



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

## Scientific Research Platform Funding Scheme (2026)

### Chapter I General Provisions

#### 1. Objectives

To align with national policies and the policy direction of the Macao SAR Government, and in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *Public Financial Support Regime of the Macao Special Administrative Region*, the *Charter of the Science and Technology Development Fund*, and the *Regulations on the Financial Support of the Science and Technology Development Fund*, the Science and Technology Development Fund (hereinafter referred to as the “FDCT”) launches the **Scientific Research Platform Funding Scheme** (hereinafter referred to as the “Scheme”). Through the establishment of multi-tiered platforms, the Scheme aims to play a catalytic role in attracting top talents and integrating advanced scientific and technological resources to promote cutting-edge research, foster collaboration between academia, industry, and research institutes, and enhance the transformation of research results. The Scheme also seeks to strengthen the support function of scientific platforms, support R&D and industrial development, upgrade large-scale equipment and facilities on these platforms, and improve Macao’s scientific research capabilities. The implementation of the Scheme contributes to the realization of the *Macao SAR Moderate Economic Diversification Development Plan (2024–2028)*, and plays an increasingly active role in accelerating scientific and technological innovation and advancing the socio-economic development of Macao.

#### 2. Application Categories and Maximum Funding Amounts

##### (a) National-Level Platforms

These refer to platforms established in Macao that are included in the *Plan for the Optimization and Integration of National Science and Technology Innovation Bases*<sup>1</sup>, including National Laboratories, National Key Laboratories (National-Level Key Laboratories), National Engineering Research Centers, National Technology Innovation Centers, and National Field Science Observation and Research Stations. The

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<sup>1</sup> Notice from the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Finance, and the National Development and Reform Commission on Issuing the Plan for the Optimization and Integration of National Science and Technology Innovation Bases (Guo Ke Fa Ji [2017] No. 250)



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maximum funding amount shall be defined in the application guidelines based on the nature, field, and requirements of each platform, and shall not exceed MOP 60 million.

**(b) R&D Platforms**

These platforms are focused on the development of applied research and development. The maximum funding amount shall be defined in the application guidelines based on the field and requirements of each platform, and shall not exceed MOP 30 million.

**(c) Commercialization-Oriented Platforms**

These platforms are focused on the transformation of scientific research outcomes. The maximum funding amount shall be defined in the application guidelines based on the field and requirements of each platform, and shall not exceed MOP 30 million.

**(d) Joint Platforms**

These platforms are dedicated to the collaboration with external institutions for conducting research and development on key technologies. The maximum funding amount is MOP 30 million, and must not exceed the amount specified in joint funding agreements, memorandums of understanding, or work plans signed between FDCT and counterpart entities outside Macao.

**(e) Support Platforms**

A platform aimed at providing support services to address the needs of scientific research and industrial development in Macao. The maximum amount of funding to be applied for shall be determined in accordance with the requirements set out in the application guidelines for the platform, but shall not exceed MOP 60 million.

**(f) Equipment and Facilities**

This category supports all the above platform types whose host institutions are non-enterprise entities, for the enhancement and renewal of large-scale instruments and equipment. The maximum funding amount shall be defined in the application guidelines based on the nature of the platform and the accessibility of the equipment, and shall not exceed MOP 60 million.

### **3. Eligible Applicants**



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- (a) Public higher education institutions in the Macao Special Administrative Region.
- (b) Private higher education institutions legally established in the Macao Special Administrative Region.
- (c) Non-profit private entities legally established in the Macao Special Administrative Region.
- (d) Commercial enterprise owners or commercial enterprises registered in the Macao Special Administrative Region.

#### **4. Type and Scope of Funding**

- (a) Type of funding: Grant allocated for the projects.
- (b) Scope of funding: Platform projects that align with the FDCT's mission and the objectives of the Scheme.

#### **5. Application Period**

National-Level Platforms: November 2026 to December 2026 (tentative)\*.

R&D Platforms, Commercialization-Oriented Platforms, Joint Platforms, Support Platforms, Equipment and Facilities (TBD)\*.

\* The application dates shall be determined in accordance with the annual work schedule and shall be subject to the announcement on the FDCT website.

#### **6. Submission of Applications**

- (a) Applications must be submitted in one of the official languages of the Macao SAR or in English;
- (b) Applicants must submit the application dossier described below to the FDCT on or before the application deadline.

#### **7. Application Dossier**

- (a) The application dossier must include the following documents:
  - 1. Identification information and relevant supporting documents of the applicant.
  - 2. For enterprise applicants: a valid commercial registration certificate issued by the competent authority within the last three months.



