



香港中文大學
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



香港中文大學(深圳)
The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen

1+1+1 CUHK-CUHK(SZ)-GDST Joint Collaboration Fund

Guidelines

General R&D Projects

1. Background

The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen (CUHK(SZ)) are collaborating deeply in response to the strategic needs of the country and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA). Leveraging the comprehensive advantages of both campuses, the two campuses have jointly launched a “1+1+1” funding scheme with the additional matching fund provided by Department of Science and Technology of Guangdong Province (GDST). The Scheme aims to support collaborative projects between the two campuses in three categories:

- General R&D Projects,
- Platform Development Projects, and
- Young Scholar Projects;

and the Scheme will initially last for three years.

2. Objectives

Funding for “General R&D Projects” aims to support major scientific research projects in selected areas undertaken by collaborative research teams between the two campuses, to achieve innovative, high-quality research outputs that are important to advance the scholarly research frontiers as well as to meet the national strategic priorities.

3. Research Areas

To focus on the development needs in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and leverage the strengths of both campuses, high priority will be given to projects that fall within the following research areas: “artificial intelligence and data science”, “economics, finance, and logistics”, “medicine and life sciences”, “aerospace and geoinformatics”, “new materials”, “new energy”, “mathematics and applied mathematics”, etc.

4. Project Categories

The funding will support research projects aiming to achieve high-quality research outcomes by leveraging the comprehensive strengths between the two campuses. Priorities will be given to proposals that have significant impacts to tackle social and industrial problems in Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and have advantages to further secure competitive grants from national, regional (including Shenzhen), and Mainland-Hong Kong joint funding programs.

5. Funding Amount and Duration

The project duration should be approximately 1–3 years, starting from January 2025 or as early as possible. Each approved project will receive a combined total of 1 to 3 million from the “1+1+1” Fund.

Applicants must indicate the amount requested in both HKD and RMB in the budget table, for CUHK and CUHK(SZ) PIs respectively, based on funding needs. Requests for Postdoctoral Fellows and/or PhD students may be submitted. The PIs may need, however, to have other funds to cover the full costs of any Postdoctoral Fellow or PhD student appointment as the funding for such personnel may not be sufficient from the “1+1+1” Fund.

The funding aims to fund approximately 20 projects. Subject to funding availability, a second and/or third application round may be held in 2025 and 2026, depending on the number and quality of submissions received in the first round.

6. Criteria

This is a competitive exercise. An assessment panel will review the applications holistically based on the following assessment criteria:

- a. academic merits, with collaborative nature and relevancy to the supported research areas;
- b. potential in applications to tackle social and industrial issues of importance to the Greater Bay Area;
- c. potential for securing further research support from external funding;
- d. potential contribution to the University’s research advancement; and
- e. viability of the proposal, in terms of the track records of the PIs and the research team, and the likelihood that the proposed work will be completed timely and successfully.

7. Eligibility

- a. Applications should include at least two academic staff members at the grade of Assistant Professor or above from CUHK and CUHK(SZ), such that each university will have one academic staff member serving as Co-PI. The two Co-PIs will collaborate to achieve a common research objective.
- b. The two Co-PIs will determine the other team members, roles, and task, based on their expertise.

8. Other Requirements

- a. Applications can be submitted in either Chinese or English. However, both the project title and abstract must be provided in Chinese and English.
- b. Applicants must include a detailed research plan that aligns with funding objectives and how the proposed project will be implemented.
- c. The expected outcomes should include at least one paper accepted/published in top-tier outlet.
- d. To strengthen collaboration and academic exchange, joint research teams should hold regular working meetings to discuss progress and work together to address scientific issues.
- e. The research teams must submit an annual progress report and a completion report by the designated deadline. Late submission is not accepted.
- f. Applicants can sign a research collaboration agreement to clarify terms such as intellectual property ownership (e.g., patents and commercialization).

9. Application Process

Applicants should fill out the application form, including signatures, and submit the Word version of the application along with the required supporting documents to Secretaries of Panel for General R&D Projects, wlng@cuhk.edu.hk and wangyiqing@cuhk.edu.cn, by 5 PM on 12 December 2024.

10. Enquiries

CUHK: Mr. William Ng (wlng@cuhk.edu.hk)

CUHK(SZ): Ms. Emma Wang (wangyiqing@cuhk.edu.cn)