

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation  
LAB TO MARKET (L2M)

### What is NM-ICPS?

**Answer:** NM-ICPS stands for the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems (CPS). This mission is being coordinated by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India. There are 25 Technology Innovation Hubs (TIHs) under the NM-ICPS, and IIT Indore is one of them, with a focus on the technology vertical of System Simulation, Modelling & Visualization. Each TIH is leading activities in a particular technology vertical. For more details, please visit: <https://www.nmicps.in/>

### What is DRISHTI CPS?

**Answer:** The TIH for System Simulation, Modelling, and Visualization of CPS was set up at IIT Indore. The hub is aptly christened, DRISHTI CPS for Driving Innovation through Simulation Hub for Technologies in interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems. It is registered as a Section 8 company as IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation. We are pleased to share that DRISHTI CPS has been upgraded to a **Technology Translation Research Park (TTRP)** under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS), supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India. This recognition places us among only four designated TTRPs in the country, with DRISHTI CPS focusing on the specialized domain of Digital Healthcare.

For more details, please visit: <http://drishticps.iiti.ac.in/>.

### What is the L2M initiative?

**Answer:** The L2M initiative has been launched to accelerate the adaptation of market-ready medical devices by translating innovative technologies developed in academic laboratories into practical healthcare solutions. The technology readiness level (TRL) of academic endeavours ranges from 6 and above, and most projects culminate at the proof-of-concept stage. Constraints in terms of time, budget, and resources impede the transformation of the prototype to the marketplace. The L2M initiative of IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation aims to identify high-potential prototypes for accelerating the transfer of an academic innovation to the marketplace.

For more details, [Click Here](#)

### What are we looking for?

**Answer:** We are in search of CPS technologies where proof-of-concept has been established, and a prototype is ready. Prototype to be evaluated for (i) innovation, (ii) technical and practical feasibility, (iii) market potential, and (iv) societal impact.

### Who can apply?

**Answer:** The scheme has been launched and is open to all higher education institutions and research institutes across the country. Faculty members and researchers are eligible to apply. Principal Investigator(s) interested in advancing their lab-ready products toward commercialization

may also submit applications. Faculty members involved in the development and deployment of medical devices are especially encouraged to apply under this scheme. Applicants are expected to demonstrate a clear understanding of the target market size and potential competitors.

### **What are the advantages of the program?**

**Answer:** Support in terms of (i) Financial support to work towards commercialization of the technology (ii) Technology enhancement and product development, (iii) invention validation and field deployment (iv) Synergy between market requirements and technology conception, (v) Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), (vi) Entrepreneurship and startup support, and (vii) technology licensing/commercialisation.

### **What are the focus areas?**

**Answer:** The program focuses on Simulation, Modelling, and Visualization for Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS), with special emphasis on Digital Healthcare technologies and related products/devices that demonstrate strong commercialization potential. The detailed focus areas include:

- Medical Devices & Smart Healthcare Systems
  - AI-enabled medical devices
  - Embedded healthcare electronics
- Wearables & Continuous Monitoring Technologies
  - Wearable biosensors
  - Smart patches and portable monitoring devices
  - Continuous vital monitoring systems
  - Cardiac, respiratory, and metabolic monitoring solutions
  - Maternal and neonatal monitoring technologies
  - Elderly and home-care monitoring systems
- Sensors & Patient Data Acquisition Systems
  - Physiological signal acquisition systems
- Point-of-Care Diagnostics
  - Portable diagnostic devices
  - Biosensing-based diagnostic systems
  - Low-cost diagnostics for resource-limited settings
  - Non-invasive diagnostic tools

### **How to submit your entry?**

**Answer:** Upload the required details and a presentation as per the provided format in the online form. ([Link here](#))

### **What is the deadline for submission of the concept note?**

**Answer:** Applications are open till 31st July 2026. Applications will be reviewed regularly, even before the end date. We encourage you to apply as soon as possible to avoid a last-minute rush.

