

جامعة الدوحة
للعلوم والتكنولوجيا
UNIVERSITY OF DOHA
FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



**GRADUATE SPONSORSHIP RESEARCH AWARD
(GSRA)**

Coaching and Mentorship Workshop

www.udst.edu.qa

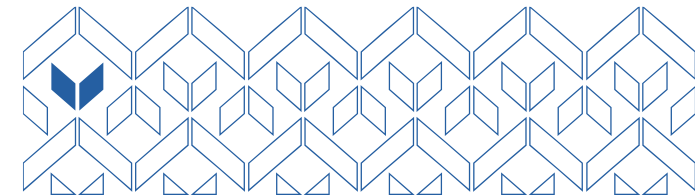
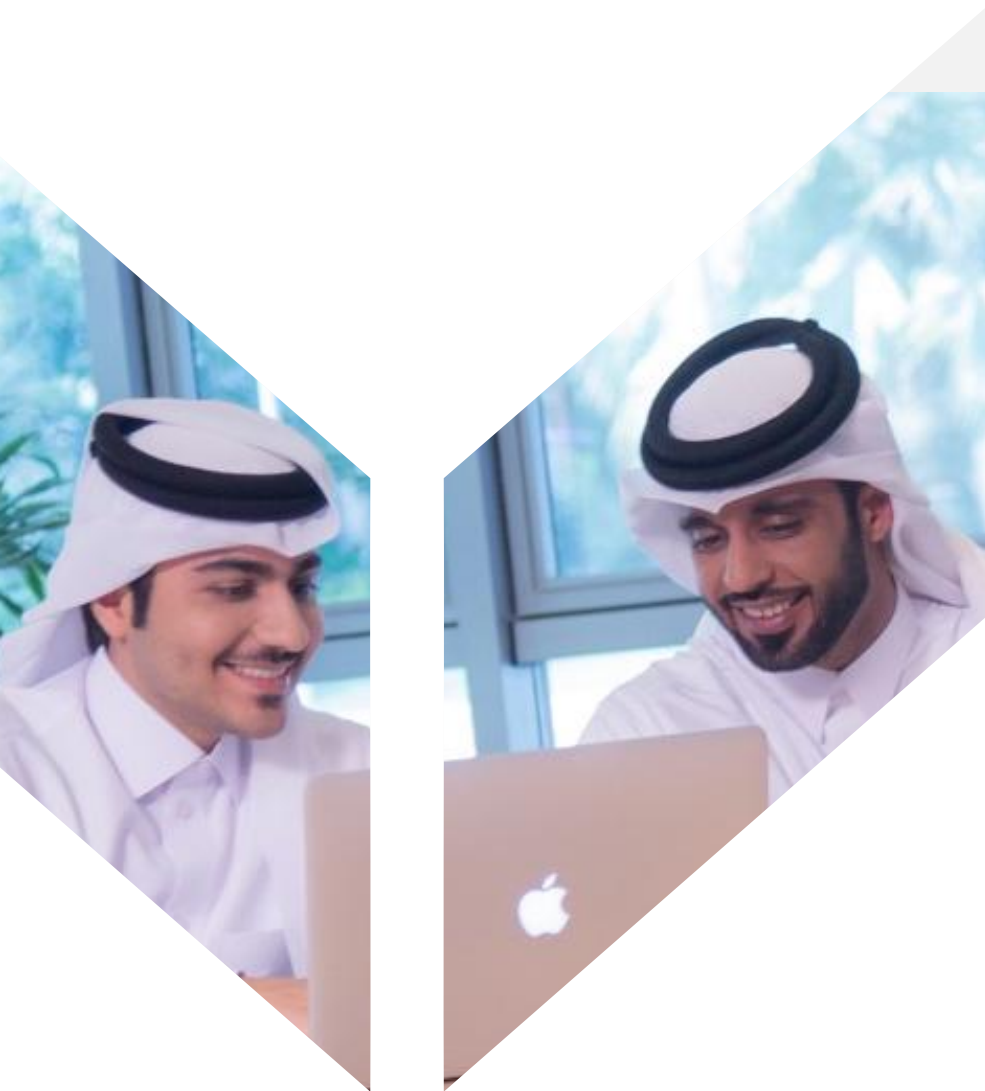
Overview and Objective

What is GSRA?

