

## CityU-CS Overseas Learning Funding Scheme 2020-2021

### Objectives

To broaden students' global perspectives, gain an in-depth knowledge of a different culture in an immersive environment and promote holistic personal development through participation in learning programmes taking place outside Hong Kong for at least two weeks, preferably lasting for four weeks or above.

### Intended Learning Outcomes

- To cultivate an international perspective in an increasingly globalized environment.
- To experience and appreciate a different culture in an immersive setting.
- To enhance language proficiency and intercultural communication skills.
- To develop independency and maturity.

### Recommended features of the learning programmes

- A wide variety of teaching and learning activities comprising classroom learning, hands-on exercises, sports activities, social interactions, cultural exploration and excursions etc..
- Vibrant cultural exchanges with local community and people from different backgrounds.
- Comprise intellectual elements to hone students' problem solving skills, and stimulate creativity and innovation.

### Eligibility

- BSc Computer Science students are eligible to apply.
- Priority is given to students who have not participated in or in the near future will not join overseas learning activities organized by the University.
- The student's status must be active throughout the programme period.
- Final year students can apply for graduation in the Summer Term of the Academic Year 2020-2021 in order to be eligible to apply for funding from the Scheme.

### Programme Duration

At least two weeks, preferably lasting for four weeks or above.

### Programme Period

During semester breaks in the Academic Year 2020-2021 with the commencement date not later than 30 June 2021.

## Application deadline:

Submission deadline: End of March 2021 for the summer break

## Application Procedures

(1) Students identify suitable learning programmes offered by universities or universities with the subject of Computer Science ranked Top 100 in the following four ranking systems in the most recent year:

- Quacquarelli Symonds (QS)
- Times Higher Education (THES)
- Shanghai Jiaotong World Ranking of Universities (ARWU)
- US News

Please refer to the links below for the rankings.

University Ranking	Subject Ranking of Computer Science
Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) <a href="https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2021">https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2021</a>	Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) – Computer Science and Information Systems <a href="https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/university-subject-rankings/2020/computer-science-information-systems">https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/university-subject-rankings/2020/computer-science-information-systems</a>
Times Higher Education (THES) <a href="https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings">https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings</a>	Times Higher Education (THES) – Computer Science <a href="https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/2021/subject-ranking/computer-science#!/page/0/length/25/sort_by/rank/sort_order/asc/cols/stats">https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/2021/subject-ranking/computer-science#!/page/0/length/25/sort_by/rank/sort_order/asc/cols/stats</a>
Shanghai Jiaotong World Ranking of Universities (ARWU) <a href="http://www.shanghairanking.com/ARWU2020.html">http://www.shanghairanking.com/ARWU2020.html</a>	Shanghai Jiaotong World Ranking of Universities (ARWU) – Computer Science and Engineering <a href="http://www.shanghairanking.com/Shanghairanking-Subject-Rankings/computer-science-engineering.html">http://www.shanghairanking.com/Shanghairanking-Subject-Rankings/computer-science-engineering.html</a>
US News <a href="https://www.usnews.com/education/best-global-universities/rankings">https://www.usnews.com/education/best-global-universities/rankings</a>	US News – Computer Science <a href="https://www.usnews.com/education/best-global-universities/computer-science">https://www.usnews.com/education/best-global-universities/computer-science</a>

- (2) Consult your Academic Advisors or the Programme Coordinator about the suitability of the learning programmes if necessary.
- (3) Submit an online application form in the link below and provide all necessary documents and information as required by the deadlines.  
<https://form1.cs.cityu.edu.hk/olfs>
- (4) Shortlisted applicants may be invited for selection interviews.

### Notes to applicants:

- You should enroll in the learning programme directly with the host university upon successful application, and should make sure that the entrance requirements set by the host university are met.
- You should make the travel arrangements by yourselves, and are responsible for obtaining the visa or entry permit as required for enrolling in the learning programme. Your passport should be valid for six months beyond your intended stay in the foreign country.

- Students are responsible for the living expenses during the programme.
- Students are not eligible to receive sponsorship if he/she fails to complete the programme. The Department reserves the right not to provide sponsorship if students do not enroll in pre-approved programmes.

### **Special notes to applicants:**

In light of the uncertainties brought about by the pandemic situation, please take note of the following:

- If the overseas learning programmes are offered in **online mode** (or moved from in-person to online mode in a later stage due to the pandemic situation), **the applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis**. Students are requested to notify the Department of the change of the delivery mode.
- Avoid making any non-refundable payment including airfare until the host university can ascertain that the learning programme can take place as planned.
- Your attention is drawn to the financial responsibility in the application process. In the event that the overseas learning programmes are cancelled, any expenses incurred e.g. personal insurance, visa application payment, non-refundable payment made to the host university will be fully borne by the students.

### **Funding Support**

Direct student costs incurred by the programme fee, transportation fee (economy class) and accommodation can be subsidized up to HK\$20,000 per student for a learning programme of 4 weeks or above, or 60% of the direct student costs, whichever is lower.

Sponsorship is calculated on a pro-rata basis for learning programmes lasting for less than 4 weeks (e.g. sponsorship capped at HK\$10,000 for a 2-week programme and HK\$15,000 for a 3-week programme).

The Department may, at its full discretion, consider and adjust the amount of sponsorship on a case-by-case basis, with the sponsorship not exceeding 60% of the total direct costs.

Priority is given to students who have not participated in or in the near future will not join overseas learning activities organized by the University.

The sponsorship will be released to students on reimbursement basis, upon successful completion of the programme. Students are required to submit the following documents to CS General Office **before 31 May 2021** for making the necessary financial arrangements.

- Receipts of the programme fee, accommodation, air tickets (economy class)

Upon successful completion of the programme, students are required to complete the following post-programme tasks and submit the required documents within one month after completion of the programme in order to receive the sponsorship.

- Submission of a 500-word reflective journal on the learning experience and 3 representative photos

in digital format (file size larger than 1 MB for each photo.) to <https://portland.sharepoint.com/sites/O365G-Exchange> .

- Boarding passes
- Proof of completion of the programme (e.g. certificate issued by the host university) and other relevant supporting documents to the General Office of the Department of Computer Science.

*Notes: Submitted information including texts, images, audio/ video files may be used in websites with public access and in institutional activities like exhibitions and information sessions for promotional purposes by the Department of Computer Science and the University.*

### **Other Available Funding Resource**

- **Scheme for Subsidy on Exchange (SSE)**

Established by the Education Bureau in 2015, the Scheme for Subsidy on Exchange (SSE) provides funding to students covered by the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) or means-tested grants/ loans from the HKSAR Government. For details, please refer to [http://www.cityu.edu.hk/geo/oge\\_otherfundresources.htm](http://www.cityu.edu.hk/geo/oge_otherfundresources.htm) .

### **Travel Arrangements**

Students should purchase air tickets (economy class) by themselves and be responsible for their travel arrangements. Please note that only intercity transportation required by the programme for relevant learning activities will be subsidized by the University.

Students are responsible for obtaining the visa or entry permit as required for enrolling in the learning programmes. Please also ensure that your passports are valid for six months beyond your intended stay in the foreign countries.

### **Insurance**

Throughout the programme period, all students are covered by the Group Personal Accident Insurance Policy of the University. Students who will depart from Hong Kong and return to Hong Kong will also be covered by the Group Travel Insurance Policy. For details of the coverage, please visit the website of CityU Finance Office at <http://www6.cityu.edu.hk/fo/>. If additional insurance coverage is needed, students may make the arrangements by themselves.

### **Programme Coordinator**

Dr Raymond Wong