HKU Presidential PhD Scholar Programme

In order to attract top candidates from around the world to pursue full-time PhD studies at HKU, a HKU Presidential PhD Scholar Programme (‘The Programme’) is now inviting applications for the admission year 2021-22. The Programme offers the most prestigious scholarship package, namely, the HKU Presidential PhD Scholarship (HKU-PS), to selected outstanding full-time PhD students admitted to The University of Hong Kong.

The HKU Presidential PhD Scholars will also receive strong academic and training support from the University, e.g. individualised advisory service, training in teaching, chances to rotate among different research labs/disciplines, and more opportunities to interact with leading scholars. A group of distinguished Faculty members will also give advice, provide additional mentorship and training opportunities, and oversee the academic career paths. Details are provided in the Programme Features at the website: https://www.gradsch.hku.hk/gradsch/presidential-scholar-programme-features

Scholarship Package for 2021-22 admission

Each HKU Presidential PhD Scholar will receive a HKU-PS package of up to around HK$414,000 (US$53,000) in the first year, and up to around HK$394,000 (US$50,000) in each of the subsequent years during the normative study period. The package includes:

(a) Cash Award to support research and living expenses: 
   HK$40,000 in Year 1; HK$20,000 per year in the remaining normative study period
(b) Waiver of composition fees for the whole normative study period (i.e. HK$42,100 per year)
(c) Postgraduate Scholarship of $26,600 per month
(d) Conference and Research-related Travel Allowance of HK$13,300 per year
(e) Financial support to selected outstanding students for an additional year of study beyond the normative study period to reward their outstanding research output and progress
(f) A guaranteed hall place in Year 1, with possibility of renewal.

Eligibility and Selection

The HKU Presidential PhD Scholars shall be the brightest candidates who are passionate about research applying for the full-time PhD programmes at HKU. Applications for the HKU-PS Programme should be submitted following the instruction on https://www.gradsch.hku.hk/gradsch/rola/online-application-for-mphil-phd-admission.

PhD applicants with very strong qualifications in academic and/or research achievements will be considered for the HKU-PS Programme, with consultation from Faculties. After successful screening for the first batch of candidates who submitted the applications before Dec 1, 2020, further selection will be done in three batches with cut-off dates on March 1, April 30 and August 31, 2021, respectively. Candidates will be selected by a panel of professors representing different disciplines. Within one month of the cut-off dates, the shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend an interview.

February 2021