



香港生物醫藥創新協會
HK Bio-Med Innotech Association

Summary of HKSAR Government's Funding Schemes

(Bio-Industry Related)

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Funding Programmes: Innovation and Technology Support Programme (ITSP)



Key Features

1. Support platform R&D projects and seed projects and collaborative projects.
2. Platform projects: industry-oriented applied R&D projects with potential for commercialisation.
 - Maximum Project Duration: 24 months.
 - Industry Sponsorship: at least 10% of the total project cost.
 - Intellectual Property (IP) Rights Ownership: lead applicant.
3. Seed projects: exploratory and forward-looking in nature.
 - Maximum Funding Support: HK \$2.8 million undertaken by R&D Centres; HK \$1.4 million undertaken by other applicants.
 - Maximum Project Duration: 18 months.
 - Industry Sponsorship: NOT mandatory.
 - Intellectual Property (IP) Rights Ownership: lead applicant.
4. Collaborative projects: receive matching funding support for the Collaborative R&D projects.
 - Maximum Project Duration: 36 months.
 - Industry Sponsorship: at least 50% of the total project cost.
 - Intellectual Property (IP) Rights Ownership: industry co-applicant if it contributes at least 50% of the total project cost.



Eligibility

- ITSP (Platform & Seed): The lead applicant must be an R&D Centre or a designated local public research institute.
- ITSP (Collaborative): The lead applicant must be an R&D Centre or a designated local public research institute, which should partner with an industry co-applicant to apply for ITSP (Collaborative). The industry co-applicant can be either a company already incorporated in Hong Kong under the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622); or an established industry support organisation, a trade and industry association or professional body which has the legal capacity to enter into contracts.



Application

ITSP (Platform & Seed) invites applications for funding once a year. Applications from R&D Centres will be accepted all year round. ITSP (Collaborative) invites applications for funding all year round.



Funding Programmes: Mainland-Hong Kong Joint Funding Scheme (MHKJFS)



Key Features

1. Support **platform** and **collaborative** R&D projects with an element of Mainland and Hong Kong cooperation.
2. Maximum project duration: 24 months.
3. Industry Sponsorship: at least 10% of the total project cost for **platform** projects; at least 50% of the total project cost for **collaborative** projects.
4. Intellectual Property (IP) Rights Ownership: lead applicant for **platform** projects; industry co-applicant for **collaborative** projects if it contributes at least 50% of the total project cost.
5. R&D work of the projects must be conducted in both Hong Kong and the Mainland.
6. ITC and the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) will provide funding to the Hong Kong and Mainland applicant organisations respectively, and will monitor project progress according to their own requirements.



Eligibility

- The lead applicant must be an R&D Centre or a designated local public research institute.
- The industry co-applicant for **collaborative** projects can be either a company incorporated in Hong Kong under the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622); or an industry support organisation, a trade and industry association or professional body which has the legal capacity to enter into contracts.



Application

MHKJFS invites applications for funding **once** a year.



Funding Programmes: Guangdong-Hong Kong Technology Cooperation Funding Scheme (TCFS)



Key Features

1. Support **platform** and **collaborative** R & D projects with an element of Hong Kong and Guangdong or Hong Kong and Shenzhen cooperation.
2. Three categories of projects under TCFS:
 - **Category A:** projects solicited, vetted and funded solely by Hong Kong.
 - **Category B:** projects solicited, vetted and funded solely by Guangdong or Shenzhen.
 - **Category C:** projects jointly solicited and funded by Guangdong and Hong Kong (**Category C1**) or Shenzhen and Hong Kong (**Category C2**). R&D work of the projects must be conducted in both Hong Kong and Guangdong or Shenzhen.
3. Maximum project duration: 24 months.
4. Industry Sponsorship: at least 10% of the total project cost for **platform** projects; at least 50% of the total project cost for **collaborative** projects.
5. Intellectual Property (IP) Rights Ownership: lead applicant for **platform** projects; industry co-applicant for **collaborative** projects if it contributes at least 50% of the total project cost.



Eligibility

- The lead applicant must be an R&D Centre or a designated local public research institute.
- The industry co-applicant for **collaborative** projects can be either a company incorporated in Hong Kong under the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622); or an industry support organisation, a trade and industry association or professional body which has the legal capacity to enter into contracts.



Application

TCFS invites applications for funding once a year.



Funding Programmes: Enterprise Support Scheme (ESS)



Key Features

1. Provides on a dollar-for-dollar matching basis.
2. Maximum Funding Support: \$10 million per approved project.
3. Maximum Project Duration: 24 months in general.
4. Intellectual Property Rights Ownership: recipient company.
5. Recoupment of Government's Contribution: NOT required.
6. Benefit Sharing of Commercialised R&D Results: NOT mandatory.



Application

ESS invites applications for funding **all year round**.



Eligibility

A company will be eligible to apply if it –

1. is incorporated in Hong Kong under the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622);
2. has a current business registration certificate issued under the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap. 310);
3. is not a government subvented organisation; and
4. is not a subsidiary of any government subvented organisation.



Funding Programmes: Research and Development Cash Rebate Scheme (CRS)



Key Features

40% cash rebate of the local enterprises' eligible expenditure contributed to ITF projects and Partnership projects as undertaken by designated local public research institutes.



Application

CRS accepts applications **all year round**.



Eligibility

An applicant is eligible to apply for cash rebate if it is :

1. a company incorporated in Hong Kong under the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622) or an enterprise registered in Hong Kong under the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap. 310); and
2. not a government subvented organisation; and
3. not a subsidiary of any government subvented organisation

The Scheme provides a cash rebate equivalent to 40% of a local enterprise's eligible expenditure in two types of applied R&D projects –

1. R&D projects funded by the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) ("ITF projects"); and
2. R&D projects funded entirely by local enterprises and conducted in partnership with designated local public research institutes ("Partnership projects").

For Partnership projects, the following types of work or activities will not be eligible for cash rebate under the Scheme -

1. product enhancement/customisation and related work, conventional operation or/and business activities without scientific research content, such as product design and general system automation;
2. local enterprises' in-house R&D work; and
3. research projects outside the science and technology fields such as market researches and management studies.





Innovation and Technology Commission

Funding Programmes: Public Sector Trial Scheme for Incubatees & Graduate Tenants of Hong Kong Science & Technology Parks Corporation and Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited (PSTS-SPC)



Key Features

- Maximum funding support: \$1 million per trial project.
- The maximum project duration: 12 months.
- Deployment of samples/prototypes and conducting of trials are generally confined to the local public sector which includes Government bureaux and departments, statutory bodies and/or Hong Kong Government subvented non-governmental bodies in the welfare sector.
- The project should aim to facilitate the development of new products not already available in the market, and should employ the R&D results/deliverables developed by the applicant itself.



Eligibility

- The applicant should be a current incubatee or graduate tenant of HKSTPC or Cyberport.
- The research and development (R&D) outcomes for trial need to be developed by the applicant, and should align with its business plans.



Application

PSTS-SPC invites applications for funding **all year round**.



Funding Programmes: Public Sector Trial Scheme for Technology Companies Conducting Research and Development Activities in Hong Kong (PSTS-TC)



Key Features

1. Maximum Funding Support: \$1 million per project.
2. Maximum Project Duration: 12 months.
3. Deployment of samples/prototypes and conducting of trials are generally confined to the local public sector which includes Government bureaux and departments, statutory bodies and/or Hong Kong Government subvented non-governmental bodies in the welfare sector.
4. The project should aim to facilitate the development of new products not already available in the market, and should employ the R&D results/deliverables developed and owned by the applicant itself.



Eligibility

- The applicant should be a technology company incorporated in Hong Kong under the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622) or registered in Hong Kong under the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap. 310) which is conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong.
- The technology company must not be a government subvented organisation or a subsidiary of any government subvented organisation. The R&D outcomes for trial need to be owned by the applicant company and developed by the applicant company primarily in Hong Kong and should align with its business plans.



Application

PSTS-TC invites applications for funding **all year round**.



Funding Programmes: Public Sector Trial Scheme – ITF Projects (PSTS-ITF)



Key Features

1. Maximum Funding Support: 50% of the actual cost of the original R&D project.
2. Maximum Project Duration: 24 months.
3. Industry sponsorship: Not mandatory.
4. Use of samples/prototypes and conducting of trials are confined to the public sector which includes Government bureaux and departments, public bodies, non-profit-making trade associations, charitable organisations, etc.
5. Trial projects should aim to facilitate the development of new products not already available in the market currently, and should employ the R&D results/deliverables of the completed ITF projects.



Eligibility

- All completed ITF R&D projects undertaken by R&D Centres and designated local public research institutes are eligible for funding support under the Scheme.
- The applicant should either be the R&D Centre/designated local public research institute undertaking the project; or the company owning the intellectual property (IP) of the project deliverables.



Application

PSTS-ITF invites applications for funding **all year round**.



Funding Programmes: New Industrialisation Funding Scheme (NIFS)



Key Features

1. Entire or a significant portion of the production line under application should fulfil the "smart manufacturing" criteria.
2. Funding will be provided on a **1 (government) : 2 (company)** matching basis.
3. Maximum funding support: one-third of the total approved project cost or \$15 million per project, whichever is lower. Each company can have in total 3 project applications and on-going projects under the scheme at any one time to receive total maximum funding of \$45 million.
4. Funding scope: expenses directly related to the establishment of the new production line in Hong Kong.
5. Project duration: normally within 24 months.



Eligibility

Companies incorporated in Hong Kong under the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622) are eligible to apply.



Application

NIFS invites application for funding **all year round**.



Funding Programmes: New Industrialisation Acceleration Scheme (NIAS)



Key Features

- **Matching basis:** Funding will be provided on a 1 (Government) : 2 (enterprise) matching basis.
- **Funding principles and amount:** For each project, the minimum total project cost is \$300 million. The enterprise has to contribute no less than \$200 million and the Government will cover a maximum of one-third of the total approved project cost or \$200 million, whichever is lower. Each enterprise may have a maximum of two projects approved, receiving up to \$200 million in total.
- **Funding scope:** Expenses directly related to the establishment of the new smart production facilities in Hong Kong, as well as specialised facilities and associated auxiliary equipment that are necessary for the operation of the smart production facilities.
- **Project duration:** Normally within 36 months.



Application

The NIAS invites applications for funding all year round.



