



## **Funding Scheme for Enterprise Innovation and R&D**

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 of enhancing support for the innovation and R&D in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), fostering emerging industries, and creating a research-friendly environment in enterprises, FDCT has launched this Funding Scheme to facilitate the innovation and R&D in enterprises registered in Macao as well as the transformation of R&D findings to achieve the following objectives:

1. To facilitate the transformation of scientific research achievements to industries;
2. To further promote industry-university-research collaboration;
3. To stimulate local enterprises to boost R&D investment;
4. To support SMEs and foster emerging industries.

### **II. Eligibility**

Commercial enterprises that meet the following conditions are eligible to submit application to FDCT:

1. Enterprises registered in the Macao SAR for one year or more; shares of which held by local residents is 50% or more; full-time employees is no less than three;



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2. In case of full-time employees less than three, the enterprise shall be recommended by a nation-level makerspace established in Macao;
3. The enterprise is not in arrears with tax or social security contributions in the Macao SAR.

### **III. Cooperative Research**

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

### **IV. Funding Type**

No repayment required.

### **V. 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.

### **VI. Application and Funding Amount**

1. The applying entity shall specify the budget of the project in the application plan. The budget consists of two parts: the amount applied from FDCT and the self-owned funds invested by the applying enterprise. The spending listed in the budget shall meet the conditions of "Eligible Spending" prescribed in the preceding article.
2. The corresponding funds invested by the enterprise shall be no less than 50% of the budget.



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3. The amount applied from FDCT shall not exceed MOP1,000,000.00 (one million patacas).
4. All the spending (including the funding of FDCT and the investment of the applying enterprise) must be used for specific R&D project.

## **VII. Project Duration**

Each project has a funding duration of 12 to 24 months.

## **VIII. Application Period**

The period designated by the FDCT's Administrative Committee.

## **IX. Application Documents**

1. Completed application form provided by FDCT;
2. Commercial Registration Certificate;
3. Certificates proving that the applying entity is not in arrears with tax or social security contributions in the Macao SAR;
4. Letters of introduction or recommendation issued by reputable entities in the fields of science, technology and innovation;
5. A copy of Profits Tax - Incomes Declaration (Form M1) and Payment Slip (Form M6) issued within one year;
6. Documents proving the ownership or leasing of research premises in Macao;
7. Documents proving the number of full-time employees (a copy of vouchers and receipts of social security contributions);



8. The identification document of corporate representative.

## **X. 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.

## **XI. 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 subject project meets the requirements to be funded.
2. FDCT will require the applying entity to submit additional documents within 15 days as needed.

## **XII. Assessment Method**

1. The assessment is performed by FDCT according to the *Financial Aid Grant Regulation* approved by the Chief Executive's Dispatch No. 64/2021.
2. Key considerations will be given to the followings:
  - (1) The applying entity and its partners' capability of implementing the project;
  - (2) Innovativeness of R&D project;
  - (3) Existing foundation of R&D project;
  - (4) Soundness of budget;
  - (5) Ownership of intellectual property rights;
  - (6) Market potential of R&D findings;



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- (7) Expected economic benefits;
  - (8) In the case of cooperating with higher education institutions/scientific research institutions, considerations shall be given to the division of their tasks, their exclusive resources invested in the project and their corresponding engagement.
3. 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.

### **XIII. 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.
- 3. The fund shall be reimbursed for the actual amount according to the conditions provided for in the Funding Agreement. The corresponding fund invested by the applying enterprise will be granted first as the pre-funding.
- 4. The funds will be granted in two phases in the proportion of enterprise investment ( $\geq 1:1$ ). The amount of the first phase will be granted after the annual report is reviewed by FDCT, which should not exceed the amount of the first phase listed in the Funding Agreement. The rest part of funds will be granted by FDCT upon the approval of the final report.
- 5. As for the projects with the duration of no more than 15 months, the funds will be granted in a lump sum after the final report is reviewed and approved by FDCT.



#### **XIV. Reports**

1. The funded applying entities shall submit an annual report of their execution of the funded projects and the final work report for annual and final assessments by FDCT.
2. The above-mentioned reports shall consist of two parts: actual activities and financial execution, with supporting documents provided.
3. FDCT have the right to require the funded enterprises to provide third-party professional verification of their economic benefits.

#### **XV. Other Funding**

Projects funded by FDCT shall not accept funding from other public funding schemes or programmes.

#### **XVI. Right to Interpretation**

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

#### **XVII. Governing Laws and Regulations**

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 *By-Laws of The Science and Technology Development Fund* as amended by the Administrative Regulation No. 1/2021, and the *Financial Aid Grant Regulation* as approved by the Chief Executive's Dispatch No. 64/2021.