

ELIGIBILITY FOR NIDHI-EIR SUPPORT:

- i. The EIR applicant should be a citizen of India. An Indian citizen is defined as one who is in possession of a government-approved proof of nationality such as a valid passport, voter's id, etc.
- ii. The applicant will submit the application in the format prescribed by DST in Annexure 6 along with the undertakings mentioned in Part E of the Application format in Annexure 6.
- iii. The EIR applicant should have completed
 - o Minimum 4 years of formal full-time undergraduate/post graduate education towards one or more degree programs. A basic degree or diploma should be in science or engineering.
 - OR
 - o 3 years degree or diploma program and have 2 years full-time work experience post-degree or diploma. A basic degree or diploma should be in science or engineering.
- iv. The EIR is expected to be committed to exploring a business idea. Typical NIDHI-EIR needing support is a first generation innovative entrepreneur, who has no prior source of income. NIDHI-EIR support recipient should not treat this support as a stop gap arrangement to support them in their academic pursuits or transition between jobs.
- v. NIDHI-EIR seeking the support should demonstrate his ability to build a scalable technology business startup. The background of the NIDHI-EIR needs to be provided in a prescribed format.
- vi. Funding under NIDHI EIR Call 3 is divided under three heads namely – EIRs from General Category; EIRs from SC category and EIRs from ST category. Candidates applying under the SC and ST categories should provide a caste certificate as will be requested by the PEP at the time of application. PEP will inform the applicants, list of competent authorities whose certificate can be accepted for the purpose of considering their application under the respective category. DST/PIP's decision will be final with respect to acceptance of caste certificate, and it will be communicated to the applicant by the PEP.
- vii. The NIDHI-EIR support recipient should propose one technology business idea in a prescribed format.
- viii. NIDHI-EIR support recipient are expected to pursue their entrepreneurial aspirations full time. NIDHI-EIR cannot be concurrent with any other remuneration or fellowship.
- ix. NIDHI-EIR support recipient cannot be the promoter or significant (>10%) share holder / beneficiary of another company at the time of applying for and receiving the grant approval
- x. The NIDHI-EIR should be registered for the pre-incubation or incubation program at the TBI for the entire duration of NIDHI-EIR support.
- xi. Preference shall be given for a) technology business ideas with larger technology uncertainties and/ or long gestation periods, b) technology business ideas leveraging technology or IP from publicly funded research or academic organizations, c) technology business ideas with considerable potential for social impact.
- xii. Entrepreneurs pursuing business ideas with no or marginal technology innovation or those with very short journey (i.e less than 6 months) to commercialization are discouraged to apply.
- xiii. NIDHI-EIR seeking support should have a formal business plan for the idea they intend to pursue and a business presentation including the investment proposal.