Eligibility

Applicants must fulfil the following requirements:

- a. incorporated in Hong Kong under the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622);
- b. not a government subvented organisation or subsidiary of subvented organisations;
- c. commit an investment of no less than \$200 million of funding that is within the approved funding scope in the setting up of new smart production facilities in Hong Kong in the three designated technology areas (i.e. life and health technology, AI and data science, and advanced manufacturing and new energy technologies) (i.e. for each project, the minimum total project cost is \$300 million and the enterprise has to contribute no less than \$200 million); and
- d. the smart production facilities in (c) above shall involve high-end and advanced technology.



Funding Programmes: Research Talent Hub (RTH)

→ Research Talent Hub for ITF projects (RTH-ITF)



Key Features

1. Each ITF project may engage up to 4 research talent at any one time.
2. The maximum engagement period for each research talent is 36 months in general.
3. The maximum monthly salary allowance is HK\$20,000 for research talents with a bachelor degree, HK\$23,000 for those with a master degree, and HK\$35,000 for those with a doctoral degree.
4. An additional monthly living allowance of \$10,000 to research talents with a doctoral degree under the RTH for a maximum of 36 months.



Application

The RTH-ITF invites applications for funding **all year round**.



Eligibility

Application Organisation / company

All organisations/companies undertaking R&D projects funded by the ITF

Research talent

1. Must be legally permitted to work in Hong Kong;
2. must possess a bachelor / master / doctoral degree awarded by either a local university or a well-recognised non-local institution, or jointly awarded by a local university together with a non-local university. The degree obtained should be in a science, technology, engineering and mathematics ("STEM") related discipline.



Funding Programmes: Research Talent Hub (RTH)

→ Research Talent Hub for SPC projects (RTH-SPC)



Key Features

1. Each applicant company can employ up to 4 research talents at any one time.
2. The maximum engagement period for each research talent under the Research Talent Hub is 36 months in general.
3. The maximum monthly salary allowance is HK\$20,000 for research talents with a bachelor degree, HK\$23,000 for those with a master degree, and HK\$35,000 for those with a doctoral degree.
4. An additional monthly living allowance of \$10,000 will be provided to research talents participating in the RTH-SPC with doctoral degrees.



Application

The RTH-SPC invites applications for funding **all year round**.



Eligibility

Application Company

Incubatees and I&T tenants of the HKSTPC and the Cyberport

Research talent

1. must be a Hong Kong permanent resident or person legally permitted to work in Hong Kong during the RTH-SPC engagement period; and
2. must possess a bachelor degree (including top-up bachelor degree), a master degree or a doctoral degree of a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics ("STEM")-related discipline awarded by either a local university or a well-recognised non-local institution, or jointly awarded by a local university together with a non-local university.



Funding Programmes: Research Talent Hub (RTH)

→ Research Talent Hub for Technology Companies Conducting R&D Activities in Hong Kong (RTH-TC) • 1/2



Eligibility

Applicant Company

1. conducting or planning to conduct R&D activities in Hong Kong;
2. has substantive business operations in Hong Kong at the time of application;
3. registered in Hong Kong under the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap.310) or incorporated in Hong Kong under the Companies Ordinance (Cap.622); and
4. not a government subvented organisation or a subsidiary of any government subvented organisation.

Research Talent

1. must be legally permitted to work in Hong Kong during the RTH-TC engagement period;
2. must possess a bachelor / master / doctoral degree awarded by either a local university or a well-recognised non-local institution, or jointly awarded by a local university together with a non-local university. The degree obtained should be in a science, technology, engineering and mathematics ("STEM") related discipline.

R&D Activities

For the purpose of the RTH-TC, an R&D activity means

1. an activity in the fields of natural or applied science to extend knowledge;
2. an original and planned investigation carried on with the prospect of gaining new scientific or technical knowledge and understanding; or
3. the application of research findings or other knowledge to a plan or design for producing or introducing new or substantially improved materials, devices, products, processes, systems or services before they are commercially produced or used.

In general, an R&D activity takes place when a project seeks to achieve an advance in science or technology. Any activity which does not directly contribute to achieving this advance in science or technology through the resolution of scientific or technological uncertainty is not an R&D activity.



Funding Programmes: Research Talent Hub (RTH)

→ Research Talent Hub for Technology Companies Conducting R&D Activities in Hong Kong (RTH-TC) • 2/2

Key Features

1. An applicant company can engage up to 4 research talents at any one time.
2. The maximum engagement period for each research talent under the Research Talent Hub is 36 months in general.
3. The maximum monthly salary allowance is HK\$20,000 for research talents with a bachelor degree, HK\$23,000 for those with a master degree, and HK\$35,000 for those with a doctoral degree.
4. An additional monthly living allowance of HK\$10,000 will be provided to research talents participating in the RTH-TC with doctoral degrees.

Application

The RTH-TC invites applications for funding **all year round**.



Funding Programmes: Research Talent Hub (RTH)

→ For Companies Subsidised under the New Industrialisation Acceleration Scheme (RTH-NIAS)



Key Features

1. The maximum engagement period for each research talent under the Research Talent Hub is 36 months in general.
2. Each applicant company may engage up to 4 research talents at any one time, with a maximum monthly salary allowance of HK\$20,000 for those with a bachelor degree, HK\$23,000 for those with a master degree, and HK\$35,000 for those with a doctoral degree. An additional monthly living allowance of HK\$10,000 will be provided to these research talents with doctoral degrees.
3. An applicant company may further engage an additional 36 research talents on a 1 (Government): 1 (company) matching basis, with the Government covering up to half of the maximum monthly allowance stated above.



Application

The RTH-NIAS invites applications for funding all year round.



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Application website: <https://www.itf.gov.hk/en/funding-programmes/nurturing-talent/research-talent-hub/research-talent-hub-for-nias/index.html>

Enquiry: Tel: (852) 3655 5678; Email: nias@itc.gov.hk



Eligibility

Applicant Company

1. Companies with projects approved under the NIAS

Research Talent

1. must be a Hong Kong permanent resident or person legally permitted to work in Hong Kong during the RTH-NIAS engagement period; and
2. must possess a bachelor degree (including top-up bachelor degree), a master degree or a doctoral degree of a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics ("STEM")-related discipline awarded by either a local university or a well-recognised non-local institution, or jointly awarded by a local university together with a non-local university.



Funding Programmes: STEM Internship Scheme · 1/2



Eligibility

- **Participating institutions:** Designated local universities including the campuses they established in the GBA, the five government-funded R&D Centres and HKPC are eligible to participate in the Scheme. A full list of the participating institutions and their contacts is available under the "Enquiry" section in the relevant website. Individual participating institutions may supplement further requirements and make specific arrangements to suit their own circumstances.
- **Students:** Both local and non-local undergraduates and postgraduates majoring in full-time eligible STEM-related programmes offered by the participating universities, including their GBA campuses, are eligible. Non-local students are allowed to enrol in internships in Hong Kong only, subject to the conditions of stay of their visa/entry permit issued by the Immigration Department. For the Scheme operated by R&D Centres and HKPC, undergraduates and postgraduates majoring in full-time eligible STEM programmes in local or non-local universities will be eligible. Student interns receiving the allowance under the Scheme cannot concurrently benefit from other internship subsidies provided by the Hong Kong SAR Government (the "HKSAR Government").
- **Employer:** All companies/organisations are welcomed to offer I&T-related internship places for, and recruit interns benefited from the Scheme, subject to the arrangements of individual universities. Participating employers are expected to provide proper supervision for the student interns. Participating employers may pay the student interns an honorarium on top of the allowance under the Scheme with reference to their internal policies, industry benchmarks or market rates. Companies/organisations should not receive other subsidies from the HKSAR Government for engaging any student interns under the Scheme.



Funding Programmes: STEM Internship Scheme · 2/2



Key Features

- **Internship Placements:** Internship places can be newly created or belong to existing in-house internship programmes of the companies/organisations. They have to meet the following requirements:

- 1.local or non-local full-time placements lasting at least 28 calendar days; and
- 2.offer meaningful I&T-related work (internship places arranged by universities will be subject to the vetting of the respective universities).

The Scheme has adopted a broad definition of I&T under which an internship place will be regarded as I&T-related as long as its actual work contains I&T elements (e.g. technology-related intellectual property work, digital marketing, data analysis for the manufacturing industry, etc.). Participating employers, R&D Centres and HKPC may pay an honorarium during the internship period on top of the allowance under the Scheme. They have full discretion in determining the honorarium level (without affecting the allowance received by the student interns under the Scheme) with reference to their internal policies, industry benchmarks or market rates.

- **Allowance and Funding:** The student interns will receive the allowance subject to the arrangements of individual participating institutions. The allowance for each student intern under the Scheme is HK\$11,190 per month (1) with effect from 1 April 2023, with a cap as prescribed by individual participating institutions, but not more than 90 days in each academic year. ITC will disburse the funding to the participating institutions on a reimbursement basis.



Application

- Individual participating institutions are responsible for administering the Scheme and prescribing their respective application procedures and arrangements. Interested students are welcomed to approach the respective participating institutions.
- It is at the discretion of individual universities to decide whether an internship place offered by a company/organisation is I&T-related and meaningful, taking into account the feedbacks of past student interns, and supporting information from employers, and set a ceiling on the number of student interns under the Scheme in each company/organisation to enrich student experiences. Interested employers are welcomed to approach the respective universities.

Remark (1): calculating allowance under the Scheme, one month has 30 days



Funding Programmes: Technology Start-up Support Scheme for Universities (TSSSU)



Key Features

1. Maximum funding support: an annual funding of up to \$16 million (i.e. \$8 million each for TSSSU-O and TSSSU+) is provided to each of the six universities. Each funded technology start-up may receive up to \$1.5 million each year for no more than three years under TSSSU-O or TSSSU+ respectively.
2. Scope of funding: essential items for setting up and operating the start-ups (e.g. furniture and equipment, legal and accounting services, rental of necessary and suitable premises, manpower, etc.), expenditure on R&D, promotion activities and marketing of their R&D deliverables, products or services.
3. Provision of funding: funding is provided to the universities on a reimbursement basis after the close of each Government financial year. However, individual universities may, having regard to their needs, request advance payment of up to 50% of the approved funding amount.
4. Intellectual property rights ownership: approved start-up and/or associated university.