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3. For enterprise applicants: a copy of the most recent (if any) Complementary Income Tax Return (Form M1).
4. Proof issued by the competent authority within the last three months that the applicant has no outstanding taxes or, if applicable, social security contributions payable to the Macao SAR.
5. Identification information and curriculum vitae of the person in charge of leading and managing the platform's operations (hereinafter referred to as the "Platform Leader") and team members.
6. Information regarding other projects funded by public funds and other pending applications submitted for funding by the same applicant.
7. A detailed project proposal for the platform, including the budget, the platform's objectives, and expected benefits.
8. Declaration of responsibility related to the platform.
9. Supporting documents demonstrating compliance with the eligibility and qualification requirements.
10. For equipment and facilities category: a list of equipment to be included in the instrument and equipment management platform, corresponding to the applied funding amount.

(b) If the platform is currently receiving operational funding from the FDCT on the first day of the application, the submission of items 1 to 5 above may be waived.

## **8. Preliminary Review**

(a) The FDCT shall conduct a preliminary review of the application dossier to verify that all required documents have been submitted and that the applicant meets the eligibility criteria.

(b) If the documents are incomplete, the FDCT may request the applicant to submit the missing materials within 15 days.

(c) Applications will be rejected and notified in writing under the following circumstances:

1. Applicant does not meet the eligibility criteria.
2. Applicant fails to meet the eligibility or qualification conditions.
3. Applicant is listed in the FDCT's record of forced recovery or overdue repayments.



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4. Applicant is a debtor to the Treasury of the Macao SAR.
5. The Platform Leader is not eligible to submit new funding applications.
6. Supporting contributions (if any) fail to meet the required standards.
7. The application dossier does not meet the required standards.
8. The applicant fails to provide relevant information and documentation regarding related-party transactions, as stipulated in Chapter VI, Article 2(b), first part.
9. Applicant fails to make corrections or submit supplementary materials after being notified.
10. Violation of current laws and regulations or inability to ensure participants' safety and legal rights.
11. For Joint Platforms, the external collaborating party fails to pass formal review by relevant authorities.

## **9. Evaluation Method**

- (a) Before accepting applications, the FDCT Administrative Committee shall appoint five to seven experts from the project consultant list to form the Project Consultant Committee.
- (b) Applications that enter the evaluation phase will be assessed by the Project Consultant Committee based on the evaluation criteria outlined below.
- (c) The FDCT Administrative Committee may also invite external experts to evaluate specific or complex applications.
- (d) The FDCT may, as needed, conduct on-site assessments of the applicant's research conditions and hold interviews with the project team and, if applicable, collaborators.
- (e) For Joint Platforms, after the evaluation process, the FDCT and the collaborating institution will jointly select the platforms for co-funding from those approved by both parties.

## **10. Funding Approval**

- (a) For project applications with funding amounts not exceeding MOP 1 million, the FDCT Administrative Committee shall make the final decision after reviewing the application and evaluation comments.
- (b) For project applications with funding amounts exceeding MOP 1 million, the supervisory entity of the FDCT shall make the final decision after reviewing the



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application and evaluation comments.

(c) Approved applicants must sign the Funding Agreement attached to the approval letter within the specified deadline, acknowledging and agreeing to comply with the conditions stated therein.

(d) The funding amount will be disbursed in instalments as stipulated in the Funding Agreement.

## **11. Mechanism for the Return of Proceeds from Achievement Transformation**

(a) If the direct or derivative outcomes generated under this funding scheme are commercialized or applied, and measurable economic proceeds are obtained, the beneficiary is required to return a certain proportion of the proceeds to the institution designated by the FDCT in accordance with the requirements of the Funding Agreement.

(b) Enterprises incubated through the outcomes funded by the Scheme, upon meeting the conditions for rights conversion specified in the Funding Agreement, may have the FDCT funding converted into equity in the enterprise for the institution designated by the FDCT (e.g., shares, stock options, cash, or other interests). The enterprise is required to enter into a relevant agreement with the designated institution.



## Chapter II

### National-Level Platforms, R&D Platforms, Commercialization-Oriented Platforms, and Joint Platforms

#### 1. Eligibility and Related Requirements

##### (a) National-Level Platforms

Entities referred to in Article 3, items (a) and (b) of Chapter I must simultaneously meet the following conditions to apply for national-level platforms:

1. Serve as the host institution of the platform.
2. The platform must meet the requirements stipulated in the relevant application guidelines published by the FDCT.

