Innovation and Technology Scholarship Award Scheme 2019/20

Aim:
To provide high achieving non-final year students in science and technology the opportunities to strengthen their international exposure, learn from professionals and renowned experts, and gain exposure in relevant industries; and
To encourage students to pursue science and technology as a lifelong career.

Value and Number of Awards:
Each scholarship is valued at HK$150,000 in maximum, for 25 awardees from local universities in Hong Kong.

Component of the Scheme:
1) Overseas / Mainland Attachment Programme
Awardees will be supported to attach to one or more overseas/Mainland universities/institutions between 1 June 2019 and 30 June 2020. At least one of the awardee’s trip must be longer than 3 weeks. The exact timing and duration for the attachment programme(s) may vary depending on a number of factors, including –
(a) preference of HKUST and the awardee concerned;
(b) length of attachment as offered by the host university (i.e., the overseas/Mainland university); and
(c) cost of living at the host city, etc.

The School’s Exchange Programmes are eligible to be considered as the Attachment component of the Scheme. Please refer to Appendix 1 for a list of universities/institutions for reference. Universities/institutions which are not on the list can be considered provided that there are sufficient justifications.

2) Mentorship Programme
Each awardee will be assigned to a mentor, who is an outstanding personality in his/her related field of study as far as possible. The mentor will provide advice and guidance to the awardee not only throughout the Scheme period but hopefully thereafter.

3) Service Project Programme
Each awardee will be invited to participate in community activities relating to innovation and technology, e.g., participating in educational activities organized for local primary and secondary school students to arouse their interest in science and technology.

4) Local Internship Programme [Optional]
The awardees who opt to undertake the Local Internship Programme under the Scheme will be provided with an opportunity to work as an intern for 4-12 weeks in a local technology company relevant to his/her field of study as far as possible. An internship allowance of HK$2,000 per week (on the basis of 5 working days per week) will be offered to the awardee during the internship period. The amount will be drawn from the total scholarship budget. Upon completion of the internship, the awardee will be required to provide documentary proof from the company certifying his/her attendance and satisfactory performance during the internship period.
Coverage:
- Tuition/course fees and college fees for the host university (if applicable);
- Cost of accommodation outside Hong Kong;
- Subsistence allowance for the period outside Hong Kong;
- Economy return air-tickets to/from the host’s city;
- Visa application fees;
- Insurance;
- Books and necessary supplies; and
- Internship allowance of HK$2,000 per week (on the basis of 5 working days per week).

NOTE:
1) The scholarship will be provided based on the realistic projection of costs provided by individual awardees, to be checked and endorsed by HKUST.
2) The programmes under the Scheme will be undertaken between 1 June 2018 and 30 June 2019, all expenditures for the programmes must be incurred within the period.

Eligibility:
- Hong Kong permanent residents with the right of abode in Hong Kong
- Non-final year full-time undergraduate students undertaking science, engineering and technology related degree who are from the following Schools:
  1) Interdisciplinary Programs Office;
  2) School of Engineering; or
  3) School of Science

Criteria of Award:
✓ Applicants should have a minimum overall Cumulative Grade Average (CGA) at 3.30 as of Fall 2018/19;
✓ A minimum total TOEFL score of 90 (Internet-based test) with scores for individual sections not lower than 21 on reading, 22 on listening, 21 on speaking, and 17 on writing; or a minimum IELTS overall band score of 6.5 (Academic test), with no components below 6.0. These are irrespective of overseas universities’ requirements. All test must have been taken on 1 February 2017 or later and will have to be ready by the scholarship application deadline. (Details of the tests are in Appendix 2.)
✓ Has passion in innovation and technology, and intention of pursuing this as a career;
✓ Well-rounded, has participated in extra-curricular and/or community service activities;
✓ Able to demonstrate commitment to Hong Kong;
✓ Possesses good communication skills; and
✓ Has not been awarded by the same Scheme before;

Information Session:
Interested students are invited to the Info Session on 25 Oct 2018 (Thur) with details below:
(representatives of the Scheme Secretariat and past awardees will come to share their experience and tips for application with you.)

Date: 25 October 2018 (Thursday)
Time: 3:30pm – 4:30pm
Venue: Room 4334 (lift 3)
Enrollment: https://ust.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5BF6uCSosGegk17
(ITSC login is required. Seats are limited, please complete the online enrollment form by 23 Oct 2018.)

Details of the Scholarship application will be announced after the Info Session.

Selection Procedures:
Shortlisted candidates will be invited for a selection interview by the Awardee Selection Committee of the organizer. Details will be sent to the shortlisted nominees through HKUST. Upon selection by the Awardee Selection Committee, successful candidates will be notified by the Scheme Secretariat through HKUST.

Terms and Conditions for Acceptance of the Award:
The Scholarship will be awarded subject to the following conditions –
1) The awardee has to abide by any conditions laid down for the Scheme Secretariat;

2) The awardee will be required to participate in a service project programme, e.g., acting as ambassador at local schools to arouse students’ interest in science and technology for an agreed number of hours; help organizing activities at the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups Centre for Creative Science and Technology, etc.;

3) The awardee will be required to participate in the Scheme’s promotional events and other related activities, e.g., award presentation ceremony and media interviews;

4) The awardee will be required to submit 2 reports each, including a full version of around 3,000 words and a trimmed version for about 1,000 words, with photos to the Scheme Secretariat after completion of the Scheme on his/her experience in –
   • Overseas/Mainland Attachment Programme;
   • Mentorship Programme;
   • Service Project Programme;
   • Local Internship Programme (if applicable); and
   • How the Scheme has benefitted himself/herself and whether he/she would like to suggest any areas of improvement;

5) The awardee will also be required to submit reference documents by his/her professor/lecturer of overseas/Mainland university/institution and internship supervisor upon completion of the programmes;

6) The awardee accepts that the Scheme may be terminated at any time if and when his/her performance is considered unsatisfactory or when he/she for any reason ceases to be a full-time undergraduate; and

7) Unless justification can be provided, full/pro-rate refund of the scholarship by the awardee will be necessary if he/she cannot fulfill the conditions stated by the Scheme or fail to complete all programmes.

Handling of Information and Personal Data:
The information and personal data provided in the application form will be used and/or disclose by the Scheme Secretariat and HKUST to relevant parties to process the application/nomination as well as for related purposes, e.g., conducting selection interviews, monitoring of progress, etc.

Enquiries
: Scholarships & Financial Aid Office
Address: Room 4592, Annex Building (via lift no. 29-30)
Student Service Hours: Mondays – Fridays, 9am – 12:45pm, 2pm – 5:30pm
Tel: 2358 6081 / 2358 6686
Email: sfao@ust.hk
Website: https://sfao.ust.hk/