

To: All Academic Staff  
 From: Research Office (RO)



**国家自然科学基金委员会**  
 National Natural Science Foundation of China

*Reminder for Academic Colleagues: For co-ordination purpose, individual Faculty/School (F/S) may have its own administrative arrangements and internal deadlines on top of those provided by the RO. Academic colleagues are expected to satisfy all requirements when preparing their applications and seeking endorsement from their respective F/S before forwarding the materials to the RO.*

The National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) is now calling for applications for the following program of the “**Special Project of the Department of Medical Sciences 2023 (Phase II)**”. Colleagues are invited to submit applications through the HKBU Institute for Research and Continuing Education (IRACE). Details are as follows:

Research Program	<u>Special Project (Phase II) 專項項目(第二批)</u>		
Special Project	<u>Enhanced Efficacy of Immune Cells in Killing Blood Tumour Cells and its Mechanism Research Project</u> 免疫細胞殺傷血液腫瘤細胞的效能增強及其機制研究專項項目	<u>Research Project on Inflammatory Bowel Disease Pathogenesis and Intervention Strategies</u> 炎癥性腸病發病機制和幹預策略研究專項項目	<u>Human Viome Research Project</u> 人類病毒組研究專項項目
Research Areas	1. Mechanisms of Immunocyte Resistance and Relapse Mediated by Haematological Tumour Cells and Microenvironments 血液腫瘤細胞及微環境介導免疫細胞治療抗性與復發的機制	Part 1: 1. Explaining the Etiological Basis of IBD 解析 IBD 的病因學基礎 2. Exploring the Pathophysiological Characteristics of IBD 探索 IBD 病理生理學特徵	1. Human Virology Research Methods and Techniques 人類病毒組研究方法與技術 2. Respiratory Virus Group in Healthy Population 健康人群呼吸系統病毒組

	<p>2. Mechanisms and Enhanced Efficacy of Immune Cells Against Tumour 免疫細胞抗腫瘤的機制與效能增強</p> <p>3. Mechanisms of Toxic Side Effects in Immunotherapy and Clinical Interventions 免疫細胞治療中毒副作用發生的機制解析與臨床干預</p> <p>4. Development and Clinical Validation of Universal Immunocellular Therapies 通用型免疫細胞療法的開發與臨床驗證</p>	<p>3. Exploring New Approaches to Effective Diagnostic Therapy for IBD 探究 IBD 有效診療新方法</p> <p>Part 2:</p> <p>1. Exploring the Evolution of IBD Evidence in Chinese Medicine and its Biological Basis 探索 IBD 中醫證候演變及其生物學基礎</p> <p>2. Analysis of the Scientific Content of Clinically Effective Prescription Drugs for the Treatment of IBD 解析臨床有效方藥治療 IBD 的科學內涵</p>	
<p><b>Eligibility</b></p>	<p>Principal Investigators (PIs) should meet the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. RAP or above</li> <li>2. With ability to conduct basic and clinical scientific research</li> <li>3. Each pair of projects must be jointly applied by two applicants (the supporting organizations can be the same or different), one applicant must be a clinician, the other applicant is a basic researcher (can be interdisciplinary areas), one applicant will not be the main participant of the other's application.</li> </ol>	<p>Principal Investigators (PIs) should meet the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. RAP or above</li> <li>2. With experience in undertaking basic research projects</li> <li>3. Each pair of projects must be jointly applied by two applicants (the supporting organizations can be the same or different), one applicant must be a clinician, the other applicant is a basic researcher (can be interdisciplinary areas), one applicant will not be the main participant of the other's application</li> <li>4. Encouraging young scholars under the age of 45 to apply as applicants</li> </ol>	<p>Principal Investigators (PIs) should meet the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. RAP above or possessed PhD degree</li> <li>2. With experience in undertaking basic research projects or other experience in basic research</li> </ol>

<b>Funding Period</b>	3 Years (1 January 2024 – 31 December 2026)		
<b>Funding Amount</b>	RMB 4 million	RMB 2 or 4 million	RMB 1-2 million
<b>Application Procedures</b>	<b>Items</b>		<b>Action Parties</b>
	<p>1) Prepare and submit the application via the <a href="#">GRANTS System</a> by <b>9 October 2023 (Monday)</b>. Late application will not be accepted. <i>(Kindly be reminded of safekeeping your login name and password as it may take at least 1 – 2 days to regenerate a new one.)</i></p> <p>2) Submit the following documents to your Dean/Director for endorsement:  (a) Application Form printed from the System including all the attachments (one-copy, two-sided);  (b) <a href="#">Mainland Grant Application Checklist</a>.</p> <p>3) Submit <u>ethics/safety applications</u> to the Research Ethics Committee, if applicable:  The deadline for filing an ethics/safety application via BUniPort is <b>29 September 2023 (Friday)</b>. Please refer to <a href="#">Guidelines on Online Submission of Ethics/Safety Applications</a> for necessary steps.  <i>(Ethics/safety approval usually takes 25 working days to process.)</i></p> <p>4) Submit cooperation application to the Academic Partnership Tracking Platform, if applicable:  The deadline for filing a cooperation application via the Academic Partnership Tracking Platform is <b>29 September 2023 (Friday)</b>. Please refer to <a href="#">Guidelines on Online Submission of co-operation Applications</a> for necessary steps.  <i>(Co-operation approval usually takes 25 working days to process.)</i></p>		PIs
	<p>5) Give comments/suggestions to PIs for revision when necessary.</p> <p>6) Submit the documents (in soft copy) as stated in Item 2 above to RO by <b>9 October 2023 (Monday)</b>.</p>		Deans/Director

	7) Upon receiving the complete set of application documents, RO/IRACE will online submit the application to NSFC.	RO/IRACE
<b>Register for NSFC Electronic Account</b>	For applicants who do not have an application account of the NSFC System, please contact the IRACE at <a href="mailto:hkbuirace@hkbu.edu.hk">hkbuirace@hkbu.edu.hk</a> for registration.	
<b>Other Application Details</b>	<a href="#">GRANTS Electronic System (user guide)</a>	

For enquiries, please contact:

**IRACE:**

Name	Email	Phone
Chen Yunting	<a href="mailto:chenyunting@hkbu.edu.hk">chenyunting@hkbu.edu.hk</a>	+ 86-755-8672 0174
Lin Shuxian	<a href="mailto:linshuxian@hkbu.edu.hk">linshuxian@hkbu.edu.hk</a>	+ 86-755-2640 8860
Yan Siwei	<a href="mailto:yansiwei@hkbu.edu.hk">yansiwei@hkbu.edu.hk</a>	+ 86-755-2267 0452

**RO Research Grants Management Team:**

Name	Email	Phone
Alice SUNG	<a href="mailto:mainlandgrant@hkbu.edu.hk">mainlandgrant@hkbu.edu.hk</a>	3411 8337

**IMPORTANT:**

➤ If an applicant departs from the University during the application period, the affiliated Department is required to inform the RO about his/her departure. The RO will follow it up with the funding body accordingly.

**NOTICE – Other Funding Opportunities:**

The Research Office maintains a webpage on the various internal and external funding opportunities and the current calls for colleagues' information. You are encouraged to check the information at <https://research.hkbu.edu.hk/funding-opportunities> regularly.