##### (b) R&D Platforms

Entities referred to in Article 3 of Chapter I must simultaneously meet the following conditions to apply for R&D platforms:

1. Serve as the host institution of the platform.
2. The platform must meet the requirements stipulated in the relevant application guidelines published by the FDCT.

##### (c) Commercialization-Oriented Platforms

Entities referred to in Article 3 of Chapter I must simultaneously meet the following conditions to apply for commercialization-oriented platforms:

1. Serve as the host institution of the platform.
2. The platform must meet the requirements stipulated in the relevant application guidelines published by the FDCT.

##### (d) Joint Platforms

Entities referred to in Article 3 of Chapter I must simultaneously meet the following conditions to apply for joint platforms:

1. Serve as the host institution of the platform.



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2. Serve as the leading institution of the platform and jointly develop the platform with external or local universities, research institutions, or enterprises.
3. The platform must meet the requirements stipulated in the jointly published guidelines by the FDCT and the cooperating entities.

(e) The application must be submitted by an entity with legal person status. If the applicant does not possess legal person status, the application must be submitted through an affiliated entity that has such status.

## 2. Application Guidelines

(a) The Administrative Committee of the FDCT shall formulate specific application guidelines for national-level platforms, R&D platforms, and commercialization-oriented platforms, covering the maximum funding amount, supported fields, application requirements, collaboration conditions (if applicable), commercialization requirements, and expected deliverables.

(b) For joint platforms, the FDCT Administrative Committee shall formulate guidelines on eligible partners, collaboration fields, application requirements, cooperation modalities, and expected deliverables.

## 3. Eligible Expenditures

### (a) Eligible expenditures include:

1. *Basic research operational expenses:*
  - Allowances for local personnel.
  - Allowances for non-local personnel.
  - Material costs, testing/laboratory/analysis fees.
  - Material processing costs.
  - Publication/documentation/information dissemination/intellectual property service fees.
  - Research travel expenses, conference attendance fees.
2. *Scientific equipment and instruments expenses:*
  - Equipment acquisition costs.
  - Equipment upgrades, modifications, and maintenance costs.
3. *Expenses for open access and resource sharing:*
  - Funding for open research topics.



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- Expenses for organizing academic committee meetings.
  - Costs related to organizing academic conferences.
4. *Other incidental expenses.*

**(b) The following expenses under item 4 above are not eligible for funding:**

1. Expenses related to the establishment of entities.
2. Vehicle acquisition (except for experimental use).
3. Renovation, construction, acquisition, and installment payments for real estate.
4. Utility bills such as electricity, water, telephone, and similar expenses.
5. Expenses for thesis editing, training workshops, entertainment, hospitality, and similar expenses.
6. Audit fees, host institution commissions, administrative charges, and salaries of permanent/long-term staff of the host institution.
7. Other non-eligible expenses as stipulated in the funding decision and the Funding Agreement.

#### **4. Matching Contributions**

For R&D platforms, commercialization-oriented platforms, and joint platforms, the following requirements apply:

(a) For platforms led by applicants that are *not* commercial enterprise owners or commercial enterprises, if such enterprises participate in the platform development (single or multiple), they must provide matching contributions. The total amount of these contributions must not be less than 50% of the funding granted by the FDCT. The exact percentage shall be specified in the Funding Agreement.

(b) For platforms led by commercial enterprise owners or commercial enterprises, the applicant must provide self-raised matching contributions of no less than the funding amount approved by the FDCT. The exact percentage shall be specified in the Funding Agreement.

(c) The matching contributions must comply with the requirements outlined in Article 3 above.

#### **5. Evaluation Criteria**



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- (a) Feasibility and foundation of the platform development plan.
- (b) Reasonableness of the budget and its intended use.
- (c) Capacity and level of team development and management.
- (d) Research competence and academic level.
- (e) Expected outcomes and impact.
- (f) Qualifications of the applicant.
- (g) For applications submitted by applicants for platforms currently receiving FDCT funding and nearing completion, expert review opinions on the closing evaluation shall also be considered.
- (h) For joint platforms, the basis and quality of cooperation with the partner institutions shall also be assessed.

## **6. Funding Amount and Calculation**

The maximum funding amount shall follow the provisions set forth in Article 2 of Chapter I. The funding amount granted by the FDCT shall not exceed the amount requested in the application.

## **7. Funding Duration**

The funding duration shall not exceed three years.

