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創新科技署 Innovation and Technology Commission | 政府資助計劃 Government-funded programme

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INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP 2027

Information Sheet

*The "**Innovation and Technology Scholarship**"（創新科技獎學金）(the Scholarship), 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. With the support of the Scholarship, we aim to nurture more young talents to pursue I&T as their lifelong career. Twenty-five undergraduates with InnoTech passion, 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 undertaking a series of learning programmes.*

I. Components of the Scholarship

(1) Overseas/Mainland Attachment Programme

Awardees will be supported to attach to one or more overseas/Mainland universities/institutions between 1 June 2027 and 31 July 2028. At least one of the awardee's trips must be longer than three weeks and at least one trip should be arranged to the Mainland. The exact timing and duration for the attachment programme(s) may vary depending on several factors, including:

(a) preference of the home university (i.e. the awardee's university in Hong Kong) and the awardee concerned;
(b) length of attachment as offered by the host university (i.e. 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 trips and format of the programme(s) as long as the programme(s) is supported by the teaching staff of their home university and with 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.

(2) Mentorship Programme

Each awardee will be assigned 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 Scholarship period but hopefully thereafter. In addition, alumni with shared InnoTech interests will be invited to serve as the peer partners, providing support to new awardees and sharing valuable experiences.

(3) Service Project Programme

Each awardee will be invited to participate in community activities relating to innovation and technology, e.g. participating in educational activities organised for local primary and secondary school students to arouse their interest in science and technology.

(4) Local Internship Programme [Optional]

Awardees who opt to undertake the Local Internship Programme under the Scholarship will be given opportunities to work as an intern for 4-8 weeks in a local technology company, organisation or government department relevant to his/her field of study as far as possible, and a maximum of 16 weeks total internship period between 1 June 2027 and 31 July 2028. An internship allowance of HKD3,000 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.

(5) Ideations and Achievements Showcase [Optional]

Each awardee will be encouraged to utilise the Scholarship funding to realise tech-related ideations that are beneficial to society. The ideations should be original, innovative and not associated with any commercial entity. Furthermore, they should be practical and applicable in real-life scenarios. They could either be a new and original invention with demonstration of its application, a new idea to enhance existing products or technology with distinctive improvements, or a research on scientific phenomena or the application of scientific theories supported by experimental data and results.

Upon completion of the Scholarship period, awardees' ideations and learning achievements will be showcased at any related platform/occasion. The expenses will be drawn from the Scholarship's funding. Awardees are also encouraged to include sharing of their ideations in the mandatory Awardees' Report to demonstrate their achievements.

II. Eligibility and selection criteria

The Scholarship is open to full-time, non-final-year undergraduates who meet the following criteria[1]. Applicants should:

(1) Be Hong Kong Permanent Residents with the right of abode in Hong Kong;

(2) Be undertaking **any full-time undergraduate degree** at designated universities, but currently not in the final year;

(3) Have passion and intention to pursue a career in innovation and technology fields; and with innovative ideas that are aligned with any of the Scholarship's "InnoTech Areas"[2] as set out below:

(a) Advanced Manufacturing and Advanced Engineering;
(b) Artificial Intelligence and Robotics;
(c) Business and Financial Technology;
(d) Life and Health Technology;
(e) Sustainability and Green Technology; and
(f) Multi-disciplinary Technology and Others[3];

(4) Preferably have cumulative GPA of 3.0 (or equivalent) or above;

(5) Have achieved a satisfactory result from any one of the English tests below:

(a) TOEFL[#] (Internet-based test)
- Minimum overall score: 90
- Scores for individual sections not lower than:
  - Reading: 21 - Speaking: 21
  - Listening: 22 - Writing: 17

[1] Each candidate should opt for only ONE designated "InnoTech Area".
[2] Regardless of candidates' disciplines of study, they are welcome to apply for any one of the InnoTech Areas so long as they have innovative ideas in that InnoTech Area, and intend to pursue a career in innovation and technology.
[3] A candidate may select "Multi-disciplinary Technology and Others" if his/her InnoTech aspiration does not fall within any of the other five InnoTech Areas.

IELTS[#] (Academic Module)

- Overall band score: 6.5 or above
- Individual component scores not lower than:
  - Speaking: 6
  - Reading: 6
  - Listening: 6
  - Writing: 6

(b) HKDSE English Language Exam

- Level 4 or above

(c) International Baccalaureate (IB) Exam

- English A Language and Literature Standard Level: Grade 5 or above
- English A Language and Literature High Level: Grade 5 or above
- English B Standard Level: Grade 6 or above
- English B High Level: Grade 5 or above

(d) International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) Exam

- Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language 0511: Grade C or above
- Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0522: Grade D or above
- Pearson Edexcel IGCSE English as a Second Language: Grade 6 or B or above
- Pearson Edexcel IGCSE English Language (Specification A or B): Grade 4 or C or above

These are irrespective of overseas universities' requirements.