Eligibility

- A technology start-up will be eligible to apply if –
1. it is registered in Hong Kong under the Companies Ordinance for not more than two years (for TSSSU-O) or not more than seven years (for TSSSU+) as of the date of the application deadline;
 2. the team forming the start-up may have any mix of the following members of the relevant universities –
 - a) undergraduates, postgraduates or alumni; and/or
 - b) professor(s) or other faculty members serving as consultant(s) providing technical expertise and direction of the R&D; and
 3. the amount of private investment it has secured during the recognised matching period is no less than the amount of funding it intends to apply for (for TSSSU+ applicants only).



Application

Technology start-ups interested in TSSSU should submit their applications to the knowledge transfer office/technology transfer office/entrepreneurial centre of their associated universities. Please refer to the following website to check and submit your application to the associated universities.

Introduction website: <https://www.if.gov.hk/en/funding-programmes/supporting-start-ups/tsssu/index.html>

Enquiry: Please visit the above website for inquiries.



Funding Programmes: The Innovation and Technology Venture Fund (ITVF) · 1/3



Objective

The Government has set up a HK\$2 billion Innovation and Technology Venture Fund (ITVF) in 2017 with a view to attracting more venture capital (VC) funds to co-invest in local innovation and technology (I&T) startups in Hong Kong.

In the 2024 Policy Address, the Chief Executive announced to optimise the ITVF by redeploying HK\$1.5 billion to set up funds jointly with the market, on a matching basis, to invest in start-ups of strategic industries.



Application

1. A venture capital fund can apply for becoming a CP of the ITVF when there is a new round of applications for selection as CPs.
2. Please note that the ITVF does not accept applications or investment proposals submitted by individual startups directly. Instead, CPs are responsible for identifying and recommending eligible startups to ITVF for co-investment.



Funding Programmes: The Innovation and Technology Venture Fund (ITVF) · 2/3

→ Key Features of Fund Manager Model



Key Features

- Selected fund manager shall be responsible for setting up a limited partnership fund under the Limited Partnership Fund Ordinance (Cap. 637).
- Target to invest in startups of three strategic industries, including: Artificial intelligence and data science; Life and health technology; and Advanced manufacturing and new energy.
- The Government, as one of the Limited Partners of the funds, will commit HK\$1 to the funds for every HK\$3 of investment raised from the market by the fund managers, with Government's contribution ranging from HK\$150 million to HK\$250 million for each fund.
- Investment requirements:

For each fund manager:

- a. 100% of the fund must be invested in companies in relation to Hong Kong I&T eco-system;
- b. At least 50% of the fund must be invested in Hong Kong companies or non-Hong Kong companies with I&T related establishment in Hong Kong;

For each investee company:

Each investee company of the fund must agree to spend at least 50% of the fund's investment amount in relation to its operation in Hong Kong such as hiring of talents and procurement of goods and services.



Funding Programmes: The Innovation and Technology Venture Fund (ITVF) • 3/3

→ Key Features of Co-investment Model



Key Features

1. Target to co-invest in eligible local I&T startups.
2. Co-invest at a matching ratio of approximately 1(ITVF): 2 (CP).
3. ITVFC's matching investment ceiling:
 - Aggregate amount of matching investments with a CP not more than HK\$400 million;
 - Aggregate amount of investments in an investee company not more than HK\$50 million; and
 - For each co-investment in an investee company, the matching investment shall constitute not more than (i) 40% of the original total target investment amount sought by the investee company, or (ii) HK\$30 million, whichever is the lower.
4. ITVF will be a passive investor, making direct co-investment in the eligible local I&T startups with the CPs upon invitation of the latter.
5. Upon receipt of a CP's co-investment proposal, the ITVF Secretariat will conduct evaluation in consultation with the ITVF Advisory Committee according to the assessment framework.



Eligibility

The ITVF, through a special-purpose vehicle "The Innovation and Technology Venture Fund Corporation" (ITVFC), will co-invest with VC funds selected as Co-investment Partners (CPs) in eligible local I&T startups (investee company). An "eligible local I&T startup" must meet the following criteria: -

1. it or its wholly-owned Hong Kong company was incorporated under the Companies Ordinance within the last seven years and with one of its offices (headquarters or regional office) or its main business operation or its key management or leadership team being located in Hong Kong;
2. it or its subsidiar(ies) (if any) have been engaging in I&T business, covering any part of the research and development or production chain in Hong Kong; and
3. it and its subsidiar(ies) (if any) have a total number of employees (including Hong Kong, Mainland China and overseas offices) being less than 250.



Funding Programmes: General Support Programme (GSP)



Key Features

1. Support for **Non-R & D** projects.
2. Sponsorship: at least 10% of the total project cost.
3. Projects may include conferences, exhibitions, seminars, workshops, promotional events, popular science activities, events or projects to support upgrading and development of industry, etc.
4. Projects for promotion of products/services of any specific commercial entity will generally not be supported.



Eligibility

The applicant must be an organisation in Hong Kong (e.g. non-profit making trade/industry associations, public bodies, charitable organisations, local universities, local companies, etc.)



Application

GSP invites applications for funding **all year round**.



Funding Programmes: Patent Application Grant (PAG)



Key Features

1. Maximum funding support: HK\$250,000 or 90% of the sum of the total direct costs of patent application (including the cost for patent search-cum-technical assessment), whichever is the lower.
2. Individual applicant/company applicant to bear the remaining balance required for the patent application(s).
3. Approval non-transferrable and valid for 3 years from the date of approval of the application.



Application

Available throughout the year



Eligibility

1. All locally incorporated companies, Hong Kong permanent residents or Hong Kong residents permitted to remain in Hong Kong for not less than 7 years which/who have never owned any patents in any countries or territories nor received funding under the PAG before will be eligible.
2. For individual applicants, the applicant must be the sole inventor or one of the joint inventors of the invention.
3. For company applicants, the inventor(s) of the invention shall be (a) directly related party/parties to the applicant company, e.g. owner, shareholder, director, or staff. As the PAG is for first-time patent seekers only, funding support will not be provided if funding has been granted under the PAG to the applicant company's related company(ies) (i.e. (1) company(ies) having a major shareholder (viz. those with 50% or more ownership) in common with the applicant company or (2) company(ies) without major shareholder(s) but having shareholders identical to those of the applicant company) before.
4. All applications for functional patents and inventions with technology elements and susceptible of industrial application are eligible. Cosmetic designs will not be supported. The implementation agent of the PAG, the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC), will first conduct a patent search-cum-technical assessment to ensure that there is a reasonable chance of obtaining patent.



Funding Programmes: Research, Academic and Industry Sectors One-plus Scheme (RAISE+)



Key Features

1. Maximum funding support: HK\$100 million per project
2. Two Stages:
 - First stage (transformation and realisation of R&D outcomes);
 - Second stage (initiation of the commercialisation of R&D outcomes).Depending on the maturity of the transformation of its R&D outcomes, Applicants may join the Scheme starting from either the first or the second stage.
3. Matching Ratio:
 - The First Stage: up to 2 (Government) : 1 (industry and university)
 - The Second Stage: 1 (Government) : 1 (industry)
4. Maximum Project Duration:

Applicants should complete their projects in two stages within around five years –

 - the first stage within around three years; and
 - the second stage within the remaining time frame of the project.

Applicants joining the Scheme from the second stage shall complete their projects within three years.
5. Industry Sponsorship: mandatory
6. Intellectual Property: University teams/inventors should be entitled to no less than 70% of the IP benefits (for IPs generated by the teams/ inventors during the project period).



Eligibility

The applicant must be a university funded by the University Grant Committee (UGC).

- City University of Hong Kong
- Hong Kong Baptist University
- Lingnan University
- The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- The Education University of Hong Kong
- The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- The University of Hong Kong



Application

Plans to invite eligible universities to submit applications twice every 12 months



Funding Programmes: Ideation



Programme Offering

1. Funding: up to HK \$100,000
2. Coaching: Account managers to accompany and support you on your startup journey.
3. Training: Topics include market validation, business modelling, pitching, etc.
4. Centre Facilities: Co-working space access (1).
5. Nomination to HKSTP ecosystem: Dedicated startup support to HKSTP Incubation Programme applications.

Remark (1): Subject to availability



Eligibility

1. Have innovative idea supported by R&D and business planning AND
2. For **Individual** applicants: Are an HKID holder aged 18 or above, OR
3. For **Company** applicants: Have a limited company incorporated in Hong Kong for less than 2 years by the application start date, OR
4. For **Team** applicants: Have a team (must incorporate a limited company in Hong Kong within 2 weeks once approved by the IDEATION admission panel)



Application

The Ideation Programme is open for application every January, May, and September.



Funding Programmes: HKSTP INCUBATION



Programme Offering

Account Management:

A dedicated account manager to accompany you on your startup journey.

Technical support:

- Access world-class equipment, software and lab facilities supported by a dedicated team of engineers and experts.
- Partner with industry leaders such as Fujitsu, ASTRI and Rhode & Schwarz to meet your R&D needs.
- Unlock licensing/joint venture opportunities and library services to fast track your technical development.

Business Support:

- Meet experienced mentors, industry experts, strategic partners and investors through our events.
- Build your team and scale your business through our value services platform which provides training, professional services and talent support.
- Gain market exposure through trade missions or exhibitions, product launches, press releases and media interviews.

Financial support:

Receive funding support of up to HK\$1.29 million to cover your technology and business development expenses.



Eligibility

- Eligibility to meet the Mandatory Admission Criteria (MAC) of the programme (1)
- Has a disruptive application, innovative business model, life-changing product and solution.
- Has been market validated with MVP or prototypes.
- Is in the R&D field in Information and Communication Technology (ICT), electronics, green technology or precision engineering.

Remark (1): Scan for more details:



Application

Available throughout the year



Funding Programmes: INCU-BIO



Programme Offering

Workspace Support

- Explore our modern co-working medical technology laboratory and spaces at preferential rates for successful incubator applicants.
- Access to all HKSTP Biomedical Technology Support Center core facilities and equipment.

Technology Support

- Innovate with world-class equipment, software and lab facilities supported by our in-house team of professional scientists.
- Supercharge your R&D when you connect with our biomedical industry partners and affiliates.

Business Support

- Establish your network of mentors, strategic partners and investors through HKSTP's matching events.
- Get advice on crafting the perfect business plan, preparing for investment and finding funding.
- Extend your reach through exhibitions, launch events, press releases, media interviews, business sharing and product demo sessions.

