

National Tsing Hua University Research Talent Resource Center Implementation Guidelines for the Postdoctoral Researcher Mini-Project Program

I. Purpose

To assist postdoctoral researchers at NTHU in gradually developing independent research capabilities, expanding career development opportunities, and encouraging interdisciplinary collaboration, the Research Talent Resource Center (hereinafter referred to as “the Center”) has established this funding mechanism. It provides financial support for postdoctoral researchers to extend their existing research and explore innovative or interdisciplinary mini-projects. The proposed mini-project may be related to ongoing research projects but must demonstrate the postdoctoral researcher’s independent leadership in both project design and execution.

II. Application and Funding Regulations

1. Proposal Cycle and Submission Deadlines

Applications are open once per year, and the dates will be announced by the Center. Applicants must complete the application and upload the required documents within the announced deadline according to the Center's procedures.

2. Application Limitations

Each postdoctoral researcher may submit at most one proposal per year.

3. Project Implementation and Funding Period

Projects will commence on October 1, 2026. Applicants may propose a project duration of 6 to 10 months, according to the research objectives and implementation needs.

4. Funding Amount

The maximum funding for each project is NT\$150,000.

III. Eligibility

Applicants must meet all the following criteria:

- Hold a paid postdoctoral researcher position at NTHU, with the appointment period ending no earlier than the project end date.
- Submit a recommendation letter from their current supervising professor.

IV. Required Documents

1. Research Proposal (maximum 10 pages)

The proposal should include: a project abstract, background and objectives, research methodology, expected outcomes, a brief career plan and how this project contributes to career development, how the project extends existing research and demonstrates the applicant's independent ideas and execution, and a detailed budget plan.

2. Personal Information Form (in the format announced by the Office of Research Talent Resource Center)

3. Recommendation Letter from the Supervising Professor

The letter should describe the applicant's research performance and potential, how the project supports the development of independent research and career advancement, and the resources or assistance the supervisor can provide.

4. Other relevant materials that may assist in evaluation.

V. Budget Guidelines

1. Part-Time Research Personnel Costs

Applicants may decide whether to include this item based on actual research needs. The maximum amount is NT\$5,000 per month.

2. Eligible Research Expenses

Eligible expenses include consumable supplies, chemicals, fabrication fees, commissioned testing fees, and other research-related expenses.

3. Overseas Travel Expenses

International travel expenses may be budgeted no more than once per year. **Applicants are eligible for reimbursement only when presenting a paper at an international conference and providing an official letter of paper acceptance.** The maximum subsidy is NT\$20,000 for travel within Asia, NT\$30,000 for travel to the Americas, Australia, and New Zealand, and NT\$40,000 for travel to Europe and other regions.

4. Equipment Costs

Equipment purchases are not eligible under this program. Equipment refers to instruments or equipment with a unit price of NT\$10,000 or above and an expected service life of two years or longer.

5. Applicants **may adjust the budget allocations as needed, but must provide reasonable justification for all expenses.**

VI. Review Process

Initial review will be conducted by each College, followed by a secondary review by the Center's Review Committee, which consists of representatives from each College.

Evaluation criteria include: project originality, the applicant's research potential and academic development, the independence demonstrated in project planning and execution, the project's contribution to career development, feasibility and quality of the implementation plan, and the content of the recommendation letter.

VII. Project Execution and Completion

Recipients will be awarded the title of "Tsing Hua Postdoctoral Research Fellow" and must submit a final report (in a specified format) within one month of the project's completion. The report should include a summary of achievements, research progress and results, budget usage, and recommendations for future development.

The Center will hold a presentation session for project results. Outstanding performers will receive the title of "Tsing Hua Distinguished Postdoctoral Research Fellow".

VIII. Additional Notes

If it becomes necessary to terminate the project early or adjust the project content due to special circumstances, a formal request must be submitted in advance and approved by the Review Committee.

These guidelines will take effect after approval by the Center and confirmation by the Office of R&D. Matters not covered herein may be supplemented or interpreted by the Office of R&D and the Center.