- A competitive sponsorship program from QRDI supporting research-based master's and doctoral studies.
- Aims to develop future researchers, academics, and R&D leaders in Qatar.

GSRA Tracks:

- GSRA Local Track
- GSRA International Track



Eligibility Criteria

Age Limit

Candidates must not exceed 40 years of age at the time of submission.

Employment in Qatar

All GSRA candidates must be employed within Qatar.

Full-Time Enrollment

Applicants must pursue a master's or doctoral degree at an accredited university, enrolled in a full-time program. Online and part-time programs are not eligible.

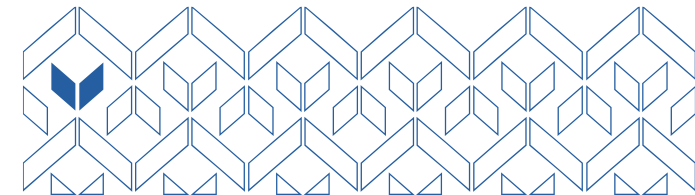
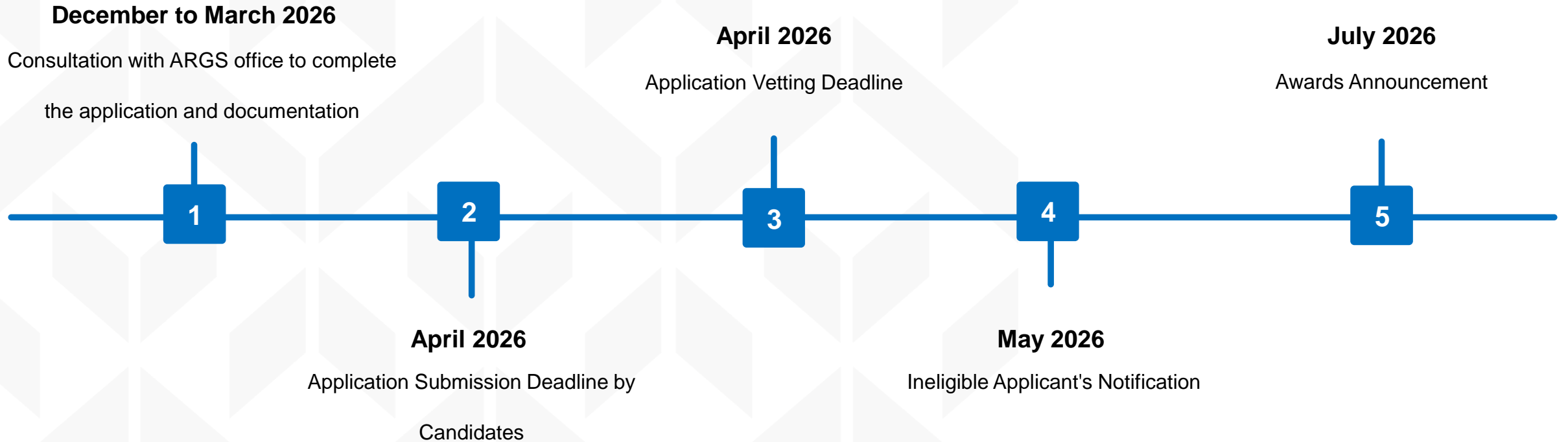
Degree Level

GSRA does not support applications for an equivalent or lower degree than the candidate currently holds.

Applications are only accepted for programs commencing in the following academic year; studies already in progress are not supported.



Internal Application Timeline





Budget and Financial Support



Full Tuition Fees

GSRA covers full tuition fees, paid in Qatari Riyals to awarded institutions.



