To: All Academic Staff

From: Research Office (RO)

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 " **Major Research Plan 2023**". Colleagues are invited to submit applications through the HKBU Institute for Research and Continuing Education (IRACE). Details are as follows:

Research Program	**Immunity Digital Decoding (免疫力數字解碼)**
Research Areas	**Incubation Projects 培育項目** 1. Characteristics of Immunity and Patterns of Change in Healthy States 健康狀態免疫力特徵與變化規律 2. Mechanisms for Perceiving the Dynamics of Immunity in Major Disease States 重大疾病狀態免疫力動態感知機制 3. New Theories and Methods of Quantitative Characterization and Digital Presentation of Immunity 免疫力量化表徵及數位化呈現的新理論與新方法 4. The Spatial and Temporal Dynamic Characteristics of the Immune Complex System 免疫複雜系統的時空動態特徵 5. Early Warning of Major Diseases Based on Digital Decoding of Immunity 基於免疫力數字解碼的重大疾病預警 **Key Support Projects 重點支持項目** 1. Standardised Access to and Deep Mining of Immunity Big Data 免疫力大數據的標準化獲取與深度挖掘 2. Digital Presentation of Diversity Features Such as Immunome Libraries 免疫組庫等多樣性特徵的數位化呈現 3. Cross-Scale Immunity Big Data Resource Platform and Key Technologies 跨尺度免疫力大數據資源平臺及關鍵技術 4. Coupling of Cross-Scale Immunity Big Data and Analysis of Immunity Characteristics of Chinese Population Groups 跨尺度免疫力大數據耦合與中國人群群體免疫力特徵解析
Eligibility	Principal Investigators (PIs) should meet the following requirements: - RAP above

	- With experience in undertaking basic research projects	
Funding Period	Incubation Projects: 3 Years (1 January 2024 – 31 December 2026) Key Support Projects: 4 Years (1 January 2024 – 31 December 2027)	
Funding Amount	Incubation Projects: RMB 0.8 million Key Support Projects: RMB 3 million	
Application Procedures	**Items**	**Action Parties**
	1) Prepare and submit the application via the **GRANTS System** by **22 September 2023 (Friday).** Late application will not be accepted. *(Kindly be reminded of safekeeping your login name and password as it may take at least 1 – 2 days to regenerate a new one.)* 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) **Mainland Grant Application Checklist.** 3) Submit ethics/safety applications to the Research Ethics Committee, if applicable: The deadline for filing an ethics/safety application via BUniPort is **15 September 2023 (Friday).** Please refer to *Guidelines on Online Submission of Ethics/Safety Applications* for necessary steps. (*Ethics/safety approval usually takes 25 working days to process*.) 4) Submit co-operation application to the Academic Partnership Tracking Platform, if applicable: The deadline for filing a co-operation application via Academic Partnership Tracking Platform is **15 September 2023 (Friday).** Please refer to *Guidelines on Online Submission of co-operation Applications* for necessary steps. (*Co-operation approval usually takes 25 working days to process*.)	PIs
	5) Give comments/suggestions to PIs for revision when necessary. 6) Submit the documents (in soft copy) as stated in Item 2 above to RO by **22 September 2023 (Friday).**	Deans/Director
	7) Upon receiving the complete set of application documents, RO/IRACE will online submit the application to NSFC.	RO/IRACE

Register for NSFC Electronic Account	For applicants who do not have an application account of the NSFC System, please contact the IRACE at hkbuirace@hkbu.edu.hk for registration.
Other Application Details	GRANTS Electronic System (user guide)

For enquiries, please contact:

IRACE:

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RO Research Grants Management Team:

Name	Email	Phone
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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.