

Operation Guidelines for MOST Research Project Grants

Rectified per MOST Letter No. 1060075567 issued on September 30, 2017
Unit Responsible: Department of Planning

- I. The Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) has established these operating guidelines for relevant tasks pertaining to the subsidization of scientific and technological research by colleges, universities, and academic research institutions in an effort to elevate the level of scientific and technological research and development in Taiwan.
- II. Applicant institutions (i.e., research conducting institutions) shall be approved by MOST to be eligible recipients of subsidization in accordance with the Operation Guidelines for Institutions Applying for MOST Grants.
- III. The principal investigator and co-investigators are required to have the following qualifications:
 1. Applicants teaching at the applicant institution must meet the following requirements:
 - (1) Domestic public/private colleges/universities:
 - a. Hold an assistant professorship or higher position
 - b. Have taught for three years or more and published articles in established domestic/foreign academic journals or patent technology reports
 - c. Hold a doctorate degree and the equivalent of an assistant research fellow or higher position
 - d. Have served as a visiting staff member for more than two years at an affiliated hospital or who hold a Master's degree and have been engaged in research work for three years and have published articles in established domestic/foreign academic journals for medical personnel
 - (2) Domestic public/private research institutions:
 - a. Hold an associate research fellow position or its equivalent or higher, or hold a senior technical specialist position
 - b. Hold a doctorate degree and an assistant research fellow position or its equivalent or higher
 - c. Have served as a visiting staff member for more than two years or at an affiliated hospital or who hold a Master's degree and have been engaged in research work for three years and have published articles in established domestic/foreign academic journals for medical personnel
 - (3) Medical institutions:
 - a. Have served as a visiting staff member for more than two years or

hold a Master's degree and have been engaged in research work for three years and have published articles in established domestic/foreign academic journals for medical personnel

b. Hold a doctorate degree and an assistant research fellow (or its equivalent or higher) position

2. Personnel who have retired in accordance with pertinent regulations:

Academia Sinica academicians, recipients of the MOE's National Professorship or Academic Awards, two-time recipients of the MOST Academic Research Award, recipients of the Outstanding Scholar Award from the Foundation for the Advancement of Outstanding Scholarship or other prestigious awards recognized by MOST. For such applicants, the applicant institution must state in the application its willingness to provide relevant space and equipment for research and be in charge of all relevant administrative affairs.

3. For academic institutions that have implemented the campus fund system, teachers and research fellows hired in accordance with the Implementation Principles for the Hiring of Teachers, Researchers and Staff Members for the National University Fund meeting the criteria for the principal investigator as described in Item 1.

4. For private colleges and universities, teachers, and research fellows hired in accordance with the Implementation Principles for the Hiring of Teachers, Researchers and Staff Members for the National University Fund meeting the criteria for the principal investigator as described in Item 1.

5. Candidates holding a doctorate degree in nuclear energy and aeronautics at public colleges and universities hired in accordance with the Procedure of Hiring Technological Personnel with Rare Specializations for Public Colleges and Universities.

6. Visiting staff members with two years or more of experience at public medical institutions hired via medical care related funds or research fellows that have earned their doctorate degree after two years or more of research work and published articles in established domestic/foreign academic journals.

For applicants meeting the criteria of Item 6 but who have been put on temporary transfer, their employer may submit application on their behalves. However, personnel on temporary transfer to overseas government units may not apply.

IV. Research projects can be divided into the following two categories:

1. General research project:

Those who meet the qualifications of principal investigators may submit their application for a research project in accordance with their field of research specialization or refer to items of MOST's discipline development plan.

2. Research project for junior researchers:

Teachers and researchers who have taught or engaged in research in domestic/foreign institutions in the past five years or who have been teaching or engaged in research within five years after completing their doctorate degree and who meet the required qualifications for the principal investigator may submit their application for a research project. Priority will be given to applications involved in research projects that span three to five years. Please note that applicants who have taught or held a dedicated researcher position for a combined duration of over five years at the point of their application submission will not qualify as junior researchers.

V. Research projects can be divided into the following two types:

1. Individual research projects:

RA research project proposed by the principal investigator in accordance with his or her field of research specialization or in accordance with items of MOST's discipline development plan.

2. Integrated research projects:

An integrated research project comprises a main project and a sub-project. The principal investigator of an integrated research project shall establish a research group in accordance with the objective-oriented key research items that MOST has planned and promoted the proposed cross-disciplinary or cross-campus project or a project that the principal investigator has proposed on a specific topic and for which he or she has established a dedicated research group.

