



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

Funding Scheme for International Cooperation in Science and Technology – Joint Funding Category

Application Guidelines for Joint Research Projects between the Macao Science and Technology Development Fund and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Year 2025)

According to the **Memorandum of Understanding on Scientific and Technological Cooperation and Exchange between the Macao Science and Technology Development Fund and the National Natural Science Foundation of China**, the Macao Science and Technology Development Fund (hereinafter referred to as "FDCT") and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (hereinafter referred to as "NSFC") jointly implement a funding scheme for collaborative research projects.

I. Supervising Authorities and Management

1. The supervisory authority for this joint research funding scheme is **FDCT** in Macao and **NSFC** in Mainland China.
2. Applications, acceptance, evaluation, approval, implementation, management, and conclusion of projects submitted by Macao applicants will be governed in accordance with the **Funding Scheme for International Cooperation in Science and Technology** (hereinafter referred to as the "Funding Scheme") and these guidelines.
3. FDCT and NSFC will each disburse funds to their respective collaborators in Macao and Mainland China. Funds disbursed by each party can only be used within their respective jurisdictions.

II. Supported Fields and Excluded Project Types

1. Supported Fields are Natural sciences, where the primary academic discipline codes under the "Primary Academic Discipline" completed in the "Online Application System for Project Funding" must be 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, and 170. Biomedical and Traditional Chinese Medicine fields, where the primary academic discipline codes under the "Primary Academic Discipline" completed in the "Online Application System for Project Funding" must be 180, 190, 210, 220, 230, 240, 310, 320, 330, 340, 350, and 360.



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

2. Projects involving basic infrastructure construction, pure equipment procurement, soft science research such as policy and management, or market promotion are not supported.

III. Application Period

February 5, 2025 – March 5, 2025

IV. Cooperation Requirements

1. **Lead Applicant Responsibilities:** The lead applicant from Macao must collaborate with their Mainland partner on research content, research plans, and division of responsibilities. They must sign a cooperation agreement, memorandum of understanding, or letter of intent, which must include specific clauses on intellectual property rights.
2. **Clear Division of Responsibilities:** The lead entity and all participating entities must have clearly defined responsibilities, ensuring substantive collaboration in research and development. Projects must effectively protect intellectual property rights, facilitate the reasonable sharing of collaborative research outcomes, and safeguard the interests of all parties involved.
3. **Partner Requirements:** Cooperation partners must possess strong technical capabilities or high research standards and demonstrate a willingness and capacity to collaborate with Macao. Partners can contribute to the collaboration through various means, such as technology, funding, personnel, information and data, advanced equipment, or proprietary resources.
4. **Ineligible Collaboration:** Applications involving collaboration between Macao research institutions and their Mainland branches are not eligible for this funding scheme.
5. **Mainland Partner Application:** Mainland partners must simultaneously submit an application to the NSFC. For detailed application procedures, please refer to the relevant NSFC regulations.



V. Expected Research Outputs

The anticipated research outputs are not limited to academic or applied results. They may include papers, monographs, research (consultation) reports, patents, talent development, software, hardware (prototypes, mock-ups), technical standards, formulas, new materials, and new processes, among others.

VI. Requirements for the Application Proposal

1. The application proposal serves as a crucial basis for the FDCT and evaluation experts to understand the project, provide consultation, review, and select the best projects. Applicants must complete the proposal carefully, adhering to the specified content, format, and word count requirements.
2. The basic requirements for completing the application proposal include:
 - (1) The project should achieve research collaboration in relevant fields and collaborative development of related technologies.
 - (2) The collaboration must be significant, justified, and well-reasoned, with clear objectives, specific content, a reasonable and feasible cooperation plan, measurable technical indicators, and a reasonable budget.
 - (3) The research and development team should have a clear structure and the capability to complete the project. The responsibilities of the lead entity and participating entities should be clearly defined, ensuring substantive R&D collaboration.
 - (4) The project name, collaborating entities, project leaders, project duration, and other details in the proposals submitted by both parties must be consistent.

VII. Submission of Applications

1. Applicants must prepare the application in any of the official languages of the Macao Special Administrative Region or in English.
2. Applicants with an electronic signature must submit the application documents through the FDCT online application system on or before the deadline.
3. Applicants without an electronic signature must, in addition to submitting the application documents through the FDCT online application system on or before the deadline, also deliver the signed and sealed application documents to the FDCT office.