Standard Health Insurance

International track awardees receive annual standard health insurance.



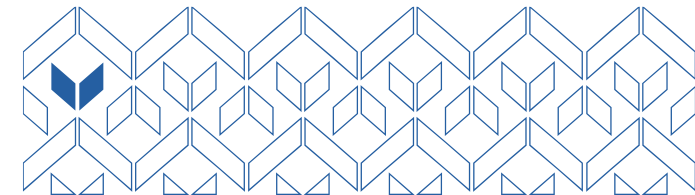
Annual Conference Allowance

Up to QAR 18,000 (US\$ 4,931) annually for paper presentations at research conferences. The student should include a copy of the accepted abstract or full paper with the annual progress report.



Settlement Allowance

International track awardees receive a one-time QAR 18,000 (US\$ 4,931) allowance to assist with relocation.



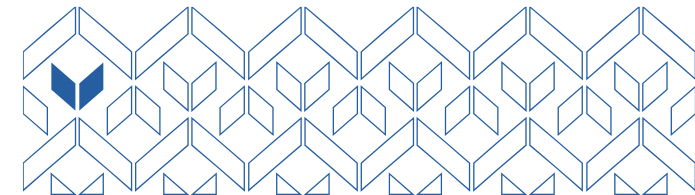


Application Submission Guidelines

GSRA International Track applications shall be submitted by the GSRA candidate only, while GSRA Local Track applications will be submitted by the student then should be vetted by the research office of the academic institution offered the acceptance.

Required Document:

1. Identification documents - Qatari Identification Card (QIC), Birth certificate for applicants of Qatari mothers (International Track).
2. Candidate's updated CV.
3. Candidate's academic certificates.
4. Statement letter.
5. Official letter of employment provided by the candidate's human resource department.
6. Recommendation letter provided by the candidate's line manager.
7. Study Program Letters must include – **a)** A confirmation letter or email verifying the submission of an application to the host university for a master's or PhD program. If awarded, the official acceptance letter must be submitted, **b)** Details of tuition fees, **c)** Program duration.



Refinement and CV Update



Update your CV to the highest standard — clear structure, strong formatting, and no errors.

Show how your proposed research connects to your workplace or organization and how it addresses real challenges.

Include all research experience, publications, abstracts, awards, and conference papers.

Emphasize how your research can benefit your employer, sector, or Qatar's national priorities.

Highlight research projects you have worked on, clearly stating your role, achievements, and outcomes.

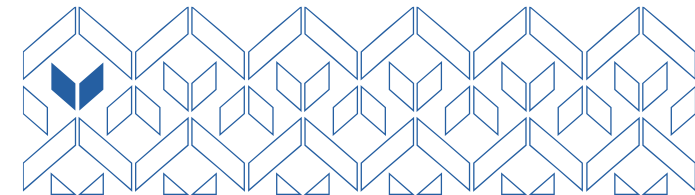
Include skills relevant to research: data analysis, academic writing, software tools, lab techniques, etc.

Add relevant work experience, especially roles that demonstrate analytical, technical, or problem-solving skills.

Add professional development: workshops, training sessions, certifications, and voluntary academic activities.

Use action verbs: designed, analyzed, implemented, evaluated, presented, mentored, facilitated.

Ensure your CV reflects a research mindset, growth, commitment, and readiness for graduate studies.



Statement Letter



1

Research Experience & Achievements:

Describe your previous academic research, your specific role (independent or team-based), key learnings, abstracts of projects, awards, and publications (if any).

2

Relevant Personal Background:

Briefly highlight personal experiences that shaped your academic journey and interest in research.

3

Motivation for Graduate Studies:

Explain why you want to pursue graduate studies and how your goals align with the chosen graduate program.

4

Proposed Research Background:

Outline the knowledge or information that led to your proposed research idea.

5

Research Objectives:

Clearly state the aims of your proposed research topic or field.

6

Topic Background:

Provide context or foundational information related to your intended research area.