## **8. Expert Closing Evaluation**

Upon completion of the funding period, the FDCT shall organize an expert evaluation or coordinate with relevant national authorities to conduct the expert closing evaluation of the platform.

If the platform fails the evaluation, it must carry out necessary rectifications and undergo another expert evaluation within one year. If the second evaluation is still unsuccessful, the FDCT shall suspend the provision of operational funding to the platform for a period of two years starting from the date of the failed evaluation.



## Chapter III

### Support Platforms

#### 1. Eligibility and Related Requirements

(a) Entities referred to in Article 3 of Chapter I must simultaneously meet the following conditions to apply:

1. Serve as the host institution of the platform.
2. The platform must meet the requirements stipulated in the application guidelines published by the FDCT.

(b) The application must be submitted by an entity with legal person status. If the applicant does not possess legal person status, the application must be submitted through an affiliated entity that has such status.

#### 2. Application Guidelines

The Administrative Committee of the FDCT shall formulate specific application guidelines for support platforms, covering the maximum funding amount, application requirements, requirements for external service provision, construction deadlines, and other relevant details.

#### 3. Eligible Expenditures

(a) The following expenditures are eligible for funding:

1. *Basic research operational expenses:*
  - Allowances for local personnel.
  - Allowances for non-local personnel.
  - Material costs, testing/laboratory/analysis fees.
  - Material processing costs.
  - Research travel expenses and conference attendance fees.
2. *Scientific equipment and instruments expenses:*
  - Equipment acquisition costs.
  - Equipment upgrades, modifications, and maintenance costs.
3. *Other incidental expenses.*



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**(b) The following items are not eligible under incidental expenses:**

1. Expenses for the construction, acquisition, or installment payments of real estate.
2. Audit fees and salaries of permanent/long-term staff of the host institution.
3. Other non-eligible expenditures as stipulated in the funding decision and the Funding Agreement.

**4. Evaluation Criteria**

- (a) Feasibility and foundation of the platform development plan.
- (b) Reasonableness of the budget and its intended use.
- (c) Capacity and level of team development and management.
- (d) Expected outcomes and benefits.
- (e) Qualifications of the applicant.
- (f) For applications concerning platforms nearing completion of current FDCT-funded projects, expert closing evaluation opinions shall also be considered.

**5. Funding Amount and Calculation**

The maximum funding amount shall follow the provisions set forth in Article 2 of Chapter I. The amount granted by the FDCT shall not exceed the amount requested in the application.

**6. Funding Duration**

The funding duration shall not exceed three years.

**7. Expert Closing Evaluation**

Upon completion of the funding period, the FDCT shall organize an expert evaluation of the platform. If the platform fails the evaluation, it must undertake rectification measures and undergo a second evaluation within one year. If the second evaluation is still unsuccessful, the FDCT shall suspend the provision of operational funding to the platform for a period of two years starting from the date of the failed evaluation.

## **Chapter IV**



## **Equipment and Facilities**

### **1. Eligibility and Related Requirements**

(a) Entities referred to in items (a) to (c) of Article 3 of Chapter I must simultaneously meet the following conditions to be eligible for application:

1. Serve as the host institution of an FDCT-funded research platform.
2. The application must comply with the requirements set out in the relevant guidelines published by the FDCT.

(b) The application must be submitted by an entity with legal person status. If the entity does not possess legal person status, the application must be submitted through an affiliated entity with such status.

### **2. Application Guidelines**

The Administrative Committee of the FDCT shall formulate specific application guidelines for the equipment and facilities category, covering the maximum funding amount, justification requirements, and centralized management of equipment and facilities.

### **3. Matching Contributions**

For the equipment and facilities category, applicants must provide the necessary support infrastructure, including space for equipment installation, technical personnel, maintenance services, user training, and relevant software.

### **4 . Eligible Expenditures for Funding**

1. Only the procurement costs of equipment and instruments are eligible for funding, and the following conditions must be met:
  1. The value of each single unit (set) of equipment or instrument must not be less than MOP500,000.



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2. The platform currently does not possess similar equipment or instruments, or the existing equipment cannot meet the current research requirements; or
  3. Although the platform has similar equipment, the usage hours are fully occupied (in principle, with an annual average usage exceeding 1,200 hours), and thus cannot meet the current research needs; or
  4. Although the platform has similar equipment or instruments, due to the nature and conditions of the experiments, the equipment is not suitable for sharing.
2. Expenses such as laboratory renovation, consumables charged separately, maintenance of equipment and training on usage, annual license fees for instrument software, etc., which do not fall under the procurement costs of equipment and instruments, are not eligible for funding.