**What will be the evaluation process?**

**Answer:** Entries will be shortlisted based on the mandate fit with DRISHTI's focus area, mandate, innovation, estimated market size for the technology and time to market. If required, you may be asked to submit more details of the innovation. Shortlisted entries will be called for a demonstration of their prototype (hardware/software/method/process) in front of the expert panel (Online/Offline Mode).

**Selection phases of the program are as follows:**

- Phase 1: Proposal Submission
- Phase 2: Technical Presentation with Internal and External Domain Experts
- Phase 3: External Investment Committee (EIC) Review by Academia and Industry Experts
- Phase 4: Documentation and Compliance Check
- Phase 5: Announcement of Results

**What about the IPR norms?**

**Answer:** IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation encourages the creation, protection, and commercialization of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) arising from all projects, startups, technologies, products, software, and research activities supported or funded by the Foundation. All inventors, including the Principal Investigator (PI), Co-PI, researchers, students, startup founders, and other contributors, shall be duly recognized as inventors or creators in accordance with applicable law. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, the ownership of IP generated under projects funded substantially or fully by the Foundation shall vest with IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation, either solely or jointly with the Host Institution, industry partners, collaborating institutions, or startup entities involved in the project, with such ownership and rights being defined through prior written agreements. All potentially protectable IP shall be disclosed to the Foundation before any public disclosure, publication, presentation, or commercialization activity. Subject to evaluation and approval, the Foundation shall ordinarily bear the expenses related to IP filing, prosecution, examination, and maintenance, including patents and other forms of protection, while support for international filings shall be based on separate strategic and commercial evaluation. In collaborative projects, joint filing or co-ownership arrangements may be undertaken through written agreements defining ownership share, cost sharing, licensing authority, commercialization rights, confidentiality obligations, publication rights, revenue sharing, and dispute resolution mechanisms. Revenue generated through commercialization, including royalties, licensing fees, milestone payments, equity participation, or other consideration, shall be distributed among the stakeholders as per the applicable commercialization agreement or the prevailing IP Policy of the Foundation, and inventors shall be entitled to a fair share of such revenue. All participants shall maintain the confidentiality of unpublished inventions and proprietary information until appropriate protection measures are completed, and no disclosure affecting patentability or commercial value shall be made without prior written approval. In cases where the Foundation decides not to pursue, maintain, or commercialize any IP, it may reassign or transfer the rights to the inventors, Host Institution, startup entity, or collaborating party under mutually agreed terms. This clause shall be read in conjunction

with the IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation IP Policy, sanction order, project agreements, startup incubation agreements, and any separate IP assignment or commercialization agreements, and in the event of inconsistency, the specific written agreement governing the concerned project or IP shall prevail.

**What will be the total duration of the project?**

**Answer:** The initial duration is 1 year, and the maximum is extendable up to 3 months. Subject to terms and conditions. (The duration and extension of the timeline of the project are as per the NMICPS timeline and review of work progress under the Technology Development Program of the IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation).

**What are the eligibility criteria for applying for a project under this scheme?**

**Answer:** Principal Investigators (PIs)/Applicants should demonstrate market clarity and assess potential competitors during their presentations. Additionally, the project proposal must be duly endorsed by the host institutes/organizations. Projects with potential for patenting or other relevant IP, real-life applications, startup registration, and commercialization will be given preference.

**Can the project proposal have a Co-PI? Should the Co-PI also be an affiliate member?**

**Answer:** Yes, it is possible to have a Co-PI associated with the project. The Co-PI should also be an affiliate member of IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation.

**What is an affiliate program?**

**Answer:** The affiliate program will help in identifying interested and relevant students, faculty members, scientists and industry professionals in the field of CPS. The affiliate program is expected to provide several benefits to affiliate members that include support for technology development and commercialization. Details of the affiliate program are available on the DRISHTI website. All applicants (PIs) should be affiliate members of the IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation. For more details of the affiliate programme, [click here](#)

**How much financial support will be provided?**

**Answer:** Selected projects may receive financial support of up to INR 150 lacs. The quantum of financial assistance for each project will be determined by the External Investment Committee (EIC) based on the project's merit, requirements, and commercialization potential. The decision of the Committee shall be final and non-negotiable.

