Ongoing Grant Calls

For further enquiries about the grants below, please contact Juliana Zheng at Juliana.Zheng@ntu.edu.sg

1) MOE Academic Research Fund (AcRF) Tier 2

**MOE Academic Research Fund (AcRF) Tier 2 February 2020 Grant Call** is now open for submission for NTU’s Internal Review and Shortlisting.

Grant details and submission procedures are summarised as below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Objective:</th>
<th>The MOE Tier 2 grant scheme is the <strong>premium investigator-led for academic research</strong>. It is on a competitive basis across the Singapore-based universities.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grant Quantum &amp; Period:</td>
<td>Projects under Biomedical Engineering and Life Sciences discipline cluster (EP3) with a duration of <strong>3 years, 4 years and 5 years</strong>, with TPV between <strong>S$500,000 to S$1.2 million</strong> are also eligible for funding under AcRF Tier 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>The policy intent of increasing the funding cap for EP3 to $1.2M is to cater for projects of longer duration.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Eligibility Criteria:

a. Principal Investigators (PI) and Co-investigators (co-PI) need to be full-time faculty of the AUs.

b. Collaborators can be based overseas.

c. AcRF Tier 2 funding can only be spent on research conducted in the AUs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Process</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Submission of complete application to RASS Office for administrative compliance checks</td>
<td>2 September 2019, Monday</td>
<td>Submission of the complete form and annexes (if applicable) to RASS Office for administrative compliance checks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1. <strong>RGF (Application) February 2020 Grant Call – Application Form</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>NOTE: Signatures not required</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Please use application for EP3 (document “bii” in the attached zipped folder).</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2. <strong>Annex A</strong> – Applicable only if you have previously submitted a similar proposal, but your proposal was not shortlisted by the NTU Research Council for submission to MOE.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. **Annex B** – Applicable only if the scope of your proposal falls beyond a single discipline cluster.

It will be helpful if you can let us have the application by this date so that we can have sufficient time to do admin checks on your documentation that is required by the funding agency.

For submission to RASS Office, you may attention the email to Juliana Zheng (juliana.zheng@ntu.edu.sg).

| Submission to NTU RSO through RASS office | 23 September 2019, Monday | Submission to RSO will facilitated by RASS. |

RSO urged PIs to prepare early for this highly competitive grant.

a) They have attached documents on proposal writing tips and guide for your reference, including feedback from MOE.
b) You may also refer to the administrative guidelines and RGF supplementary from the February 2019 call issued by MOE for reference.
c) Under the “Abstract Section”, it is recommended for PIs to provide clear and specific objectives and to avoid general statements.
d) Please be mindful of grammar and typographical errors.
e) RSO have also prepared videos of grant writing tips from some of the successful MOE AcRF Tier 2 grant awardees. You can view the videos at
Please note that proposals rejected in previous grant calls by MOE are generally not allowed to be resubmitted unless invited by MOE for re-submission. Applicants must justify how the current proposal differs significantly from the previous proposal if the applicant will like to submit a similar proposal. Applicants found to have submitted similar proposals rejected from MOE to the NTURC review will be automatically disqualified.

2) MOE Academic Research Fund (AcRF) Tier 1

MOE Academic Research Fund (AcRF) Tier 1 Grant Call 2019 (Call 2/2019) is open and will close on Wednesday, 25 Sep 2019, 5.00pm.

Please note of the additional eligibility criteria (highlighted below) that has been implemented.

Grant details and submission procedures:

| Grant objective: | The MOE AcRF Tier 1 supports research in Singapore based autonomous universities that has academic significance and a good potential for creating new knowledge that will benefit the larger academic community. The research outcomes should also drive future research, potentially leading to innovations and discoveries. This is a general call, with no specific theme. All areas of academic research are welcome. |
| Grant Quantum: | Between $5,000 and $200,000, over 3 years. |

*NOTE:* Both the PI and the school management are requested to provide a minimum of two referee reports for proposals requesting $100,000 and above. Please note that only external referees (outside NTU) are acceptable.
As such, applicant will have to nominate at least 2 referees on NORA upon submission of application. RASS office will notify the referee and collect the report through NORA subsequently.

