大學教育資助委員會
University Grants Committee

HONG KONG
ASIA'S WORLD CITY

2027/28 HONG KONG PhD FELLOWSHIP SCHEME

Experience world-class academic programmes and research opportunities in Asia's World City

Established in 2009 by the Research Grants Council, the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme aims at attracting the best and brightest students in the world to pursue their PhD programmes in Hong Kong's universities.

The Fellowship Scheme will provide a competitive annual stipend and conference and research-related travel allowance per year up to three years.

Initial application is accepted from 1 September to 1 December 2026 (12:00 noon Hong Kong Time (GMT + 8 hours)).

For details, please visit

www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd

Welcome Message from the Chairman, Research Grants Council

Hong Kong's outstanding universities are offering exciting research opportunities across a broad range of PhD programmes, with generous stipends and excellent support, for the best and brightest students from around the world. On behalf of Hong Kong's Research Grants Council (RGC), I proudly present to you the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme 2027/28.

Established by the RGC in 2009, this prestigious Scheme has brought over 4 200 top students from Hong Kong and around a hundred countries and regions to pursue PhD studies in our world-class universities. Fields of study span from the humanities, business studies and social sciences, engineering, biology, medicine, and physical sciences. Following the success in the 17th round, we are inviting talented young scholars with aspirations to become first rate researchers to apply for the 18th round fellowships, commencing in the 2027/28 academic year.

Hong Kong universities host some of the best facilities and programmes in Asia and the world. They are leaders across diverse academic fields and have extended the boundaries of knowledge in multiple disciplines, including the natural sciences, engineering, arts and humanities, social sciences, medicine, biotechnology, business, as well as in specialisations such as AI and robotics, infectious diseases, fintech, urban green engineering, textile design, and logistics and supply chain management, etc. Pioneering research is being pursued in impactful areas such as data science, electronic design automation, nanoscience and new materials, computer engineering, clean energy and sustainable environment, and arts technology. According to widely recognised international university rankings, five of the UGC-funded universities are consistently ranked world's top 100 and Asia's top 20. This makes Hong Kong the city with the highest number of top-ranked universities in the world, reinforcing its standing as the destination for an unparalleled educational experience.

Located in a most dynamic region with a long history of multi-cultural interactions and the use of English as the medium of instruction, our world-class universities have long attracted first-tier faculty and students from around the world to pursue the research and career opportunities offered by Hong Kong.

Hong Kong has set out a clear strategic vision to propel our city towards becoming an International Education Hub. To achieve this goal and support Hong Kong's development as a key node in the global knowledge network, RGC of the Hong Kong University Grants Committee is committed to expanding Hong Kong's research capacity and nurturing young research talent for the sustainable growth of the local research ecosystem.

Being part of China and an Asia's World City, Hong Kong serves as an education and research hub in the rapidly growing Greater Bay Area, offering unparalleled opportunities. Beyond academic rigor, Hong Kong offers a unique cultural landscape where East meets West. Students immerse themselves in a vibrant cosmopolitan global community, experiencing a rich heritage that seamlessly blends traditional customs with contemporary trends. The city is an ideal place to study, live, and work. I encourage you to learn more about Hong Kong and the opportunities our universities present.

I look forward to welcoming you to Hong Kong.

Professor Timothy W. Tong
Chairman, Research Grants Council
Hong Kong, China

Who can apply

Candidates seeking admission as new full-time PhD students in the eight UGC-funded universities, irrespective of their country of origin, prior work experience, and ethnic background are welcomed to apply.

About the award

The Fellowship will provide a competitive annual stipend and a conference and research-related travel allowance per year up to three years[1].

How are awardees selected

Shortlisted applicants, subject to their proposed areas of studies, will be reviewed by one of the following two Selection Panels:

- Sciences, Medicine, Engineering and Technology
- Humanities, Social Sciences and Business Studies.

While candidates' academic excellence is the primary consideration, the Selection Panels will take into account factors such as the candidates' research ability and potential, communication and interpersonal skills as well as leadership abilities.

How to apply

Eligible candidates should make their **initial application** to the RGC through the online system at https://cerg1.ugc.edu.hk/hkpfs/InitApplication.jsp to obtain an **HKPFS Reference Number** before submitting full applications to their selected universities.

[1] Universities in Hong Kong normally start their academic year in September.

Initial application deadline

1 December 2026 at 12:00 noon Hong Kong Time (GMT + 8 hours).

Enquiries

For enquiries on the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme, please email to hkpf@ugc.edu.hk. For enquiries on admission requirements, eligibility criteria for research programmes, application methods and deadlines, regulations and policy of individual universities, please contact relevant universities direct.

Further information

For further information, please visit Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme website at http://www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd.

City University of Hong Kong
http://www.cityu.edu.hk/pg/hong-kong-phd-fellowship-scheme
email: sgfellow@cityu.edu.hk

The Education University of Hong Kong
https://gs.eduhk.hk/scholarships/hong-kong-phd-fellowship-scheme
email: rpg@eduhk.hk

Hong Kong Baptist University
https://gs.hkbu.edu.hk/admission/hong-kong-phd-fellowship-scheme
email: hkbu_rpg@hkbu.edu.hk

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
http://www.polyu.edu.hk/gs/hkpfs
email: gs.scholarship@polyu.edu.hk

Lingnan University
http://www.ln.edu.hk/rpg/hong-kong-phd-fellowship-scheme-hkpfs
email: rpgadm@LN.edu.hk

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
https://fytgs.hkust.edu.hk/hkpfs
enquiry form: https://fytgs.hkust.edu.hk/enquiry

The Chinese University of Hong Kong
http://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/hkpfs
enquiry form: www.gradsch.cuhk.edu.hk/helpdesk/enquiry_form.aspx

The University of Hong Kong
https://gradsch.hku.hk/hkpfs
email: gradsch@hku.hk

After completing an initial application, applicants should submit full applications for their selected PhD programmes to the proposed universities (quoting the assigned **HKPFS Reference Number**) before the deadlines of individual universities. As deadlines for submission of full applications to universities may immediately follow that for initial application, candidates should consult relevant universities regarding the application deadlines to ensure that they have sufficient time to submit full applications.

Other useful information

Research Grants Council, Hong Kong
http://www.rgc.edu.hk

About Hong Kong
http://www.brandhk.gov.hk

Hong Kong Higher Education
http://studyinhongkong.edu.hk

Postgraduate Studies in Hong Kong
http://www.grad.edu.hk

Immigration Policy on Study and Guidebook for Entry for Study in Hong Kong
https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/visas/study.html