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INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP AWARD SCHEME 2018

Information Sheet

The “Innovation and Technology Scholarship Award Scheme” (the Scheme), also named “創新科技獎學金計劃” in Chinese, aims to provide recognition to outstanding undergraduates in universities in Hong Kong as well as opportunities to widen their international / Mainland exposure and gain industry experience. Twenty-five science undergraduates, to be nominated by the Presidents / Vice-Chancellors of local universities and selected by an Awardee Selection Committee, will each be awarded a scholarship of up to HKD150,000 for a series of learning programmes.

I. Components of the Scheme

A. Overseas/Mainland Attachment Programme

Awardees will be supported to attach to one or more overseas/Mainland universities/institutions between 1 June 2018 and 30 June 2019. At least one of the awardee's trips must be longer than three weeks. The exact timing and duration for the attachment programme(s) may vary depending on a number of factors, including the:

- (a) preference of the home university (ie the awardee's university in Hong Kong) and the awardee concerned;
- (b) length of attachment as offered by the host university (ie the overseas/Mainland university); and
- (c) cost of living in the host city, etc.

The home university is responsible for helping the awardees to identify suitable universities/institutions. Awardees will not be restricted by the number of trip and format of the programme(s) as long as the programme(s) is supported by the teaching staff of their home university. Please refer to **Appendix 1** for a list of universities/institutions for reference. Universities/institutions that are not on the list can be considered if there are sufficient justifications.

Based on the maximum amount of HKD150,000, the home university is requested to work out the ideal package with individual awardees. The funds will be granted based on the realistic budget projection provided by the awardees with the endorsement of the home university.

B. Mentorship Programme

Each awardee will be assigned to a mentor, who is an outstanding personality in his/her related field of study as far as possible. The mentor will provide advice and guidance to the awardee not only throughout the Scheme period but hopefully thereafter.

C. Service Project Programme

Each awardee will be invited to participate in community activities relating to innovation and technology, eg participating in educational activities

organised for local primary and secondary school students to arouse their interest in science and technology.

D. Local Internship Programme [Optional]

Awardees who opt to undertake the Local Internship Programme under the Scheme will be given an opportunity to work as an intern for 4-12 weeks in a local technology company, organisation or government department relevant to his/her field of study as far as possible. An internship allowance of HKD2,000 per week (on the basis of five working days per week) will be offered to the awardee during the internship period. The amount will be drawn from the total scholarship budget.

II. Eligibility and selection criteria

The Scheme is open to full-time, non-final year undergraduates who meet the following criteria*:

- (1) Hong Kong Permanent Resident with the right of abode in Hong Kong.
- (2) Undertaking a science-related degree funded by the University Grants Committee (UGC) – universities should refer to the academic programme category laid down by the UGC for the coverage of science-related disciplines. In general they cover (i) Sciences; (ii) Engineering and Technology; and (iii) Medicine and Health professions.
- (3) Preferably cumulative GPA of 3.3 (or equivalent) or above.
- (4) A minimum total TOEFL (Internet-based test) score of 90 with scores for individual sections not lower than 21 on reading, 22 on listening, 21 on speaking, and 17 on writing; or a minimum IELTS (Academic test) overall band score of 6.5, with no component below 6.0. These are irrespective of overseas universities' requirements. All tests must have been taken on or since 10 February 2016.
- (5) Has passion in innovation and technology, and intention of pursuing this as a career.
- (6) Well-rounded, has participated in extra-curricular and/or community service activities.
- (7) Able to display tremendous upside potential and benefit the most from the Scheme.
- (8) Willing to serve the community and have a strong commitment to Hong Kong.
- (9) Possesses good communication skills.
- (10) Has not previously received an award in this Scheme.

*The Scheme Secretariat reserves the right to accept or decline any application.