## 5. Evaluation Criteria

- (a) The benefits the proposed equipment will bring to the applicant's existing research platforms.
- (b) The necessity and rationality of acquiring the equipment.
- (c) The scope and feasibility of the proposed open-access and resource-sharing plan for the equipment.
- (d) The applicant's provision of operating personnel and physical conditions for the intended equipment.

## 6. Funding Amount and Calculation

(a) The maximum funding amount shall follow the provisions set forth in Article 2 of Chapter I. The FDCT shall not grant an amount exceeding the requested funding.

(b) For platforms that are *not* national-level platforms, the funding amount for the equipment and facilities category is tied to the result of the platform's expert closing evaluation:

- An "Excellent" rating corresponds to up to 100% of the funding cap;
- A "Good" rating corresponds to up to 80% of the funding cap;



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- A “Satisfactory” rating corresponds to up to 60% of the funding cap.

If the evaluation result is “Not Approved”, the application for equipment and facilities funding for that year will be rejected.

## **7. Funding Duration**

The funding duration shall not exceed two years.



## Chapter V

### Implementation and Monitoring of Funded Projects

#### 1. Reports and Agreed-Upon Procedures Report

- (a) Beneficiaries must submit annual progress reports and final reports on the funded work for the purpose of mid-term and final evaluations by the FDCT.
- (b) The above-mentioned reports must comprise two parts: one on the actual activities and outcomes, and another on financial execution.
- (c) For the part concerning actual activities and outcomes, beneficiaries must provide a detailed account of the work carried out and results achieved during the reporting period, in accordance with the approved plan and schedule.
- (d) For the part concerning financial execution, beneficiaries must provide a detailed breakdown of the use of funds, especially all income and expenditure items, and must retain all original receipts and financial records related to the funding for at least five years.
- (e) Beneficiaries must submit the annual report before the deadline specified in the funding approval letter.
- (f) Beneficiaries must submit the final report and, where applicable, the **Agreed-Upon Procedures Report** within ninety days after the end of the funding period.
- (g) If the total funding granted under the Scheme in a given year equals or exceeds MOP 1,000,000, the beneficiary must appoint a certified accountant, accounting firm, or a professional entity qualified to provide accounting and tax services to carry out the agreed-upon procedures and prepare the **Agreed-Upon Procedures Report**. In the event that the report cannot be submitted on time due to force majeure or other reasons deemed not attributable to the beneficiary by the FDCT Administrative Committee, the beneficiary must notify the FDCT within seven working days from the date of the occurrence.
- (h) In the aforementioned situations, with the approval of the Administrative Committee, the reporting deadline shall be suspended from the date of the occurrence and resume from the day after the facts cease to exist.

#### 2. Refund, Repayment and Compulsory Recovery of Funds



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- (a) If the Administrative Committee of the FDCT determines that the eligible expenses are less than the amount of funding disbursed, the beneficiary must return the full difference within the period specified by the FDCT.
- (b) If the approved funding is not implemented within the period stipulated in the funding decision or agreement, the beneficiary must provide an explanation for the failure and return the disbursed funds within the timeframe set by the FDCT.
- (c) Upon reasonable request by the beneficiary, the Administrative Committee may exceptionally approve that the beneficiary is not required to return the funds already used for eligible expenditures incurred before the termination of the project.
- (d) If the funding is entirely or partially revoked or terminated, the beneficiary must return the corresponding amount within the deadline specified in the FDCT's notification.
- (e) If the beneficiary fails to return or repay the funding within the specified period without justifiable cause, the Financial Services Bureau shall carry out compulsory recovery in accordance with the tax enforcement procedures, using the relevant certification issued by the Administrative Committee as an enforcement instrument.

### **3. Monitoring**

- (a) The FDCT has the authority to monitor the implementation of the Scheme and the compliance with the funding decisions or agreements, particularly whether the funds are being used for the purposes specified therein.
- (b) To exercise its supervisory powers, the FDCT is entitled to:

1. Request beneficiaries to provide the necessary information and cooperation for project follow-up, site inspections, and document reviews;
2. Appoint qualified third-party institutions to conduct audits of the funded activities or projects.

### **4. Appeals**

Applicants may lodge appeals against relevant decisions in accordance with the provisions of the *Administrative Procedure Code*.

