Overview

The Digital Library Program launched by the HEC has been designed to provide universities in Pakistan, both public and private and non-profit research & development organizations with electronic (online) access to international scholarly literature based on high quality, peer-reviewed full-text academic journals, databases, articles and e-Books across a wide range of disciplines. The e-Books support program allows researchers to access most of the important text and reference books electronically in a variety of subject areas. Around 150,000 number of electronic content has been made available through the Digital Library program.

Access to the e-resources under the program is presently limited to the institutions and not individuals. All universities, research institutions and non-profit organizations where primary activity is either academic or research can benefit from the program. The sphere of registered institutions is continuously growing and currently over 640 members are facilitated through this program.

HEC now represents all public, private universities/DAIs and research organizations to negotiate licenses with the proprietors and acquire best contents according to the researchers needs.

Program Objectives

1. Content Acquisition & Development:
   - To acquire the resources according to the national research need
   - To acquire the content on the best quote and minimum annual raise
   - Introducing the best tools/resources for research for the majority benefits

2. Promotion and Advancement of research culture:
   - Ensure users’ knowledge and awareness of the Digital Library’s resources
   - Ensure that users have the right training and skills to use the Digital Library
   - Ensure that users of the Digital Library use the resources to maximum effect
   - Build an institutional research community of Digital Library users and researchers

3. Technical Support:
   - Ensure availability of requisite resources
   - Ensure secure and ethical use of resources
   - Monitor usage by the member institutions

4. Research Uptake and Capacity Building:
   - Develop a framework for the research uptake and communication
   - Research-based guidance including preparing and providing guidance for practitioners and policy makers based on research findings e.g. policy briefs, good practice guides, toolkits, literature reviews, research synthesis and systematic reviews
• Establishing an effective communication plan

How to Join?

• The institutions interested in getting the access to e-resources are requested to read the eligibility criteria prominently mentioned on www.digitallibrary.edu.pk and then download and print the Application Form and mail the completed Application Form to HEC for processing.

• The institutions are required to provide NDLP a static IP address to access the e-resources. This is also mentioned in the Application Form.

Liaison and Coordination

• To liaise with NDLP, each institution is asked to provide a contact person. This person, an institutional representative, communicates on behalf of the institution and acts as a focal person to create basic level of awareness about e-resources for its institution.

• Access authentication will be given on the authorized method mentioned in the license, it could be IP-authenticated or shibboleth.

• NDLP ensures that access is provided within the campus on the authorized IP Addresses only. For off-campus access, it is the responsibility of the institutions’ IT sections to provide VPN connections to its faculty and students. The institutions are not supposed to charge any fee in this regard.