

A Briefing Session for the application of TSSSU@HKU 2022/23



TSSSU@HKU

- Technology Startup Support Scheme for Universities at HKU
 - ❖ HK\$8 million per year from ITC
- Purpose – to encourage technology start-up, especially among young people
- Based on “ITC Guidelines on Technology Start-up Support Scheme for Universities”





The University of Hong Kong
Technology Transfer Office

TSSSU@HKU2022-2023

— Total annual funding of —
HK\$8M
— for all the awardees —

— A successful awardee may receive —
HK\$100K - HK\$1.5M*
a year

*Funding amount is subject to the final approval of TSSSU@HKU panel and ITC



<https://www.tto.hku.hk/public/tsssu/index.html>



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Focus and Priorities

- (a) Start-up using **inventions and technologies** developed by **HKU**.
- (b) Start-up using inventions and technologies developed **jointly** between **HKU** and **its collaborators**.
- (c) Start-up based on **technology developed by students or alumni** during their course of study at the University as part of their curriculum (e.g. Final Year projects, research projects). The application team must have the right to commercialize the relevant technology.
- (d) **Technology innovations** by staff or students resulting from employment or studies at HKU, with a significant ‘knowledge’ and ‘technology’ component.



Intellectual Property Rights

- The awardee company shall own all the intellectual property rights it creates using the TSSSU@HKU funding unless otherwise specified by alternative agreements
- Use of any inventions or technologies of HKU should be governed by pre-agreed licenses with HKU
- If you do NOT use any background intellectual property of HKU, you must declare that in your application
- Consult TTO if in doubt



Funding Scope & Duration (1)

1. Essential items for setting up and operating the technology start-ups (e.g. furniture and equipment, legal and accounting services, rental of necessary and suitable premises, manpower etc.).
2. R&D expenditure (e.g. manpower, equipment, other direct costs, etc.).
3. Promotion of the technology start-ups and marketing of their project deliverables.
4. 50% can be spent outside Hong Kong



Funding Scope & Duration (2)

6. HKU **will not** take any equity unless otherwise agreed (e.g. equity as part of the consideration for licensing HKU technologies)
7. Awardee **must be a start-up** (within 2 years) company registered in Hong Kong founded by ***Eligible Applicant***
8. Manpower remuneration limits (max):
 - ❖ HK\$12,000/month – non-degree
 - ❖ HK\$18,000/month – Bachelor
 - ❖ HK\$24,000/month – Master or above
9. Award **MUST be spent** within each financial year
10. Continued funding for the 2nd or the 3rd year requires application again each year



Eligibility

An *Eligible Applicant* must be from one of the following:

- a) current **faculty member** of HKU serving as consultant, providing technical expertise and direction of the R&D work;
- b) current student of HKU;
- c) graduate of HKU for no more than **5 years** as of the announced *Cut-off Date* of each application year (**1 February 2022**).

The application for TSSSU@HKU must be made by a team ("*the Team*") (i.e. more than one person), comprising at least one *Eligible Applicant*. The *Team* forming the technology start-up may have any mix of the following members of the University –

- a) undergraduate / graduate / postgraduate students;
- b) professor(s) or other faculty member(s) to serve as consultant(s), providing technical expertise and direction of the R&D work; and/or
- c) business savvy university alumni, giving business and management advice, etc

The *Team* should **collectively hold more than 50%** of the shares in the company, unless HKU is also holding some equity in the company (e.g. in lieu of a technology license entered).

For the avoidance of doubt, any person not associated with HKU cannot be part of the *Team* (but of course can be shareholders, investors or even founders of the company).



Person-in-Charge

The *Team* required a member as the *person-in-charge*

- who should preferably be an Eligible Applicant
- significantly engaged in the technology start-up's business and be responsible for:
 - a) overseeing the operations of the technology start-up;
 - b) liaising with HKU on matters relating to the funding support under TSSSU@HKU.

Note: the appointed person-in-charge cannot concurrently join other active teams funded by TSSSU



Application Procedures

1. Register the company before November 26, 2021
2. Complete the Application Form (available from tto.hku.hk) with the following for assessment
 - a) supporting documents
 - b) business plan
 - c) financial plan
 - d) A presentation video of around 3-5 minutes introducing the technology and business of the company
3. Make sure appropriate IP licenses are being arranged
4. Make sure you have clear budget; if additional funding available, this will be an advantage
5. Submit proposal/application to TTO by November 26, 2021, 5:00 pm HKT
6. Finalists will be invited to present at the Pitching Day to be held in early January, 2022



Assessment and Selection

A Selection Panel from HKU will be set up to assess the applications using the following criteria:

1	TEAM	Capability of the start-up and its team to undertake the R&D proposed and manage the company	25%
2	FUNDING	Existence of private investment and the potential of attracting additional investment funding	25%
3	HKU-TECH	Commercialization of HKU Technologies	20%
4	MARKET	Commercial viability of the business	15%
5	TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION	Innovation and technology content of the business	10%
6	SOCIAL	Social and/or community impact of the business and R&D work	5%



Disbursement, Reimbursement and Audit

1. As TSSSU@HKU award is reimbursement by Government, the award is a **“Cash Advancement”** to Awardees.
2. The Advancement is considered fully paid by government once we obtain the **reimbursement**.
3. Awardees have to agree with the terms of the Government, provide the necessary interim and annual reports, and conduct the audit according to the requirements of the Government.