7

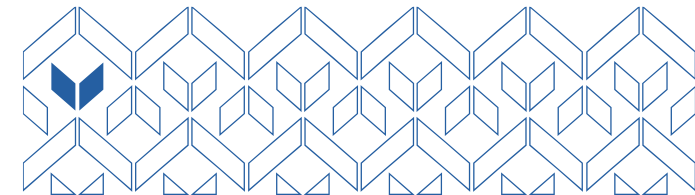
Connection to Your Interests:

Show how the topic relates to your research interests and academic direction.

8

Expected Outcomes:

Mention the anticipated results or contributions your research may generate.





Application Evaluation

Excellence (60%)

Research Importance & Significance (30%)

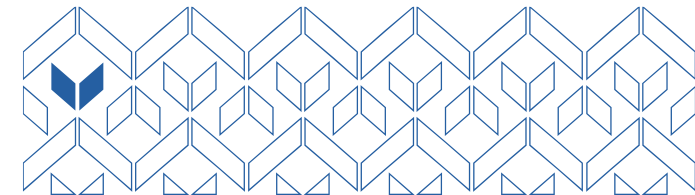
National Standing of Employer (20%)

Impact (10%)

Track Record (40%)

Academic Track Record (25%)

Research Experience (15%)



Application Evaluation



Excellence (60%)

Research Importance & Significance (30%)

- Relevance of the topic of study to QRDI national priorities.
- Relevance of the selected field/topic to the research interests of the candidate and their employer.
- Caliber of the university and program.
- Mentor's profile

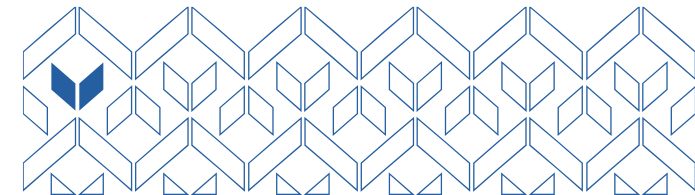
National Standing of Employer (20%)

- National standing of the candidate's employer.
- Employer's research infrastructure.
- Assessment of the expected career growth and impact of the candidate's research at their current institution.

Impact (10%)

- Potential outcomes
- Wider impact

Rating Scale: Excellent, Good, Average, Unsatisfactory, Poor



Application Evaluation



Track Record (40%)

Academic Track Record (25%)

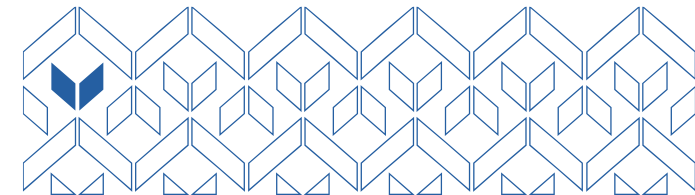
- Academic achievement / Transcripts
- Candidate's CV
- Statement letter

Research Experience (15%)

- Previous research experience
- Research output

Rating Scale: Excellent, Good, Average, Unsatisfactory, Poor

Upon review, applications are categorized into groups (A: highly competitive, B: moderately competitive, C: uncompetitive) to inform the final funding decision.

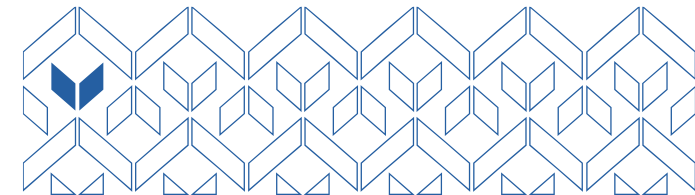




Staying Updated with National Priorities

Read, Stay Updated & Informed

1. Regularly review the **Qatar National Vision 2030** pillars and priorities. ([Qatar National Vision 2030](#))
2. Stay informed about the **National Development Strategy (NDS3)** updates and sectoral goals. ([Third National Development Strategy](#))
3. Follow **national research priorities**, major government initiatives, and emerging focus areas.
4. Keep up with **latest news, trends, and developments** in Qatar's industries and research landscape.
5. Track major updates in **research, innovation, sustainability, technology, and education** sectors.
6. Read official reports, publications, and announcements from ministries and national agencies.
7. Connect your **research interests** with Qatar's economic, social, environmental, and human development goals.
8. **Being informed** helps you write stronger proposals, justify your research topic, and demonstrate alignment with national needs.



