



澳門特別行政區
Região Administrativa Especial de Macau
科學技術發展基金
Fundo para o Desenvolvimento das Ciências e da Tecnologia

Application Guidelines for the Joint Research Funding Program between the Macao Science and Technology Development Fund and the Department of Science and Technology of Guangdong Province (2025)

In accordance with the "Work Plan on Joint Funding for Collaborative R&D Projects between the Department of Science and Technology of Guangdong Province and the Macao Science and Technology Development Fund," and to actively participate in the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and the establishment of an international technology innovation center, the Macao Science and Technology Development Fund (hereinafter referred to as "FDCT") and the Department of Science and Technology of Guangdong Province (hereinafter referred to as "GDST") are jointly launching a collaborative research funding program.

I. Supervising Authorities

1. The competent authorities for this joint research funding program are: the FDCT for the Macao side, and the GDST for the Guangdong side.
2. The application, acceptance, evaluation, approval, implementation, management, and project conclusion on the Macao side shall be governed by the current Funding Scheme for External Science and Technology Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as the "Funding Scheme") and these guidelines.
3. The FDCT, the GDST, and the relevant pilot prefecture-level science and technology bureaus will each disburse funds to their respective funded collaborators in Macao and Guangdong. The funds disbursed by each party may only be used within their respective jurisdictions.

II. Prefecture-Level City Collaboration

On a pilot basis, the Funding Scheme encourages Macao entities and innovation entities in certain prefecture-level cities of Guangdong Province to carry out joint technological research and development, as well as cooperation on the industrialization of research outcomes. The pilot prefecture-level cities for this year are Foshan, Dongguan, and Jiangmen. The Macao applicants shall determine the project category in consultation with the Mainland collaborators.



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III. Key Supported Fields and Excluded Project Types

In line with the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and the establishment of an international technology innovation center, this program addresses the socio-economic and technological development needs of both Macao and Guangdong. By leveraging complementary strengths in research, it aims to promote cooperation between industry, academia, and research institutions, achieving breakthroughs in strategic emerging technologies and enhancing the international competitiveness of both regions.

1. Key support areas include collaborative projects in electronic information, biomedicine (including Traditional Chinese Medicine), energy conservation, environmental protection, smart cities, and marine science. Priority will be given to projects jointly submitted with institutions related to the Guangdong-Macao In-Depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin.

Key supported areas for each pilot city are as follows:

- (1) Foshan: Traditional Chinese Medicine, environmental protection materials, electronic information materials, new energy materials, intelligent robotics.
 - (2) Dongguan: Integrated circuits and chip design, Traditional Chinese Medicine research and clinical studies, artificial intelligence and machine vision, semiconductor and energy storage materials development.
 - (3) Jiangmen: Biomedicine and health (Traditional Chinese Medicine technology, food), advanced materials (including new energy battery materials), smart city development, new generation information technology, precision instruments, integrated circuit and chip manufacturing.
2. The program will not support basic infrastructure projects, equipment procurement, policy and management research, or market promotion projects.

IV. Funding Amount and Funding Period

1. The requested funding amount for each project shall not exceed MOP 1.3 million. For projects funded under the prefecture-level city collaboration, the requested funding amount for each project shall not exceed MOP 1 million.
2. The granted funding amount shall not exceed the requested funding amount.
3. The funding period shall not exceed two years.

V. Application Period

November 28, 2025 – January 16, 2026



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VI. Collaboration Requirements

1. The program will not support applications from Macao research institutions collaborating with their branch offices in the Mainland.
2. One of the leading applicants from each side must be a business enterprise. If the leading applicant from Macao is a commercial entity, it must provide matching funds. Requirements for Macao's matching funds will follow the rules of the Macao's funding scheme, while Guangdong's requirements will adhere to the GDST's regulations.
3. The leading applicant from Macao must consult with the Guangdong collaborator on research content, planning, and responsibilities, signing a cooperation agreement, memorandum, or letter of intent that specifies the R&D tasks, division of labor, and intellectual property rights. This must comply with the laws and regulations of both Macao and the Mainland, ensuring reasonable sharing of results and protecting the interests of both parties.
4. Each project team must include at least one member from both sides.
5. Collaborating partners must demonstrate strong technical capabilities or high levels of scientific research and have the willingness and ability to collaborate with Macao. Partners can contribute through technology, funding, personnel, information, advanced equipment, or proprietary resources.
6. During the cooperation period, the Macao and Guangdong teams must engage in at least one exchange visit to each other's institutions, and hold at least one annual project meeting involving key responsible personnel from both sides (in any format).
7. For projects involving cooperation between Guangdong enterprises and Macao universities, the Guangdong enterprise must provide at least one short-term internship (lasting at least three months and in any format) for a graduate student from the Macao team during the cooperation period.
8. Guangdong collaborators must also apply to the GDST. For detailed application methods, please refer to the GDST's regulations.

VII. Expected Outcomes

Projects should achieve key technological breakthroughs and produce at least one market-ready scientific and technological outcome with independent intellectual property rights. Expected outcomes may include patents, technical standards, prototypes, models, or formulas. Quantifiable indicators for the outcomes must be set, and the project should generate economic and social benefits upon completion.



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VIII. Requirements for Filling out the Proposal Application Form

1. Proposal application form serve as important references for FDCT and experts in corresponding fields among other parties to learn and inquire about the projects as well as review and select the applications. The applying entity shall fill out their application form according to the requirements regarding the proposal content, format, and numbers of words.
2. Basic requirements for filling out the proposal application form are as follow:
 - (1) The project should achieve collaboration in relevant research areas and technology development.
 - (2) The significance of the collaboration should be substantial, with clear goals, specific content, a reasonable and feasible cooperation plan, measurable technical indicators, and a rational budget.
 - (3) The research team's structure should be well-organized, with clear divisions of labor between the lead and participating entities, ensuring substantive R&D cooperation.
 - (4) The project title and the names of the applicants from both sides must be consistent across the application forms in Macao and Guangdong. The research plan should reflect complementary strengths.