INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
National Centre for Innovations in Distance Education

GUIDELINES
Award for 'Best Innovative Practices in Open and Distance Learning-2026'

The Indira Gandhi National Open University has instituted an award for the "Best Innovative Practices in Open and Distance Learning" to be awarded every year. The award for the year 2026 is being announced.

Purpose

The purpose of the award is to recognize and promote innovations and innovative practices in ODL system as envisaged by the NCIDE, which has been on a mission to seek creative solutions to promote effectiveness, quality and reach of the ODL system. The innovations and innovative practices will be submitted for enhancing the University rankings of NAAC and NIRF, etc.

Eligibility

Any individual / team from the Schools, Divisions, Centres, Units, Cells, Chairs, etc., from among the teachers, academics and staff members at the IGNOU Headquarters and Regional Centres that has worked for creating an innovative product or methodology (during the last three years) for the growth and efficacy of ODL system which is being practiced, is eligible to apply.

Areas

The National Education Policy-2020 NEP-2020 envisions to transform the education landscape and at the heart of this lies the innovations being carried out in the various domains. We invite your innovative initiatives being practiced, for the award, which have reshaped how we teach, learn, grow and prepare the youth for a rapidly evolving global future in the following areas with an emphasis on the work done under the aegis of the (NEP-2020) in the past three years:

A. Enabling learning environments and support

1. Personalised learner support
2. Engagement and participation of stakeholders
3. Implementing technology enabled solutions in examination and evaluation
4. Learner Support and Grievance Redressal
5. Administrative Facilitation including Finance
6. Monitoring & Feedback for Quality Assurance
7. Supporting Convergence and Conversion of Subsystems
8. Reaching out the Learners
9. Initiatives to improve Material Dispatch & Delivery
10. Initiatives towards Cost Cutting
11. Any other (Please specify)

B. Multidisciplinary curriculum and pedagogy reforms

1. Multidisciplinary curriculum and multiple entry-exit
2. Innovative pedagogy applied
3. Innovation in formative and summative assessment
4. Any other (Please specify)

C. ICT integrated teaching and learning

1. Development of digital resources/ OER/ Micro-credentials/ MOOCs including SWAYAM Courses
2. Universal design of learning, assistive technologies for special needs in education
3. ICT integrated blended learning
4. Any other (Please specify)

D. Artificial Intelligence enabled Teaching-Learning, Learning Support, Assessment and Evaluation.

E. Enabling Innovation & Entrepreneurship Ecosystem

F. Any other (Please specify)

Application

Those who are interested in applying for the award may fill up the enclosed proforma and send it by email to ncide@ignou.ac.in latest by **1st November, 2026**.

NCIDE, IGNOU