



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 Scientific Research and Innovation

The Science and Technology Development Fund (hereinafter referred to as “FDCT”) has formulated this Funding Scheme according to Articles 15 and 16 of the *Financial Aid Grant Regulation* as approved by the Chief Executive’s Dispatch No. 64/2021.

I. Objectives

In line with the Macao SAR Government’s policies, FDCT is committed to assist local research institutions and researchers in launching all kinds of in-depth research projects, for the purposes of enhancing their scientific research strength and cutting-edge original innovation ability in Macao and maintaining the leading position of Macao’s dominant discipline. Furthermore, FDCT has also promoted the industry-university-research partnership, facilitated the production of application-based research findings, so as to improve the contribution of scientific and technological innovation to social and economic development in Macao.

II. Types of Application and Application Requirements

Funding applications are divided into three types:

1. Type A: for research projects conducive to enhancing scientific research strength and cutting-edge original innovation ability, with funding amount not exceeding MOP 3,000,000;
2. Type B: for research projects with application-oriented



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scientific research findings, with funding amount not exceeding MOP 3,000,000;

3. Type C: for research projects with application-oriented scientific research findings, with funding amount exceeding MOP 3,000,000, but not exceeding MOP 5,000,000.

III. Applying Entities

Entities that fulfill any of the following conditions are eligible to submit application:

1. Local higher education institutions under the supervision of the Macao SAR Government;
2. Laboratories or other entities engaged in scientific and technological R&D in the Macao SAR;
3. Private non-profit organizations registered in the Macao SAR;
4. Researchers engaged in R&D activities in the Macao SAR.

IV. Application Requirements

1. In terms of Types B or C, the research subject of project proposed shall align with the policy direction of the Macao SAR Government, current Five-Year Plan of Macao economic and social development, the Macao SAR Government's Policy Address, related planning and programs of Guangdong-Macao In-Depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin, etc., giving priority to the production of application-oriented scientific research findings.
2. In terms of Type C, the applying enterprise shall propose a 5-



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year project plan and corresponding budget.

3. Other indicators for research findings stated in the Application Guideline.

V. Cooperative Research

FDCT encourages the applying entities to conduct cooperative research with higher education institutions, scientific research institutions or commercial institutions inside or outside Macao.

VI. Funding Type

No repayment required.

VII. Eligible and Ineligible Spending

Please refer to Article 3 of the *Financial Aid Grant Regulation* as approved by the Chief Executive's Dispatch No. 64/2021.

VIII. Funding Amount and Project Duration

1. The total amount funded for this Scheme by FDCT per year shall not exceed MOP 300,000,000 (three hundred million patacas). The Administrative Committee will publish the total grant amount of the current year in the Application Guide according to the actual budget of each year.
2. Each project of Types A and B has a maximum funding duration of three years.
3. Each project of Type C has a maximum funding duration of three years, without prejudice to the application for continuous funding prescribed in Article XIV.



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IX. Application Guideline

The FDCT's Administrative Committee will prepare the Application Guideline and specify all the details such as total amount of funding for each type, key support areas, assessment criteria, requirements for application proposal, and indicators for research findings.

X. Project Budget

1. The applying entity shall specify the budget of the project in the application plan. The spending listed shall meet the conditions of "Eligible Spending" prescribed in Article VII.
2. In case of cooperation with commercial institutions, such commercial institutions shall provide supporting inputs.

XI. Application Period

The period designated by the FDCT's Administrative Committee.

XII. Application Documents

Please refer to Article 6 of the *Financial Aid Grant Regulation* as approved by the Chief Executive's Dispatch No. 64/2021.

XIII. Applying Method

The applying entities shall submit all the application documents mentioned in the preceding article in the manner designated by FDCT prior to the deadline of application.



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XIV. Continuous Funding

1. For Type C, the application for continuous funding for the fourth and fifth years should be submitted within six months following the completion of the first two years of project duration, FDCT will conduct the project review according to general procedures. Overdue application shall be deemed as abandonment of the application.
2. In addition to the required documents stated in Article XII, the project progress report and budget performance report shall be submitted for project review.
3. Application for continuous funding will be reviewed based on the current project progress and its budget performance, with focus placed on the necessity of project continuity.

XV. Preliminary Analysis

1. FDCT will conduct a preliminary analysis of the application documents to verify that they are correct and complete, and to review whether the project proposed meets the requirements to be funded.
2. FDCT will require the applying entity to submit additional documents within 15 days as needed.

XVI. Assessment Methods

1. The assessment is performed by FDCT according to the *Financial Aid Grant Regulation* approved by the Chief Executive's Dispatch No. 64/2021.