Financial Aid

- Unlock startup funding support of up to HK\$6 million, consisting of HK\$4 million financial subsidy and upfront grant, HK\$2 million funding to cover regulatory activities such as clinical trials.



Eligibility

Please scan the code for more details:



Application

Available throughout the year



Funding Programmes: Acceleration



Programme Offering

Financial Support

- Prospects in the acceleration programme can secure investment funding of up to HKD 4.8 million to cover your company's tech developments.

Fundraising Support

- Extensive investor network allow you to diversify your sources of funding, unlocking skills to better your company's growth.
- Get guidance on preparing financing materials, deal structuring and execution, as well as negotiations with investors.

Business Development Support

- Go regional and global with support for product trials, business expansion tours, and executive coaching.

Professional Services Support

- Receive guidance about building a solid foundation for company growth, backed by professional services on risk management, IP strategy, compliance, and operations.

Accelerate to the Next Stage

- Equip yourself with knowledge and skills for late-stage growth.
- Get your team prepared with the necessary skills in organisation management, business upscaling, and capital structuring.



Eligibility

- The applicant is in the growth period and is committed to scale globally.
- It is currently an incubation company, a graduate from HKSTP incubation Programme, a current tenant, or will be a tenant of HKSTP.
- The applicant company must have a headquarters and departments with administrative functions in Hong Kong. The corporate executive must remain in Hong Kong for a long time.
- No more than 100 employees.
- At least half of the full-time employees based in Hong Kong work in the field of scientific research.



Application

Available throughout the year



Funding Programmes: Elite



Funding Scope

Financial Support

- Receive funding support of up to HK\$21.5 million to drive your business growth.

Fundraising Support

- Access our extensive investor network to diversify your sources of funding.
- Get guidance on preparing financing materials, deal structuring and execution, as well as negotiations with investors.
- Prepare your company to IPO / M&A.

Business Development Support

- Go regional and Global with support for product adoption.
- Business matching with our local and international partners.
- Gain market exposure through trade missions or exhibitions product launches, press releases and media interviews.

Infrastructure Support

- Access world-class equipment, software and lab facilities supported by a dedicated team of engineers and experts.

Professional Services Support

- Receive guidance about building a solid foundation for company growth and exit, backed by professional services on risk management, IP strategy, compliance, operations and IPO.



Eligibility

- Targets to expand outside Hong Kong and be the next unicorn;
- Has an exciting business development and R&D plan;
- Has exponential revenue growth and profitability;
- Has been established for at least 2 years in or outside Hong Kong or is a subsidiary of a company which has been established for at least 2 years in or outside Hong Kong;
- Has no less than 30 employees globally; and
- Will commit to sign a 3-year lease agreement with HKSTP.



Application

Available throughout the year



Funding Programmes: Clinical Translational Catalyst

Funding Support

Regulatory Affairs Funding Scheme (1)

Subsidise 50% of expenditure for pre-clinical/non-clinical activities for

- Therapeutics, up to HKD 4 million
- In Vitro Diagnostics/Medical Devices
- Class II, up to HKD 0.5 million
- De novo, up to HKD 1 million
- Class III, up to HKD 2.5 million

Clinical Trial Funding Scheme (1)

Subsidise 50% of expenditure for clinical trials for Therapeutics, Medical Devices and In Vitro Diagnostics

- Therapeutics
- Phase I, up to HKD 8 million
- Phase II, up to HKD 10 million
- Phase III, up to HKD 12 million (must include Hong Kong as one of the trial sites)
- In Vitro Diagnostics/Medical Devices clinical trials for registration, up to HKD 8 million

Eligibility

You are eligible to apply for this highly selective programme if:

- You are an existing HKSTP tenant (2)
- You have at least three full-time staff working at your HKSTP leased premises
- You will remain as HKSTP tenant for the project period funded by the scheme
- The project coordinator and project team are full-time employees of your company at HKSTP

Remark (1): Funded pipeline will be subject to Benefit-Sharing Agreement

Remark (2): Companies which are not HKSTP tenants should first apply for tenancy (standard lease term is for three years)

Application

Available throughout the year



Funding Programmes: MedTech Co-create



Funding Scope

Enablement - MTCC Funding Scheme

- Grant HK\$2M to support the translation of medtech R&D project
- Exclusive to HKSTP Tenant

Awareness - Biomed Awareness Campaign

- Increase visibility and attention for HKSTP Company and its products/ services
- Gain market access for medtech within local community
- Transfer knowledge

Expedition - Technology integration

- Connect to the right market and get the opportunity to test products directly with end users
- Translate your solutions into practical and commercial products to find the most effective B2B strategies.

Ecosystem gateway - HKSTP Portal

- Access to Solutions
- Match & Meet Business
- Call for Collaboration
- Engage with innovators



香港生物醫藥創新協會
HK Bio-Med Innotech Association

Application website: <https://www.hkstp.org/en/programmes/institute-for-translational-research/medtech-co-create-open-innovation>



Eligibility

- The Lead Applicant and Co-Applicant(s) must be partner company(ies) of HKSTPC* and will remain as tenant(s) of Hong Kong Science Park for the Funding Period.
- The Lead Applicant and Co-Applicant(s) are not considered as affiliated companies (including but not limited to (1) being a subsidiary of the other; and (2) group companies) amongst themselves.
- R&D# of the Project should be conducted in a leased or licensed premises of Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks.

Remark (): Companies which are not HKSTP tenants should first apply for tenancy.*

Remark (#): Both lead and co-applicant have to demonstrate a practical details of project planning and provide preliminary evidence of the feasibility of the proposed technology in Application Form.



Application

Available throughout the year





Chinese Medicine Unit of the Health Bureau

Enterprise Support Programme: Chinese Medicine Personal Training Funding Scheme

(A1-1,2,3 Scheme)

Available in Chinese Version Only





Chinese Medicine Unit of the Health Bureau

Enterprise Support Programme: Chinese Medicine Clinic Improvement Funding Scheme

(A1-4 Scheme)

Available in Chinese Version Only





Chinese Medicine Unit of the Health Bureau

Enterprise Support Programme: Proprietary Chinese Medicine Quality and Manufacturing System Enhancement Funding Scheme

(A2 Scheme)

Available in Chinese Version Only





Chinese Medicine Unit of the Health Bureau

Enterprise Support Programme: Proprietary Chinese Medicine Registration Supporting Scheme

(A3 Scheme)

Available in Chinese Version Only



Enterprise Support Programme: Chinese Medicine Warehouse Management, Logistics and Services Improvement Funding Scheme

(A4)

Available in Chinese Version Only





Chinese Medicine Unit of the Health Bureau

Enterprise Support Programme: Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Proprietary Chinese Medicine Industry Development Support Scheme

(A5 Scheme)

Available in Chinese Version Only





Chinese Medicine Unit of the Health Bureau

Industry Support Programme

Chinese Medicine Industry Training Funding Scheme & Chinese Medicine Promotion Funding Scheme (B1-1 Scheme) and Chinese Medicine Promotion Funding Scheme (B1-2 Scheme)

Available in Chinese Version Only





Chinese Medicine Unit of the Health Bureau

Industry Support Programme: Chinese Medicine Applied Studies and Research Funding Scheme

(B2 Scheme)

Available in Chinese Version Only



Funding Schemes: Dedicated Fund on Branding, Upgrading and Domestic Sales (BUD Fund)

→ Mainland Programme · 1/2



Funding Scope

- To provide funding support for individual Hong Kong enterprises to undertake projects to develop brands, upgrade and restructure their business operations and promote sales in the Mainland, so as to enhance their competitiveness and to facilitate their business development.
- Eligible Hong Kong enterprises can submit applications to carry out projects for branding, upgrading and/or development sales in the Mainland markets. Some examples that fall within the scope of the Mainland Programme are listed as follow:
 1. **Branding:** Brand Strategy, Brand Building, Positioning and identity, Brand Equity Research, Brand Promotion, and etc.
 2. **Upgrading & Restructuring:** New Product Design, Adoption of Advanced Technology, Management and Logistics System Upgrading, Manufacturing Automation, and etc.
 3. **Promoting Sales:** Marketing Strategy and Research, Sales Strategic Planning, Sales Channel Establishment and Management, Advertisements, Promotion of Product(s)/Service(s) and etc.



Types of Project

- Any projects falling within the scope of the Programme (i.e. any one or more areas of (i) branding; (ii) upgrading and restructuring; and (iii) promoting sales) that assist individual Hong Kong enterprises in enhancing their competitiveness and facilitating their business development in the Mainland are eligible for applying for funding support under the Programme. There are two types of eligible projects:
 1. **Develop Holistic Business Plans:** Projects that involve the engagement of qualified service providers by the applicants to develop holistic business plans in the areas of branding, upgrading and restructuring and/or promoting sales for the applicants to enhance their competitiveness and facilitate their business development in the Mainland.
 2. **Implementation of Specific Measures:** Projects that involve the implementation of specific measures in the areas of branding, upgrading and restructuring and/or promoting sales by the applicants themselves to enhance their competitiveness and facilitate their business development in the Mainland.



Funding Schemes: Dedicated Fund on Branding, Upgrading and Domestic Sales (BUD Fund)

→ Mainland Programme · 2/2



Guides and Reference

The guide to application provides a detailed guidance to assist applicants to complete the application form. The guide record general information, application eligibility, project and funding amount, application and approval procedures, project monitoring, reimbursement of funding, and other references information.



References

General Application:



E-commerce Easy:



Easy BUD:



Application Period

Open for application all year round. General applications and E-commerce Easy applications will be processed by batches. For the current batch, the cut-off date is 30 June 2025 (23:59 HKT). Any applications received by the Hong Kong Productivity Council after a particular cut-off date will be processed together with the next batch of applications to be received by the next cut-off date.



