



# ATENEOS DE MANILA UNIVERSITY

## OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH, CREATIVE WORK, AND INNOVATION

### **UNIVERSITY INNOVATION AWARDS: POLICIES AND GUIDELINES**

#### **A. PURPOSE**

Innovation refers to the process of creating new ideas, methods, products, or solutions that result in positive change or added value. It encompasses the transformation of creative concepts into practical and impactful outcomes, whether in the form of technological advancements, novel approaches to problem-solving, or improvements in existing processes or systems.

The University Innovation Awards aim to foster a culture of innovation and creativity within the Ateneo de Manila University, encouraging members of the university community to engage in innovative endeavors that contribute to advancements in their respective fields, promote interdisciplinary collaboration, and enhance the university's reputation as a center for innovation and problem-solving.

#### **B. ELIGIBILITY**

1. The following are eligible to receive the University Innovation Awards:
  - a. Full-time and part-time faculty members of the Ateneo de Manila University across all units
  - b. Administrators, professionals, and research staff of the Ateneo de Manila University
  - c. Students, except those covered by D.4
  - d. Faculty members, administrators, professionals, and research staff pursuing graduate studies, research fellowships, or similar endeavors, irrespective of tenure status, and who, upon approval of the Ateneo Intellectual Property Office (AIPO), assign to the Ateneo de Manila University the patent/s and/or utility model/s from the innovations that they have developed from such endeavors
  - e. Adjunct professors and holders of other types of professorships who have produced an innovation under a project of the Ateneo de Manila University.

A further requirement for eligibility is that the innovation must have been developed or implemented with resources provided by or through the Ateneo de Manila University and registered for intellectual property (IP) rights protection through the AIPO, which IP rights to the innovation shall be owned by the university, in accordance with its policies and guidelines on intellectual property management.

### **C. SCOPE OF THE AWARDS**

#### Category A: Patents

1. Patents granted for innovative inventions that demonstrate novelty, inventiveness, and industrial applicability, as recognized by relevant patent authorities
2. Eligible patents may cover a wide range of technological or industrial innovations, including but not limited to processes, devices, machines, compositions of matter, or improvements thereof.

#### Category B: Utility Models

1. Utility models registered for innovative creations that offer practical utility and represent incremental improvements or modifications to existing products or processes, as evidenced by a utility model certificate issued by an appropriate intellectual property office
2. Eligible utility models may include minor innovations in product design, configuration, or functionality that enhance utility, usability, or efficiency without necessarily meeting the inventiveness criteria for patentability.

### **D. ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES ON THE SCOPE OF THE AWARDS**

1. An individual or team eligible for the University Innovation Awards may receive it for each qualifying innovation.
2. An eligible person who may apply for the same patent or utility model in several territories shall be considered once only for the award. The same patent or utility model will be counted as a single innovation for purposes of these awards.
3. A University Innovation Award can be granted to an eligible recipient within two years of the grant of a patent or registration of a utility model.
4. Graduate students who participate in research and innovation or the making of a utility model as part of fulfilling the requirements of an academic degree program pursuant to CMO no. 15, series of 2019, shall not be eligible for these awards but shall be given due recognition for their achievement.
5. If the patent or utility model associated with the innovation is later invalidated because of a lack of novelty or inventive step, the recipient of the monetary award shall return the award money to the university. This ensures that awards are given for innovations with valid intellectual property protection.

## **E. MONETARY ASPECT OF THE AWARD**

1. The amounts for the University Innovation Awards differ based on the categories specified in item C, "Scope of the Awards":

Category A: ₱70,000

Category B: ₱50,000

2. For innovations with two innovators, each eligible innovator shall receive 50 percent of the award money in the relevant category. For innovations with three or more innovators, each eligible innovator shall receive one-third of the award money in the relevant category.
3. Students who are eligible for the University Innovation Awards shall receive 50 percent of the award money to which a faculty member is entitled.
4. The monetary aspect of the University Innovation Awards may be subject to periodic review and adjustment based on available resources and evolving priorities.

## **F. PROCEDURES**

1. The University Innovation Awards are conferred annually. Eligible innovations must have received the patent or utility model registration during the period from 1 January to 31 December of the award year.
2. The Office of the AVP for Research, Creative Work, and Innovation (OAVP RCWI) shall make the call for nominations, which shall coordinate with AIPO for the confirmation of the eligibility of the innovators for the University Innovation Awards.
3. The OAVP RCWI shall elevate the nomination to the University Research Council (URC), which will make the final recommendation to the University President for approval.
4. Awardees shall be notified of their selection, and the monetary awards shall be disbursed accordingly.
5. A University Innovation Awards ceremony shall be held to publicly celebrate the achievements of the awardees.

## **G. EFFECTIVITY**

Once approved by the University President, these policies and guidelines shall take effect immediately and govern the administration of the University Innovation Awards. Any subsequent amendments or revisions shall be made in accordance with established procedures and communicated to the university community promptly.