

GUIDELINES FOR UNIVERSITY BASED CSR INITIATIVES AND COLLABORATIONS

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR)

(Direct contributions of companies for nation building, research, innovation and education)



(A 106-year-old premier state university of India, accredited A++ by NAAC and graded A by UGC)

**UNIVERSITY OF LUCKNOW
LUCKNOW-226007, U.P., INDIA**

1. INTRODUCTION TO CSR

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) refers to the ethical responsibility of companies/industries and corporate organizations toward society and environment. Under Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013, eligible companies in India are required to spend a portion of their profits on activities that contribute to social welfare and sustainable development. CSR aims to integrate social, educational, environmental, and economic concerns into corporate operations and decision-making processes.

Universities across India are increasingly collaborating with industries and corporate organisations to strengthen academic infrastructure, support research activities, provide scholarships, and establish innovation centres. Such CSR partnerships enhance higher education, research, innovation, and societal development. Through these collaborations, universities mobilise donations and CSR support to strengthen their endowment funds and advance academic and infrastructural development, while fostering partnerships among alumni, industries, corporates, institutions, and well-wishers to promote educational excellence and social impact. The University of Lucknow, through its CSR Cell, encourages industries and corporate organisations to participate in educational development, student welfare initiatives, and community upliftment programmes. The University believes that collaborative efforts between academia and industry can create meaningful social transformation.

The University aims to develop a strong CSR ecosystem by collaborating with industries in areas such as Artificial Intelligence, semiconductors, green energy, cybersecurity, healthcare technologies, startup incubation, and joint training programmes, among many other areas of development. The University supports industry-driven research and innovation aligned with national priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

CSR contributions to universities help in:

- Improving educational infrastructure
- Supporting deserving students through scholarships and fellowships
- Encouraging scientific research and innovation
- Developing Centers of Excellence (CoEs)
- Enhancing employability and skill development
- Promoting entrepreneurship and startup incubation
- Addressing societal and environmental challenges
- Establishment of Chair Professor

- Exchange programme between industry and academia

Thus, CSR in higher educational institutions serves as a bridge between academia, industry, and society, contributing significantly toward sustainable national development.

2. CSR ACCOUNT DETAILS OF UNIVERSITY OF LUCKNOW

Particulars	Details
Account Name	
Bank Name	
Branch Name	
Account Number	
Account Type	
IFSC Code	

PAN Number: AAAJL2388N

GST Number: 09AAAJL2388N2ZJ

TAN Number: LKNL01777G

3. CONTACT DETAILS OF CSR CELL

Institution	University of Lucknow
Department/Cell	Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
Purpose	CSR collaborations, funding support, institutional partnerships, scholarships, research funding
Contact Person	CSR Director/Authorized Representative

Universities encourage corporate organizations, industries, philanthropists, alumni, and institutions to collaborate for academic and societal development through CSR initiatives.

4. SUPPORT TYPE / WAYS / COLLABORATIONS

Universities provide multiple opportunities for industries and corporates to collaborate through CSR partnerships. These collaborations help institutions strengthen educational quality, innovation, and research capabilities.

Educational institutions play a significant role in CSR implementation because investment in education directly contributes to nation-building, skill development, research advancement, innovation, and social empowerment.

MAJOR AREAS OF CSR SUPPORT/COLLABORATION

A. Scholarships and Fellowships

Corporate organizations can support meritorious and economically weaker students through:

- Student scholarships
- Research fellowships
- Financial aid programs
- Skill development support

These initiatives ensure equal educational opportunities and help students pursue higher education without financial barriers.

B. Sponsored Research and Development (R&D)

Industries can fund:

- Scientific research projects
- Technology development programs
- Innovation-driven research
- Interdisciplinary research initiatives

Research collaborations help universities contribute toward solving national and global challenges.

C. Establishment of Centers of Excellence (CoEs)

CSR funding can support establishment of specialized research centers in:

- Climate Change and Sustainable Development
- Artificial Intelligence
- Robotics
- Renewable Energy
- Environmental Science
- Petroleum Engineering
- Semiconductor Technology
- Cybersecurity
- Healthcare Technologies

Such centers promote industry-oriented education and advanced research.

D. Infrastructure Development

Corporate support may help universities in:

- Laboratory development
- Smart classrooms
- Research instrumentation
- Library modernization
- Digital infrastructure
- Hostel and campus development
- Student amenities such as drinking water, toilets, and common rooms

Infrastructure enhancement improves teaching-learning quality and research efficiency.

E. Startup and Innovation Support

Universities can collaborate with industries to:

- Provide startup seed funding
- Develop incubation centers
- Support entrepreneurship programs
- Promote student innovation projects

Startup incubation ecosystems help transform innovative ideas into practical solutions and employment opportunities.

F. Faculty Development and Chair Professorships

CSR collaborations may support:

- Faculty research grants
- Visiting professorships
- Endowed chairs
- Academic training programs
- International collaborations

This contributes toward academic excellence and research advancement.

