

# Call for Expression of Interest (EOI)

## Development of Micro-Credential Courses

**Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University (BAOU), Ahmedabad** invites **Expressions of Interest (EOI)** from qualified institutions, academic experts, industry professionals, training organizations, start-ups, and EdTech companies based in India to collaborate in the **development of Micro-Credential Courses in emerging and high-demand skill areas.**

This initiative aligns with the vision of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which emphasizes flexible learning pathways, lifelong learning, skill development, and industry-aligned education. Through this initiative, the University aims to establish a robust ecosystem for short-duration, competency-based learning programs that enhance employability, promote professional development, and address evolving industry needs.

The proposed micro-credential courses will be designed to provide practical, industry-relevant skills, and will be delivered through online, blended, or modular learning formats using the University's digital learning platforms.

### 1. Objectives

The primary objectives of this initiative are:

- To develop short, flexible, competency-based micro-credential courses in emerging skill areas
- To promote industry-aligned learning and workforce upskilling
- To enable stackable learning pathways that can contribute to larger academic programs
- To strengthen collaboration between academia, industry, and training organizations
- To support lifelong learning opportunities for students, professionals, and entrepreneurs

### 2. Scope of Work

Selected institutions/experts will be expected to:

- Identify and propose relevant micro-credential course topics in emerging or high-demand sectors
- Develop detailed course curricula, including:
  - Learning outcomes and competencies
  - Course modules and content outline
  - Interactive Teaching-learning materials
  - Practical exercises or projects
  - Assessment and evaluation mechanisms
- Ensure alignment with industry standards and employability skills
- Design courses suitable for short-duration delivery and stackable learning pathways
- Support development of digital and interactive learning materials including videos, case studies, simulations, and practical assignments
- Ensure courses are compatible with online and blended learning environments

The University will review and approve all course proposals through appropriate academic and regulatory mechanisms.

### **3. Indicative Priority Areas**

Expressions of Interest are invited for the development of **Micro-Credential Courses** across a wide range of emerging and interdisciplinary domains. Proposals may be submitted in the following broad areas, including but not limited to:

#### **3.1 Humanities and Social Sciences**

Courses addressing Indian Knowledge System (IKS), Communication and Professional Skills, Media and Communication, Public Policy, Social Innovation, Community Development, Ethics and Leadership, Cultural Studies, Social Entrepreneurship, and other interdisciplinary areas contributing to societal development and human capacity building.

#### **3.2 Computer Science and Digital Technologies**

Courses related to emerging digital technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Machine Learning, Cybersecurity, Cloud Computing, Internet of Things (IoT), Blockchain, Software Development, Mobile Application Development, Web Technologies, and Digital Systems, along with other advanced computing and information technology domains.

#### **3.3 Commerce, Finance and Management**

Courses focusing on Digital Economy, Financial Technology (FinTech), Digital Marketing, Business Analytics, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, E-Commerce, Banking and Financial Services, Supply Chain Management, Project Management, and other contemporary areas of commerce and business management.

#### **3.4 Education and Educational Technologies**

Courses related to Instructional Design, Digital Pedagogy, Educational Technology Tools, Learning Management Systems (LMS), Online Teaching and Learning, Open and Distance Learning (ODL), Assessment and Evaluation Methods, Educational Leadership, and Technology-Enabled Teaching Practices.

#### **3.5 Other Emerging and Industry-Relevant Skill Areas**

Proposals may also be submitted in Green and Sustainable Technologies, Healthcare and Allied Skills, Advanced Manufacturing, Industry 4.0, Digital Governance, and other innovative sectors aligned with future workforce needs and national development priorities.

Applicants are encouraged to propose innovative, industry-relevant, and future-oriented micro-credential courses that support skill development, employability enhancement, and lifelong learning opportunities.

### **4. Eligibility**

The EOI is open to the following entities based in India:

- Universities and Higher Education Institutions
- Research and Academic Institutions
- Industry Experts and Professionals
- Start-ups and Innovation Organizations
- Sector Skill Councils
- Training Providers and EdTech Organizations
- Consortia or partnerships between academia and industry

**Applicants must demonstrate relevant expertise, experience in curriculum development, training delivery, or industry practice in the proposed area.**

## **5. Course Delivery and Certification**

The developed micro-credential courses will be delivered through Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University's online learning platforms.

Upon successful completion of the course requirements, learners will receive a Micro-Credential Certificate issued by Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University.

Selected courses may also be designed to support credit accumulation and stackable learning pathways leading to advanced academic programs.

## **6. Submission Requirements**

Interested applicants should submit the following:

1. A brief concept notes outlining the proposed micro-credential course
2. Target learner group and expected learning outcomes
3. Proposed course structure and module outline
4. Evidence of expertise and experience in the proposed area
5. Institutional/organizational profile (if applicable)
6. Details of any industry collaboration or partnerships (if applicable)

## **7. Submission Process**

EOI submissions should be sent electronically to:

**Email:** [micro.credentials@baou.edu.in](mailto:micro.credentials@baou.edu.in)

**Subject Line: "EOI – Development of Micro-Credential Courses"**

## **8. Submission Deadline**

The **last date for submission of Expression of Interest** is: \_\_\_\_\_

## **9. Evaluation and Selection**

All submitted EOIs will be reviewed by the Micro-Credential Development Committee (MCDC) of the University.

Shortlisted applicants may be invited for:

- Detailed discussions
- Presentation of course proposals
- Further collaboration for course development and implementation.

## **10. General Terms**

- Submission of an EOI does **not constitute a commitment** by the University to award any contract or assignment.
- The University reserves the right to **accept or reject any or all submissions** without assigning any reason.

- The University may request **additional information or detailed proposals** from shortlisted applicants.
- The University reserves the right to determine the honorarium/payment based on course duration, complexity, industry relevance, multimedia requirements, and quality of deliverables. Payment shall be released in phases subject to satisfactory completion and approval of deliverables.

## **11. Governance, Quality Assurance and Certification Framework**

- The development and implementation of Micro-Credential Courses under this initiative will be governed by the academic and administrative policies of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University, Ahmedabad.
- All proposed courses will be reviewed and approved through the Micro-Credential Development Committee (MCDC) and other appropriate academic bodies of the University to ensure academic rigor, relevance, and compliance with regulatory standards.
- The University will ensure the following:
  - **Quality Assurance:** All micro-credential courses will undergo academic review to ensure alignment with industry standards, competency-based learning outcomes, and best practices in online and blended education.
  - **Curriculum Validation:** Course proposals will be evaluated for content relevance, learning outcomes, assessment methods, and industry applicability before approval.
  - **Digital Learning Standards:** Courses will be delivered through the University's Learning Management System (LMS) and may include interactive learning materials, video lectures, case studies, practical assignments, and project-based assessments.
  - **Assessment and Certification:** Learners who successfully complete the course requirements and assessments will receive a Micro-Credential Certificate issued by Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University.
  - **Stackable Learning Pathways:** Where appropriate, micro-credential courses may be designed as stackable modules that can contribute towards advanced certifications, diplomas, or academic programs, subject to approval by the University.
  - **Continuous Review:** The University may periodically review courses to ensure they remain relevant to evolving industry needs and technological developments.

### **Contact for Queries**

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