

**GUJARAT UNIVERSITY  
GU-PIER FOUNDATION**



**Expression of Interest**  
***for* partnering, collaborating and occupying physical space**  
***at* the Park for Industrial Extension and Research (PIER)**  
***a.k.a.* the Research Park being established**  
***at* the Gujarat University, Ahmedabad**

(February 2020)

**Issued by:**

GU-PIER Foundation, a wholly-owned non-profit company of Gujarat University, incorporated to implement, promote and operate the 'Park for Industrial Extension and Research (PIER)' a.k.a. the Gujarat University Research Park, being established with the support of the Government of Gujarat.

**Expression of Interest fee:** INR 25,000 to be paid through a demand draft payable at Ahmedabad issued in the name of 'GU-PIER Foundation', refundable only in the case of non-selection of submitted expression of interest in the first list of announcement.

**Deadline to submit the physical copy of the Expression of Interest:** 5:00 PM on March 2, 2020.

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**About Gujarat University**

Gujarat University is the oldest university of the state of Gujarat. The university is a state-run university established in 1949 under the Gujarat University Act of the Gujarat state assembly. Gujarat University is an affiliating university at the undergraduate level, and 286 institutes are affiliated to the university.

The university is a teaching university at the postgraduate level, with over 5,000 students studying across over 50+ post-graduate courses in the university campus situated in the heart of Ahmedabad city. Over 4 lakh students are enrolled with the university across its affiliated institutes for undergraduate and post-graduate courses across several streams, including science, commerce, law, arts, medicine, dental sciences, etc. The university has numerous schools across its faculties and over 60 academic departments at its campus.

The Gujarat University campus, located in Navrangpura, is spread over an area of 270 acres, and the affiliated institutes are spread across the districts of Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, and Kheda. The Governor of Gujarat, Shri Acharya Devvrat, is the Chancellor of the University, whereas Dr. Himanshu Pandya, is the Vice-Chancellor.

**Park for Industrial Extension and Research a.k.a. GU Research Park**

The research park at Gujarat University, formally named as the Park for Industrial Extension and Research (PIER), is being established at Gujarat University with funding assistance from

the Gujarat government. Envisioned as a global hub for industrial research, academic-industry collaboration, and innovation, the PIER shall be the first of its kind research and innovation park in India, and the first for any university in the country. A special purpose vehicle named 'GU-PIER Foundation' has been incorporated as a non-profit company u/s 8(a) of the Companies Act of India to govern the operations of the research park with the following structure:

- Promoter: The SPV company is 100% owned by the Gujarat University as its wholly-owned subsidiary.
- Leadership: The company is governed by an independent board representing stakeholders and chaired by the Vice-Chancellor.
- Operations: The company is professionally-run with a lean team headed by a CEO alongside senior executives, scientists and researchers of PIER.

### **Background to the Expression of Interest**

GU-PIER Foundation now invites expressions of interest from collaborating partners such as industries, corporates, global trade and multilateral agencies, educational and research institutions, governmental and non-governmental organisations, co-working operators, and other similar organisations, for collaborating with the research park through the unique premises utilisation compensation + MAIX credits model as per the planned timeline for premises allocation as scheduled below.

### **Collaborating with GU-PIER Foundation**

To collaborate with the PIER, collaborators shall occupy physical space against fulfilling minimum academic interexchange credits (MAIX) and by paying a premises utilisation compensation (PUC). The following are the steps that shall be undertaken for due selection of such collaborators:

1. Collaborators express interest through a public expression of interest call
2. Expressions of interest are scrutinised through the premises allocation committee (PAC), headed by the Vice-Chancellor of Gujarat University
3. Specifics such as MAIX, PUC and agreement details are discussed and finalised
4. Agreement is signed and executed between GU-PIER Foundation and the collaborator
5. Collaboration begins

The following is the planned timeline for premises allocation at the Park for Industrial Extension and Research (PIER).

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Tentative date / duration</b>
Announcement of Expression of Interest	February 10, 2020
Final date to submit Expressions of interest	March 2, 2020
First meeting of the Premises Allocation Committee (PAC) to review expressions of interest, identify any questions / issues for prospective partners, conduct up one-to-one meetings with all prospective partners to discuss intent and terms of engagement, and other necessary deliberations as the PAC may deem suitable	Within two weeks of the final date of submission of the EoI
Second meeting of the PAC, for further committee deliberations and to finalise the recommendations of the first phase of allocation to be made to the Board of GU-PIER Foundation	Within two weeks of the first PAC meeting
Meeting of the Board of GU-PIER Foundation to finalise allocations' recommendations made by the PAC	Post the final meeting of the PAC
Announcement of allocations to be made	Within one to two weeks of final proceedings of the Board
Agreements for academic interexchange and research collaboration to be signed	Within two-three weeks of the announcement of allocation
Possession / fitment period begins	Within two-three weeks of Agreement signing

### **MAIX Credits**

MAIX Credits stands for Minimum Academic Interexchange Credits, which are to be accrued by collaborators at the research park per annum. It is proposed that for every 1,000 sq. ft. space a collaborator is allocated, they shall have to accrue 100 credits per year towards continuing the participation at the research park. Following are some specimen activities:

