

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 “**Original Exploration Program of the Department of Medical Sciences**”. Colleagues are invited to submit applications through the HKBU Institute for Research and Continuing Education (IRACE). Details are as follows:

Research Program	Therapeutic Immune Cells Against Tumours 治療性免疫細胞抗腫瘤
Research Areas	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Address Generic Immune Cell Therapy or Immune Cell Potentiation for Durable Anti-tumour Efficacy Using Strategies such as Gene Editing, Synthetic Biology and Epigenetic Programming 利用基因編輯、合成生物學、表觀遺傳編程等策略，解決通用型免疫細胞治療或免疫細胞增效持久的抗腫瘤效能2. Obtaining Therapeutic Immune Cells Based on Directed Differentiation of Stem Cells and Verifying their Anti-Tumour Function and Safety 基於幹細胞定向分化獲得治療性免疫細胞並驗證其抗腫瘤功能及安全性3. Establishment of Disease Models for in Vivo Editing of Immune Cells, Development and Optimisation of Delivery Vectors, and Validation of Anti-Tumour Function 體內編輯免疫細胞的疾病模型建立、遞送載體發展、優化及抗腫瘤功能驗證
Eligibility	Principal Investigators (PIs) should meet the following requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- With experience in undertaking basic research projects (topics) or other basic research- Young scholars under the age of 45 are encouraged to apply for original projects
Funding Period	2 - 3 Years (1 January 2024 – 31 December 202*)
Funding Amount	RMB 1 million/Year

	Items	Action Parties
Application Procedures	<p>1) Prepare and submit the application via the GRANTS System by 13 October 2023 (Friday). 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) Mainland Grant Application Checklist.</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 6 October 2023 (Friday). Please refer to Guidelines on Online Submission of Ethics/Safety Applications 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 6 October 2023 (Friday). Please refer to Guidelines on Online Submission of co-operation Applications 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 13 October 2023 (Friday).</p>	Deans/Director
	<p>7) Upon receiving the complete set of application documents, RO/IRACE will online submit the application to NSFC.</p>	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:

Name	Email	Phone
Chen Yunting	chenyunting@hkbu.edu.hk	+ 86-755-8672 0174
Lin Shuxian	linshuxian@hkbu.edu.hk	+ 86-755-2640 8860
Yan Siwei	yansiwei@hkbu.edu.hk	+ 86-755-2267 0452

RO Research Grants Management Team:

Name	Email	Phone
Alice SUNG	mainlandgrant@hkbu.edu.hk	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.