

## **'For Our Future Innovation and Technology Scholarship' 2024/25 Information Note**

1. The Greater Bay Area Homeland Youth Community Foundation is offering the 'For Our Future Innovation and Technology Scholarship' to local PhD students studying STEM-related subjects. This scholarship aims to support research students and foster engagement among local youth in the fields of innovation and technology.
2. Successful candidates will be those students who have demonstrated excellent performance in their academic studies. Their research area should potentially have a positive impact on the development of society. Additionally, candidates are expected to have a strong commitment to Hong Kong and to actively participate in the innovation and technology industry.
3. Anyone who is a full-time PhD student in one of the seven educational institutions\* in Hong Kong for the 2024/25 academic year and who meets the criteria outlined in this Information Note may apply.
4. The awardees of the scholarship will automatically become members of the 'For Our Future' Alumni Club (the Alumni Club) and must join the Foundation's YO PLACE as members. All awardees are required to attend at least one activity arranged by the Alumni Club each year until the remaining scholarships have been distributed. Please find the detailed information about the 'For Our Future' Alumni Club and 'YO PLACE' in the Appendix.
5. Further details of the Scholarship are given below:

**Name:** 'For Our Future Innovation and Technology Scholarship'

**Eligibility:**

An applicant for the Scholarship must be

- (i) a local student (The student must remain registered as a full-time student throughout the scholarship tenure)
- (ii) aged between 18 and 45
- (iii) enrolled in a full-time PhD (year 2 and above) course related to STEM at a Hong Kong university
- (iv) the student must have achieved at least a passing grade for the thesis monitoring or the equivalent course in the previous academic year

**Accreditation Criteria:**

- (i) Academic performance (in the last academic year) with a cumulative GPA  $\geq$  3.0 and distinctive performance in academic projects
- (ii) The impact of research areas on society (Details should be provided)
- (iii) Participation in social services (Length of services, nature of services, initiation of community project, etc. should be provided)
- (iv) Other considerations (Experience in leadership/other training programmes, significant internship programmes, recommendations from external stakeholders and content of personal statement, etc.)

**Quota & Amount of Scholarship:**

**HK\$80,000 per student**, awarded to a total of **10** students from 7 Hong Kong educational institutions.

**Notification of Result and Payment Arrangement:**

- (i) All applicants (successful and unsuccessful) will receive results by e-mail in March 2025.
- (ii) Disbursement arrangement will be made via cheque. The scholarship amount will be paid in equal splits for the remaining years of the course. The first payment will be made on the Scholarship Award Presentation Ceremony in March 2025. Awardees must have joined at least one activity arranged by the Alumni Club each year until the remaining scholarships have been distributed.
- (iii) The final payment will be distributed only after the awardees have completed the courses and provided appropriate written verification from their universities.
- (iv) If a student suspends their course under reasonable circumstances and obtains a written endorsement from the university, the scholarship will be withheld until the student resumes their studies.

**Conditions of Scholarship:**

A successful candidate must comply with, or agree to comply with, all the requirements of the scholarship application should he/she decide to accept an award made under this scheme.

**Application:**

Completed applications should be submitted to the Student Affairs Office of the institution. Hard copies of the application form and supporting documents of nominated students are required to be sent to the Foundation via post or courier through the Student Affairs Office of respective institution.

**Deadline for applications is 5:00pm, 17 November 2024. Late applications will not be considered.**

**Selection Procedure:**

- (i) Each university/college will recommend 1 to 2 students, with nomination notes provided by school;
- (ii) Final selection of a maximum of 14 candidates will be conducted by the Scholarship Selection Committee, comprising a panel of judges who are distinguished members of the community.

**Handling of Information & Personal Data supplied in application:**

The personal data collected in this exercise will be used for activities related to the application process under this Scholarship and the compilation of relevant statistics to facilitate reviews of the award.

The Foundation may also publicise the personal data of a successful candidate (such as his/her name, gender, age, education background, public examination results, academic and non-academic achievements, extra-curricular activities/community services and employment history) and any photos or videos capturing his/her image (limited to those taken when he/she attends official events organised by the Foundation in the public domain, such as the website of and publications issued by the Foundation for the purpose of promotion or publicity).

The personal data provided in the application forms for this Scholarship will ONLY be disclosed to relevant parties:

- (a) for the purposes mentioned in the preceding paragraphs; and
- (b) for any other purposes with the consent of the data subjects, unless such disclosure is permitted under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance without the consent of the data subjects.

\*The 7 educational institutions in Hong Kong (arranged in alphabetical order):

City University of Hong Kong

Hong Kong Baptist University

Hong Kong Metropolitan University

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

The University of Hong Kong

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### **Notes on Completion of Application Form**

- (a) All information provided by you in this form must be typewritten or written in English using a ball-pen in black/blue ink; you may also complete an editable PDF proforma downloaded from the Foundation's website.
- (b) Please write 'Not Applicable (N.A.)' or 'Nil' for item(s) deemed inappropriate.
- (c) Please append additional sheets to the application form, if necessary.
- (d) Documents and materials submitted with this application will not be returned.
- (e) The Greater Bay Area Homeland Youth Community Foundation may not be able to process the application if the information provided is unclear, incorrect, incomplete or without the necessary supporting document(s).
- (f) Papers and documents submitted with the Application Form should be in A4 size.
- (g) English translations must be provided if the papers and documents submitted are not in English. Submission of any papers/documents in a foreign language may not be considered.
- (h) Completed Application Forms must be returned to the Student Affairs Office of the institution together with the necessary supporting documents (including but not limited to Annexes A and B). Candidates should read and complete the "Checklist on Completion of Application Form" (Annex B) before submitting the Application Forms.
- (i) Deadline for applications is **17 November 2024**. Late applications will not be considered

## ***Appendixac***

### **About the 'For Our Future' Alumni Club**

The 'For Our Future' Alumni Club (the Alumni Club) has been established by the Greater Bay Area Homeland Youth Community Foundation (the Foundation) under the 'For Our Future Scholarship' Programme.

The Alumni Club aims to maintain connections among members and the the Foundation, and to support their ongoing development.

Each year, the Alumni Club organises a wide range of youth activities for the members on a regular basis. These activities include volunteer services, member gatherings, exchange tours, sharing sessions, and skills enhancement workshops. Furthermore, we encourage members to actively propose activities and offer suggestions to enhance our offerings.

There are two categories of membership within the Alumni Club: Official Member and Affiliate Member. All current year scholarship awardees are required to participate as Official Members. University students who have applied for the scholarship and other Hong Kong local full-time university students below 30 years of age are welcome to join as Affiliate Members.

### **About YO PLACE**

YO PLACE is an integrated online and offline youth platform operated by the Foundation under a membership scheme. It supports Hong Kong youths with information and services in studies, careers and entrepreneurship, in order to seize opportunities in the GBA.

Members of YO PLACE can access comprehensive information about the Greater Bay Area through the Foundation's online platforms. They can apply to participate in related activities, rent offline facilities and enjoy other members' privileges offered by the Foundation.

The offline platform is a centre equipped with multimedia facilities, ie. LED wall, projector screens and shooting equipment. These facilities support youth activities, such as KOL live broadcast, training courses, workshops, and more.

To learn more details, please visit YO PLACE website: [www.yoplace.org.hk](http://www.yoplace.org.hk)