<b>Specimen Activity</b>	<b>Indicative Credits</b>
Full-time job created at, at least 4L p.a. CTC for a Gujarat University student	100 / job
Funding of a proposed academic research project at Gujarat University	100 / 1.5L funding
Masters' student fellowship at 5k per month for a year	10 / student
Offering a consultancy project through GU Consultancy Foundation to a University team, faculty and/or student	100 / 1.5L project
Offering co-guidance to GU PhD students as co PI	25 / student
Organising a full-day workshop / seminar with a department / organisation of the University	5 / event
Organising industry-specific lectures with a department / organisation of the University	2 / lecture
PhD student fellowship at 15k per month for a year	50 / student
Sponsoring an adjunct professor as per needs	100 / 75 hours

\*This list of MAIX credit activities is indicative. Detailed actual list of activities, as well as the process of accruing these credits will be made available to partners and collaborators before the collaboration begins.

### **Research Park premises:**

The phase I of the Park for Industrial Extension and Research (PIER) is the iconic Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Centre for Extension, Research and Innovation (CERI) located in the Sciences and Innovation cluster of Gujarat University. The seven-storey building spans 1,50,000 sq. ft. of built-up and is ready to be operationalised. Overall, the Research Park shall span three phases, with a total proposed built-up area of 4.7 lakh sq. ft. The phase II of the research park is already under construction and is expected to be complete during the year 2020. Following are some images concerning the research park.



3D view of the University campus area where the Research Park is located. (Not to scale) The research park area is an enclave between the Sciences, Innovation and the Sports clusters of the university



Actual photo of the Dr A P J Abdul Kalam Centre for Extension, Research and Innovation (CERI) i.e. the phase-I of the Research Park

## Submitting an Expression of Interest:

- 1. Authorised Representative:** Organisations interested in submitting an expression of interest are required to appoint an authorised representative who may be a senior-ranked official of the organisation to submit this form and liaise with the Research Park team for further deliberations.
- 2. Fill Form PIER-A:** To submit an expression of interest for the Research Park at Gujarat University, complete the form PIER-A (available [here](#) or visit <http://pier.edu.in/form>) which includes submitting the following information:
  - Organisational information such as:
    - Basic organisational information and contact information
    - Organisational profile, in soft copy and hard copy
    - Annual reports of the last three years, in soft copy and hard copy
    - Income-tax returns of the last three years, signed and stamped by the authorised representative, in soft copy and hard copy,
  - Details of the authorised representative authorised to submit the expression of interest and a scanned copy of such an authorisation, signed and stamped on the organisation's letterhead
  - Proposed activities at research park, and intended space requirements
- 3. Duly filled Form PIER-A:** Completing the aforementioned form PIER-A will generate a PDF file which shall be emailed to the organisation's email address and the authorised representative's email address.
- 4. Physical Document Submission:** Hard copy of the print of this generated PDF of the PIER-A along with required documents and a demand draft of Rs. 25000/- drawn in favour of 'GU-PIER Foundation' as an expression of interest fee, all in a sealed envelope, should be hand-delivered or sent through registered post to - GU-PIER Foundation, GUSEC West Wing, University School of Sciences, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad 380009.
- 5. Deadline:** Physical documents received after 5:00 PM on March 2, 2020, shall not be considered.

- 6. Document Checklist:** Annexure-A enlists a checklist of all documents to be submitted for submitting the expression of interest.

**Questions and queries regarding Expressions of Interest:**

GU-PIER Foundation shall assist organisations for all queries and assistance in person / on call / through video-conference / via email. Any questions, queries and/or requests for in-person meetings / video-conference meetings / appointments may be sent in writing to [pier@gujaratuniversity.ac.in](mailto:pier@gujaratuniversity.ac.in) or by a phone call to +91-79-2630-8576.



## ANNEXURE-A

### Checklist of documents to be submitted for expression of interest for the Gujarat University Research Park

(Please enclose the below documents in a sealed envelope and deliver to the aforementioned address by the prescribed deadline)

#	Document	Tick (✓) if included
1.	<b>PIER-A Form</b> - Duly Filled and Printed, in original - Each page of PIER-A Form should be signed and stamped by the authorised representative	
2.	<b>Demand draft</b> valued at INR 25,000 issued in favour of 'GU-PIER Foundation' - This expression of interest fee will be refunded in case of non-selection of expression of interest in the first list of announcements	
3.	<b>Authorisation Letter</b> of Authorised Representative on the official letterhead, signed and stamped, in original	
4.	<b>Organisational Profile</b>	
5.	Copy of <b>Incorporation</b> / Registration document of the organisation, signed and stamped by the authorised representative - Examples include certificate of incorporation, registered trust deed, acts of legislative bodies, etc.	
6.	Copies of the <b>annual reports</b> of the organisation of the last three years	
7.	Copies of the <b>Income-tax returns</b> of the organisation of the last three years, signed and stamped by the authorised representative	