Call for Proposals : RGC Competitive Research Funding Schemes for the Local Self-financing Degree Sector (2022/23 exercise)

1 message

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To: All Full-Time Academic Staff
cc: PV/VPAR, SRC Chairmen, School Academic Managers, SRC Secretaries

Call for Proposals: RGC Competitive Research Funding Schemes for the Local Self-financing Degree Sector (2022/23 exercise)

The Research Grants Committee (RGC) now invites applications for the 2022/23 Competitive Research Funding Schemes for Local Self-financing Degree Sector. Three funding schem four different research grants are available for the self-financing degree sector. Interested colleagues **please Read** the "Guidance Notes for Completing the Application Form" before co submitting the applications.

Basic information for each scheme, the internal vetting procedures and the timeline are presented as follows:

	Faculty Development Scheme (FDS)	**Inter-Institutional Development Scheme (IIDS)**	**Institutional Development Scheme**	
			Collaborative Research Grant (IDSC)	**Research Infrastructure Grant (IDSR)**
Guidelines and Application Form	FDS Nov 2021 version	IIDS Nov 2021 version	IDSC Nov 2021 version	IDSR Nov 2021 version
Proposal Assessment Form - _for reference only_ (used by the RGC Panel in the last exercise)	Click	Click	Click	Click
Operation Mode	_Individual basis, one application from each eligible staff in the capacity of Principal Investigator (PI)_	_Individual basis, one application from each eligible staff in the capacity of Principal Investigator (PI)_	_Individual basis, one application from each eligible staff in the capacity of Project Coordinator (PC)._ **A proposal without Co-PI will not be accepted.**	_Institutional basis, one application from each institution_
Objectives	To develop the research capability of individual academics so that they can transfer their research experiences and new knowledge into teaching and learning	To enhance academics' research capability and keep them abreast of new developments and challenging research topics in relevant fields.	To encourage and support collaborative research involving two or more self-financing institutions1, and / or group research activities that operate across disciplines2 within an institution, with a view to enhancing the research output of self-financing institutions in terms of the level of attainment, quality, dimensions and / or speed. 1For cross-institutional research proposal, the project team should have at least one eligible Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI) from a local self-financing degree-awarding institution other than that of the Project Coordinator (PC). 2 For cross-disciplinary research proposal, the research proposal should cover at least two research fields from different subject disciplines (i.e. B, E, H, M, P). Applications which fail to meet the above requirements will be disqualified.	To build up the research capacity of the institutions in their strategic areas
NEW arrangements for 2022/23 exercise	1) **Declaration of Time Commitment** - Applicants are required to provide the numbers of both on-going individual research projects and on-going collaborative research projects being held by them in any capacity. If the applicant holds more than three on-going individual research projects OR more than two on-going collaborative research projects, he/she needs to provide the overall amount of time spent on research in percentage terms and justifications on how he/ she would be able to take up an additional research project if funded while maintaining the research quality. 2) **Supporting Staff Costs** - The Grants should only be used to cover the salary of supporting staff, other **employee benefits such as insurance, medical coverage and gratuity are not covered (by the Grants)**			
Other Points to Note	1) All PIs, PCs, Co-PIs, Co-Is, Team Leader and Team members are required to provide their " Open Researcher and Contributor ID Identifier" (ORCID iD) in the applications. 2) For all applications, e-signatures MUST be used. 3) CVs should be presented in accordance with the RGC required format (the standard format can facilitate RGC checking of PI's grant record/ research work and relationship with potential external reviewers etc. Please refer to the Guidelines for the required format 4) Applicants are required to declare any related research work (irrespective of whether from UGC / RGC and not limited to the past five years) that is being / has been conducted in relation to the proposal, including but not limited to data collection, preliminary research, working papers, publications (such as journal papers, conference papers and books, etc.), presentations, media interviews and other submitted proposals, etc.			
About relief teachers	Staff applying for FDS (PI)/ IDSC (PC and Co-PI) can request funding support from RGC to recruit relief teachers. According to the internal policy, colleagues can request teaching relief for a maximum of two classes (i.e. 3 hours x 15 weeks x 2) each year.			

	At any one time, research grants for teaching relief, including those from on-going and new projects, and regardless of the funding sources and the number of projects, could be used to cover a maximum of 50% of the regular teaching load of the academic staff member concerned.	
Research Conduct	Please ensure that you have provided **a complete grant/ proposal record**, as well as **declare the research work that is being/ has been conducted in relation to your proposal** in your application. **Failure to make proper declarations may result in disciplinary action.**	

Internal Vetting Procedures and Key dates for FDS, IIDS and IDSC Applications

	Deadline	Remarks
Individual staff to submit their proposal to the Department Head/ Associate Dean (if no departmental structure) for comment	Tuesday, 18 January 2022	Individual staff could continue to modify their proposals in this period
Department Heads/ Associate Deans (if no departmental) to submit the proposals and comment forms to the School Research Committee for comment	Monday, 24 January 2022	
School Research Committees to review and endorse the proposals	*25 January – 7 February 2022	
School Research Committees to send the endorsed proposals and comment forms to URC Chairman	Tuesday 8 February 2022	
URC Chairman to comment on and endorse the proposals (PV/VPARO to check the budget and formatting)	8-15 February 2022	
URC to return the proposals with comments to individual staff for revisions	On or before Tuesday, 15 February 2022	
Individual staff to finalize their proposals and return the final proposals to URC for final checking	On or before Monday, 21 February 2022	
URC to return the final version to Departments for arranging hard copies and soft copies	On or before Thursday, 24 February 2022	
Departments to return all hard copies and soft copies to URC	On or before Monday 28 February 2022	
Deadline for submission to RGC	Tuesday, 1 March 2022 (5pm)	

Internal Vetting Procedures for IDSR applications

Each institution can only submit one IDSR application. If Schools are interested in leading a University-based IDSR project, please submit a two-page proposal with budget to Ritz Ho o
Tuesday, 30 November 2021 for consideration by the University Research Committee. Schools are also required to give a short presentation on their IDS proposal at the URC meeting
2021.

Enquiries
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Best regards
Research Administration Unit
Office of Provost and Vice-President (Academic & Research)