### **5. Personal Data Processing**



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(a) For the purpose of implementing the Scheme, the FDCT and other relevant public departments or entities may, when necessary, process and verify personal data contained in the application dossiers by any means, including data interconnection, in accordance with *Law No. 8/2005 – Personal Data Protection Law*.

(b) The personal data in the application documents shall be used solely by the FDCT for the purpose of handling and approving the funding applications. For the purposes of evaluation, applicants must consent to the transfer of such data to other entities and to the Project Consultant Committee for review.

## **6. Other Remarks**

(a) By participating in the Scheme, applicants are deemed to have read, understood, and agreed to comply with all terms and conditions of the Scheme without reservation.

(b) All submitted application materials shall be used solely for the purposes of the Scheme. Applicants must ensure the accuracy and completeness of all submitted documents and materials. Submissions will not be returned.

(c) Providing false declarations will result in disqualification and may incur additional legal consequences.

(d) In cases where the content of the application infringes upon the rights of others, the applicant shall bear full responsibility. The FDCT reserves the right to pursue legal action.

(e) Beneficiaries must comply with the laws of the Macao SAR, Mainland China, or other applicable jurisdictions. If any activity or decision leads to civil, criminal, or administrative liability due to violations of these laws, the beneficiary shall bear all resulting responsibilities.



## Chapter VI

### Responsibilities, Obligations and Consequences of Breach of Obligations

#### 1. Obligations of Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries shall fulfill the following obligations:

- (a) Provide accurate information and make truthful declarations.
- (b) In case of any changes to the approved funding, submit a prior request to the FDCT, except in cases otherwise specified in the funding decision or agreement.
- (c) Ensure that the funds are used for the purposes specified in the funding decision.
- (d) Plan and execute expenditures prudently and reasonably.
- (e) Submit reports in a timely manner.
- (f) Return any unused funds not applied to the designated purposes in a timely manner;
- (g) Properly record all expenditures incurred under the funded project and maintain specific accounts for this purpose.
- (h) Accept and cooperate with the FDCT's monitoring of the use of funds, including inspection of related revenues, expenditures, and financial records.
- (i) Return the funds as stipulated under Article 2 of Chapter IV.
- (j) Comply with applicable intellectual property protection laws and regulations;
- (k) Ensure that the project contents and implementation do not violate any laws or infringe upon the rights of others.
- (l) Comply with the terms set out in the Funding Agreement signed with the FDCT.
- (m) Grant the FDCT the right to document the entire project process in written, photographic, video, or any other form.
- (n) Agree that basic information, project abstracts, and publicly available results of the project may be published on the FDCT website and in public documents.
- (o) Acknowledge FDCT's support in all project-related promotional activities, press releases, and promotional materials, by stating: "Supported by the Science and Technology Development Fund of the Macao SAR" or "Supporting entity: Science and Technology Development Fund of the Macao SAR", and report such activities to the FDCT.
- (p) Expenditures funded by the FDCT shall not be simultaneously subsidized by any other public funding scheme.
- (q) Comply with the regulations on related-party transactions.



## 2. Regulations on Related-Party Transactions

In accordance with the *Guidelines on Supervision of Related Party Transactions in Public Financial Support Procedures*<sup>2</sup> issued by the Public Assets Supervision and Administration Bureau of the Macao SAR, within the scope of eligible funded expenses, the applicant/beneficiary must ensure that any transactions with related natural persons or entities (as defined in the Annex), including the purchase of goods or services, are fair and reasonable, and that transaction prices do not deviate from reasonable market prices. The FDCT will evaluate the reasonableness of such prices based on case-specific circumstances, justification provided by the applicant/beneficiary, or market analysis, where applicable. In conducting related party transactions, beneficiaries shall also comply with the following provisions:

(a) If, within a complete grant application case, the total amount of transactions with the same related party equals or exceeds MOP100,000<sup>3</sup>, the beneficiary must declare the details of such related party transaction to the FDCT, including: name of the related party, contact information, nature of the relationship with the applicant or beneficiary, content of the transaction (including the anticipated or actual transaction date, subject and amount), and justification (e.g., prices offered are more favorable than market rates; due to technical or professional capabilities, the projects undertaken and the goods or services provided by the related party are superior to those offered by similar entities; or the related party has exclusive rights to the goods or services provided).

