



Funding Scheme for the State Key Laboratories

I. Objectives

To align with national policies and the policy address of Government of Macao Special Administrative Region, the Science and Technology Development Fund (hereinafter referred to as the “FDCT”) launched the Funding Scheme for the State Key Laboratories (hereinafter referred to as the “Scheme”) in accordance with the relevant provisions of the current *Public Financial Aid System of the Macao Special Administrative Region*, the *Statutes of the Fund for the Development of Science and Technology*, and the *Funding Regulations of the Science and Technology Development Fund*, aiming to provide financial support for the state key laboratories (hereinafter referred to as the “labs”) established in Macao, facilitate the gathering of scientific research talents, the conduct of cutting-edge research, the expansion of industry-university-research cooperation, and the transformation of achievements in the labs, thereby driving steady development in science and technology in Macao and providing technical support for the development of the TCM big health industry as well as the high-tech industry in Macao.

II. Applying Entities

Local higher education institutions under the supervision of the Macao SAR Government that fulfill the following conditions are eligible to submit application:

1. Being a supporting unit of the lab;
2. The lab is promoted through the Mainland and Macao Science and Technology Cooperation Committee and approved by the



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Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as the "MOST").

III. Type and Scope of Funding

1. The type of financial support under the Scheme is non-reimbursable.
2. The maximum number of funded entities under the Scheme is 2.
3. The funding period for each lab shall not exceed 3 years, and the total amount of funding shall not exceed MOP 45 million and shall not be higher than the applied amount.
4. Eligible expenditures include the following:

1. Basic scientific research operating expenses	● Allowance for local personnel (referring to those who can legally work or study in Macao, including undergraduates, postgraduates, doctoral students, postdoctoral researchers, research assistants, full-time researchers, and visiting scholars)
	● Allowance for non-local personnel (including external expert advisors and short-term visiting scholars)
	● Material cost, test/assay/analysis fee
	● Material processing fee
	● Fees for publication/documentation/information exchange/intellectual property issues
	● Fees for research travel and conference attendance
2. Cost of scientific research instruments and equipment	● Purchase cost of instruments and equipment
	● Expenses for renewal, transformation and maintenance of instruments and equipment
3. Opening-up and sharing fee	● Funds for open projects
	● Expenses for holding academic committee meetings
	● Holding academic conferences

5. The funding ceilings of some expenditures are shown in the



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attachment. The Administrative Committee of FDCT may adjust the funding ceilings uniformly every year according to the actual situation, without affecting the total funding ceiling stipulated in paragraph 3 of this Article.

6. Ineligible expenditures include the following:
 - (1) Expenses for the establishment of an entity;
 - (2) Expenditure of personnel other than those specified in paragraph 4 of this Article;
 - (3) Utilities, telephone fees and other similar expenditures;
 - (4) Hospitality, social expenses and other similar expenditures;
 - (5) Acquisition of vehicles, except for experimental purposes;
 - (6) Expenses of constructing, acquiring, and amortizing immovable property;
 - (7) Amortization of expenses for new machinery and equipment not covered by paragraph 4 of this Article;
 - (8) Decoration and alteration costs, paper polishing fees, commission fees of the supporting unit, expenses for holding seminars and activities of a similar nature, salaries of fixed/long-term employees of the supporting unit;
 - (9) Other expenses specified in the Funding Agreement as ineligible.

IV. Application Documents

1. The application documents shall include the following data:
 - (1) The applicant's identifying particulars and copies of relevant supporting documents;
 - (2) Certificates proving that the applicant is not in arrears with tax and social security contributions (if any) in the Macao SAR;
 - (3) Letters of introduction or recommendation issued by



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reputable entities in the fields of science, technology and innovation;

- (4) Data on other projects funded by public funds and other pending applications submitted by the same applicant for funding purposes;
 - (5) The completed application proposal;
 - (6) Identity information and resume of the main responsible person of the lab;
 - (7) A general description of the lab indicating its objectives and potential benefits, as well as other data important to the review.
2. If a lab has received funding from FDCT for its operation, it may be exempted from submitting the documents in subparagraphs (1) to (4) above.