PIs may make budgetary justifications for items such as: equipment, consumables and conference travel in the research proposals. Indirect costs are not applicable.

### Eligibility Criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a.</th>
<th>Each PI is allowed to submit <strong>only one</strong> application.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>Full Time Faculty Members of NTU who hold primary full-time appointment (defined as a minimum of 9 months a year) at NTU are eligible to apply.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td>Please note that Visiting Professors, Adjunct Professors and Research Staffs are not eligible to apply.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Please also note the following PI’s eligibility criteria for your attention:**

- Due to strict budget limitations of Tier 1 funding, please note that applicants are strongly discouraged to hold consecutive Tier 1 awards. **Hence, applicants who were awarded a Tier 1 award in previous grant call (2019 Call 1) are not eligible to apply for this current call.** The results of Tier 1 2019 Call 1 will be released by end of July.

- As the number of follow-on competitive grants is an important criterion that being monitored by MOE, **applicants who were awarded Tier 1 award(s) in previous grant calls but have yet to secure follow-on external grants from other sources will not be eligible to apply for another Tier 1 grant.** The applicant must fill up **Section 1** of the application form and provide details for the follow-on non-Tier 1 project(s) which was resulted from his/her previous Tier 1 award(s). Under exceptional circumstances, a waiver of this condition may be sought. **Please note that a waiver should only be**
Comments/recommendations from School are required. However, if the Tier 1 awards was transferred from another PI to the applicant, a waiver is not required and it will not impact the applicant’s eligibility.

- **Applicants with overdue Tier 1 reports (before the grant call closing date) are not eligible to apply.** The period of ineligibility will continue until the overdue reports are submitted.

### Application Procedure:

a. Please submit your proposal via NORA (https://nora.ntu.edu.sg):
   - NTU StaffLink - Research Services - NORA

b. Proposals submitted via NORA must be supported and verified by the School (Chairs of Schools and HOD, where applicable).

### Process and Tentative Deadline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Process</th>
<th>Tentative Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Submission of Waiver Request to RASS Office to seek comments/recommendations from Dean’s Office</td>
<td>Please note that a waiver should only be considered under exceptional circumstances. Comments/recommendations from School are required.</td>
<td>Friday, 16 August 19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This is for applicants who were awarded Tier 1 award(s) in previous grant calls but have yet to secure follow-on external grants from other sources.

All Waiver Request has to be submitted to RSO at least one month before the grant call closing date (i.e. by 23 August 2019). Hence this is to give reasonable time to Dean’s Office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Completion of application in NORA for Administrative Compliance Checks</th>
<th>Submission to RASS Office for administrative compliance checks and collection of external referees’ reports.</th>
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</thead>
</table>

It will be helpful if you can let us have the application by this date so that we can have sufficient time to do admin checks that is required by the funding agency and allow external referees reasonable time for your application.

If a proposal (requesting amount of $100,000 and above) is submitted without the required referee reports, it might be considered as an incomplete submission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Endorsement in NORA</th>
<th>Submission of application, and at least 2 external referee reports (if necessary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Monday, 19 Aug 19 | Monday, 16 Sep 19 |
applicable), to Dean’s Office for school endorsement.

| Grant Call Closure | All proposals, with at least 2 external referee reports (if applicable), must be verified, endorsed by school and submitted to RSO in NORA. | Wednesday, 25 Sep 19, 5.00pm |

3) The National Precision Medicine (NPM) Travel Award

The NPM Travel Award aims to help defray the travel expenses involved in participating in international conferences and training courses related to precision medicine for promising early career researchers working at the local universities, public research institutes, and local public hospitals.