(b) If the related party transaction described in Article 2(a) of this chapter already exists at the time of application and is confirmed or expected to continue, such declaration

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<sup>2</sup> [https://www.dsgap.gov.mo/sites/default/files/2024-10/001\\_DSGAP\\_AF\\_2024.pdf](https://www.dsgap.gov.mo/sites/default/files/2024-10/001_DSGAP_AF_2024.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> The calculation of the amount of related-party transactions includes:

A. A single related-party transaction with an estimated or actual amount equal to or exceeding MOP100,000;

B. Where the applicant or beneficiary is expected or has actually conducted more than one transaction with the same related party, and the total estimated or actual amount of such transactions is equal to or exceeds MOP100,000.



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must be made at the time of application. If it arises after the grant is awarded, the declaration must be made when preparing the report referred to in Chapter 5, Article 1(a). If, at the time of application, the declared related party transaction information changes, the beneficiary should provide the updated information and supporting documents in the report.

(c) When making the declaration referred to in Article 2(a) of this chapter, the applicant/beneficiary must attach documentation evidencing that quotations were obtained from two unrelated suppliers, unless the FDCT determines that it is not feasible to obtain market quotes for certain specific expenses.

### **3. Consequences of Breach of Obligations**

Unless due to force majeure or reasons confirmed by the FDCT Administrative Committee as not attributable to the beneficiary, any breach of obligations under Article 1 of this Chapter may result in one or more of the following decisions by the FDCT, depending on the nature and seriousness of the breach:

- (a) Refusal to grant funding.
- (b) Suspension of undisbursed funding or imposition of limits on the actual disbursement.
- (c) Full or partial revocation of approved funding, and demand for repayment of disbursed funds.
- (d) Inclusion of the beneficiary or relevant personnel on a non-compliance list, with a ban on applying for funding for a period not exceeding two years.

### **4. Specific Circumstances Subject to Penalties**

(a) The consequence listed in item 3(a) applies particularly when the beneficiary is found to be in violation of Article 1(f) or 1(i), or of Article 1(q) where the FDCT deems the situation serious.

(b) The consequence listed in item 3(b) applies particularly in cases of minor breaches of Article 1(b), 1(d), 1(e), 1(g), 1(h), 1(l), or 1(q), as determined by the FDCT.

(c) The consequences listed in items 3(c) and 3(d) apply particularly in the following cases:



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1. Breach of obligations under Article 1(a), 1(c), 1(i), 1(j), 1(k), or 1(p).
2. Breach of Article 1(d) that causes serious risk or harm to project participants or public interests, especially public safety or social order.
3. Breach of Article 1(b), 1(d), 1(e), 1(g), 1(h), 1(l), or 1(q), as determined by the FDCT to be of a serious nature.

(e) In imposing the consequences listed above, the FDCT Administrative Committee must state the reasons. For partial revocation of approved funding, the amount to be repaid must also be specified.

## **5. Administrative, Civil and Criminal Liability**

In the course of applying for or implementing a funded project, any person making false declarations, submitting fraudulent information, or employing unlawful means to obtain funding shall be held liable under the law for any applicable administrative, civil, and criminal penalties, without prejudice to the consequences stated in Article 3 of this Chapter.



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## Chapter VII

### Right of Interpretation

1. The Chinese version of the terms and conditions of the Scheme shall prevail.
2. Matters not covered by the terms and conditions of the Scheme shall be governed by applicable documents, including the *Public Financial Support Scheme of the Macao Special Administrative Region*, the *Statutes of the Science and Technology Development Fund*, the *Regulation on Financial Support of the Science and Technology Development Fund*, as well as the *Guidelines for the Inspection of Subsidized Activities or Projects* and the *Guidelines on Supervision of Related Party Transactions in Public Financial Support Procedures* issued by the Public Assets Supervision and Administration Bureau of the Macao SAR, the *General Guidelines for Project Management of the Science and Technology Development Fund of the Macao SAR* and the *Agreed Procedures Guidelines for Research Projects* issued by the FDCT, other funding rules or guidelines of the FDCT, and the Funding Agreement signed after approval.
3. The FDCT reserves the final right of interpretation and decision regarding the Scheme.



