

**THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
LKS FACULTY OF MEDICINE**

Research Postgraduate Student Exchange

Preamble

International exchange can be a life-changing experience, both personally and professionally. The Research Postgraduate Students Exchange Scheme allows students, through conducting part of their research projects at a partner institution overseas, to increase their international exposure and to acquire advanced knowledge and research techniques complementary to those available at HKU. Another objective of this scheme is to enhance the research collaborations between the Medical Faculty and their partner institutions.

Collaborators

Faculty members who have established collaborations with researchers at an overseas institution are strongly encouraged to identify suitable students for research exchange and invite their collaborators to co-supervise the students.

Study leave

Study leave of up to half the period of the HKU study programme, i.e. 12 months for MPhil, 18 months for 3-year PhD and 24 months for 4-year PhD programme, may be granted to HKU students for exchange activities subject to the condition that satisfactory supervisory arrangements have been made.

Duration of exchange

Students should spend the first year of study at HKU in order for them to complete the coursework component, if required, and to receive basic research training. The exact period of exchange shall be mutually determined by the supervisors and their collaborators. Students should return to HKU when they start writing their theses so that they can receive timely guidance from their supervisors, and HKU students are required to stay at HKU in the last 6 months of their candidature.

Conferment of degree

Students on exchange will remain registered under HKU, but will be subject to the host institution's policies and regulations concerning research personnel and intellectual property during the period of attachment.

Degrees will be conferred to students by HKU only. Research exchange engaged by HKU students will be recorded on their transcripts.

Tuition fees

Agreement will be sought from partner institutions to waive the tuition fees for HKU students on exchange.

Funding schemes available to outbound HKUMed RPg students

Financial support, through the following schemes, is available to students to support their academic exchange. The Faculty will allocate the appropriate Scheme/Fellowship to applicants based on their candidature, duration of exchange and other information provided. Separate applications are not necessary. Please note that allocations are subject to funding availability and quotas.

- **Research Postgraduate Student Exchange Scheme**

This Scheme allows students, through conducting part of their research projects at a partner institution overseas, to increase their international exposure and to acquire advanced knowledge and research techniques complementary to those available at HKU. A monthly subsistence allowance up to HK\$5,000 will be provided to the successful applicants for this Scheme.

- **Bau Tsu Zung Bau Kwan Yeu Hing Research and Clinical Fellowship**

The purpose of the Fellowship is to enable selected PhD candidates of the Faculty to engage in research activities or academic training overseas to develop research/academic expertise. The fellowship shall cover round-trip airfare at cheapest economy class, accommodation and other expenses relevant to the training/visit, as appropriate. The exchange period must be between 3 months and 2 years.

Other Travel allowance

HKU students may also apply for the URC Travel Support for Research Postgraduate Students for International Academic Training/Research Activities for exchange under 3 months.

Accommodation

HKU students on exchange shall arrange for their own accommodation overseas.

Travel Insurance Arrangement:

Students travelling overseas or outside Hong Kong in connection with HKU business purposes including but not limited to exchange programme approved or arranged by HKU, are qualified for travel insurance coverage under a Corporate Business Travel programme taken out by the University for a period of up to 183 days.

In addition to the HKU standard travel insurance coverage, you are strongly recommended to consider obtaining additional travel insurance to supplement the existing HKU coverage. Detailed information about Student Insurance Policy can be found at this [link](#) (requires HKU portal login). It is important for you to review the policy and carefully consider what additional coverage is suitable for own specific needs.

Research equipment and supplies

The host institutions are expected to provide research supplies and consumables, as well as access to library, research equipment, computer and related core facilities for incoming exchange students.

December 2009

Amended June 2021

Amended January 2022

Amended October 2023

Amended April 2024