Monitoring and Review

1. The University is required to provide mentorship and monitoring of all TSSSU@HKU Awardees (we need to provide comments on the report).
2. Half-year progress report, and annual report would be needed.
3. The University is required to comment on whether the milestones are reached as part of the review.



Change in Business Plan

Substantial change in business plan or the financial plan:

- ❖ Key members
- ❖ Deliverables
- ❖ Milestones
- ❖ Budget spending ..., etc

require prior written approval (otherwise you would have problems during audit)



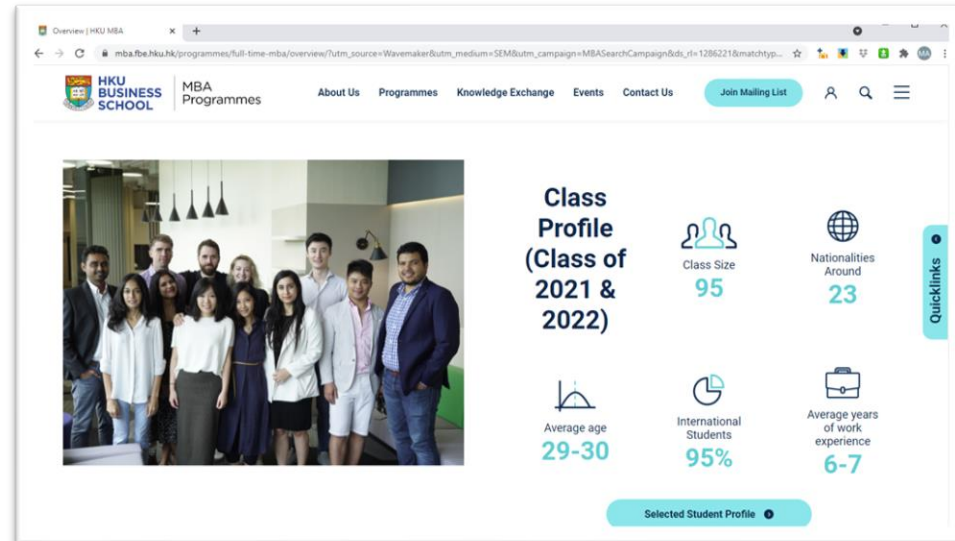
Important Timeline

Call for Applications TSSSU@HKU	September 15, 2021
Sharing with TSSSU Founders	October 8, 2021
Closing (internal – 5:00 pm)	November 26, 2021
Pitching	Early January, 2022
Recommended List to ITC (cut-off date)	February 1, 2022
Announcement of Results	April, 2022
Spending Period	Date of announcement – March 31, 2023
Interim Report	October 15, 2023
Annual Report	May 31, 2023
Audit Report	June 30, 2023



Match-making Event with HKU MBA students

- Most TSSSU@HKU teams are founded by teams from Engineering, Science and Medical Faculties
- HKU MBA ranks #3 in Asia according to 2021 FT MBA Ranking of The Economist
- We present an opportunity for engaging HKU MBA students as founding team members or interns
- MBAxTSSSU@HKU Matching-making Event will be held in late February 2022
- Company introduction and small-group discussion
- Prospective TSSSU@HKU FY2022-23 awardees are required to attend



The screenshot displays the HKU Business School MBA Programmes website. The page features a navigation menu with links for 'About Us', 'Programmes', 'Knowledge Exchange', 'Events', and 'Contact Us'. A 'Join Mailing List' button is also visible. The main content area includes a group photo of students and a 'Class Profile (Class of 2021 & 2022)' section with the following statistics:

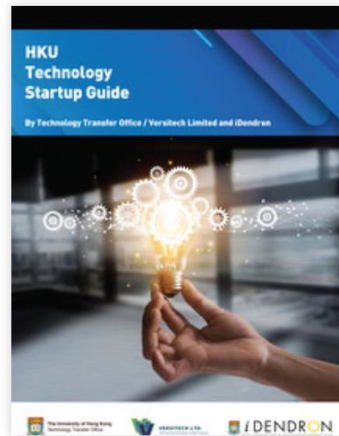
Metric	Value
Class Size	95
Nationalities Around	23
Average age	29-30
International Students	95%
Average years of work experience	6-7

A 'Selected Student Profile' button is located at the bottom of the statistics section. A 'Quicklinks' sidebar is visible on the right edge of the page.



HKU Technology Startup Guide

Booklets for download



HKU Technology Startup
Guide

2019/20

[↓ Download](#)



A Guide to Industry -
University Collaboration

2019/20

[↓ Download](#)



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Entrepreneurship Academy



The graphic features a central illustration of four people in a collaborative setting. A woman in a yellow top and black skirt holds a large glowing lightbulb. A man in a grey jacket and black pants stands to her left with a laptop. A man in a yellow shirt sits on the floor in the foreground with a laptop. A man in a black shirt and yellow pants stands to the right with a document. The background includes a large white board with a grid, gears, and a play button icon. Text on the right side reads: 'iDENDRON PRESENTS Entrepreneurship Academy Free 10-week workshop Kick-starting your entrepreneurship venture' and a yellow button says 'Watch NOW on YouTube'.

iDENDRON PRESENTS

Entrepreneurship Academy

Free 10-week workshop
Kick-starting your entrepreneurship venture

Watch NOW on YouTube



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A **FREE ten-week workshop** designed to enhance your skills for startup success, [watch all the 10 episodes now](#) to know how to break into the startup world!

Q&A

