

Foundation for Advancement of Education and Research

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FAER Scholar Award Program – A Multidisciplinary Engineering Innovation Challenge: 2025-2026

Rules of the Challenge

- 1) Bonafide students doing B.E. in recognized institutions are eligible to participate in this contest. We prefer students to do this proposed project for a longer duration of 6 to 8 months, not as a few hours per week work but we want concentrated approach to solve the problems. Please read the following rules carefully.
- 2) Most students are enthusiastic about our challenge and submit good proposals. We encourage all students in second, third and fourth year BE to submit proposals. We prefer a mixed team with members from different years and different disciplines if possible. Since we are looking for a longer duration, we prefer third year students, but others are not prohibited. All proposals from any year will be considered. Team size is about 3, but should not exceed 4.
- 3) Kindly note that the proposal need not be on the projects chosen by you for your BE degree program. It can be outside that also. We receive many proposals which are not part of the curriculum.
- 4) The related subtopics are
 - Computer Science, Data Science, and Information Technology
 - Cyber Security and Safety
 - AI and Hybrid Intelligence
 - Communications Technologies and Concepts (Digital, Optical, Wireless, Mobile, Satellite etc.)
 - Renewable Energy Systems
 - Environment
 - Innovative applications of systems for problems related to rural areas and disadvantaged people - health, agriculture, education, renewable energy, labor saving technologies, rural technologies, etc.
- 3) The project proposals submitted by participants should pertain to any of the above topics or related areas. It should discuss the merits of the topic chosen. It should deal with new ideas/ experiments / devices; innovation and details of implementation as well as its impacts on society.
- 4) The project team (batch) can have up to a maximum of **four** students, three being ideal.
- 5) The team should submit a letter from the principal of their institution stating that they are Bonafide students of the institution studying for the degree in the final year.
- 6) The team should submit the project proposal in the prescribed form signed by their project advisor and principal. An amount to a maximum of Rs. 6000/- will be reimbursed to the project team after their completion of the project.
- 7) Please select the title of the project carefully. It should be detailed and not be on an area like IOT for medicine or ML for plants growth or games by ML etc. The title should reflect the topic and focused outcomes.

- 8) The team should submit a declaration that the work proposed will be taken up exclusively for the FAER Scholar Challenge.
- 9) The team should also submit an undertaking that if the project is selected, they will take it up, complete within the prescribed time submit the detailed project Report to FAER and participate in the final evaluation process.
- 10) The Principal / HoD should give us an assurance that facilities required will be provided to the selected students. This may be part of the proposal.
- 11) Please send your intent to participate by email to FAER office by 1st August, 2025.
- 12) Project proposals should be sent both **hard copy** and **soft copy** (by email) containing all details as per the format declaration and undertaking to our address by **15th September 2025**.
- 13) Project proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by a team of experts. The experts will select projects suitable for funding. The announcement of projects selected for this programme will be on **15th November 2025**.
- 14) Evaluation will be based on
 - Relevance to our focused areas
 - Originality / innovation / novelty
 - Technical strength
 - Utility / applicability and Feasibility
 - Methodology and approach including implementation, experimentation, and results.
 - Analytical capabilities
- 13) Proposals without proper details may be rejected.
- 14) Selected teams will be informed by us along with conditions and details for submission of the project report by **15th November 2025**. The concerned students should go ahead with initial preparations without waiting for approval from us.
- 15) The teams should submit the project report by the final date to be announced by FAER, but definitely by the second week of **June 2026**.
- 16) A team can send only one project proposal.
- 17) The completed projects will be reviewed. A Seminar-cum-Exhibition will be arranged either physically or online based at Bangalore. The FAER scholars will be selected in the seminar. Seminar invitations will be sent to all project teams.
- 18) The FAER Scholar Awards - The first prize will be Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rs. 80,000/- to Students Team and Rs. 20,000/- to Project Guide), The second prize will be Rs.75,000/- (Rs. 60,000/- to Students Team and Rs. 15,000/- to Project Guide), Third prize Rs.50,000/- (Rs.40,000/- to Students Team and Rs. 10,000/- to Project Guide). The scholars will be selected by experts. The awards and grants to all selected teams will be presented at the Seminar-cum-Exhibition.
- 19) Kindly note that the topic chosen should be a focused one - not very general or diffused; should be preferably an experimental one - not just programming work / simulation; and should be feasible and implementable in 3 - 4 months in the institutions.
- 20) In order to provide knowledge support, we identify mentors who are leaders in the areas with considerable knowledge and experience to help shortlisted and selected projects. The team should agree to discuss with mentors regularly. This is a serious requirement and not following this may lead to disqualification of a selected project.
- 21) Read our instructions carefully before submitting the proposal and follow the guidelines.
- 22) Kindly visit our website for details and other relevant information and further announcements.

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