UGC 大學教育資助委員會
University Grants Committee

HONG KONG
ASIA'S WORLD CITY

2026 / 27
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 2025
(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 exciting research opportunities in 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 the RGC, I proudly present to you the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme 2026/27.

Established by the RGC in 2009, the prestigious Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme has brought over 3 800 top students locally and from around hundred countries/regions to Hong Kong to undertake PhD studies in our world-class universities in fields ranging from humanities, business studies and social sciences, to engineering, biology and medicine, and physical sciences. Following the success in the past 16th rounds, we are inviting talented young scholars with aspirations to be first rate researchers who wish to pursue PhD studies in Hong Kong to apply for the 17th Round Fellowships commencing in the 2026/27 academic year.

Hong Kong universities host some of Asia's – and the world's – best facilities and programmes. They are leaders in different academic fields and have extended the boundaries knowledge in multiple disciplines including the natural sciences, engineering, arts and humanities, the social sciences, medicine, biotechnology, business, as well as specialisations in areas such as AI and robotics, infectious diseases, fintech, urban green engineering, textile design, logistics and supply chain management. Pioneering research 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, making Hong Kong as a city with the highest number of top-ranked universities in the world and as an international hub for higher education.

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.

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 with one of the world's most iconic and beautiful harbours, 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 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 2025 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
https://www.cityu.edu.hk/pg/hong-kong-phd-fellowship-scheme
email: sgfellow@cityu.edu.hk

The Education University of Hong Kong
https://www.eduhk.hk/gradsch/index.php/hkpfs
email: rpg@eduhk.hk

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

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

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