Management and Disposal
 - h. Technology Based Social Innovations
 - i. E-commerce and Business Management
 - j. Robotics and Drones including AI and ML
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 - n. Innovation in Education Sector
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 - p. Any Other Emerging Area of Innovation and Startup Opportunity
5. **What is the Problem that you want to solve by Your Innovation?** (Write in Max 100 words)
 6. **Brief Summary of the Innovation** (Highlighting its Need, Salient Features and Utility, etc. in about 500 words)
 7. **What are Innovative Features/Uniqueness of your Innovation?** (Write point-wise in about 200 Words)
 8. **How is your Innovation Different/Better from a similar one, if any, in the Market?** (Write in about 50 words)
 9. **Who are the Beneficiaries and Target Users of your Innovation?**
 10. **Give details of Development and Implementation Process of your Innovation** (Write in about 500 Words)
 11. **What is the Relevance and Usability of your Innovation in Today's Market/Society/Industry?** (Write in about 100 words)
 12. **How your Innovation/Prototype can be Scaled up at Market Level?** (Write in about 100 words)
 13. **Is your Innovation in use? If so, please mention where it is being used?** (Enclose evidentiary proof for the same)

14. **What steps will you take to convert your Innovation/Prototype into a Market Ready Innovation?** (Write in about 50 words)
15. **Define the potential Market size for your Innovation (in terms of Indian Rupees).**
16. **Explain the potential of your Innovation/Prototype to become profitable.** (Write in about 100 words)
17. **How can your Innovation be commercialized?** (Write in about 100 words)
18. **How your Innovation/Prototype is Environment Friendly or addresses Environmental Problems?** (Write in about 100 words)
19. **Is there any Intellectual Property (IP) Component associated with your Innovation/Prototype? If yes, explain.**
20. **Have you received or applied for Intellectual Property Protection or Patent for your Innovation? If, yes please provide the details for the same.**

Declaration by the Applicant

I hereby confirm that I am bonafide student of IGNOU and the information presented in this Application Form is **not confidential in nature and the Innovation submitted is my original work**. I authorise IGNOU to use the details about the innovation given in the application form for documentation and dissemination purpose.

Date : _____

(Name and Signature of the Applicant)

Note :

- (1) Please send the filled-in duly typed Application Form for "Best Innovation Award-2024" in MS Word only, along with supporting documents through email at ncide@ignou.ac.in. **No Handwritten or Scanned Copy will be accepted.**
- (2) Enclose a 5-10 minutes Video Clip of your Innovation or provide URL Link related to your Innovation, if it is available on Internet or YouTube.
- (3) Enclose relevant photographs related to your innovation.
- (4) The Last Date for submitting the Entries for Best Innovation Award-2024 is September 30, 2024.
- (5) For more details, visit IGNOU Website at www.ignou.ac.in or <https://sites.google.com/ignou.ac.in/navreti/sia-2024>.
- (6) In case of any doubt or query, you can contact through email directornside@ignou.ac.in.