CITY UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Innovation And Technology Scholarship Award Scheme

Regulations

The “Innovation and Technology Scholarship Award Scheme” (the Scheme), also named “創新科技獎學金計劃” in Chinese, aims to provide recognition to outstanding undergraduates in universities in Hong Kong as well as opportunities to widen their international/Mainland exposure and gain industry experience. Twenty-five science undergraduates, to be nominated by the Presidents/Vice-Chancellors of six local universities and selected by an Awardee Selection Committee, will each be awarded a scholarship of up to HKD150,000.

I. Components of the Scheme

A. Overseas/Mainland Attachment Programme

Awardees will be supported to attach to one or more overseas/Mainland universities/institutions for not less than three weeks between 1 June 2015 and 30 June 2016. The exact timing and duration for the attachment programme may vary depending on a number of factors, including the:

(a) preference of the home university (ie the awardee’s university in Hong Kong) and the awardee concerned;

(b) length of attachment as offered by the host university (ie the overseas/Mainland university); and

(c) cost of living in the host city, etc.

Please refer to the list of universities/institutions (can be downloaded together with the application form) for reference. Universities/institutions that are not on the list can be considered if there are sufficient justifications.

Based on the maximum amount of HKD150,000, the home university is requested to work out the ideal package for individual awardees. The funds will be granted based on the realistic budget projection provided by the awardees with the endorsement of the home university.

B. Mentorship Programme

Each awardee will be assigned to a mentor, who is an outstanding personality in his/her related field of study as far as possible. The mentor will provide advice and guidance to the awardee not only throughout the Scheme period but hopefully thereafter.

C. Service Project Programme
Each awardee will be invited to participate in community activities relating to innovation and technology, eg participating in educational activities organised for local primary and secondary school students to arouse their interest in science and technology.

D. Local Internship Programme [Optional]

Awardees who opt to undertake the Local Internship Programme under the Scheme will be given an opportunity to work as an intern for 4-12 weeks in a local technology company or government department relevant to his/her field of study as far as possible. An internship allowance of HKD2,000 per week (on the basis of five working days per week) will be offered to the awardee during the internship period. The amount will be drawn from the total scholarship budget. Upon completion of the internship, the awardee will be required to provide documentary proof from the company certifying his/her attendance and satisfactory performance during the internship period.

II. Eligibility and selection criteria

The Scheme is open to full-time, non-final year undergraduates who meet the following criteria*:

(1) Hong Kong Permanent Resident with the right of abode in Hong Kong.

(2) Undertaking a science-related degree funded by the University Grants Committee (UGC)—universities should refer to the academic programme category laid down by the UGC for the coverage of science-related disciplines. In general they cover (i) Sciences; (ii) Engineering and Technology; and (iii) Medicine, Dentistry and Health.

(3) Preferably cumulative GPA of 3.3 (or equivalent) or above.

(4) A minimum total TOEFL score of 90 (Internet-based test) with scores for individual sections not lower than 21 on reading, 22 on listening, 21 on speaking, and 17 on writing; or a minimum IELTS overall band score of 6.5, with no component below 6.0. These are irrespective of overseas universities’ requirements. All tests must have been taken on or since 14 February 2013.

(5) Has passion in innovation and technology, and intention of pursuing this as a career.

(6) Well-rounded, has participated in extra-curricular and/or community service activities.

(7) Able to demonstrate commitment to Hong Kong.

(8) Possesses good communication skills.

(9) Has not previously received an award in this Scheme.

*The Scheme Secretariat reserves the right to accept or decline any application.

III. Nomination and selection procedures
(1) The eligible undergraduates who are interested in the Scheme should fill in the Application Forms and submit them to College/School on or before 23 January 2015.

(2) Applicants should work out their preferred packages for the Overseas/Mainland Attachment Programme with the assistance of their respective faculties and submit the proposed plans together with the application.

(3) Shortlisted nominees will be invited to attend an interview by the Awardee Selection Committee. Details will be sent to nominees through Student Development Services.

(4) Upon selection by the Awardee Selection Committee, successful candidates will be notified by the Scheme Secretariat through Student Development Services.

(5) Programmes under the Scheme will be undertaken between 1 June 2015 and 30 June 2016; all expenditure for the programmes must be incurred within the period.

IV. Scholarship value and payment method

The maximum value for each scholarship is HKD150,000. A budget breakdown for each awardee will be worked out and submitted when the nominee is successfully selected.

The scholarship amount for each awardee will cover:

(1) Tuition/course fees and college fees for the host university.

(2) Cost of accommodation outside Hong Kong.

(3) Subsistence allowance for the period outside Hong Kong.

(4) Economy return air-tickets to/from the host’s city.

(5) Visa application fees.

(6) Insurance.

(7) Books.

(8) Internship allowance of HKD2,000 per week (on the basis of five working days per week).

The scholarship will be provided based on the realistic projection of costs provided by individual awardees, to be checked and endorsed by Student Development Services. The Scheme Secretariat will release the approved scholarship amount for the Overseas/Mainland Attachment Programme to individual awardees through Student Development Services.

V. Terms and conditions for acceptance of the Award

The Scholarship will be awarded subject to the following conditions:

(1) The awardee has to abide by any conditions laid down for the Scheme Secretariat.
The awardee will be required to participate in a service project programme, such as acting as an ambassador at local schools to arouse students’ interest in science and technology for an agreed number of hours; helping to organize activities at The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups Centre for Creative Science and Technology, etc.

The awardee will be required to participate in the Scheme’s promotional events and other related activities, eg award presentation ceremony and media interviews.

The awardee will be required to submit a report (around 3,000 words) to the Scheme Secretariat after completion of the Scheme on his/her experience in the:

- Overseas/Mainland Attachment Programme;
- Mentorship Programme;
- Service Project Programme;
- Local Internship Programme (if applicable); and
- How the Scheme has benefited himself/herself and whether he/she would like to suggest any areas of improvement.

The awardee will also be required to submit reference documents by his/her professor/lecturer of the overseas/Mainland university/institution and internship supervisor upon completion of the programmes.

Student Development Services will be responsible for handling finance/auditing matters.

The awardee accepts that the Scheme may be terminated at any time if and when his/her performance is considered unsatisfactory or when he/she for any reason ceases to be a full-time undergraduate.

Unless justifications can be provided, full/pro-rata refund of the scholarship by the awardee will be necessary if he/she cannot fulfill the conditions stated by the Scheme or fails to complete all programmes.

VI. Handling of information and personal data

The information and personal data provided in the application form will be used and/or disclosed by the Scheme Secretariat to relevant parties to process the application/nomination as well as for related purposes, such as conducting selection interviews, monitoring of progress, etc.

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