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BUD Fund's website: <https://www.bud.hkpc.org/en/>



Funding Schemes: Dedicated Fund on Branding, Upgrading and Domestic Sales (BUD Fund)

→ FTA and IPPA Programme · 1/3



Funding Scope

- With effect from November 16, 2024, the BUD Fund "FTA and IPPA Programme" covers applications for undertaking projects to develop the markets of the ten member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam), Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union, Canada, Chile, Denmark, the four member states of the European Free Trade Association member states (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland), Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Macao, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, Sweden, Türkiye, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom. i.e. 39 economies in total.
- Eligible Hong Kong enterprises can submit applications to carry out projects for branding, upgrading and/or development sales in the FTA and/or IPPA markets. Some examples that fall within the scope of the FTA and/or IPPA Programme are listed as follow:
 1. **Branding:** Brand Strategy, Brand Building, Positioning and identity, Brand Equity Research, Brand Promotion, and etc.
 2. **Upgrading & Restructuring:** New Product Design, Adoption of Advanced Technology, Management and Logistics System Upgrading, Manufacturing Automation, and etc.
 3. **Promoting Sales:** Marketing Strategy and Research, Sales Strategic Planning, Sales Channel Establishment and Management, Advertisements, Promotion of Product(s)/Service(s) and etc.



Funding Schemes: Dedicated Fund on Branding, Upgrading and Domestic Sales (BUD Fund)

→ FTA and IPPA Programme · 2/3



Types of Project

- Projects falling within the scope of the Programme (i.e. any one or more of the areas of (i) branding; (ii) upgrading and restructuring; and (iii) promoting sales) that assist individual Hong Kong enterprises in enhancing their competitiveness and facilitating their business development in the FTA and IPPA markets are eligible for applying for funding support under the Programme. There are two types of eligible projects:
 1. **Develop Holistic Business Plans:** Projects that involve the engagement of qualified service providers by the applicants to develop holistic business plans in the areas of branding, upgrading and restructuring and/or promoting sales for the applicants to enhance their competitiveness and facilitate their business development in the FTA and IPPA markets.
 2. **Implementation of Specific Measures:** Normal Application: Projects that involve the implementation of specific measures in the areas of branding, upgrading and restructuring and/or promoting sales by the applicants themselves to enhance their competitiveness and facilitate their business development in the FTA and IPPA markets..



Funding Schemes: Dedicated Fund on Branding, Upgrading and Domestic Sales (BUD Fund)

→ FTA and IPPA Programme · 3/3



Guides and Reference

The guide to application provides a detailed guidance to assist applicants to complete the application form. The guide record general information, application eligibility, project and funding amount, application and approval procedures, project monitoring, reimbursement of funding, and other references information.



References

General Application:



E-commerce Easy:



Easy BUD:



Application Period

Open for application all year round. General applications and E-commerce Easy applications will be processed by batches. For the current batch, the cut-off date is 30 June 2025 (23:59 HKT). Any applications received by the Hong Kong Productivity Council after a particular cut-off date will be processed together with the next batch of applications to be received by the next cut-off date.



Funding Schemes: Trade and Industrial Organisation Support Fund (TSF) • 1/4



Funding Scope • 1/2

- All projects (except activities which are or will be in receipt of other Government funding support) that are conducive to enhancing the competitiveness of non-listed Hong Kong enterprises in general or in specific sectors are welcome to apply for the TSF. Activities under the projects may include seminars, workshops, conferences, exhibitions, research studies, award schemes, codes of best practices, databases, service centres, support facilities and technology demonstrations, etc.
- Projects funded under the TSF shall be completed in 3 years.
- The following items directly incurred for the project may be funded:

1. Manpower

Salary (including employer's contributions to the Mandatory Provident Fund) of additional manpower and the applicant's existing staff deployed for the project (on a full-time or part-time basis) may be funded. A record on the working time devoted by the staff (including additional or existing staff) to the project shall be maintained and submitted to the Secretariat for manpower charged on an hourly basis.

2. Additional equipment

As a general rule, projects with proposed equipment cost equal or greater than 50% of the total project cost will not be considered unless there are very strong justifications. Only the cost of procuring or leasing of additional equipment for implementing the project can be charged to the TSF grant. The maximum amount of grant for equipment procured under an approved project is HK\$1 million, or 90% of the approved equipment cost, whichever is the less (Please click here for general guidelines).

3. Implementation fee

The fee paid to an implementation agent for assisting the applicant in carrying out the project may be funded. Such fee shall be charged based on the work directly incurred for each project deliverable according to the breakdown specified in the approved project proposal.



Funding Schemes: Trade and Industrial Organisation Support Fund (TSF) • 2/4



Funding Scope • 2/2

4. Other direct costs

All other costs directly incurred for the project may be funded, which may include:

- a) Expenses for consumables
- b) External consultancy fees
- c) Production and promotion costs of project deliverables (such as the costs on printing of leaflets, advertisements and venue rental for seminars, etc.)
- d) Travelling expenses
Travelling expenses incurred by project team members shall not exceed 5% of the total budgeted expenditure or the total actual expenditure (whichever is the less). For flight charges, only cost of economy class fare will be covered.
- e) External audit fees
The maximum funding allowed for each audit of the project shall not be more than HK\$10,000.
- f) Patent registration fee
Patent registration fees directly relating to the project of not more than HK\$250,000 may also be included in the budget.



Funding Schemes: Trade and Industrial Organisation Support Fund (TSF) • 3/4



Funding Amount

- The maximum amount of funding support for each approved project is HK\$5 million, or 90% of the total approved project expenditure, whichever is the less. The applicant has to contribute at least 10% of the total project expenditure, which may be in cash, in kind or in the form of sponsorship.
- (1)

Remark (1): Scan for more details:



Application Procedures

- Applications for the TSF are accepted all year round and considered on a quarterly basis.
- The Vetting Committee usually meets in March, June, September and December to consider applications received in the immediate preceding quarter.
- Under normal circumstances, applicants will be informed of the assessment result around one month after the respective meetings of the Vetting Committee.



Funding Schemes: Trade and Industrial Organisation Support Fund (TSF) • 4/4

Eligibility

- Non-profit-distributing organisations, which should either be statutory organisations or organisations registered under the laws of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, are eligible to apply for the TSF.
- Non-profit-distributing organisations refer to those which do not distribute profits to their directors, shareholders, employees or any other persons, such as trade and industrial organisations, professional bodies or research institutes, etc.
- The applicant may engage an implementation agent to assist in carrying out the project. It should provide evidence in the Application Form (e.g. curriculum vitae of key project team members) to show that the agent has the capability to implement the project effectively.
- The applicant may also seek support from relevant organisations (other than for-profit commercial entities or those with political affiliations) to act as collaborating organisations for the project.

Application Period

Open for application all year round

Project Duration

Each approved project should be completed within 3 years.



Funding Schemes: SME Export Marketing Fund (EMF) • 1/2

Funding Ceilings

- The SME Export Marketing Fund (EMF) aims to encourage small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to expand their markets outside Hong Kong by providing financial assistance to SMEs for participation in export promotion activities.
- **Funding Ceiling per Application**
Each application should cover expenditure related to one promotion activity. The maximum amount of funding support for each successful application will be provided on a 1 (government) : 3 (applicant enterprise) matching basis of the total approved expenditure incurred by the applicant enterprise or HK\$100,000, whichever is the less. The total amount of funding support for all other eligible expenditure items under the same application should be capped at the total amount of funding support for the expenditure item(s) (6(i), 6(vii), 6(viii)/6(ix)/6(xii), 6(xiii), 6(xiv)/6(xv)/ 6(xvi)/6(xvii), 6(xviii)/6(xix) in the Guide to Application).
- **Cumulative Funding Ceiling per Enterprise**
There is no limit on the number of applications by an enterprise for funding support under EMF. However, each enterprise may receive funding support under EMF up to a cumulative limit of HK\$1,000,000 and a maximum of 50% of the cumulative limit may be used for applications relating to setting up/enhancing the corporate website/mobile application owned by the applicant enterprise. Within two years after being funded of an application for setting up/enhancement of a corporate website/mobile, no new application on setting up/enhancement of a corporate website/mobile application from the same applicant enterprise will be accepted.

Application Period

- Open for application all year round.
- A successful applicant enterprise of initial payment should also submit a corresponding application for final payment covering the remaining balance of the eligible expenditure items claimed for the promotion activity covered in its application for initial payment within 60 calendar days after the completion date of the promotion activity in accordance with the parameters set out for application for reimbursement under the Guide to Application. (1)

Remark (1): Scan for more details:



Funding Schemes: SME Export Marketing Fund (EMF) • 2/2



Eligibility

An enterprise (1) applying for funding support under EMF must fulfil the following requirements:

- It must be a non-listed enterprise registered in Hong Kong under the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap. 310) (2).
- It must have substantive business operations in Hong Kong at the time of making the application. An enterprise holding a shell business registration or having its main business operation outside Hong Kong will not be regarded as having substantive business operations (3) in Hong Kong.
- If it has previously received funding support under EMF, the cumulative amount of funding received must not exceed the prevailing cumulative funding ceiling. Applicant enterprises which have similar business registration details (e.g. nature of business, address, contact numbers, shareholder/directorship) will be treated as connected enterprises. For the purpose of calculating the cumulative funding ceiling, connected enterprises are treated as if they are one enterprise, i.e. the cumulative amount of funding received by the connected enterprises concerned are aggregated and must not exceed the cumulative funding ceiling.
- It must not be the organiser/co-organiser/service provider or a related company of the organiser/co-organiser/service provider of the promotion activity and the related services covered by the application.

Remark (1): For the purpose of EMF, “enterprise” refers to a legal entity which is engaged in any form of business for the purpose of gain. Non-profit-making or non-profit-distributing organisations are not eligible.

Remark (2): Effective from 30 April 2021 until 30 June 2026, the funding scope of EMF is expanded to cover large-scale exhibitions staged by organisers with good track record targeting the local market, as well as online exhibitions organised by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and reputable exhibition organisers with good track record; and the eligibility criteria is relaxed to cover non-SMEs.

Remark (3): The applicant enterprise must provide relevant documents upon request to prove that it has substantive business operations in Hong Kong when making the application. When considering whether the applicant enterprise has substantive business operations in Hong Kong, TID will make reference to various factors, such as: nature of the business operation in Hong Kong; size/extent/percentage of the business operation in Hong Kong; amount of investment in Hong Kong; number of employees in Hong Kong; information of customers/clients; years of establishment; whether profits are assessable in Hong Kong; information/assessment issued by relevant financial and professional organisations.



