

National Yunlin University of Science and Technology Guidelines for the Pilot Implementation of the NSTC Doctoral Student Research Scholarship

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I . National Yunlin University of Science and Technology (hereinafter referred to as "the University"), in order to strengthen the foundation of research and development (R&D) talent and to cultivate core strategic industry professionals, as well as to encourage outstanding doctoral students with research potential and support their full engagement in research, hereby formulates the “Guidelines for the Pilot Implementation of the NSTC Doctoral Student Research Scholarship at National Yunlin University of Science and Technology” (hereinafter referred to as “these Guidelines”) in accordance with the “Pilot Program of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Doctoral Student Research Scholarship.”

II . The funding source for these Guidelines is the Doctoral Student Research Scholarship provided by the National Science and Technology Council (hereinafter referred to as "NSTC").

III. Eligibility and Application Requirements:

Doctoral students who are officially enrolled at the University are eligible to apply, with priority given to first-year students.

Students with any of the following conditions are ineligible:

(i) Those employed full-time at public or private institutions, or admitted as in-service students.

(ii) Those admitted as students from Hong Kong, Macao, or Mainland China.

(iii) Those who have deferred enrollment, taken a leave of absence, or failed to complete registration after being admitted.

(iv) Those who are already receiving funding from other government-funded scholarship programs.

(v) The number of recipients at the University shall be calculated in accordance with the quotas set by the NSTC.

IV. Amount and Duration of the Scholarship:

Each eligible doctoral student will receive NT\$40,000 per month for a maximum period of three years. If the recipient graduates within three years, the scholarship will be provided up to the month of graduation. All funding is fully covered by the NSTC.

V. The University shall establish a Doctoral Student Research Scholarship Review

Committee (hereinafter referred to as the "Review Committee"), chaired by the Vice President. Members shall include the Dean of R&D, Dean of Academic Affairs, Dean of International Affairs, Deans of each college, and the Chief Budget Officer. All members of the Review Committee must comply with conflict-of-interest and confidentiality principles.

VI. Application Review Procedure:

(i) Scholarship allocation across academic fields is based on each college' s percentage contribution to the previous year' s NSTC-funded research projects. For the purpose of balancing disciplines, humanities-related project funding shall be weighted at 150% for the calculation of quotas in the humanities and social sciences fields.

(ii) Required application materials:

1. Application form
2. Letter of recommendation from academic advisor
3. Transcripts of all post-secondary academic records
4. Research proposal
5. Other supporting documents (e.g., proof of language proficiency, additional recommendation letters, thesis, published journal articles, conference papers, books or technical reports, awards, relevant R&D achievements)

(iii) Evaluation Criteria:

1. Academic performance (30%): Master's GPA; for students in the direct PhD track, undergraduate GPA will be used.
2. Research potential (30%): Academic achievements including thesis, journal articles, conference papers, books, or technical reports; awards or evidence of excellence in academic competitions.
3. Research proposal (30%): Research content and expected outcomes planned and supervised by University faculty.
4. Additional merits (10%): Qualifications such as lecturer certification or research experience.

5. Bonus points: +20 points for first-year students in the direct PhD program; +10 points for graduates of the University's master's programs.
- (iv) Review Process: Initial review at the college level, followed by a final review by the Review Committee. A list of primary and alternate recipients will be selected.
- (v) Review timeline and announcement of results: To be handled in accordance with NSTC regulations.

VII. Termination of Scholarship:

Scholarship eligibility will be revoked under any of the following circumstances:

- (i) Leave of absence, withdrawal, or commencement of full-time employment at any public or private institution. Payments will cease starting the month following the effective date.
- (ii) Students in the direct PhD program transferring back to a master's program. Payments will cease starting the month following the effective date.
- (iii) Any case of forgery, tampering, or submission of false information will result in disqualification and repayment of disbursed funds.

Vacated scholarship slots due to disqualification shall be filled from the alternate list submitted by each college, and the new recipient may receive the remaining amount of the scholarship period.

VIII. Evaluation and Tracking Mechanism:

(i) Evaluation:

1. Regular evaluation: The responsible department and advisor shall provide guidance and monitor progress during the approved scholarship period.
2. Annual review: Recipients must submit a report of their research achievements by July each academic year. Evaluation dimensions and weightings shall be adjusted based on discipline and stage of doctoral training. The following are suggested weight ranges per item:
 - Domestic/International Conference Presentations: 30% – 50%
 - Journal Publications: 30% – 60%
 - Overseas Research: 0% – 20%
 - Academic Performance: 0% – 20%

- Research Performance (Advisor Evaluation): 0% – 40%

Reports must be preliminarily evaluated by the advisor and reviewed by the department before being submitted to the Review Committee. Failure to meet standards may result in termination of the scholarship.

(ii) Outcome Tracking:

Before the oral defense, recipients must notify the Office of R&D and submit a report on academic performance (including an electronic version). Before graduation, two bound copies of the final dissertation must be submitted to the R&D Office. The R&D Office is responsible for tracking the post-graduation career paths of recipients for up to three years and reporting to the Review Committee.

- IX.** Matters not addressed in these Guidelines shall be handled in accordance with relevant NSTC and University regulations.
- X.** These Guidelines shall take effect upon approval by the University Administrative Meeting and authorization by the University President. Amendments shall follow the same procedure.