Grant details are tabulated below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Quantum:</th>
<th>Travel award of up to S$3,000 will be awarded to each successful applicant.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility Criteria:</td>
<td>Applicants must meet the following criteria:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Applicant must be a final year graduate student or postdoctoral scientist who has completed PhD in the last five years.

• Applicant must be conducting research related to precision medicine in Singapore at either a local university, public research institute or public-sector hospital.

• Applicant with Abstracts accepted by the conference organiser or accepted to a training course shall be eligible to apply.

Applicant is welcome to apply more than once, but he/she is only allowed to receive the award once every two years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Procedure:</th>
<th>Required documents:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Official application form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Curriculum vitae</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Document to prove your status as a final year graduate student or postdoctoral scientist</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Estimated budget for airfare, accommodation, transportation and registration fees</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Applications that are incomplete or have been submitted after the due date shall not be considered.

**Process and Tentative Deadline:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Process</th>
<th>Tentative Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completion of application and all required supporting document for Administrative Compliance Checks</td>
<td>Submission to RASS Office for administrative compliance checks. <strong>It will be helpful if you can let us have the application and all required supporting documents by this date so that we can have sufficient time to do admin checks that is required by the funding agency.</strong></td>
<td>Monday, 5 Aug 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Endorsement</td>
<td>Submission of final application with all required supporting documents to Dean’s</td>
<td>Tuesday, 13 Aug 19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Office for school endorsement, facilitated by RASS Office.

| Grant Call Closure | Endorsed application with all required supporting documents to be submitted to APMO (contact_apmo@hq.a-star.edu.sg). | Friday, 16 Aug 2019 |

4) Health & Biomedical and Sciences (HBMS) Domain Industry Alignment Fund Pre-Positioning (IAF-PP) Cycle 5

The **Health & Biomedical and Sciences (HBMS) Domain Industry Alignment Fund Pre-Positioning (IAF-PP) Cycle 5** Grant Call is now ongoing.

**Background**

The IAF-PP supports the development of industry-ready capabilities towards deepening alignment of **public sector research**, and the development of **multi-disciplinary and integrated programmes** with **early industry involvement**. Programmes are expected to **lead to industry participation within 3-5 years**. This encompasses new programmes, as well as existing programmes that have demonstrated strong track record of success and industry potential. Programmes supported should be aligned with the HBMS Domain’s themes and strategies (Please refer to [https://www.nrf.gov.sg/rie2020/health-and-biomedical-sciences](https://www.nrf.gov.sg/rie2020/health-and-biomedical-sciences)).
**Key Criteria**

The proposed programme should adequately demonstrate the potential for industry development and economic impact. The detailed evaluation criteria list is enclosed for information. Please note that the evaluation criteria apply at both the LOI and the Full Proposal stages.

**Eligibility**

The Programme Director should:

- Hold at least 0.7FTE primary appointment in a Singapore publicly funded research or tertiary education institution;
- Run a laboratory or research programme that carries out research in Singapore; and
- Have a track record of leadership ability in coordinating research programmes and providing mentorship to the research team, as well as having productive research outcomes.

**Funding Quantum**

There is no minimum and maximum funding quantum for projects funded under IAF-PP. Due diligence will be conducted to ensure that projects are budgeted appropriately.

- **Other Operating Expenses (OOE):** Total OOE/FTE/year: SGD 60,000
- **Travel Budget:** Capped at SGD20,000/year/programme and used only for purposes specific to this programme.
- **Overheads:** Should be budgeted in as required by the respective institutions, capped at 20% of direct research costs.

**Kindly take note of the following internal submission deadlines:**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Late Aug 2019</td>
<td>LOI results announced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Oct 2019 (1800h)</td>
<td>Full Proposal Submission</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More Information

Please refer to [https://www.a-star.edu.sg/Research/Funding-Opportunities/Grants-Sponsorship/IAF-PP.aspx](https://www.a-star.edu.sg/Research/Funding-Opportunities/Grants-Sponsorship/IAF-PP.aspx) for more information on the HBMS Domain IAF-PP.

