

Fu Jen Catholic University Guidelines Regarding the Implementation of the NSTC Ph.D. Student Research Scholarship (Starting from the 2024-2025 academic year)

Passed at the 7th session of the Administrative Council for the 2023-2024 Academic Year on April 4, 2024
Passed at the 1th session of the Administrative Council for the 2024-2025 Academic Year on September 5, 2024

1. Purpose of the Program:

Aiming to reward outstanding doctoral students with research potential and support them in focusing on their research work to build a solid foundation of research talents and reserve talents for core strategic industries. These operational guidelines have been established in accordance with the “National Science and Technology Council Graduate Research Scholarship Pilot Program.”

2. Recipient Eligibility and Restrictions:

First-year doctoral students newly admitted to the University during the current academic year (including registrations in February and September). To accommodate the transitional phase of the National Science and Technology Council Graduate Research Scholarship Pilot Program in 2024, both first- and second-year doctoral students from the 2023 academic year will also be eligible for the scholarship during the 2024 academic year.

The following individuals are not eligible to receive this scholarship:

- (1) Those who are engaged in full-time paid employment in public or private sectors or who apply for admission as part-time students possessing responsibilities related to employment.
- (2) Students with statuses from Hong Kong, Macau, or Mainland China.
- (3) Those who have applied for leave of absence and retained their admission eligibility or have not completed registration after admission.
- (4) Those who are concurrently receiving scholarships or subsidies offered by the ROC government.

3. Scholarship Quotas and Allocation:

The awards are divided into two categories: NSTC Selection and NSTC Allocation, and will be adjusted based on the pilot program’s circumstances. Recipients can only choose one of these types of scholarships.

- (1) NSTC Selection: A total of 400 outstanding candidates are awarded nationwide.
- (2) NSTC Allocation: A total of 600 recipients are awarded nationwide.
 1. The University’s annual scholarship quota is allocated by the NSTC.
 2. The allocation quota is based on the NSTC’s consideration of

academic field balance, with a 150% weighting for the humanities field. The allocation is determined proportionally, adhering to the principle of merit-based support.

4. Duration and Amount:

- (1) The scholarship is awarded from the first year to the third year of the doctoral program. For students who register in February, the scholarship period starts from February 1 of that year and ends on January 31 of the third year. For students who register in September, the scholarship period starts from September 1 of that year and ends on August 31 of the third year. For those who graduate within three years, the scholarship is awarded up to the month of graduation.
- (2) Each doctoral student receives a monthly scholarship of NT\$40,000. The entire amount is fully funded by the NSTC.

5. Application Procedure:

- (1) NSTC Selection: Applicants must submit the following documents on the NSTC website within the deadline specified by the NSTC:
 - a. Information form
 - b. Research proposal
 - c. Academic credentials
 - d. Transcripts of all university-level courses
 - e. Other review materials (such as language proficiency certificates, recommendation letters, thesis, published journal papers, conference papers, books or technical reports, awards records, relevant research outcomes, etc.).
- (2) NSTC Allocation: First-year doctoral students newly admitted to our university during the current academic year (including February or September registration) must submit the following documents to the Research and Development Office within the application period announced for that year:
 - a. Application form (including declaration)
 - b. Research proposal (maximum of 10 pages on A4 paper, 12-point font)
 - c. Academic credentials
 - d. Transcripts of all university-level courses
 - e. Other review materials (such as language proficiency certificates, recommendation letters, thesis, published journal papers, conference papers, books or technical reports, awards records, relevant research

outcomes, etc.).

f. Certificate of academic ethics course completion: Applicants must complete the academic research ethics course on the Center for Taiwan Academic Research Ethics Education website and pass the academic ethics test.

6. Review Process:

- (1) NSTC Selection: The NSTC forwards the documents to experts and scholars in the relevant fields for review.
- (2) NSTC Allocation: The review committee evaluates the documents based on the NSTC selection criteria. The final approval is determined in the meeting of the “Fu Jen Catholic University Academic Research Enhancement Scholarship Review Committee.”

7. Performance Assessment:

- (1) Regular assessment: Doctoral students who receive the NSTC Selection or NSTC Allocation scholarships must submit the following documents two months before the end of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd years of the scholarship period (based on the date announced by the Office of Research and Development for that semester):
 - a. Application form
 - b. Progress report and research plan (maximum of 10 pages on A4 paper, 12-point font)
 - c. Copies of papers presented at international academic conferences
 - d. Copies of papers published in indexed journals

The documents are reviewed by the “Fu Jen Catholic University Academic Research Enhancement Scholarship Review Committee.” Approval of the 1st and 2nd-year regular assessments is required for the continuation of the scholarship for the next academic year. Approval of the 3rd-year regular assessment is considered as the final evaluation.

- (2) Achievement tracking: Scholarship recipients must cooperate with the University in tracking their post-graduation career paths within three years after graduation.

8. Award Title:

Recipients will be awarded “NSTC Graduate Research Fellowship (NSTC-GRF)” title and certificate.

9. Termination of Scholarship:

The scholarship will be suspended or terminated for in any of the following

situations:

- (1) Failure to pass the regular assessment as stipulated in Article 7 of these guidelines will result in termination of the scholarship.
- (2) (voluntary) Suspension from the program: The scholarship will be terminated starting from the month of suspension, and the student will no longer be eligible for the scholarship upon resuming studies.
- (3) Withdrawal from the program: The scholarship will be terminated starting from the month of withdrawal.
- (4) Students who revert to a master's program after pursuing a doctoral degree: The scholarship will be terminated starting from the semester of reversion to (or enrollment in) the master's program.
- (5) Full-time employment in public or private institutions: The scholarship will be terminated starting from the month the student begins full-time employment.
- (6) Recipients receive other scholarships or subsidies offered by the ROC government: The scholarship will be terminated starting from the month of receiving the other scholarship.

10. Termination Due to Misrepresentation or Misconduct:

If any recipient of the scholarship is found to have provided false or forged application materials, or engaged in improper research conduct—such as violating academic ethics or other relevant regulations—during the scholarship period, their eligibility will be revoked, and scholarship disbursement will be terminated. Any received scholarship funds must be fully repaid, and legal liability will be pursued based on the severity of the violation.

11. Additional Regulations:

For matters not covered in these guidelines, the relevant regulations of the NSTC and our university shall apply.

12. Implementation Schedule:

These guidelines have been approved by the Administrative Council and will be announced and implemented upon the President's approval. The same procedure applies for any amendments.