

RESEARCH GRANTS COUNCIL

GENERAL RESEARCH FUND (GRF) PROVISION OF RESEARCH EXPERIENCE FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Supplementary Notes for Applicants

Background

With a view to providing research experience for undergraduate students, the RGC endorsed the following recommendations-

- (a) to set aside a total of HK\$2 million annually within the GRF budget for the provision of monthly allowance to undergraduate students to support their participation in GRF research projects; and
- (b) to allow Principal Investigators (PIs) to include the provision of a monthly allowance of up to \$2,500 to an undergraduate student helper for a maximum period of ten months for each GRF application.

2. In this connection, the institutions have also agreed to provide same amount of allowance to the students as the RGC on a matching basis. In other words, more students can benefit from this Scheme.

Application requirements

3. To apply for the allowance for undergraduate students, the PI applicants are required to provide information such as:

- the projects' objectives and activities;
- the appropriateness of the research projects for undergraduate students involvement;
- the form and nature of each prospective students' involvement in the research projects;
- the process and criteria for selecting the students; and
- the intended impact.

4. Monitoring of the undergraduate students' participation in the research projects is the joint responsibility of the PIs and the related institutions. The results of the undergraduate students' participation into the research projects must be also included into the annual progress report and completion report of the projects.

Assessment Criteria

5. If the demand exceeds the funding allowances available, the evaluation criteria for the requests will be subject to the same criteria as GRF applications, with academic merit being the primary consideration.

UGC Secretariat
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