香港生物醫藥創新協會
HK Bio-Med Innotech Association

EMF's website: https://www.smefund.tid.gov.hk/english/emf/emf_update.html



Funding Schemes: Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme



Funding Scope

- Enterprises with businesses in both Hong Kong and the Mainland cities of GBA to employ Hong Kong young persons in accordance with Hong Kong laws with a monthly salary of not less than HK\$18,000 and station them in the Mainland cities of GBA to work and receive on-the-job training may join the Scheme.
- The Labour Department will provide enterprises with a monthly allowance of HK\$12,000 for each employed young person for a maximum of 18 months.



Eligibility

Young persons to be employed by enterprises must be aged 18 to 29 at the commencement of employment with educational attainments awarded by higher education institutions within or outside Hong Kong at sub-degree level or above and are legally employable Hong Kong residents. Fresh graduates of 2025 may also participate in the current cohort of the Scheme. Please scan the following code for the "Guidelines for Participating Enterprises".



Guidelines for Participating Enterprises:



Application

Available throughout the year, the recruitment period of the current cohort of the Scheme is from 2 January to 31 December 2025.



Funding Schemes: Youth Employment and Training Programme (YETP) · 1/2



Funding Scope

YETP provides a comprehensive platform of job search for young people aged 15 to 29 with educational attainment at sub-degree level or below. This programme enables young people to better understand themselves and their work aptitudes while enriching their job skills and experience so as to enhance employability.

YETP is built on the following pillars: training courses, workplace attachment training, on-the-job training and career development services.

- Trainees can enrol in training courses offered by Employees Retraining Board with the assistance of Career Advisors under YETP. YETP will also arrange training courses for special employment projects and specific service targets when appropriate.
- Workplace attachment opportunities are provided by government departments, private companies and welfare organisations. There is no employment relationship between the trainees and the host organisations during the one-month attachment period. An attachment allowance of \$7,300 is payable to trainees on completion of the workplace attachment training.
- During the on-the-job training period, while the trainees are engaged as paid employees in full-time or part-time posts, comprehensive support services would be offered to the employers together with a monthly on-the-job training allowance. The amount of such allowance is 50% of the monthly salary of a trainee during the training period, up to a maximum amount of \$5,000 per month per trainee (payable for a period of 6 to 12 months). They have to appoint a mentor, who is current staff with relevant work experience, to provide appropriate guidance for the trainee at work. Also, the trainee may enrol in relevant off-the-job vocational training courses or examinations and apply for reimbursement of course or examination fees up to \$4,000 from YETP. With suitable vacancies, employers may offer further employment to trainees with good performance upon completion of on-the-job training.
- YETP will arrange registered social workers to be career advisors of individual trainees providing career development services.



Funding Schemes: Youth Employment and Training Programme (YETP) · 2/2



Eligibility

- All young people aged between 15 and 29 with educational attainment at sub-degree level or below are welcome to join the Programme.
- Applicants must hold valid Hong Kong Identity Cards and are lawfully employable in Hong Kong.



Application

Available throughout the year



Funding Opportunities: Collaborative Research Fund

- Collaborative Research Project Grant and the Collaborative Research Equipment Grant



Funding Scope

Collaborative Research Project Grant

- The Collaborative Research Project Grant aims to encourage research groups in UGC-funded universities to engage in collaborative research across disciplines and across universities, with a view to enhancing the research output of universities in terms of the level of attainment, quantity, dimensions and/or impact. It provides funding for staff, equipment and general expenses related to the supported projects. In assessing proposals, the Research Grants Council (RGC) puts emphasis on capacity building and the potential of a proposal to develop into an area of research strength.
- Project Coordinators (PC) of group research projects can apply for "renewal" funding. A "renewal" proposal should be an extension of the current project led by the same PC and should have its own goal and a new or extended research objective. The "renewal" applications will be assessed alongside other group research proposals.

Collaborative Research Equipment Grant

- enable the acquisition of major research facilities or equipment, including major library acquisitions for research, which cannot otherwise be afforded by one university and which can be used for collaborative research;
- assist universities in "leveraging" support from equipment suppliers with a view to stretching the value of RGC's fund further than could normally be possible by making small allocation with individual projects; and
- provide funding for group user fee (for users from RGC funded collaborative research projects) to access major user facilities (e.g. to pay for the access/use of some existing core facilities/equipment instead of procuring new ones).



Eligibility

Project Coordinator (PC) of a CRPG or CREG project must be an academic staff member of an UGC-funded university with conditions of employment meeting ALL the following requirements:

1. having a full-time appointment in the university proper;
2. being in Staff Grades from 'A' to 'T' as defined in the Common Data Collection Format (i.e. from "Professor" to "Assistant Lecturer");
3. being primarily engaged in and spending at least 80% of time in degree or higher degree work at the university proper; and
4. salary being wholly funded by the university proper.

A visiting staff member will only be eligible if he/she has a full-time appointment in the university proper covering the whole project period. Staff supported by external research grant are NOT eligible.



Application Period

Annual applications are available.



Funding Opportunities: Collaborative Research Fund

- Young Collaborative Research Grant



Funding Scope

Young Collaborative Research Grant

- The Young Collaborative Research Grant (YCRG) aims to support early-stage academic staff members in gaining first-hand experience in leading and managing collaborative research, so that they will be better prepared in competing for larger collaborative research funding in the next stage of their career. Only group research proposals can apply for YCRG. Equipment proposals should be submitted to Collaborative Research Equipment Grant.



Application Period

Annual applications are available.



Eligibility

- having a full-time appointment in the university proper;
- at the closing date of the application, not exceeding three years of his/her full-time academic job as an Associate Professor or career equivalent (including those at a lower rank), involving teaching and research duties and in substantiation track / tenure track position in any university (local or overseas), or not exceeding 12 years of post-doctoral or equivalent terminal qualifications in the relevant fields (e.g. medical and law degrees) experience, whichever is shorter;
- being in Staff Grades from "C" to "I" as defined in the Common Data Collection Format (i.e. from "Senior Lecturer (U)" to "Assistant Lecturer");
- being primarily engaged in and spending at least 80% of time in degree or higher degree work at the university proper; and
- salary being wholly funded by the university proper.
- Unlike CRPG and CREG, visiting scholar is not eligible for YCRG.



Funding Opportunities: European Union - Hong Kong Research Cooperation Co-funding Mechanism by the RGC



Funding Scope

- This scheme accepts research project proposals in the areas of food, agriculture, biotechnologies (linked to the agri-food sector), climate change, and biodiversity, as well as exchange (mobility) proposals.
- The project duration should normally not exceed five years and should not be longer than that of the concerned Horizon Europe project. The per-project ceilings of RGC's research project grant and exchange (mobility) grant are HK\$3 million and HK\$0.5 million (both excluding on-costs) respectively.



Eligibility

- HK applicants applying for RGC funding under this scheme must be partners in a successful proposal submitted in response to the 2023-2024 Work Programme under the Horizon Europe.
- In addition, applicants should meet fully the requirements for applying for the RGC General Research Fund (GRF)



Application Period

Annual applications are available.



Funding Opportunities: Germany/Hong Kong Joint Research Scheme



Funding Scope

- This scheme offers much flexibility to the applicants because there is no ceiling in terms of the number of applications that can be submitted by all eight UGC-funded universities.
- In addition, an applicant may apply as a Principal Investigator (PI) in an exercise and may also apply as a participating member of another project in the same exercise.
- The RGC funds granted to the Hong Kong PI can be used to support the research visits of the research postgraduate students to partner institutions, thus enabling them to obtain valuable training and experience from overseas practices.
- **The annual budget** for the exercise is capped at HK\$1.2 million. **The amount of the grant per project per year** is set at HK\$45,000 for those involving travel of research postgraduate students and HK\$30,000 per year for those not involving students' travels.
- Additional funding support from Hong Kong and German institutions/companies to individual grant recipient is most welcome.



Eligibility

Hong Kong applicants must meet the application requirements for the RGC General Research Fund (GRF).



Application Period

Available throughout the year



Funding Opportunities: PROCORE - France/Hong Kong Joint Research Scheme



Funding Scope

- This scheme offers much flexibility to the applicants because there is no ceiling in terms of the number of applications that can be submitted by all eight UGC-funded universities.
- In addition, an applicant may apply as a Principal Investigator (PI) in an exercise and may also apply as a participating member of another project in the same exercise.
- The RGC funds granted to the Hong Kong PI can be used to support the research visits of the research postgraduate students to partner institutions, thus enabling them to obtain valuable training and experience from overseas practices.
- The annual budget for the exercise is capped at HK\$1.02 million, of which HK\$150,000 is designated for a conference/workshop held in Hong Kong. The amount of the grant per project per year is set at HK\$45,000 for those involving travel of research postgraduate student(s) and HK\$31,250 per year for those not involving students' travels.
- Additional funding support from Hong Kong and French institutions/companies to individual grant recipient is most welcome.



Eligibility

Hong Kong applicants must meet the application requirements for the RGC General Research Fund (GRF).



Application Period

Available annually.



Funding Opportunities: The French National Research Agency (Agence Nationale de la Recherche) /RGC Joint Research Scheme



Funding Scope

- The French National Research Agency (Agence Nationale de la Recherche) and the Research Grants Council (RGC) of Hong Kong Joint Research Scheme (JRS) aims to strengthen collaboration between French and Hong Kong research communities.
- The ANR/RGC JRS aims to support research projects with duration of 36 or 48 months. The funding limit for Hong Kong applicants is HK\$3 million per project (exclusive of on-costs).



Eligibility

Hong Kong applicants should meet fully the requirements for applying for the RGC General Research Fund (GRF). French applicants should check with the ANR for their eligibility requirements. Only applications that fully meet the requirements of both the RGC and the ANR would be accepted.



Application Period

Available annually.



Funding Opportunities: General Research Fund

Funding Scope

- The General Research Fund (GRF) aims to supplement universities' own research support to researchers who have achieved or have the potential to achieve excellence.
 - The GRF covers two areas of research focused on broad knowledge enhancement and specific purposes.
1. Basic research: research for the sake of advancing the frontiers of knowledge regardless of whether it would provide immediate benefit to mankind; and
 2. Applied research: efforts directed at meeting certain functional requirements which involve the application of theories to specific areas or for specific purpose, and/or benefit mankind in the short to medium term.

Application Period

Available annually

Eligibility

Only academic staff members whose conditions of employment meet all the following requirements are eligible for applying for RGC grants as Principal Investigator (PI):

- having a full-time appointment in the university proper of UGC-funded universities;
- being at Staff Grades from 'A' to 'T' (i.e. from 'Professor' to 'Assistant Lecturer');
- being primarily engaged in and spending at least 80% of time in degree or higher degree work at the university proper; and
- salary being wholly funded by the university proper.