V. Application Period and Method

1. Application period: 21 December 2023 – 5 January 2024
2. Application method:
 - (1) Public higher education institutions: Send to FDCT through e-mail together with all the application documents mentioned above in the Management and Services Platform for Civil Servants (G2E).
 - (2) Private higher education institutions: Submit all the application documents mentioned above to FDCT in person within the above period.
3. Place of application submission: Room K, 11/F, the Macau Square, No.43-53A Avenida do Infante D. Henrique, Macao

VI. Formal Examination

1. FDCT conducts a formal examination after the deadline of



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application to check whether the relevant documents are correct and complete and examines whether the application fulfils the conditions for receiving funding.

2. FDCT may require the applying entity to submit additional documents within 15 days as needed.
3. Applications that fall under the following circumstances will not be accepted for the review process. FDCT will reject such applications and provide notification through a letter of notification:
 - (1) The application conditions do not meet the requirements of Article 2 or the application documents do not meet the requirements of Article 4 of the Scheme, or the applicant fails to supplement and correct relevant data after being notified or the application is overdue;
 - (2) The applicant is included in the list of compulsory collection and overdue return of FDCT;
 - (3) The applicant violates the existing laws and regulations or fails to protect the safety and legitimate rights and interests of participants.

VII. Review

1. Before accepting an application, the Administrative Committee of FDCT shall invite five to seven advisors from the list of project advisors to form the Project Advisory Committee.
2. The application documents entering the review process will be submitted to the Project Advisory Committee formed by FDCT for review according to the review elements and criteria in the following paragraph.
3. Key considerations will be given to the following:
 - (1) Feasibility and basis of the lab development plan;



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- (2) Rationality of budget and use of funds;
- (3) Team building and management level;
- (4) Research level;
- (5) Expected results;
- (6) Qualifications of the applying entity.

VIII. Funding Approval

1. The Administrative Committee of FDCT shall, after giving full consideration to the submissions made by the Project Advisory Committee, prepare a written submission on the application and submit it to the Trustee Committee of FDCT for deliberation.
2. After consideration and approval by the Trustee Committee of FDCT, the application will be submitted to the Supervisory Board for clearance within its delegated authorization.
3. FDCT shall send a letter of notification to notify the applying entity of the approval result.
4. The funded entity shall sign the Funding Agreement accompanying the letter of grant within the time limit, stating that the funded entity is aware of and will comply with the decision on the grant as stated in the letter of grant.
5. The funds will be release in phases, and reimbursed for the actual amount as described in the Funding Agreement.

IX. Reports and Agreed-upon Procedure Reports

1. The funded entity shall submit an annual report and a final report on the progress of project research for annual and final evaluation by FDCT.
2. Certified public accountants, accounting firms, accountants who can provide accounting and tax services, and accounting firms which can provide accounting and tax services shall be engaged



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to carry out the agreed-upon procedures and prepare reports.

3. The funded entity shall submit the annual report by the deadline set out in the letter of grant.
4. The funded entity shall submit the final report within ninety days and the agreed-upon procedure report within six months of the project completion date

X. Obligations of Funded Entities

1. Provide valid and authentic documents and make a declaration;
2. Use the funds exclusively for the designated purpose;
3. Prudently and rationally plan and organize the funded project;
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;
5. Refund the funds that were not used for their intended purpose;
6. Comply with the terms set out in the Funding Agreement signed with FDCT;
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;
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



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Technology Development Fund of Macao SAR”, and report to FDCT for filing;

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;
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;
11. Projects funded by FDCT shall not accept funding from other public funding schemes or programs.

XI. Consequences of Violation of Obligations

1. No funds shall be granted;
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;
3. Cancel the funds already granted in whole or in part, and require the funded entity to refund the relevant funds;
4. Deny the funding application submitted by the relevant principal investigator within one year.
5. The consequences referred to in paragraphs 3-4 of this article shall apply in particular in the following cases:
 - (1) The funded entity intentionally violates the obligations set forth in paragraphs 1-2 of the above article;
 - (2) The funded entity violates the obligations set forth in paragraph 3 of the above article and causes serious risks or damage to participants or public interests, especially public safety or social order.

XII. Refund and Compulsory Collection of Funding



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1. If the funding is canceled in whole or in part, the funded entity shall refund the amount received within the notified period.
2. If a funded entity fails to return the funding that shall be refunded to FDCT within the specified period, the Financial Services Bureau shall impose compulsory collection in accordance with the provisions of tax enforcement procedures.