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2. FDCT may conduct site inspection to verify the research conditions of the applying entities, interview with the project team and partners (if any) as necessary.

XVII. Funding Approval and Allocation

1. FDCT shall notify the applying entities of the approval result.
2. The funded applying entities shall sign the Funding Agreement with FDCT.

XVIII. Reports

1. The funded applying entities shall submit an annual report of their execution of the funded projects for interim assessment by FDCT.
2. The funded applying entities shall submit a final report to FDCT within the period designated in Subparagraph 4, Paragraph 1, Article 14 of Administrative Regulation No.18/2022 – *Public Financial Aid System of the Macao Special Administrative Region*.
3. The annual and final reports shall consist of two parts: actual activities and financial execution, with supporting documents provided.

XIX. Obligations of Funded Entities and Consequences of Violation

1. The applying entity shall perform the following obligations:
 - 1.1 Provide valid and authentic documents and make a declaration;



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- 1.2 Use the funds exclusively for the designated purpose;
- 1.3 Prudently and rationally plan and organize the funded project;
- 1.4 Submit the report referred to in the above article on time, and if the report cannot be submitted on time due to force majeure or other reasons not attributable to the funded entity, FDCT shall be notified within seven working days from the date of occurrence of the relevant fact;
- 1.5 Refund the funds that were not used for their intended purpose;
- 1.6 Comply with the terms set out in the Funding Agreement signed with FDCT;
- 1.7 Accept the supervision and cooperate with FDCT in monitoring the use of funds, including the inspection of relevant revenues and expenditures and financial conditions, and agree that FDCT has the right to record in writing, filming, photography and other forms throughout the project process, as well as the permanent free use right of all relevant outputs;
- 1.8 In any publicity activities, press releases and promotional materials related to the project, indicate that the project is “supported by the Science and Technology Development Fund of Macao SAR” or “Support Institution: Science and Technology Development Fund of Macao SAR”, and report to FDCT for filing;



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- 1.9 Agree that FDCT shall publish the basic data, project summary and publicly available research findings of the funded project on the website of FDCT and other public documents;
- 1.10 Ensure that the content of the funded project and the project implementation procedures do not violate the law, nor do they infringe any rights of others;
- 1.11 Cooperate with the relevant contents specified in Chapter V “Responsibility and Supervision” of the *Financial Aid Grant Regulation* as approved by the Chief Executive’s Dispatch No. 64/2021.
2. If a funded entity fails to fulfill the obligations referred to in the preceding paragraph, or any of the circumstances referred to in paragraph 1, Article 17 of the *Financial Aid Grant Regulation* as approved by the Chief Executive’s Dispatch No. 64/2021 occurs, FDCT may make the following decisions depending on the nature and severity of the violation of obligations by the funded entity:
 - 2.1 No funds shall be granted;
 - 2.2 For the funds that have been granted but not yet released, the release shall be suspended or appropriate restrictions shall be imposed when calculating the actual release amount;
 - 2.3 Cancel the funds already granted in whole or in part, and require the funded entity to refund the relevant funds;



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- 2.4 Deny the funding application submitted by the relevant Principal Investigator or private enterprise within one year.
3. The consequences referred to in subparagraphs 2.3-2.4 of this article shall apply in particular in the following cases:
 - 3.1 The funded entity intentionally violates the obligations set forth in subparagraphs 1.1-1.2 of this article;
 - 3.2 The funded entity violates the obligations set forth in subparagraph 1.3 of this article and causes serious risks or damage to participants or public interests, especially public safety or social order.
4. If the funds are cancelled, the funded entity shall refund the funds received after deducting the amount repaid in installments.
5. Projects funded by FDCT shall not accept funding from other public funding schemes or programs.

XX. Supervision

Please refer to Article 19 of the *Financial Aid Grant Regulation* as approved by the Chief Executive's Dispatch No. 64/2021.

XXI. Right to Interpretation

FDCT reserves the right to offer the final interpretation of this Scheme.

XXII. Governing Laws and Regulations



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Any matter not covered in this Funding Scheme shall be governed by the current laws and regulations of the Macao SAR, especially the Administrative Regulation No. 14/2004 – the *Statutes of the Fund for the Development of Science and Technology* as amended by the Administrative Regulation No. 1/2021, Administrative Regulation No.18/2022 – *Public Financial Aid System of the Macao Special Administrative Region*, and the *Financial Aid Grant Regulation* as approved by the Chief Executive's Dispatch No. 64/2021.