VI. Depending on the actual needs of a research project, the principal investigator may apply for the following subsidies:

1. Business fee:

(1) Research labor fee:

a. Pay and temporary wages for full-time and part-time assistants shall be subject to the MOST terms for hiring contract assistants in grant subsidized research projects.

b. Pay for post-doctoral research fellows:

Should the research project involve the participation of domestic/foreign/Chinese post-doctoral research fellows, subsidies for their pay must be submitted along with the proposal to be processed in accordance with the MOST Operation Guidelines for Hiring Visiting Technological Talents. During project approval, projects that have already confirmed their candidates for post-doctoral research fellow shall be reviewed and approved concurrently by MOST. If a project has yet to determine its post-doctoral research fellows, only the number of positions would be approved. Once the principal investigator has nominated suitable candidates to be reviewed by MOST, the required hiring and pay reimbursement would follow. Pay for post-doctoral

research fellows shall be approved and disbursed separately and may not be included as part of the research labor fee for any project unless otherwise specified by MOST.

(2) Consumables, articles, books, and miscellaneous expenses: Other fees directly relating to the research project.

(3) Fees for visiting foreign scholars: The fees for inviting foreign or Chinese scholars to visit Taiwan for project execution.

2. Research equipment fee: Equipment required for and directly related to project execution with a unit price over NT\$ 10,000 and a lifespan over two years.

3. Overseas travel expenses:

(1) Travel expenses that incur due to the need for researchers to travel abroad or to China. Overseas travel is limited to the two following types:

a. Execution of international collaboration and off-site research:

The principal investigator and relevant personnel involved in the project are required to engage in collaboration with foreign researchers/institutions to conduct experiments/conduct field studies/collect samples or carry out off-site research at research facilities abroad.

b. Participation in international academic conferences:

The principal investigator and relevant personnel involved in the project are taking part in an international academic conference to publish their research papers, give a keynote speech or serve as the chair of the conference.

(2) Travel expenses that incur due to the need for the principal investigator and relevant personnel to make specific visits abroad for the promotion of projects that are planned and subsidized by MOST.

VII. When a research project has been reviewed and approved by MOST, the allowance for the principal investigator will be approved and disbursed to the principal investigator during the execution period of the research project.

For integrated research projects or research projects planned and promoted by MOST with co-investigators not serving as the principal investigator of other MOST projects, the allowance will be approved and disbursed to the co-investigators during the execution period of the project.

The principal investigator and co-investigators may only collect one allowance during the execution period of their project. Those who have already collected their allowance for a specialized MOST research project may no longer collect an allowance for other research projects. This restriction does not apply to allowance or planning fees collected for academia-industry collaboration

research projects or projects promoted by MOST.

For principal investigators eligible for the allowance who are required to do short-term overseas research, leave their position, be transferred to a different organization that is not subsidized by MOST or to retire resulting in their inability to continue their project or rendering them non-eligible as principal investigators, the applicant institution shall immediately cease disbursing their allowance and remit the amount to MOST. This restriction does not apply to special cases where MOST has consented to the disbursement of the allowance.

Should the principal investigator be seconded to a government agency to serve as a government official or legislator and prior to transfer had been involved in MOST projects and collected relevant allowances, he or she may no longer collect the allowance while serving as a government official or legislator. In such cases, the applicant institution shall remit their allowance to MOST. For government officials/legislators that have applied for MOST grant projects and have been approved, they will not receive the allowance during the period in which they serve as officials/legislators. The applicant institution shall remit the already disbursed allowance to MOST.

- VIII. Research projects that have been reviewed and approved by MOST shall receive administrative fees during the project execution period.
- IX. No principal investigators or co-investigators may act as a paid assistant in any other MOST research project during the execution period of his or her own project.
- X. Applicant institutions are required to submit their applications before the deadline specified by MOST; no late submissions will be accepted. However, under the following circumstances, applications will be accepted and reviewed as they are submitted:
 - 1. Applicant institutions have hired new employees or existing employees have met the eligibility requirements stated in previous paragraphs that have never submitted a proposal to MOST. Candidates meeting this requirement may submit their proposal on the date of their employment or within three years after they have completed their doctoral degree.
 - 2. Principal investigators that have previously applied for a MOST project who have taught or engaged in research work abroad for more than a year and have thus returned to domestic employment but have yet to submit a project proposal to MOST upon their return. Candidates meeting this requirement may submit their proposal within a year, starting from their date of employment.
 - 3. Personnel who have been transferred to overseas government units and have yet to submit a project proposal to MOST after their transfer back to their original position. Candidates meeting this requirement may submit their

proposal within a year, starting from the date of their return to their original position.

4. Personnel who have been seconded to central government agencies to serve as ministers or legislators may submit their proposal within six months after their transfer back to their original position.