Visiting staff will only be eligible if they have a full-time appointment in the university proper covering at least one year or the duration of the project, whichever is the longer. Staff supported by external research grants are however not eligible.

As a transitional measure, academic staff who are engaged in non-degree programmes which are still funded by the UGC may also apply as the PI. Eligible staff in this category must be wholly funded from the General Funds of the university concerned. This arrangement would continue until such time when the relevant programmes are no longer funded by the UGC. Cases of an exceptional nature (including circumstances not covered by the above rules) will be considered by the RGC on a case-by-case basis.



Funding Opportunities: Early Career Scheme



Funding Scope

- A maximum of 5-year project duration is allowed for applicants in their first year of full time academic job, a 4-year duration for applicants in their second year and a 3-year duration for applicants in their third year, if the proposed duration is deemed appropriate and necessary by the Research Grants Council (RGC).
- In addition to funding independent research projects, two levels of awards are provided under the ECS: (i) Early Career Awards – an honorary title will be awarded with \$100,000 per funded project with outstanding rating and satisfactory education plan1; and (ii) an additional amount of \$50,000 per funded project with satisfactory education plan will be provided to those Principal Investigators (PIs) for undertaking educational activities for training undergraduate students for conducting research.
- Applicants should not list any collaborator as Co-Investigator.
- A special session will be organised in each panel meeting to consider exclusively the applications for the ECS to ensure that junior academics will compete only among themselves but not with other General Research Fund (GRF) applicants.



Eligibility

The PI of an ECS project grant must be an academic staff member of an UGC-funded university with conditions of employment meeting ALL the following requirements:

- within three years of his/her full time academic job as an Assistant Professor or career equivalent involving teaching and research duties and in substantiation track/tenure track position in any university (local or overseas) at the time of the submission deadline of this funding exercise;
- being primarily engaged in and spending at least 80% of time in degree or higher degree work at the university proper; and
- salary being wholly funded by the university proper.

Eligible applicants may choose to submit their research proposals under the ECS or the GRF, but not both, in each funding cycle. New junior academics meeting the eligibility criteria of the ECS are encouraged to compete in the scheme. The grantees and awardees of ECS cannot compete in the scheme again but those who failed will be allowed to re-submit applications within the eligible period.



Application Period

Available annually



Funding Opportunities: Theme-based Research Scheme



Funding Scope

There are four designated research themes under the TRS. Under the four research themes, there are 20 grand challenge topics. The themes are as follows:

- Understanding Diseases and Disease Prevention
- Developing a Sustainable Environment
- Enhancing Hong Kong's Strategic Position as a Regional and International Business Centre
- Advancing Emerging Research and Innovations Important to Hong Kong

The maximum duration of a project is five years. The ceiling of direct project cost per project to be awarded by the RGC is \$75 million.



Eligibility

Those who are eligible for the RGC General Research Fund may submit applications under the TRS. Each applicant is only allowed to submit one application in the capacity of Project Coordinator under either the Areas of Excellence Scheme or the TRS in the same exercise.



Application Period

Available annually



Funding Opportunities: Areas of Excellence Scheme



Funding Scope

The Areas of Excellence (AoE) Scheme aims to provide support to the UGC-funded universities to build upon their existing strengths and develop them into areas of excellence.

The maximum duration of an AoE project is five years. The ceiling of direct project cost per project to be awarded by the RGC is \$75 million.



Application Period

Available annually



Eligibility

Those who are eligible for the RGC General Research Fund may submit applications under the AoE Scheme. Each applicant is only allowed to submit one application in the capacity of Project Coordinator under either the AoE Scheme or the Theme-based Research Scheme in the same exercise.



Funding Opportunities: Research Impact Fund



Funding Scope

The Research Impact Fund (RIF) objectives are:

- to encourage local academics to consider and articulate the potential of research to deliver benefits to the wider community; and to encourage more impactful and translational research projects; and
- to encourage a greater volume of collaborative research beyond academia (e.g. with government departments, the business sector, the industry and research institutes).

Under the RIF exercise, mandatory matching funds are required from UGC-funded universities/organisational partner(s) for approved projects on a 70% (RGC)/30% (university/organisational partner(s)) basis. Every successful application can receive a funding amount of up to HK\$ 10 million from the RGC. The potential 30% matching could be from university, the industry, non-governmental organisations, stakeholders or private donation. The project duration must span three to five years.



Application Period

Available annually



Eligibility

Only academic staff members whose conditions of employment meet ALL the following requirements are eligible for application of RGC grants as Project Coordinator (PC):

- having a full-time appointment in the university proper of a UGC-funded university;
- having a Staff Grade of 'A' to 'T' as defined in the Common Data Collection Format (i.e. 'Professor' to 'Assistant Lecturer');
- being primarily engaged in and spending at least 80% of time in degree or higher degree work at the university proper; and
- salary being wholly funded by the university proper.

A visiting staff member can qualify if he/she possesses a full-time appointment in the university proper covering the entire project period. Staff members supported by research grants other than from the RGC are NOT eligible.

As a transitional measures, academic staff members engaged in non-degree programmes, which are still funded by the UGC, may also apply as the PC. Eligible staff in this category must be wholly funded by the General Funds of the universities concerned. This arrangement would continue until such time when the relevant programmes are no longer funded by the UGC. Exceptional cases (including circumstances not covered by the above rules) will be considered by the RGC on a case-by-case basis.



Funding Opportunities: Strategic Topics Grant



Funding Scope

Strategic Topics Grant (STG) is set up to support collaborative research in specific areas which can help Hong Kong overcome imminent challenges and capture emerging opportunities.

There are five strategic topics under the STG. They are as follows:

- Using Advanced Technology to Address Health Care Challenges
- Striving towards Carbon Neutrality before 2050
- Establishing Hong Kong as the Leading Integrated Circuits, and Opto-electronics Innovation and Technology Hub in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area
- Managing the Socio-economic Dimensions of Public Health Challenges
- Innovative and Environmental-friendly Construction Technologies and Materials

The maximum duration of a project is five years. The ceiling of project cost per project to be awarded by the RGC is \$40 million (excluding on-costs). The requirement of 10% matching funding from participating universities is applied.



Eligibility

Those who are eligible for the RGC General Research Fund may submit application under the STG. Each applicant can submit one application as Project Coordinator in each round of the STG exercise.



Application Period

Available annually





Funding Opportunities: National Natural Science Foundation of China/RGC Collaborative Research Scheme



Funding Scope

- The National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) and the Research Grants Council (RGC) of Hong Kong Collaborative Research Scheme (CRS) aims to support larger-scale collaborative research across disciplines and / or across universities in the Mainland and Hong Kong, with a view to enhancing research output and impact on both sides. It will initially operate on a three-year pilot basis.
- The NSFC / RGC CRS supports collaborative research proposals jointly submitted by the Mainland and the Hong Kong researchers. The six focus areas include Information Technology; Life Science; New Materials Science; Marine and Environmental Science; Medicine; and Management Science.
- The Scheme aims to support research projects with duration of four years. For Hong Kong applicants, the grants sought for each project should not exceed HK\$3.6 million (exclusive of on-costs). Around ten projects will be supported.



Application Period



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Available annually

Application website: https://www.ugc.edu.hk/eng/rgc/funding_opport/nsfc_crs/index.html



Eligibility

- The eligibility requirements of the Hong Kong applicants for NSFC / RGC CRS are the same as those for NSFC / RGC Joint Research Scheme (JRS). Each Mainland or Hong Kong applicant is only allowed to submit one application in the capacity of either the Principal Investigator (PI) under NSFC / RGC JRS or the Project Coordinator (PC) under NSFC / RGC CRS in the same funding exercise.
- The Hong Kong PC should meet fully the requirements for applying for the RGC General Research Fund (GRF). A Hong Kong PI of an on-going NSFC / RGC JRS research project is not allowed to submit a new application in the capacity of PC in the current NSFC / RGC CRS exercise unless both collaborative partners have submitted their completion reports of the project to the RGC and the NSFC before the application deadline. Nevertheless, he / she could participate in a new NSFC / RGC CRS proposal if not in the capacity as a PC. Moreover, applicants should refer to the relevant requirements of the NSFC and ensure their eligibility as Hong Kong PC will be accepted by the NSFC.
- Mainland applicants should check with the NSFC for their eligibility requirements.
- Researchers outside Hong Kong and the Mainland may participate as members of the Hong Kong or the Mainland research team.





Funding Opportunities: National Natural Science Foundation of China/RGC Joint Research Scheme • 1/2



Funding Scope

The NSFC/RGC JRS supports research proposals jointly submitted by the Mainland and the Hong Kong researchers. It also offers up to two conference grants to sponsor conferences held in Hong Kong. The six focus areas under the scheme include Information Technology, Life Science, New Materials Science, Marine and Environmental Science, Medicine, and Management Science.

A. Research Proposals

The research grant aims to support research projects with duration of four years. For Hong Kong applicants, the grant amount requested should not exceed HK\$1.25 million (exclusive of on-costs).

B. Conference Proposals

The conference grant aims to encourage young researchers of similar fields from Hong Kong and the Mainland to foster collaboration through the dissemination of their recent and unpublished research works. Two conferences, one in science disciplines (viz. Biology & Medicine, Engineering and Physical Sciences disciplines) and one in non-science disciplines (viz Humanities, Social Sciences and Business Studies disciplines) to be held in Hong Kong, will be selected for funding. The RGC provides applicants with funding for a two or three-day conference in Hong Kong. The conference/workshop should take place within a period specified by the RGC (normally from 1 July to 30 June of the following year). The maximum amount of RGC grant per conference is HK\$250,000.



Funding Opportunities: National Natural Science Foundation of China/RGC Joint Research Scheme · 2/2

Eligibility

The eligibility requirements for NSFC/RGC JRS are as follows:

A. Research Proposals

The Hong Kong Principal Investigators (PIs) should meet fully the requirements for applying for the RGC General Research Fund. Moreover, Hong Kong applicants should refer to the relevant requirements of the NSFC and ensure that their eligibility as a Hong Kong PI will be accepted by the NSFC. Mainland applicants should check with the NSFC for their eligibility requirements. Researchers outside of Hong Kong and the Mainland may participate as members of the Hong Kong or the Mainland research teams.