Where IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation provides financial support, infrastructure, equipment, technical assistance, incubation, materials, manpower, or any other direct or indirect support for the development of any project, technology, product, software, startup, or intellectual property, the Foundation shall be entitled to a proportionate/percentage ownership or economic stake in the overall project and all related outcomes, including intellectual property rights, commercialization revenue, products, improvements, and related assets. Such ownership or stake shall be determined solely on the basis of the total funding or support provided by the Foundation in comparison to the

total assessed cost or value of the project, and shall apply to the entire project and its outcomes, and not merely to the specific equipment, component, material, or activity directly funded or supported by the IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation.

### **What is the budget for undertaking a project under this program under different budget heads?**

**Answer:** Selected proposals will receive financial grants as decided by the External Investment Committee (EIC). This amount includes a maximum of 10% overhead or a maximum of 2 lacs (whichever is maximum) for the host institute. The Principal Investigator (PI) will have complete flexibility in utilizing the funds across various budget heads, such as manpower, contingency, consumables, and equipment. PIs must include a detailed justification and plan for budget utilization in their proposals, along with a comprehensive cost breakdown. Note that the maximum allowable salary for one manpower position paid from the funding support is as per the DST Norms. For more information, please ([link to DST norm](#)).

A non-recurring budget head includes any capital expenditure. It is discouraged to propose capital assets of more than 40% of the total grant. No investments in land/building works and repairs, etc thereof, are allowed from this program fund.

Proposals with additional partial financial support from the industry are highly encouraged, as this will be considered an asset to the proposal. The disbursement of funds will be in single tranches/multiple tranches, as agreed upon by the PI/Co-PI and the IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation, as well as based on fund availability under the NM-ICPS program. Additionally, the disbursement of financial support will be based on the performance metrics and the reviewers' feedback provided at that point in time.

### **What are the manpower and budget requirements under the program?**

**Answer:** For each project, it is mandatory to onboard at least one PhD candidate and two undergraduate (UG) candidates for a duration ranging from 6 to 15 months. In addition, the Principal Investigator (PI) may include other human resources such as PG students, Postdoctoral Fellows, JRFs, SRFs, and other research staff, as per the project requirements and within the consolidated budget submitted by the PI.

DRISHTI CPS provides flexibility to the PI in reallocating funds across budget heads, provided that the overall expenditure under the recurring and non-recurring heads remains unaffected.

Further, participation of an industry partner through a budgetary contribution of at least 10% of the sanctioned project amount towards supporting the research activities is strongly encouraged.

### **What are the norms of the equipment to be purchased under this scheme?**

**Answer:** The PIs will have flexibility (after proper justification) to use the grants provided under different budget heads, including equipment. The procured equipment should be purchased as per the purchase policy of the host institute when funding is being deployed through the host organization. No immovable property/construction/repair work of land and building is allowed through this fund. Equipment purchased under this, if any, will be owned by IITI DRISHTI CPS

Foundation and the host organization. Ownership of assets will remain with DRISHTI CPS. The equipment should be made available for IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation affiliate members, if required, at a nominal cost, even after completion of the project. PIs are encouraged to utilize the procured equipment for conducting skill development courses and are welcome to conduct these courses under the aegis of IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation through different calls under the skill enhancement programme.

The host institute needs to declare the equipment and list it with the IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation shared national resources. The host institute will make the utilization policy and charges. All affiliate members should be given priority in utilization, and a minimum of 50% discount would be provided to such members.

**Is there any limit on the number of proposals from one institute/university for the Lab to Market project scheme?**

**Answer:** No.

**Can one PI submit multiple projects?**

**Answer:** No

**If a project comes up with an innovative solution, then who will own the intellectual property (IP)?**

**Answer:** IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation motivates innovative ideas with the potential of being patented. In such cases, IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation will file the IP identifying all the innovators as inventors. The IP will be owned by IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation. In case the host institute also wants to support IP filing, then the option for joint filing may be explored.

