2022 MOST Announcement for
2030 Cross-Generation Young Scholars Program

I. Goal

Young research talents are a critical force to the sustainable development of Taiwan. The Program aims to provide stable research resources enabling exceptional scholars in the early stages of their research careers to focus on innovative and interdisciplinary research topics and pursue global research excellence. And thereby, cultivate next-generation scientific and technological research talents in Taiwan.

II. Qualifications of applying institutions (research conducting institutions)

Institutions that fulfill Article 2 of the Operation Guidelines for MOST Research Project Grants.

III. Project types, project content, and applicant (principal investigator) eligibility

1. Emerging Young Scholars

(1) Encourage and facilitate young, new generation scholars in the early-stage of their research careers who possess strong research potential to explore newly risen issues and try prospective ideas, thus attracting exceptional talents to academic research and development in Taiwan.

(2) Principal investigators must have worked in a dedicated teaching or research position domestically or overseas within 5 years prior to applying or have acquired a PhD degree within 5 years prior to applying. Please noted that applicants who have held a dedicated teaching or research position for a combined duration of over 5 years at the point of their application will not be eligible for this grant. Applicants who are not qualified as principal investigators for MOST Research Project Grants may apply and may be approved to execute projects only after meeting said requirements.

(3) A maximum of 25 new projects may be approved and subsidized annually unless otherwise specified, and each project shall be subsidized by no more

than NT$5 million per year.

2. Excellent Young Scholars

(1) Cultivate excellent young scholars who have held offices in research institutions in Taiwan and enable them to further strengthen their research capabilities on the basis of their existing research, thereby attaining scientific breakthroughs and their practical implementation.

(2) Applicants must not be older than 45 years of age (born no earlier than January 1, 1977) and be qualified to act as principal investigators for MOST Research Project Grants.

(3) Approval of the number of new projects per year and the annual subsidy for each project are prioritized on the basis of review outcomes.

3. International Outstanding Young Scholars

(1) Support young scholars in long-term investment in innovative ideas and lead and connect international academic communities in promoting their exchange and collaboration with the Taiwanese academic community, thereby improving the international standards and influence of the Taiwanese academic community.

(2) Applicants must be no older than 45 years of age (born no earlier than January 1, 1977) and possess credentials in independent domestic and overseas research as well as achievements related to international academia such as the establishment of international teams. When applying, applicants may not be qualified as principal investigators for MOST Research Project Grants and may be approved to execute projects only after receiving said qualifications.

(3) A maximum of 15 new projects may be approved and subsidized each year unless otherwise specified, and each project shall be subsidized by no more than NT$10 million per year.

Applicants who have given birth or taken parental leave may have their age or professional year limitation extended by 2 years per parity. Please attach relevant

certificates.

IV. Application methods

Please submit your application in accordance with MOST specifications. Applications that are overdue, incomplete, or not in accordance with MOST specifications shall be disregarded.

1. Applicants qualified to be principal investigators of MOST Research Project Grants shall submit their applications in accordance with the Operation Guidelines for MOST Research Project Grants together with their qualifications and types of project. Applicants may choose from one of the three types of grants and may submit one proposal only. Once applications are approved by the applying institution, the said institution shall submit its application list, declaration attesting to the qualifications of principal investigators, and the research conducting institution's letter of commitment to MOST.
2. Applicants without qualifications to act as principal investigators for MOST Research Project Grants may only apply as an Emerging Young Scholar or as an International Outstanding Young Scholar. Applicants shall choose from one of the two grants and may submit one proposal only. Applications shall be submitted to the MOST Academic Research Service Portal with the following documents:
   (1) Project application
   (2) Identification (copy of identification cards for domestic applicants; copy of passports for nondomestic applicants)
   (3) PhD degree certificate; however, graduating students may present project applications and the following documents in the application to MOST:
      a. Applicants studying for PhD degrees overseas shall present their temporary education certificates approved by their university stating the applicant have passed the oral defense and thesis review. Chinese translations of all documents must be provided.

b. Applicants studying for PhD degrees in Taiwan shall present documents proving their candidacy through review by the doctoral examination committee with the seals of their department; temporary education certificates from the meeting minutes of oral examinations shall also be provided.

Applicants who meet the specifications in the first subparagraph of the preceding paragraph may not submit applications as specified by the second subparagraph of the preceding paragraph. Doing so will result in the disqualification of applications. Applications that have been approved through reviews for execution shall have their subsidy plans revoked, and subsidies shall be returned in full within a specified deadline.