B. Conference Proposals

Either the Hong Kong PI or a Co-investigator in the Hong Kong team should meet fully the requirements for applying for the RGC Early Career Scheme. The Hong Kong PI should collaborate with a Mainland Co-organiser who should meet the eligibility requirements of a “young scientist” specified by the NSFC. Enquiries relating to the NSFC's eligibility requirements should be directed to the Office of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs of the NSFC via email at gat@nsfc.gov.cn.

Application Period

Available annually



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Application website: https://www.ugc.edu.hk/eng/rgc/funding_opport/nsfc/index.html



Fund: Redbird Innovation Fund (RIF)



Funding Scope

Redbird Innovation Fund partners with venture capital managers to co-establish multiple venture investment funds in support of HKUST start-up ecosystem

- Cover companies from the early stage to the scaling phase in key deep tech domains such as artificial intelligence, semiconductors and robotics, new materials, energy and sustainability, biomedical and healthcare
- HK\$500 million Fund of VC funds program, with initial tranche of HK\$200 million to create HK\$2 billion investment fund
- Support start-ups established by HKUST staff, students and alumni, and companies that commercialize HKUST intellectual properties or are incubated by HKUST.



Eligibility

RIF evaluates venture capital managers based on a variety of quantitative and qualitative factors, including:

- Team
- Investment strategy
- Investment process
- Track record
- Other benefits to the university
- Alignment of interest



Application

RIF invites venture capital managers for partnerships all year round.



Funding: HKUST Entrepreneurship Fund (E-Fund)



Funding Scope

E-Fund with a fund size of HK\$100 million committed by HKUST, is established for the benefit of promising HKUST technology start-up companies.

- E-Fund typically invests in angel, seed, or pre-A funding rounds, but may also invest in subsequent financing rounds if feasible.
- The initial investment in each start-up is limited to a maximum amount of HK\$5 million
- HKUST would generally reserve the option to take up observer seats, but not board of director seats of the start-up

E-Fund helps to bridge the funding gap of HKUST start-up companies before they could secure sufficient external funding to grow or to expand.



Eligibility

E-Fund will only invest in HKUST start-ups, which meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Private and owned legally and beneficially with at least 10% by faculty member, staff member, student, and/or alumni of HKUST.
- Established for no more than 7 years when E-Fund makes the initial investment.

E-Fund may invest in any Start-up featured with innovative technologies and/or business models.



Application

E-Fund invites applications for funding all year round



Training plan: DeepTech100



Funding Scope

- Up to HK\$1.39M funding
- Structured Entrepreneurship Training
- Community and Networking
- Access to HKSTP's Communal Facilities
- One-year IDendron membership
- Fast track to HKSTP Incubation Programme
- Public Exposure



Application

The program is held **twice a year**, with a deadline for the last Sunday in May and November



Eligibility

1. Principal Applicant must be an HKU member (student, staff, or alumnus of HKU or its affiliated institutions) with at least 20% ownership in the applying or to-be-established company. OR
2. An existing or prospective HKU IP licensee (with a licensing agreement already signed or being negotiated)
3. Have a deep tech-based project supported by R&D and business planning AND
4. For Individual applicants: Are an HKID holder aged 18 or above, OR
5. For Company applicants: Have a limited company incorporated in Hong Kong for less than 2 years by the application start date, OR
6. For Team applicants: Have a team (must incorporate a limited company in Hong Kong within 2 weeks once approved by the HKSTP IDEATION admission panel)
7. For full eligibility, please refer to the HKSTP IDEATION page



Funding: SEED



Funding Scope

- Structured Entrepreneurship Training: Three-week training for entrepreneurial skills, incl. business modelling and market validation
- Opportunity to receive up to HKD100K Funding from HKSTP Ideation Programme
- Opportunity to receive 6-month iDendron Membership for HKSTP Ideation Programme Awardees
- Community and Networking
- Nomination for External I&E Competitions
- Public Exposure



Eligibility

- Principal applicant shall be a HKU student, alumnus or staff member;
- HKU members altogether shall have 20% or more ownership;
- If applying as a company, it must be registered within two years before the application deadline;
- Not currently in HKSTP Ideation or Cyberport CCMF Programme



Application

SEED 2025 Cohort 2 application deadline: 31st Aug 2025, 23:59



Fund: HK Tech 300 Seed Fund



Funding Scope

1. Each approved project team can receive funding support at an amount of HK\$100,000.
2. The funding period and terms will be shown in the HK Tech 300 Seed Fund Agreement to be signed, and the release of funding is subject to the stipulated requirements. The project team has to finish the agreed milestones within the funding period and must submit interim and final reports together with the corresponding statements of expenditures as required before the funding is released to the PIC in three installments as follows –
 - 1st installment of up to HK\$20,000: within 45 days after signing the HK Tech 300 Seed Fund Agreement
 - 2nd installment of up to HK\$40,000: after submission and approval of an interim report and confirmation of the completion of the relevant milestones by an assessment committee assigned by the University
 - 3rd installment of up to HK\$40,000: within 45 days upon satisfactory project completion (including satisfactory achievement of all milestones and production of all deliverables, if any) and acceptance of the final report by an assessment committee assigned by the University



Application

Round 18 applications began on September 24, 2025 and ended at 12pm on October 8, 2025.



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Application website: <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/hktech300/about-hk-tech-300/hk-tech-300-seed-fund>



Eligibility

1. The Person-in-Charge (“PIC”) of the project team forming must be associated with CityU in any one of the following capacities at the time of application:
 - (i) CityU student
 - (ii) CityU research staff
 - (iii) CityU alumna/us (who has graduated normally within 8 years as of the date of application)
 - (iv) Others (when the team is championing commercial use of CityU's intellectual property)
2. The PIC is responsible for overseeing the project team's operations and serving as the team's liaison person.
3. Each project team must have at least two members, including the PIC.
4. The applicant or members allow applying for the Programme twice for a different project funded or invested by HK Tech 300 in any role but needs to complete one before starting the others.
5. The applicant or members should not apply more than 1 project in the same Cohort. (1)

Remark (1): For details, please refer to the application guidelines:



Fund: HK Tech 300 Angel Fund



Funding Scope

1. Each qualified start-up can receive an angel fund investment of up to an amount of HK\$ 1M.
2. CityU or its nominee will hold a percentage of shares in the eligible start-up, but will not serve on the company's Board of Directors.



Application

Round 14 applications began on May 7, 2025 and ended at 12pm on May 28, 2025.

Remark (1): For details, please refer to the application guidelines:



Eligibility

1. The applicant must be a company registered under the HKSAR Companies Ordinance normally within 5 years as of the date of application.
2. The team forming the company must consist of a Person-in-Charge ("PIC") who is associated with CityU in the following capacity at the time of application:
 - (A) CityU student;
 - (B) CityU research staff;
 - (c) CityU alumna/us who has graduated normally within 8 years as of the date of application; or
 - (D) the general public using CityU intellectual property (IP) and/or technology in their start-ups.
3. The PIC is responsible for overseeing the company's operations and as the company's liaison person. S/he should have significant ownership associated with the company and should actively involve in the company's development such as holding a certain amount of company shares and playing a significant role in the company.
4. For the avoidance of doubt, the PIC/and team member(s) is/are NOT allowed to take up the role of other concurrently active start-up(s) invested by HK Tech 300 Angel Fund.
5. Eligible applicants who are successfully shortlisted and recommended by the Selection Panels will be invited to apply for Technology Start-up Support Scheme for Universities (TSSSU) 2025 -2026.
6. The team which is not shortlisted for two consecutive cohorts will be encouraged to suspend at least one cohort and returned with significant improvement. (1)



Fundings: Knowledge Transfer Project Fund (KPF)



Funding Scope

Up to HK\$400,000 for 1.5 - 2 years



Application

The 2025 applications are pending.



Eligibility

1. Project Leader and Co-Leader(s) should be full-time CUHK staff on professoriate or research academic ranks. Other teaching staff will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
2. All CUHK staff, students and non-CUHK members may join as team members.



Fundings: Sustainable Knowledge Transfer Project Fund (S-KPF)



Funding Scope

HK\$600,000 for 2 years



Application

The 2025 applications are pending.



Eligibility

1. Project Leader and Co-Leader(s) must be full-time CUHK staff on professoriate or research academic ranks. Other teaching staff will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
2. All CUHK staff, students and non-CUHK members may join as team members.





Funding: Micro Fund Scheme



Funding Scope

1st assessment (Elevator Pitch):

HK\$20,000 Cash Prize from PolyU

Conditional offer of admission to HKSTP Ideation Programme (up to HK\$100,000), subject to HKSTP's discretion.

2nd assessment (Final Presentation):

HK\$100,000 Seed Fund from PolyU

Conditional offer of admission to HKSTP Incubation Programme (up to HK\$1.29 million), subject to HKSTP's discretion.



Application

Twice a Year, Cohort 2: 5 Feb 2025 – 24 Mar 2025 (Mon), 1:00pm



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Application website: https://www.polyu.edu.hk/en/kteo/entrepreneurship/funding_investment/polyu-micro-fund-scheme/



Eligibility

A team with:

- Current Student of PolyU, HKCC, SPEED; or
- Alumnus/Alumna of PolyU, HKCC, SPEED; or
- PolyU Translational Startup Postdoc; or
- PolyU Staff; or
- Key owner-operator of PolyU Technology Licensee

as the Principal Applicant (PA)

- The application shall not be a project or company funded in previous cohorts





Project Leaders

Mr. Xiaozhuang CHEN

- **Project Manager of HK Bio-Med Innotech Association**

Ms. Wenjun YAN

- **Project Manager of HK Bio-Med Innotech Association**

Project Supervisor

Ms. Ruby LIAO

- **Chief Operating Officer of HK Bio-Med Innotech Association**

Project Advisory Board

Board of Directors, HK Bio-Med Innotech Association

- **President: Prof. Yuk Lam LO**
- **Vice President: Dr. William CHOI, Dr. Augustine CHOW**
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- **Executive Director: Mr. Wayne TAN, Mr. Frank YANG, Mr. Zhidong MIN**
- **Secretary General: Mr. Michael CHENG**



香港生物醫藥創新協會
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Thank you!

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HKBMIA is Committed to Establish an Innovative & International BioMedical Platform in Hong Kong.....