Research Platform – Review & Learn

- **Review the platform to learn how research projects are:**
 - Titled professionally
 - Categorized
 - Assigned keywords
 - Linked to national or institutional priorities
- **Pay attention to how strong titles are clear, specific, and problem-focused.**
- **Observe the keywords used, they should reflect:** Topic area, Methodology, Sector/industry and Expected outcomes
- **Use these observations to help you create a well-structured, meaningful title and select impactful keywords for your own research proposal.**



Working Title: An investigation into the impact of supply chain management techniques on business sustainability in retail firms in Qatar.

Basic research Business and Management Public Administration Logistics Supply chain management

Project management Chain management Managment

\$ Funding Source
Qatar National Research Fund

\$ Funding Program and Cycle
Graduate Sponsorship Research Award - GSRA 12th Cycle

🎓 Awarded to
Hamad Bin Khalifa University

📅 Timeline
Sep 01,2025 - Sep 01,2029

Project Number
GSRA12-L-0411-250082

🎯 Status
Active

Team

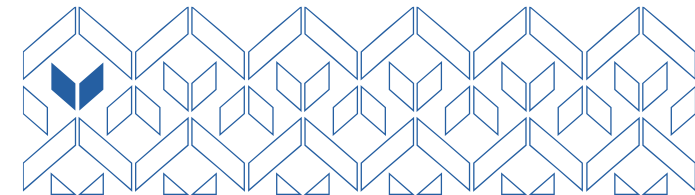


Dr. ROBERTO BALDACC
Primary Research Mentor



Mr. Nasser Abdulla
Student

<https://innolight.qrdi.org.qa/resources?tab=outputs&subtab=nil&sort=&programId=16&page=1>



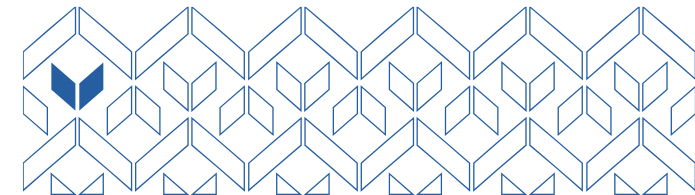
Application Vetting and Screening

Internal Vetting

- Academic institutions are responsible for vetting Local Track applications to ensure compliance with their internal policies and QRDI guidelines.

QRDI Screening

- All applications undergo screening by QRDI to confirm adherence to the program's rules and regulations, as detailed in the "Screening and Disqualification" document.



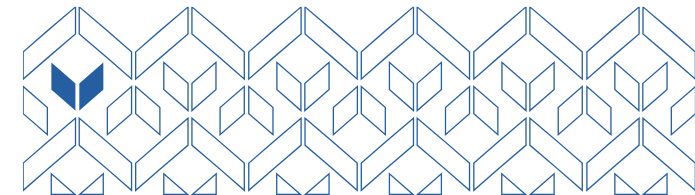
Participant Action Plan



Next Steps for Participants

1. Connect and collaborate with your supervisors to work towards a publication.
2. Update and finalize your CV to reflect all relevant academic and research experience.
3. Prepare your Statement Letter and submit it by 20th December. The submission link will be provided via email shortly.
4. Schedule and attend mentoring and coaching sessions, available between 26th November and 20th December. Book your appointment by contacting GSU via email.

GSU Email: graduate.studies@udst.edu.qa





Thank you



+974 4495 2422



Graduate Studies Unit
Building 3
Office: 03.2.102G



graduate.studies@udst.edu.qa