XIII. Supervision

1. FDCT has the authority to monitor compliance with the Scheme, particularly to oversee whether the funded entity utilizes the approved funding for the designated purposes as determined in the grant decision.
2. To perform its supervisory functions, FDCT has the right to:
 - (1) Require the funded entity to provide necessary data and assistance for project follow-up and spot checks;
 - (2) Engage a professionally qualified third party to audit the accounts of funded activities or projects.

XIV. Dispute

The applicant may dispute the decision in accordance with the provisions of the *Administrative Procedure Code*.

XV. Maintain Communication with Other Government Entities

1. To ensure the proper allocation and utilization of public funds, FDCT may check with other government entities for relevant information on applications.
2. When necessary, the competent department has the right to access, audit, or verify the authenticity of the data submitted by the applicants and whether the procedures for supervising the use of public money are appropriate. Applicants are required to



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respect, fully cooperate with, and provide real-time assistance to the personnel of relevant competent departments in their investigation work, and promptly provide and present relevant financial statements, receipts, and other documents.

XVI. Processing of Personal Data

The personal data in the application documents are only used by FDCT for processing and approving funding applications. To facilitate the approval of funding applications, applicants are required to consent to the transfer of data contained in the application documents by FDCT to other entities and to distribute it to the Project Advisory Committee for evaluation purposes.

XVII. Other Notes

1. All application data shall be used for the purpose of the Scheme only. Applicants shall ensure that the documents and data submitted are accurate and error-free. Once submitted, they will not be returned.
2. Any matter not covered in the Scheme shall be governed by the current laws: the *Public Financial Aid System of the Macao Special Administrative Region*, the *Statutes of the Fund for the Development of Science and Technology*, the *Funding Regulations of the Science and Technology Development Fund*, and the *Guidelines for Verification of Funded Activities or Projects* issued by the Office for the Planning of the Supervision of the Public Assets of the Macao Special Administrative Region.
3. For information regarding the Scheme, Applicants may visit the office of FDCT to request it in person or access the website (<https://www.fdct.gov.mo/>) to download the relevant documents.
4. If the content of the application involves any unlawful



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infringement of the rights of others, the applicant shall bear all responsibilities. FDCT also reserves the right to pursue legal actions against the applicant.

5. Making false statements will not only result in the loss of eligibility for the application but may also entail other legal consequences.
6. FDCT reserves the right to revise and interpret the aforementioned content.

Attachment: Funding Ceilings of Some Expenditures



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Funding Ceilings of Some Expenditures

Expenditure Category	Expenditure Item	Per Unit	Funding Ceiling (MOP)	Remarks	
Allowance for local personnel	Undergraduate	Per person/ per month	7,500.00	---	
	Postgraduate	Per person/ per month	10,000.00	---	
	Doctoral student	Per person/ per month	12,500.00	---	
	Postdoctoral researcher	Per person/ per month	25,000.00	---	
	Research assistant	Per person/ per month	20,000.00	---	
	Full-time researcher	Per person/ per month	30,000.00	With a doctoral degree	
	Visiting scholar	Per person/ per month	30,000.00	With a contract period of not less than 3 months	
Allowance for non-local personnel	Funding ceiling for the whole category	Per year	500,000.00	---	
	External expert advisor	Per person/ per year	60,000.00	---	
	Short-term visiting scholar	Per person/ per year	60,000.00		
Conference/research trip	Domestic trip	Per person/ per time	8,000.00	Meal allowance: MOP 300 per person per day	
	Domestic trip (academician)	Per person/ per time	15,000.00		
	International trip	Per person/ per time	20,000.00		
	International trip (academician)	Per person/ per time	30,000.00		
Organization of academic conferences and academic committee meetings	Funding ceiling for the whole category	Per year	500,000.00	---	
	Allowance for speakers	Associate professor/ Professor	Per person/ per time	3,000.00	---
		Academician	Per person/ per time	6,000.00	---
		Nobel laureate	Per person/ per time	10,000.00	---
Open projects	Open projects	Per project	200,000.00	Funding ceiling: 1.5 million	