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## Annex 1: Scope of Related Parties in Related-Party Transactions

<p>I、 If the applicant/beneficiary is a <b>higher education institution or other non-profit organisation</b>, its related parties include:</p>
<p>1.1 The Rector/Chancellor/President/Chairperson of the Board of Directors/Chairperson of the Supervisory Board/Secretary-General, or any individual holding an equivalent position in the applicant/beneficiary institution.</p>
<p>1.2 The Vice-Rector/Vice-Chancellor/Vice-President/Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Directors/Vice-Chairperson of the Supervisory Board/Vice Secretary-General, or any individual holding an equivalent position, <i>except</i> those who are not directly involved in the procurement process related to the transaction.</p>
<p>1.3 If any of the persons mentioned in items 1.1 or 1.2 holds any of the abovementioned positions in another higher education institution or non-profit organisation, or is a natural person business owner of another enterprise, or a controlling shareholder or member of the executive management of another company, then such institution, organisation, enterprise or company shall be deemed a related party of the applicant/beneficiary institution.</p> <p><i>Exception: Persons mentioned under item 1.2 who are not involved in the procurement process shall not constitute a basis for related-party identification.</i></p>
<p>1.4 If the spouse, children, parents, siblings, parents-in-law, siblings-in-law, or a person in a de facto marriage relationship with any of the persons mentioned in items 1.1 or 1.2 holds any of the positions referred to in these items in another higher education institution or non-profit organisation, or is a natural person business owner of another enterprise, or a controlling shareholder or member of the executive management of another company, then such institution, organisation, enterprise or company shall be deemed a related party of the applicant/beneficiary institution.</p> <p><i>Exception: As in item 1.2, persons not involved in the procurement process are excluded.</i></p>
<p>II. If the applicant/beneficiary is a <b>commercial enterprise owner or commercial enterprise</b>, its related parties include:</p>
<p>2.1 The controlling shareholder(s) (natural or legal person), including parent companies, and members of the executive management of the applicant/beneficiary company, as well as their spouses, children, parents, siblings, parents-in-law, siblings-in-law, and persons in a de facto marriage relationship.</p>



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2.2 Any company in which the applicant/beneficiary company is a controlling shareholder (especially subsidiaries) is considered a related party.
2.3 Any business enterprise (natural person commercial enterprise) owned by any of the persons listed under item 2.1.
2.4 Any company in which any of the persons referred to in item 2.1 is a controlling shareholder or a member of the executive management is also considered a related party.
* The term “controlling shareholder” as referred to in this table means a natural or legal person who, individually holds the majority of the company’s capital contribution, or jointly holds the majority of the company’s capital contribution with other companies that are also controlling shareholders or with other shareholders connected through quasi-corporate agreements, or holds more than half of the voting rights, or has the right to cause the election of the majority of the members of the executive management.
# <b>Note on "Company":</b> The term covers companies established within or outside the Macao SAR, as well as any other type of commercial enterprise formed outside the Macao SAR.

### Annex 2: Funding Standards for Research Platform Subsidies

Category of Expense	Subcategory	Unit of Cost	Maximum Amount (MOP)	Remarks
Allowance for Local Personnel	Undergraduate Student	per person per month	8,500.00	---
	Master Student	per person per month	11,000.00	---
	PhD Student	per person per month	14,000.00	---
	Postdoctoral Researcher	per person per month	28,000.00	---
	Laboratory Technician	per person per month	28,000.00	---
	Research Assistant	per person per month	22,000.00	---



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	Full-time Research Staff	per person per month	30,000.00	PhD required
	Visiting Scholar	per person per month	30,000.00	Contract period must be no less than 3 months
Allowance for Local Personnel Engaged in Industry-Academia Collaboration and Research Commercialisation	Postdoctoral Researcher	per person per month	42,000.00	---
	Research Assistant	per person per month	33,000.00	---
	Full-time Research Staff	per person per month	45,000.00	PhD required
	Visiting Scholar	per person per month	45,000.00	Contract period must be no less than 6 months
Allowance for Non-local Personnel	Total cap for this category	per year	500,000.00	---
	External Expert/Consultant	per person per year	60,000.00	---
	Short-term Visiting Scholar	per person per year	60,000.00	
Conference and Research Travel	Travel expenses to the Mainland, Hong Kong and Taiwan	per person per application	8,000.00	Includes transportation, accommodation, and conference-related expenses. Daily meal allowance not to exceed MOP 300.00 per person
	Travel expenses to the Mainland, Hong Kong and Taiwan (Academician)	per person per application	15,000.00	



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	International Travel	per person per application	20,000.00	
	International Travel (Academician)	per person per application	30,000.00	
Hosting Academic Conferences and Academic Committee Meetings	Total cap for this category	per year	500,000.00	---
	Speaker (Associate Professor / Professor)	per person per application	3,000.00	---
	Speaker (Academician)	per person per application	6,000.00	---
	Speaker (Nobel Laureate)	per person per application	10,000.00	---
Open Projects	Open Project	per unit	200,000.00	Up to MOP 1.5 million