III. Nomination and selection procedures

- (1) The eligible undergraduates who are interested in the Scheme should fill in the Application Form and submit it to the student affairs offices (or equivalent) of their respective universities. Individual universities should decide on their own deadline for application.
- (2) Applicants should work out their preferred packages for the Overseas/Mainland Attachment Programme with the assistance of their respective faculties and student affairs offices (or other responsible departments) of their universities and submit the proposed plans with the application.
- (3) The Presidents/Vice-Chancellors of universities will be invited to make nominations. The quota of nominations will be assigned according to the number of students in the universities studying in science-related disciplines provided by the UGC.
- (4) Universities should submit the Nomination Form, together with Application Forms of individual nominees, to the Scheme Secretariat no later than 9 February 2018.
- (5) Shortlisted nominees will be invited to attend an interview by the Awardee Selection Committee. Details will be sent to nominees through their respective universities by early March 2018.
- (6) Upon selection by the Awardee Selection Committee, successful candidates will be notified by the Scheme Secretariat through their respective universities by mid-April 2018.
- (7) Programmes under the Scheme will be undertaken between 1 June 2018 and 30 June 2019; all expenditure for the programmes must be incurred within the period.

IV. Scholarship value and payment method

The maximum value for each scholarship is HKD150,000. A budget breakdown for each awardee will be worked out and submitted when the nominee is successfully selected.

The scholarship amount for each awardee will cover:

- (1) Tuition/course fees and college fees for the host university.
- (2) Cost of accommodation outside Hong Kong.
- (3) Subsistence allowance for the period outside Hong Kong.
- (4) Economy return air-tickets to/from the host's city.
- (5) Visa application fees.
- (6) Insurance.
- (7) Books and necessary supplies.
- (8) Internship allowance of HKD2,000 per week (on the basis of five working days per week).

The scholarship will be granted based on the realistic projection of costs provided by individual awardees, to be checked and endorsed by their home universities. The Scheme Secretariat will release the approved scholarship amount for the Overseas/Mainland Attachment Programme to individual awardees through their respective universities.

V. Terms and conditions for acceptance of the Award

The Scholarship will be awarded subject to the following conditions:

- (1) The awardee has to abide by any conditions laid down for the Scheme Secretariat.
- (2) The awardee will be required to participate in a service project programme, such as acting as an ambassador at local schools to arouse students' interest in science and technology for an agreed number of hours; helping to organise activities at The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups Centre for Creative Science and Technology, etc.
- (3) The awardee will be required to participate in the Scheme's promotional events and other related activities, eg award presentation ceremony and media interviews.
- (4) The awardee will be required to submit a report (around 3,000 words) to the Scheme Secretariat after completion of the Scheme on his/her experience in the:
 - Overseas/Mainland Attachment Programme;
 - Mentorship Programme;
 - Service Project Programme;
 - Local Internship Programme (if applicable); and
 - How the Scheme has benefited himself/herself and whether he/she would like to suggest any areas of improvement.
- (5) The awardee will also be required to submit reference documents by the overseas/Mainland university/institution and internship supervisor upon completion of the programmes.
- (6) The home university of the awardee will be responsible for handling finance/auditing matters.
- (7) The awardee accepts that the Scheme may be terminated at any time if and when his/her performance is considered unsatisfactory or when he/she for any reason withdraws from his/her current degree programme.
- (8) Unless justifications can be provided, full/pro-rata refund of the

scholarship by the awardee will be necessary if he/she cannot fulfill the conditions stated by the Scheme or fails to complete all programmes.

VI. Handling of information and personal data

The information and personal data provided in the application form will be used and/or disclosed by the Scheme Secretariat to relevant parties to process the application/nomination as well as for related purposes, such as conducting selection interviews, monitoring of progress, etc.

VII. Enquiries

For enquiries, please contact –

The Scheme Secretariat

Telephone : 2561 6149

E-mail : it_scholarship@hkfyg.org.hk

Address : c/o The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups
Room 211, 2/F, Lakeside Two
East Wing, Phase Two
Hong Kong Science Park
Pak Shek Kok, New Territories

Contact person : Mr Ken Li / Mr Benny Cheng

Website : <http://innotechsponsorship.hkfyg.org.hk/>