[#]*Test must be taken on or after 5 February 2025*

(6) Be well-rounded; have participated in extracurricular activities and/or community service;

(7) Be able to display tremendous upside potential and benefit the most from the Scholarship;

(8) Be willing to serve the community and have a strong commitment to Hong Kong;

(9) Possess good communication skills; and

(10) Have not previously received this Scholarship.

III. Nomination and selection procedures

(1) The eligible undergraduates who are interested in the Scholarship should fill in the online application form and be endorsed by the student affairs offices (or equivalent) of their respective universities. Individual universities should decide on their own deadlines for application.

(2) All applicants will be categorised based on their selected "InnoTech Area" throughout the whole selection process. Applicants should opt for only ONE designated "InnoTech Area" when applying for the Scholarship, and such selection is non-changeable after the nomination deadline.

(3) 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 applications.

(4) Applicants with aspirations in creating original InnoTech ideations are highly appreciated. They are required to demonstrate their plan on utilising the Scholarship's funding in developing and showcasing tech-related ideations during the selection process.

(5) The Presidents/Vice-Chancellors of universities will be invited to make nominations. A fixed quota of nominations in each designated "InnoTech Area" will be assigned to each eligible university.

(6) Universities should submit the **Nomination Form (Appendix)** to the Scholarship Secretariat no later than **5 February 2027**.

(7) Shortlisted nominees will be invited to attend an interview by the Awardee Selection Committee in March or April 2027. Details will be sent to nominees through their respective universities.

(8) The Awardee Selection Committee will select candidates based on the following criteria:

Selection Criteria
1. Passion for Innovation and Technology - Potential of contribution to the relevant industry - Identification of needs for innovation and technology - Understanding on InnoTech knowledge - Aspiration and potential of tech-related ideation(s)
2. Personal Quality and Upside Potential - Personal attributes - Clear and visionary goals - Leadership quality - Communication skills - Utilisation of the Scholarship - Creativity and innovativeness - Potential value-added by the Scholarship
3. Willingness to Serve the Community - Outstanding performance in extra-curricular activities and/ or community service - Commitment to Hong Kong

(9) A maximum of 25 awardees will be selected from the six designated InnoTech Areas.

(10) Upon selection by the Awardee Selection Committee, successful candidates will be notified by the Scholarship Secretariat through their respective universities in April 2027.

(11) Programmes under the Scholarship will be undertaken between 1 June 2027 and 31 July 2028; all expenditure for the programmes must be incurred within the period.

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

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) Local internship allowance of HKD3,000 per week (on the basis of five working days per week).
(9) Expenses for the showcase of tech-related ideations and achievements.

The Scholarship will be granted based on the realistic budget projection provided by individual awardees, to be checked and endorsed by their home universities. The Scholarship 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 Scholarship

The Scholarship will be awarded subject to the following conditions:

(1) The awardee has to abide by any conditions laid down for the Scholarship 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 Scholarship's promotional events and other related activities, e.g. compulsory award presentation ceremony and media interviews.

(4) The awardee will be required to attend the compulsory pre-trip training which aims to teach them skills and knowledge relevant to the Scholarship's programme.

(5) Upon the completion of the Scholarship, awardees will be required to showcase the ideation and learning experiences in Scholarship-related occasions.

(6) The ideation(s) submitted must be original work by the awardee and should NOT infringe on the copyright of any third parties. The awardee is responsible for ensuring the uniqueness of their work and should provide relevant reference materials to complement the research or invention. All sources of information quoted must be explicitly acknowledged. All awardees should strictly comply with the "Copyright Ordinance". All materials used in the ideation and achievement showcase process must be original, royalty-free or authorised by the originator(s). Otherwise, the ideation will not be accepted, and the awardee will be required to refund the Scholarship in full or on a pro-rata basis. The organisers accept no legal responsibility whatsoever in respect of any copyright issues.

(7) The awardee will be required to submit a report (around 3,000 words in

English) to the Scholarship Secretariat after completion of the Scholarship on his/her experience in:

(a) Overseas/Mainland Attachment Programme;
(b) Mentorship Programme;
(c) Service Project Programme;
(d) Local Internship Programme (if applicable);
(e) Ideations and Achievements Showcase (if applicable); and
(f) How the Scholarship has benefited himself/herself and whether he/she would like to suggest any areas of improvement.

(8) The awardee will also be required to submit reference documents by the overseas/Mainland university/institution and internship supervisor upon completion of the programmes.

(9) The home university of the awardee will be responsible for handling finance/auditing matters.

(10) The awardee accepts that the Scholarship 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; or if he/she has engaged or is engaging in acts or acting that are likely to constitute or cause the occurrence of offences endangering national security or which would otherwise be contrary to the interest of national security.

(11) 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 Scholarship 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 Scholarship 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 Scholarship Secretariat
Telephone : 2561 6149
E-mail : it_scholarship@hkfyg.org.hk
Address : The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups
Unit 2201A, 22/F,
Skyline Tower, 39 Wang Kwong Road,
Kowloon Bay, Kowloon
Contact person : Mr Benny Cheng/Ms Ruby Au
Website : https://innotechscholarship.hkfyg.org.hk/