

Enhanced Regulations/Provisions for Research Postgraduate Students
(Effective from AY 2016-17)

Research Student Expenses

1. To support your research study, the University has recently reviewed the scope and amount of Research Student Expenses available to research postgraduate students. All full-time RPG students receiving full studentship during normal study period (except JIRS students whose research expenses are currently covered by the UIC) are eligible. The following are the major provisions/changes:

(a) Maximum support for the whole study period

- MPhil students: The amount has been raised from HK\$7,000 to HK\$10,000
- PhD students: The amount has been raised from HK\$10,000 to HK\$15,000
(Dual degree students and HKBU students jointly supervised with other institutions are also eligible for the full funding)

(b) Frequency of application

- no limit; students can apply for the funding support if they meet the eligibility criteria and there is available balance.

(c) Supported items

(i) Academic conference and seminar attendance

- Registration Fee
- Round trip air/train tickets between Hong Kong and the conference destination.
- Major transportation from airport to conference/seminar (excluding local transport)

(ii) Overseas attachment/field trip/study tour

- Round trip air/train tickets between Hong Kong and the attachment/field trip/study tour destination.
- Major transportation from airport to destination (excluding local transport)

What's new:

(iii) The above activities mentioned in (i) and (ii) will also support

- accommodation (capped at 25% of the airfare)
- conference-related learning activities such as academic pre-workshops, etc.
- courses taken during overseas attachment. The courses should be relevant to the student's research areas, with justifications and approval of the Principal Supervisor.

(iv) Incentive for presentation at international conferences to encourage more international exposure:

- each student is entitled to receive the incentive of \$3,000 once during the normal study period, which will be on a two-to-one matching basis between the University and Faculty/Department (***SOSC Faculty Note: a further 50% matching between the Faculty and the Department or Principal Supervisor required. The ceiling of Faculty matching capped at HK\$500 per eligible full-time student***) ;
 - the student should be the (co-)author of the paper to be presented and the only person applying for the incentive. (For co-authorship papers, co-authors should discuss among themselves who will apply for the incentive as funding will only be given to the presentation paper once. The Graduate School will keep a record of the papers presented and the claimant);
 - the venue should be a renowned international conference; and
 - the presentation and the conference should be endorsed by the Principal Supervisor and approved by Head of Department.
- (v) Thesis editing fee: capped at \$6,000, on a one-to-one matching basis between the University and Faculty/Department/Principal Supervisor (***SOSC Faculty Note: a further 50% matching between the Faculty and the Department or Principal Supervisor required. The ceiling of Faculty matching capped at HK\$1,500 per eligible full-time student***).
- (vi) Purchase of publication and computing software or equipment are no longer supported.

Important Note on the Faculty/Department/PS Matching Requirement for SOSC Students [Point (iv) and (v) of above]:

The Faculty matching portion will be drawn from the existing faculty support scheme (details click [here](#)). Students should also seek matching support from their PS or the Department before submitting an application to the Faculty.

Besides, students are reminded that the funding under Point 1(a) above can also be used to support the expenses for attending conference and thesis-writing. Whereas for item (iv) and (v), students must fulfill the specific requirements for getting the enhanced funding support from the University, the Faculty and the Department.

2. Please note that prior approval is needed for all claims. As endorsement from Faculty/ Department/ Principal Supervisor is needed for all applications, students are advised to submit the completed [Research Student Expenses form](#) as early as possible and in any case at least three weeks before the event. A late fee will be incurred for late applications.

(17 January 2017)