

**Department of Science & Technology
National Quantum Mission**

Call for Proposals on Quantum Algorithms: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. How many institutes can come together to submit a collaborative proposal?

- There is no limit; however, about 3 to 4 organizations (Academic Institutions / R&D Labs) may collaborate, and their roles must be clearly defined.

2. What is the role of PI?

- The Principal Investigator (PI) of the consortia serves as the primary contact for collaboration and coordination.
- The lead institute can have PI and Co-PI(s). Similarly, the partnering institutions can have an Associate PI and Co-PI(s).
- The PI will submit the proposal on behalf of all member institutions.

3. Are R&D Labs eligible to apply and serve as Lead Institute, as they do not have NIRF Rankings?

- Yes. R&D labs can participate as the lead Institute.
- NIRF Ranking is only required for academic institutes.

4. What is the level of funding?

- A realistic budget linked to the milestones & deliverables should clearly presented in the proposal.
- The final funding outlay will be decided by the MTRC / MGB.

5. Can institutes apply with industry/startup partners?

- Yes. industry/startups are encouraged to be involved from the beginning.

6. What should be the duration of the project?

- The duration of the project shall be in alignment with the deliverables; however, the duration shall not exceed the Mission Period, i.e., March 2031.

7. Can the PI / Co-PI from outside India?

- No. The funding is only for Indian Nationals employed in academic/R&D institutions in India. The international collaboration is meant for the joint development of technology and its application.

8. What is the evaluation process for the proposals?

- All proposals will undergo a multi-stage selection process by the Expert Committee.

9. Can an institution submit multiple proposals?

- Yes, but only one proposal per focus area is allowed per institution.

10. Can a person be part of multiple proposals?

- PI in a given proposal cannot be a PI or API in any other proposal.
- An API can be an API in at most one additional proposal.
- Existing Lead Principal Investigators (LPIs) under NQM cannot be PI or API.
- Existing Member Principal Investigators (MPIs) in one TG under NQM can be API in at most one proposal.

12. Can a proposal cover more than one area under Quantum Algorithms?

- No. Each proposal must be limited to a single focus area under the Quantum Algorithms umbrella. Institutions interested in multiple focus areas may submit separate proposals.

13. What should be the focus of the proposal?

- The National Quantum Mission (NQM) emphasizes translational research. Therefore, proposals on quantum algorithms should focus on practical, application-oriented use cases in sectors such as healthcare, energy, space, defence, finance, and others.
