Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme

2023–24
The Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS), established by the Research Grants Council (RGC) of Hong Kong, aims to attract the best and brightest students from across the globe to pursue their PhD studies in Hong Kong universities. The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) now invites HKPFS applications for admission in the 2023–24 academic year.

PhD candidates who are nominated by CUHK to HKPFS but not selected by the RGC will be admitted to the University’s regular PhD programme with postgraduate studentship. They will also receive the CUHK Vice-Chancellor’s PhD Scholarship of HK$80,000 (payable in three instalments) subject to satisfactory study progress.

**HKPFS Package at CUHK**

- **1st Year Hostel Fee Waiver** and Guaranteed On-campus Accommodation**
- **Stipend** Up to HK$1.3M*
- **Conference and Research-related Travel Allowance** Up to HK$84,000*
- **Tuition Fee Waiver** Up to HK$168,400*
- **Lodging Award** Up to HK$100,000* #
- **Financial Assistance Totalling up to HK$1.69M**

*Applicable to students within their normative study period
#An award of HK$40,000 for lodging in the first year of study and HK$20,000 in subsequent years during the normative study period
*HKPFS awardees who submit hall applications in a timely manner
CUHK is a highly esteemed, forward-looking comprehensive research university recognised for its excellence both regionally and globally. Founded in 1963, it is the second oldest university in Hong Kong.

We aim at cultivating higher degree graduates who can serve the increasingly sophisticated needs of society and contribute to the pool of human knowledge through top-quality research.

Information in 2021, unless otherwise specified
Strategic Research Areas

CUHK aims at consolidating its position as a centre of excellence for cutting-edge, interdisciplinary research with a global impact, seeking to optimise opportunities and make significant contributions to society by translating research findings into practical applications. Our current research strengths lie in the following four major research areas:

CUHK InnoHK Centres

CUHK has established six InnoHK Centres covering health, biomedicine, robotics and artificial intelligence. Combining expertise from CUHK and leveraging partnership with prestigious global universities, the Centres position Hong Kong as a global powerhouse of innovation connecting the world with the rapidly emerging research and innovation ecosystem of the Greater Bay Area.

Areas of Excellence

The University Grants Committee (UGC) of Hong Kong has provided preferential funding to local tertiary institutions conducting cutting-edge research. Out of 28 projects, the following 11 Areas of Excellence projects are led by researchers at CUHK:

- Aging, Skeletal Degeneration and Regeneration
- Centre for Genomic Studies on Plant-Environment Interaction for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security
- Centre for Medical Engineering of Molecular and Biological Probes
- Centre for Organelle Biogenesis and Function
- Centre for Plant and Agricultural Biotechnology
- Centre for Research into Circulating Fetal Nucleic Acids
- Chinese Medicine Research and Further Development
- Information Technology
- Institute of Network Coding
- Probing the Fundamental Structure of Matter with High Energy Particle Collisions
- The Historical Anthropology of Chinese Society

CUHK InnoHK Centres

- Health@InnoHK
  - Centre for Neuromusculoskeletal Restorative Medicine
  - Centre for Novostics
  - Microbiota I-Center

- AIR@InnoHK
  - Centre for Perceptual and Interactive Intelligence
  - Hong Kong Centre for Logistics Robotics
  - Multi-Scale Medical Robotics Centre
What our HKPFS Awardees Say

Gabriella ANGELINI
from Italy
PhD Student in Anthropology

Studying at CUHK has been a great experience so far. The school’s rich facilities, multicultural setting and natural surroundings ensure an excellent learning environment. The Anthropology department is extremely friendly and stimulating, with my supervisor and other faculty members providing strong guidance and support.

Dr. Yikang LI
from China
PhD Graduate in Electronic Engineering

Pursuing a PhD degree at CUHK Engineering is an extraordinary experience. With top-tier supervisors, a world-class research environment and full scholarships, students perform cutting-edge research and publish high-quality academic papers. The Faculty’s close connections with mainland China and the world provide lots of opportunities to collaborate with world-class researchers during and after my PhD study. The beautiful campus also helped me to clear my mind as I searched for research ideas. I really miss the PhD life at CUHK.

Anna HSU
from Taiwan
PhD Student in Management

CUHK Business School is the perfect platform for me to grow and flourish as an academic. The rigorous academic training received from our extraordinary faculty equipped me with high-quality research skills that allow me to engage with global academic networks. Being awarded the HKPFS has been a major achievement and blessing for me.

Abd'gafar Tunde TIAIMIYU
from Nigeria
PhD Student in Mathematics

Studying at CUHK has been an exceptional experience. Diversity and inclusion are welcoming. The learning environment with stalwart researchers conducting world-class studies is altogether compelling. I have access to any study material I need. I am deeply indebted to HKPFS and CUHK for this opportunity to pursue my dreams.

Raphaela Iris LAU
from Hong Kong
PhD Student in Medical Sciences

I am honoured to be supported by HKPFS to embark on my exciting PhD journey at CUHK, a regional and global leader in state-of-the-art medical research. The robust momentum and academic atmosphere at CU Medicine have always motivated me in my pursuit of research excellence.

Chimdessa Fekadu TSEGA
from Ethiopia
PhD Student in Law

I feel privileged to have the opportunity to study at CUHK. CUHK offers world-class infrastructure and a serene campus for research. Being at CUHK, I am able to work under the supervision of top-notch scholars. The excellent support and guidance I receive from my supervisors are testament to the University’s commitment to professionalism.
Requirements

In addition to meeting CUHK’s admissions and English language requirements, HKPFS applicants should have outstanding credentials in the following areas:

- Academic excellence
- Research ability and potential
- Communication and interpersonal skills
- Leadership abilities

Application Procedure and Timeline

1 Sep – 1 Dec 2022

**Step 1**
Submit an initial application via the RGC website

**Step 2**
Obtain an HKPFS Reference Number

**Step 3**
Submit an online application to CUHK that quotes the “HKPFS Reference Number”

Sep – Dec 2022

**Step 4**
Attend interview, if shortlisted

Mar – Apr 2023

**Step 5**
RGC announces HKPFS results

Find out more

www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/hkpfs