Established in 2009 by the Research Grants Council (RGC), the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS) 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 2022 (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

The Research Grants Council (RGC) of the Hong Kong University Grants Committee (UGC) is committed to promoting world-class research in Hong Kong. Through our PhD Fellowships, Hong Kong's outstanding universities offer research opportunities in a broad range of PhD programmes, with generous stipends and excellent support for the best and brightest students in the world. On behalf of the RGC, I proudly present to you the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme 2023/24.

Established by the RGC in 2009, the prestigious Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme has brought over two thousand eight hundred top students from around hundred countries/regions to Hong Kong to undertake PhD studies in our highly ranked universities in fields ranging from humanities, business studies and social sciences, to engineering, biology and medicine, and physical sciences. Following the success in the first thirteen rounds, we are looking for talented people who wish to pursue their PhD studies in Hong Kong, and aspire to be research elites of the time to take part in the Fourteenth Round, study awards of which will commence in the 2023/24 academic year.

Hong Kong, long an international business and finance centre and a unique bridge between East and West, draws talent from all corners of the world. Our universities have strong dynamism and drive, with international faculty and students excelling in the forefront of research. Our Fellowship programme unites cultural diversity and a rich research environment.

Hong Kong’s universities are extending the boundaries of various fields including sciences, engineering, humanities, arts, social sciences, medicine, biotechnology, business, and specialisations such as AI and robotics, infectious diseases, Fintech, urban green engineering, textile design, logistics and supply chain management.

Our universities host some of Asia’s – and the world’s – best facilities and programmes, from our world-class business management programmes to pioneering research in areas such as brain science, avian influenza, liver transplantation, nanoscience and new materials, wireless communications, China studies, clean energy and sustainable environment, and Chinese medicine. With English as the medium of instruction and research universities steeped in international collaboration, research and career opportunities abound.

Being part of China and an Asia’s World City, Hong Kong is an education and research hub in the rapidly growing Greater Bay Area. I encourage you to learn more about Hong Kong and the opportunities our universities present. A culturally rich, cosmopolitan city set amidst the sea and mountains, Hong Kong and its universities offer the world’s best and brightest students an ideal place to study, live and work.

I look forward to welcoming you to Hong Kong.

Professor Yuk-shan Wong
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. 300 PhD Fellowships will be awarded in the 2023/24 academic year.

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 2022 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.

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
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

City University of Hong Kong http://www.cityu.edu.hk/sgs/hkphd email: sgfellow@cityu.edu.hk

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

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

The Chinese University of Hong Kong http://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/hkphfs email: gradschool@cuhk.edu.hk

The Education University of Hong Kong https://www.eduhk.hk/gradsch/index.php/prospective-students/research-postgraduate-programmes.html email: rpg@eduhk.hk

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University http://www.polyu.edu.hk/gs/hkpfs email: gs.enquiry@polyu.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 Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

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