V. Review

1. Each type of project shall be reviewed in accordance with its respective academic department. Please visit the department website or contact the department's person in charge for details.
2. Applicants who are qualified as principal investigators for MOST Research Project Grants but do not satisfy the requirements for subsidies for their respective application according to review outcomes shall comply with the following procedures:
   (1) International Exceptional Young Scholars or Emerging Young Scholars applicants: Applicants who do not apply for 2022 MOST Research Project Grants nor do they execute MOST Research Project Grants after 1 August 2022 shall adjust the scales of their projects and resubmit research project applications within one month of rejection notification by MOST. The resubmitted projects will be accepted and reviewed as they are submitted.
   (2) Excellent Young Scholars applicants: Applicants shall have their applications redirected to general MOST Research Project Grants applications through reviews and processed according to the relevant specifications.

VI. Subsidy duration

Each project shall be subsidized for a maximum of 4 years, starting August 1, 2022.

VII. Allowance for the principal investigator

1. Emerging Young Scholars: NT$30,000 per month
2. Excellent Young Scholars: NT$15,000 per month
3. International Exceptional Young Scholars: NT$50,000 per month

VIII. Applicants who do not qualify to act as principal investigator for a MOST Research Project Grants and submit applications according to Paragraph 2 of Article 4 that were approved following MOST's review shall have their projects approved in accordance with the following specifications:

1. After receiving notifications of approval by MOST, applicants shall apply for proof of recruitment by the applying institution in accordance with Article 2 of the Operation Guidelines for MOST Research Project Grants and acquire qualification as principal investigator according to Article 3 of said Guidelines between August 1 and July 31 of the second year after receiving the notification of conditional acceptance from MOST. Failure to do so shall result in the relinquishment of subsidies.
2. Applying institutions shall submit photocopies of the applicant's letter of appointment, doctoral degree certificate (if the applicant is a graduating student), research conducting institution's letter of commitment, documents relevant to a research ethics review, and the MOST notification letter to MOST for project approval within one month of the date of employment commencement. Failure to do so shall result in the loss of validity of the notification letter.
3. The aforementioned documents regarding a research ethics review shall be submitted to MOST within 3 months of the date of employment for project approval. This shall not apply to applicants with extraordinary circumstances as approved by MOST.

4. MOST shall notify the applying institution after project approval of matters regarding research project subsidy funding during the execution of the projects. The notification shall be conducted in accordance with letters of approval.

IX. Projects carried out in accordance with the Pilot Directions for MOST Einstein Program or Columbus Program may be transferred to this Program according to the outcome of annual evaluation by MOST. The number of projects to be transferred shall not be subjected to the annual project number specifications under Article 3, and Article 6 shall not apply to the subsidy durations of the transferred Einstein or Columbus Program.

X. The execution and evaluation of each project shall be processed in accordance with the regulations of its respective academic department. Please see the department website or contact the department's person in charge for details. Other matters shall be processed in accordance with MOST notifications.

XI. Any matters not addressed by this announcement regarding subsidy items, agreement signing for disbursement, extensions and changes, fee reimbursement, and submission of final reports for each type of project shall be addressed in accordance with Operation Guidelines for MOST Research Project Grants, MOST Principles for Handling Research Project Grants, Terms for Hiring Contact Assistants in MOST-Granted Research Projects, Contract and Execution Consent on Research Project Grants, and other relevant regulations.

XII. If the annual requirement of a project is not approved by the Legislative Yuan or is partially eliminated, MOST may adjust its subsidy according to review outcomes. Relevant matters shall be handled in accordance with Article 54 of the Budget Act.

XIII. Further information and contacts

1. For other MOST regulations and operation guidelines, please visit: MOST homepage > Funding & Awards > Funding > Research Project Grant > 2030 Cross-Generation Young Scholars Program

2. Please contact the MOST Department of Planning at the following phone number for any questions regarding relevant regulations of the program: (02)2737-7476、7569、7570
3. Please contact the following phone numbers of each academic department for any questions regarding academic application and reviews of the program:
   (1) Department of Natural Sciences and Sustainable Development: (02)2737-7811
   (2) Department of Engineering and Technologies: (02)2737-7526
   (3) Department of Life Sciences: (02)2737-7546
   (4) Department of Humanities and Social Sciences: (02)2737-7179
4. Please contact the MOST Information System Service regarding any technical issues of the Academic Research Service Portal: 0800-212-058、(02)2737-7590、7591、7592