5) ASEAN – INDIA Research Training Fellowship (AIRTF)

The ASEAN-India Research Training Fellowship (AIRTF) Scheme is a flagship funding program started by Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India under the ASEAN India Science and Technology Development Fund (AISTDF), with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), as their implementation partner to support ASEAN young researchers to work at any of the Indian research/academic Institution. This prestigious fellowship aims at capacity building of young researchers of ASEAN Member Countries in science and technology and further strengthen the bond between India and ASEAN Member States. This fully funded fellowship is for a period of six months each with financial support for international travel, subsistence allowance, research contingency and domestic travel etc.

Applications are invited from ASEAN researchers for award of this fellowship for conducting research in Indian institutions across all areas of science and technology.
**Fields of Research**

All fields of natural and engineering sciences, including mathematics and statistics. Humanities and behavioural sciences are not covered under this scheme.

**Number of Fellowships every year:**

50

**Fellowship Duration:**

6 months

**Eligibility Criteria**

Applicant must hold nationality of any of the ASEAN Member State

Upper age limit: 45 years as on date of submission of application

Masters Degree in any Natural Sciences or an equivalent degree in Technology / Engineering / Medicine / allied disciplines
Applicant should be working in a national R&D or academic institution in his/ her home ASEAN Member country

Please note

# Applicants who have already availed AIRT in any one of the previous years are NOT eligible to apply.

# Applicants who had applied in any of the previous years but were unsuccessful or could not avail it may re-apply for the current year.

**Call for Application:**

The completed applications / proposals can be submitted ONLINE throughout the year in two cycles ending 30th June and 31st December each year.

**For more details:**

[www.aistic.gov.in/ASEAN/aistdfFellowship](http://www.aistic.gov.in/ASEAN/aistdfFellowship)
6) **1st Singapore-South Korea Academic-Industry (2+2) International Collaboration**

The Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) and the Korea Institute for Advancement of Technology (KIAT) jointly announced the launch of the **1st Singapore-South Korea Academic-Industry (2+2) International Collaboration**, and is now open for applications.

**Background**

This collaboration calls for the union of 4: one Singapore-based and one Korean-based public sector research performer and representatives from one Singapore-based and one Korean-based industry partner. A*STAR and KIAT would like to invite all public sector research performers based in Singapore to submit their proposals for joint research projects in the area of Medical/Bio Technology.

Key topics include:

- Digital Healthcare
- Customized Bio Medicine
- Smart Medical Device

**Eligibility**

- This Call for Proposal is a joint submission that must involve **one public sector research performer** and **one industry collaborator from Singapore and South Korea respectively**.
- Eligible Singapore-based public sector research performers include the Institutes of Higher Learning (including universities and polytechnics), A*STAR Research Institutes, and non-defense-related public sector agencies (e.g., Ministries, Statutory Boards).
**Funding Quantum**

- For the Singapore component, a funding sum of up to **SGD$450,000** (including 20% indirect costs) per project will be granted to Singapore-based public sector research performers. Singapore-based industry collaborators that are keen to participate will be required to self-fund.
- KIAT shall grant a funding sum of up to **KRW₩600,000,000** per project to both the Korean-based public sector research performer and Korean-based industry collaborator collectively.

**Supporting period**

- Projects can be up to **24 months** in duration.

**More Information**

- Singapore-based public sector research performers are required to submit their joint applications electronically via iGrants (https://app.a-star.edu.sg/igrants/) by **Wednesday 28 August 2019, 1800hrs SG time**. The Korean-based Lead research performer must also concurrently submit the joint proposal to KIAT via KIAT Project Advanced Smart System website: https://k-pass.kr.

