2024 Guangdong-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Joint Funding Thematic Application Guide

1. Support content

The Guangdong-Hong Kong science and technology innovation joint funding project is jointly solicited and jointly funded by the Guangdong Provincial Department of Science and Technology and the Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Commission. Support innovative entities in Guangdong Province to join forces with Hong Kong partners in new generation information technology, semiconductors and integrated circuits, artificial intelligence, blockchain and financial technology, biomedicine and health, food safety, cutting-edge new materials, new energy, energy conservation and environmental protection, intelligence Cooperation in technology research and development and the industrialization of results will be carried out in areas such as robotics, high-end equipment manufacturing, and marine technology that involve the development of people's livelihood and cutting-edge technology in both places.

This topic gives priority to supporting projects implemented in major cooperation platforms such as Qianhai, Nansha, and Hetao.

2. Application conditions

1. The partners from Guangdong and Hong Kong each serve as the lead unit and apply to the Guangdong Provincial Department of Science and Technology and the Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Commission respectively. Unilateral declarations are invalid. The lead applicant unit in Hong Kong applies simultaneously in accordance with the Category C (I) projects (including platform projects and cooperation projects) of the 2023 Guangdong-Hong Kong Science and Technology Cooperation Funding Plan issued by the Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Commission. Specific information can be found on the official website of the Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Commission (https:// www.itc.gov.hk/gb/index.html).

2. The lead applicant unit in Guangdong shall be an innovative entity such as an enterprise, institution of higher learning, or scientific research institute that is registered in Guangdong Province in accordance with the law and has independent legal person status. The lead reporting unit in Hong Kong should be Hong Kong’s public scientific research institutions or the five R&D centers established by the Hong Kong SAR government (see Annex 3 for the list).

3. The key information in the project application forms of Guangdong and Hong Kong must be consistent with the project name, the lead applicant unit of both parties, the project leaders of both parties and the implementation period.

4. At least one of the units leading or participating in the declaration must be an enterprise. Guangdong enterprises that lead or participate must provide self-raised funds, and the total self-raised funds of the enterprises shall not be less than the amount of financial assistance for this special project. The investment of self-raised funds will be one of the important basis for measuring the feasibility of the project.

5. The leading applicant unit in Guangdong shall sign a cooperation agreement with all parties involved in the project. Units that have not signed a cooperation agreement shall not be listed as cooperative units of the project. The cooperation agreement clarifies technology, manpower, equipment, capital investment, intellectual property ownership, etc., and must comply with the relevant laws and regulations of both parties.

6. The project leader should be employed full-time by the leading applicant in Guangdong. The project team members must include 1 or more members from each partner.

7. If the project involves human genetic resource samples and information data, it must be implemented in accordance with the relevant provisions of the "Regulations of the People's Republic of China on the Management of Human Genetic Resources".

3. Assessment indicators

1. Overcome key technologies and form no less than one scientific and technological achievement with independent intellectual property rights and good market prospects.

2. During the cooperation period, the cooperation teams of Guangdong and Hong Kong will have at least one exchange visit to each other's institution (either the Guangdong unit will visit the Hong Kong unit, or the Hong Kong unit will visit the Guangdong unit), and there will be at least one meeting per year with the participation of the main responsible persons of the cooperation parties. Project work meeting (form is not limited). The above activities are encouraged to be publicized and reported in the form of text, pictures, videos, etc.

3. For projects involving cooperation between Guangdong enterprises and Hong Kong universities, the Guangdong enterprise will provide at least one short-term postgraduate internship position (more than 3 months, no limit to the form) to the cooperating Hong Kong team during the project execution period.

4. Funding methods

The Guangdong Provincial Department of Science and Technology and the Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Commission provide funding to innovative entities in Guangdong and Hong Kong respectively. The Guangdong Provincial Finance Department will provide ex-ante one-time project funding to Guangdong innovation entities, with each funding amount not exceeding 1 million yuan. The project implementation period is 2 years.