

Funding Scheme for Postdoctoral Researchers

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 science and technology development, this Scheme is devised in order to promote science and technology innovation in Macao, boost talent training in Macao and attract overseas talents to return to Macao, and support local young scholars to enter into scientific research system and participate in the transformation of scientific research achievements.

II. Applying Entities

Local higher education institutions supervised by the Macao SAR Government

III. Project Leaders

- 1. Project leaders shall be at the grade of full-time associate professor or above that work in local higher education institutions.
- 2. In principle, each project leader could act as supervisor for only one postdoctoral researcher funded by this Scheme.

IV. Application Requirements

1. The postdoctoral researcher candidates shall have significant research experience in science and technology or experience in the transformation of scientific research findings, and meet



either of the following conditions:

- Holder of a Macao Resident Identity Card must have obtained a doctoral degree from a Macao/local government-approved higher education institution within the previous five years.
- (2) Non-holder of a Macao Resident Identity Card must have obtained a doctoral degree from a local higher education institution within the previous one year.
- 2. Postdoctoral researcher candidates holding a Macao Resident Identity Card shall register with FDCT in advance. In the case that a postdoctoral researcher has no cooperative supervisor, FDCT could assist in finding a cooperative supervisor for him/her.
- 3. The applying entities shall collect the information of the postdoctoral researcher candidates recommended by project leaders and classify these candidates according to the conditions in paragraph 1 of this article.
- 4. Not less than half of the total recommended postdoctoral researcher candidates submitted by the applying entities to FDCT shall be Macao residents, and not less than half of the total recommended postdoctoral researcher candidates shall be postdoctoral researchers engaged in the transformation of scientific research findings.

V. Funding Type

No repayment required.

VI. Funding Quota, Amount and Duration

- 1. This Scheme offers 30 funding quotas, of which 25 shall be Macao residents.
- 2. In case of insufficient local candidates, the quotas mentioned



in the above paragraph could be used by non-local candidates, but the total number of non-local candidates shall not be more than 15.

3. Every eligible full-time postdoctoral researcher is entitled to a monthly subsidy of MOP30,000 (thirty thousand patacas) for up to 24 months.

VII. Application Period

The period designated by the FDCT's Administrative Committee.

VIII. Application Documents

- The applying entity's identification information and relevant certificate(s);
- 2. The identification document of the person in charge of the applying entity;
- 3. Recommended name list from the applying entity;
- 4. Completed application form, including information of project leaders and postdoctoral researcher candidates, especially the supporting documents to demonstrate that the candidate meets relevant requirements, the planned research or the transformation plan of his/her scientific research findings.

IX. Applying Method

- 1. The application shall be made by cooperative supervisors as project leaders through the higher education institutions where they serve.
- 2. The applying entity shall submit all the application documents mentioned in the preceding article in the manner designated by FDCT prior to the deadline of application.

X. Assessment Criteria



- 1. The assessment is performed according to the *Financial Aid Grant Regulation*, approved as per the Chief Executive's Dispatch No. 64/2021.
- 2. Key considerations will be given to the followings:
 - (1) Conditions of the postdoctoral researcher candidates;
 - (2) Potential effect that the planned projects might bring about to economic and social development of Macao;
 - (3) Conditions of the project leaders.

XI. 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, and sign the employment contract with the postdoctoral researchers.
- 3. FDCT shall allocate the funds to the funded applying entities.
- 4. The funded applying entities shall transfer the funds to the postdoctoral researchers concerned on a monthly basis, who shall sign the acknowledgement receipts upon receiving the funds.

XII. Reports

- 1. The funded applying entities shall submit an annual report of their execution of the funded projects and the final work report for interim and final assessments by FDCT.
- 2. The above-mentioned reports shall consist of two parts: actual activities and financial execution, with supporting documents provided.

XIII. Termination of the Funding

1. The funding to the postdoctoral researchers will be terminated when they stop their research at the applying entities.



2. The funded applying entities shall notify FDCT of the end of the researchers' work in a timely manner after the work ends, and refund FDCT the amount that haven't been allocated to the postdoctoral researchers.

XIV. Other Funding

Postdoctoral researchers who receive funding from this Scheme shall not accept funding from other public funding schemes or programmes.

XV. Right to Interpretation

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

XVI. 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 *Statutes 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.