- Please find in the enclosed the following documents:
  - ASTAR Grant TnCs
  - Guidelines for Managing ASTAR Grants
  - 2019 ASTAR KIAT Grant Call Announcement
  - 2019 ASTAR KIAT Grant Call Application Form
  - NTU contribution form

Please visit https://www.a-star.edu.sg/Research/Funding-Opportunities/Singapore-South-Korea-Academic-Industry-2-2-International-Collaboration and refer to the attached grant call documents for more information.
**Below is the internal submission deadline:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</table>
| 14 Aug 2019 (Wed) | **Submission of finalised application form and NTU contribution form to Dean’s office for School’s endorsement**  
(for projects that expect incremental contribution (cash/in-kind) provided by NTU) - **facilitated by RASS** |
| 21 Aug 2019 (Wed) | **Submission to RSO for NTU DOR’s endorsement (facilitated by RASS)**  
- Application form (soft copy)  
- Submission summary table  
- NTU contribution form (if necessary) |
| 28 Aug 2019, 18:00hrs (SGT) | **Submission to A*STAR by PI via A*STAR iGrants** (https://app.a-star.edu.sg/igrants/).  
- PI is required to upload and submit the endorsed application form to iGrants (by themselves)  
- Do ensure that the South Korea side submits to their agency over in South Korea as well.  
- Late submissions will NOT be accepted |
1) MERLION 2019 PROGRAM – Call for Joint Franco-Singaporean Research Projects Proposal

The MERLION 2019 PROGRAM – Call for Joint Franco-Singaporean Research Projects Proposals is open for application.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Objective:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This call and the subsequent support for the selected projects aim to create or strengthen existing scientific co-operation between France and Singapore. Submitted projects must be joint research projects involving a French and a Singaporean partner. Therefore, the aim of this fourteenth call for proposals is:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• To provide support for joint scientific and technological projects,</td>
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<td>• To enable scientists to meet and implement collaborative projects,</td>
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<tr>
<td>• To encourage the creation and development of scientific networks between France and Singapore and joint research laboratories jointly.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• To facilitate technology transfer and the creation of startups.</td>
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</table>
Grant Quantum:

The maximum total amount allocated is

- **€30,000** for *Merlion Project* (**€7,500 per annum per project over 2 years**)

- **€20,000** for *Merlion Workshop*

The financial support from the Singaporean side has to be equivalent to the French financial support and the total funding cannot exceed the maximum amount as stated above.

- Please note that NTU funding for the above will be fully supported by RSO (100%). PIs do not need to seek approval/support from school before submitting the proposal online.

- Please note that only France will fund the travel of *Singapore-based PhD* students to France. As the Merlion PhD is solely supported by France, we will not create any financial account for Merlion PhD in NTU/LKCMedicine.

Results will be known in **January 2020**. The funding starts from **end of January 2020**.
| Application Procedure: | Please read the full set of criteria in the **Call for Proposals PHC Merlion 2019, Guideline of Good Practices on Intellectual Property** and the **FAQ**. Application process is detailed at the **Campus France Paris website**: [https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/merlion](https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/merlion)  
- Fill out the form with your French partner (**one form by project**). The submission of a project proposal must be made jointly by both French and Singaporean supervisors.  
- The joint proposals have to be submitted **only once**, in English in the website.  
- NTU PI is advised to check with the French PI for the application form and procedure as the submission will done through the Campus France Paris Website (most likely through the French PI).  
- Please note that **Only Word Version** with clear object will be considered.  
- Modification is allowed until **20 September 2019** (make sure that your application strictly follow the call for proposal’s guidelines)  
- In case of technical difficulties, please contact [merlion@institutfrancais.sg](mailto:merlion@institutfrancais.sg).  
- All applicants are requested to ensure that they have complied with the French Embassy’s instructions as there will be no administrative checks. |
| Submission Deadline: | Submission of the application has to be done online through Campus France Paris website ([https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/merlion](https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/merlion)) by **20 September 2019**.  
A duplicate copy of the full set of application documents has to be submitted to RSO, facilitated by RASS Office, by 20 September 2019.  
You may email to Juliana Zheng ([Juliana.Zheng@ntu.edu.sg](mailto:Juliana.Zheng@ntu.edu.sg)) for the submission of the duplicate copy of the full set of application documents. |