G. Community Development Programs

Universities and corporates may jointly organize:

- Educational awareness campaigns
- Rural development programs
- Health and sanitation initiatives
- Environmental awareness drives
- Skill development workshops

- Training programmes

Such programs create direct societal impact.

H. Sustainability, Environment, and Hazard Mitigation Programmes

- Work for SDG Goals
- Sustain and preserve all the components of environment
- Work for the mitigation measures of Natural Hazards

5. ADVANTAGES/BENEFITS TO CSR PROVIDING COMPANIES

CSR partnerships with universities offer several benefits to companies and industries, as they demonstrate a commitment to academic and research excellence that contributes to nation-building.

A. Direct Ph.D. Admission (on a Part-Time Basis) for Officers Sponsored by Corporate Organisations

- Corporate organizations may collaborate with universities to sponsor direct Ph.D. admissions for employees, researchers, or deserving candidates in specialized research areas relevant to industry requirements. Under such collaborations:
- Companies may support full research expenses, laboratory costs, analytical charges, field investigations, contingency grants, and fellowship/stipend support for Ph.D. scholars.
- Sponsored research scholars may work on industry-oriented research problems, innovation-driven projects, and applied scientific investigations beneficial to both academia and industry.
- Corporate-funded Ph.D. programs can strengthen industry–academia interaction and promote advanced research in strategic sectors such as Artificial Intelligence, Geosciences, Renewable Energy, Environmental Studies, Materials Science, Biotechnology, Cybersecurity, and Engineering Sciences.
- Direct admission opportunities for corporate-sponsored candidates may be provided as per university rules and regulations without financial burden on the university.
- Such collaborations may also contribute toward development of patents, technologies, publications, and industrial solutions.
- These sponsored doctoral programs can help industries develop highly skilled research professionals while contributing to national research and innovation ecosystems.

B. Professor of Practice sponsored by Industry/Corporates (As per UGC guidelines, 2018)

- Corporate organizations may also support appointment of visiting professors, industry experts, scientists, and technical specialists at their own cost for enhancing academic quality and practical exposure within universities.
- Industries may sponsor remuneration, travel expenses, accommodation, research support, and honorarium for visiting faculty members.
- Experienced professionals from industries, research laboratories, and international institutions can deliver lectures, conduct workshops, provide technical training, and guide research projects.
- Students and researchers benefit from exposure to real-world industrial applications, emerging technologies, and advanced research methodologies.
- Such initiatives strengthen practical learning, interdisciplinary research, innovation culture, and employability of students.
- Corporate-sponsored visiting professorships create a strong bridge between academic knowledge and industrial practice, thereby enhancing the overall quality of higher education and research.

C. Industry-Academia Collaboration

Companies gain opportunities to collaborate with researchers, faculty members, and students on innovative projects and technological advancements.

D. Positive Brand Image

CSR activities enhance the company's social reputation and public trust by demonstrating commitment toward education and societal welfare.

E. Fulfilment of Legal CSR Obligations

Contributions to recognized educational institutions help companies fulfill mandatory CSR obligations under the Companies Act, 2013.

F. Tax Benefits

CSR donations to eligible educational institutions may provide tax benefits under applicable provisions such as Section 80G of the Income Tax Act.

G. Access to Skilled Human Resources

Partnerships with universities provide industries access to trained students, researchers, and future employees.

H. Promotion of Innovation

Supporting research and startup incubation encourages innovation and technological development beneficial for industrial growth.

I. Sustainable Development Contribution

CSR investments in education contribute directly toward Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including quality education, innovation, and reduced inequalities.

J. Long-Term Social Impact

Investing in higher education creates long-term societal benefits by empowering future generations with knowledge, skills, and research capabilities.

K. Research-Oriented Industrial Development

Corporate-sponsored Ph.D. programs and university collaborations help industries obtain research-based solutions for technical and scientific challenges.

L. Enhanced Corporate Visibility and Academic Presence

Companies associated with universities through Centres of Excellence, scholarships, research laboratories, and visiting professorships gain recognition within academic and professional communities.

CONCLUSIONS

CSR collaborations between universities and corporate organizations play a vital role in strengthening higher education, research, innovation, and societal development in India. Institutions such as the University of Delhi Foundation, University of Allahabad, and MIT World Peace University demonstrate how academic institutions can work with industries to create meaningful educational and social impact.

Through strategic partnerships, CSR funding contributes not only to academic excellence but also to sustainable national development and community welfare. Support in the form of scholarships, infrastructure development, research collaborations, startup incubation, sponsored Ph.D. programs, and visiting professorships can significantly strengthen the educational ecosystem of universities while helping industries fulfill their social responsibilities and innovation goals.

PROFORMA FOR CSR FUNDING
UNIVERSITY OF LUCKNOW, LUCKNOW

S. No.	Particulars	Funding/Grant
1	Scholarships and Fellowships	
2	Sponsored Research and Development (R&D)	
3	Establishment of Centers of Excellence (CoEs)	
4	Infrastructure Development	
5	Startup and Innovation Support	
6	Faculty Development and Chair Professorships	
7	Community Development Programs	
8	Sustainability, Environment, and Hazard Mitigation Programmes	