

THU Guidelines for the "NSTC Doctoral Research Scholarship Pilot Program"

2023/12/11 Approved by the Scholarship Committee

2024/1/10 Approved by the 1st (of 2024) Administrative Affairs Meeting

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I.

Tunghai University (hereinafter referred to as THU) has established the THU Guidelines for the "NSTC Doctoral Research Scholarship Pilot Program" (hereinafter referred to as Guidelines) in pursuant to the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) rules governing its Doctoral Research Scholarship Pilot Program.

II.

Eligibility

Students currently enrolled in THU doctoral programs.

The following students are ineligible for the scholarship herein:

- (I) Those who, in the current year, applied for THU as an in-service student with a full-time position in either a public or private institute.
- (II) Those who are admitted as Hong Kong, Macao, or Mainland Chinese students.
- (III) Those who temporarily withdraw, defer enrollment, or fail to complete registration.
- (IV) Those who are already concurrently receiving government-funded scholarships.

III.

Allocation of Award Quotas:

For the scholarship herein, there are two categories of quota allocation: Special Selection by NSTC and Allocation by NSTC.

(I) Special Selection by NSTC: Applicants submit their applications directly through the NSTC's online system during the announced application period. Recipients are selected through NSTC's evaluation process.

(II) Allocation by NSTC:

1. NSTC assigns quotas to domestic universities with authorized doctoral programs based on the number of newly admitted doctoral students.
2. The allocation of approved quotas to doctoral programs is based on a ranking of departments with doctoral programs, determined by the total amount of NSTC-funded research project grants received over the past four years. To ensure balanced development across academic fields, research funding received by departments in the humanities and social sciences is weighted at 150%. Quotas are distributed in descending order of funding, with one award allocated to each department. If there are remaining quotas after all eligible departments have received one award, the allocation process shall repeat in the same order for subsequent rounds.

3. Required Application Documents:

New doctoral students: Applicants shall submit one letter of recommendation (from either the department chair, doctoral advisor, or master's thesis advisor), a doctoral research proposal, master's thesis, and other materials beneficial for review.

Non-first-year doctoral students: Applicants shall submit one letter of recommendation (from either the department chair or doctoral advisor), doctoral research achievements, and other materials beneficial for review.

All required materials shall be submitted in both hard copy and electronic format, with one copy of each.

4. Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee composed of the Dean of Academic Affairs, the Dean of Research and Development, and the chairs of the respective doctoral programs. Final approval shall be granted by THU's Scholarship Committee.

IV.

Regulation Evaluation and Waitlist System:

(I) During the three-year scholarship period, recipients (from special selection or allocation) are required to submit a report on their research progress and outcomes at the end of each semester. The advisor (or,

if an advisor has not yet been assigned, the department chair or program director) shall evaluate the student's academic grades, research progress, and outcomes to determine whether the student is eligible to continue receiving the scholarship. The evaluation results must be submitted to the department or program committee for approval. Failure to acquire approval will lead to the student's scholarship eligibility being revoked.

(II) Scholarship eligibility will also be revoked for any recipients (from special selection or allocation) that temporarily or permanently withdraw from THU or violates THU regulations during the three-year period.

(III) Revoked scholarships that were originally selected by the NSTC shall not be reallocated to other recipients. Revoked scholarships that were originally allocated to the recipient will be awarded to other doctoral students in accordance with Article 2 of the Guidelines herein, the waitlist will comprise of students evaluated in the same year as the disqualified student.

(IV) For award recipients who graduate within three years, the award shall be provided only through the month of graduation.

V.

Tracking Scholarship Outcomes:

The recipient's department or institutes shall regularly track the recipient's academic and research performance while at THU and also track the recipient career development for the three years following graduation in their annual alumni career surveys. Recipients shall comply with all tracking efforts.

VI.

Recipients of this specific scholarship shall not concurrently receive THU's Scholarship for Outstanding New Students or Scholarships for International Students. Recipients shall also sign a waiver form declaring that they are not receiving other aforementioned scholarships.

VII.

The Regulations herein shall be promulgated upon approval by the Scholarship Committee and Administrative Council.