In case there are industry partners involved in the project and have agreed *a priori* to support the project, joint IP filing with these partners may also be considered.

In case the PIs are interested in taking the idea and initiating a startup, then the same would be encouraged and supported under the aegis of an IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation 'Startups call'.

**I want to know more about registering a start-up.**

**Answer:** In case the participating PIs are interested in harnessing an idea and initiating a startup, the same would be encouraged and supported under the aegis of an IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation 'start-ups call'. A call for startups is released from time to time.

**What is the process of review after the project is selected?**

**Answer:** To be able to meet timelines and translate an idea into a product, IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation will ensure strict and continuous evaluation of all selected projects. The evaluation would be aimed at understanding the progress towards technology development at appropriate levels and ensuring the success of each proposal. The review would be done over in-person presentations or through online meetings. IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation would select a panel of experts to review each project. The supported project would normally be reviewed every two months (bi-monthly). It is also the responsibility of the host institute to strictly monitor the progress through the development cycle of the project.

**What will be the procedure for receiving the money (Sanctioned Amount) from DRISHTI CPS Foundation?**

**Answer:** On receiving the sanction of the proposed project, the PI will have to enter into agreements that must be signed before fund transfers with IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation and share the detailed budget plan with the quotation of equipment that needs to be purchased. Further, details of the manpower required during the term of this project should also be emphasized. The sanctioned money would be transferred directly to the host institute's account. The institute overhead shall be transferred to the Host Institution in case the project is selected.

**Can PI get consultancy fees under this project?**

**Answer:** No additional consultancy fees shall be provided to the Principal Investigator (PI) under this project. However, the PI will have complete operational and technical freedom in executing the project. The primary focus of the project will be on achieving impactful outcomes, including technology development, startup registration, successful commercialization, end-user implementation, patent generation, and revenue creation.

**What if a PI or student leaves/changes the host institute during the execution of the project?**

**Answer:** This situation should not normally arise, and it is expected that the project will be completed within a maximum of 12 months. The funding will be stopped, and the Host Institute has to inform IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation. Further, the host institute has to ensure that any unspent money is returned to IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation within a period of 1 month, along with the Utilization Certificate (UC) and any equipment purchased under this scheme. If a PI changes the host institute, then the current host institute provides a No Objection Certificate, UC & returns the remaining funds to the IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation. PI needs to sign a new sanction letter between the new Host Institution & IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation, and the terms and conditions initiated by DRISHTI CPS must be followed by them.

**What if the PI of the project passes away?**

**Answer:** In this situation, the Co-PI will be the representative and will be considered as the PI for the further process of the project. The Co-PI has to submit the NOC from the Host Institute.

**What are the selection criteria and process?**

**Answer:** IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation's lab to market (L2M) scheme under the Technology Development Programme is competitive in nature. We look for innovative ideas with potential for applications in the field. The possibility of filing a patent, end user application, and cost of the solution are some of the criteria for the evaluation. Clarity, technical depth, feasibility, relevance to CPS, involvement of system simulation, modelling, and visualization, will also be considered. All the ideas will be evaluated by various experts before IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation sanctions any proposal. The decision of the IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation will be final, and no queries will be entertained about the decision.

**Can a PI/Co-PI themselves identify an industry or end user and involve it in his/her application?**

**Answer:** Yes. We intend to widen our network of participating end users.

**Will there be more calls under the Technology Development Program in the future?**

**Answer:** Yes, there will be more calls under the Technology Development Program in the future. IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation is looking for innovative CPS solutions for problems being faced by the industry, line ministries, Public Sector Units (PSUs), local agencies, and society at large. Please keep checking our website for further updates.

**Do we need to acknowledge the support in our publications?**

**Answer:** Yes, it is mandatory. One should use the following text in acknowledgement:

*"We acknowledge the support received from IITI DRISHTI CPS Foundation under the aegis of National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical System (NMICPS), Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.*