For Items 1 and 2, eligible candidates may only submit one proposal. However, for proposals that have entered the actual review process, but have been withdrawn by the applicant institution, candidates may no longer submit that proposal.

For missions and other objective-oriented research projects planned and promoted by MOST, other application deadlines shall apply.

- XI. Principal investigators are required to prepare the following documents (see Items 1-6 below) online at the MOST website and submit their proposals to their applicant institutions, which shall review and approve their proposals before submitting them to MOST. In addition, applicant institutions shall submit both an application list and a declaration attesting to the qualifications of principal investigators to MOST for review. Applications with missing documentation or failing to meet any of the requirements will not be accepted if the applicant institution fails to submit the required documentations or make relevant rectifications within the given deadline:

1. Project proposal
2. General information on the principal investigator and co-investigators (for individual research projects or for the main project and sub-project of an integrated research project)
3. As required by MOST, applications must include the principal investigator's research performance or reports of relevant results within a specific period prior to the deadline (the period may be extended for two more years if the applicant has given birth or taken maternal leave. Applicants that have gone to serve their mandatory national service may have an extension in accordance with the duration of their national service but must submit the relevant substantiating documents).
4. Relevant documents concerning research ethics reviews:
 - (1) For research projects involving human experimentations or the collection of human specimens/embryo/stem cells, the application must enclose approval documentation from the pertinent medical ethics committee or joint institutional review board. For projects involving gene recombination, Biosafety Committee approval documents to conduct gene recombination experiments must be enclosed with the application. For projects involving gene transgenic field trials, approval documents from the competent authorities must be enclosed with the application. For

projects involving animal experimentation, approval documents from the Laboratory Animal Administrative Committee must be enclosed with the application: for projects involving grade two infectious biological materials or higher, approval documents from relevant agencies must be enclosed with the application. If the required approval documentation cannot be submitted along with the application, applicants shall submit the substantiating documents that have already been submitted along with the missing documents within six months.

(2) For MOST Department of Humanity and Social Sciences research projects involving individuals or groups as targets of study or using methods of intervention/interaction or data that could identify specific subjects in order to carry out systematic investigation or exploration of knowledge for specific disciplines on individual targets or groups, applications must enclose substantiating documentation proving that a research ethics review had already been conducted prior to project implementation.

5. For projects that apply for the use of a marine research vessel, the applicant must also complete a Marine Research Vessel Usage Application.

6. For projects that involving carrying out clinical trials, applicants are required to perform relevant gender analysis and incorporate a gender analysis checklist. Clinical trials refer to scientific research that features human subjects as targets to discover or verify the effects and value of various prevention measures, treatments, or medication/equipment/prescription/therapy for a specific diagnosis.

XII. Principal investigators who have applied to carry out two or more projects are required to state their project priority in their proposals. In addition, priority must be given to research projects spanning multiple years over new applications. MOST shall review such applications with due prudence and stringent standards based on the number of projects that a principal investigator is involved in.

Principal investigators seconded to central government agencies to serve as ministers or legislators may only carry out one research project in a given year. The annual budget for their project during their service as ministers/legislators may not exceed the total budget for their project during the period of their service.

XIII. The application for research projects that span multiple years shall be handled in accordance with the following regulations:

1. Research projects that fall under the category of continuous studies shall be applied for as a research project that spans multiple years, with research content and required budgets submitted on a yearly basis.
2. Budget approval for projects spanning multiple years

- (1) Single approval covering multiple years: During the entire course of execution, the project shall be assigned a unique serial number, with the total budget subsidy being signed for once in the first year. For projects that involve disbursements to be made in installments, should the project require any change in budget allocation during the execution period, such requests shall be processed in accordance with MOST Principles for Handling Research Project Grants.
 - (2) Annual approval for multiple years: During the entire course of execution, the project shall be assigned a different serial number on a yearly basis. With the exception of the initial year in which the budget list is approved, the budget for the remaining years shall be pre-approved. Should the project require any change in its pre-approved budget allocation, applicants shall visit the MOST website to prepare their budget change application form when they submit their progress report in order to have MOST approve their budget.
3. Projects that span multiple years approved by MOST shall be executed in accordance with the given time frame, with mid-term progress reports submitted via the MOST website two (2) months prior to the annual deadline.
 4. For a continuing project spanning multiple years that has not received the single approval covering multiple years, applicants are required to submit their proposals for the subsequent year. When applying, applicants shall submit a report of the progress made in the previous year and a summary of work highlights for the current year.
 5. Ongoing research projects that span multiple years shall be executed with top priority and may not be cancelled except under special circumstances.
 6. For principal investigators reaching or surpassing the age of 65 who have received approval for a service extension to apply for a research project that spans multiple years, the applicant institution shall attach their letter of employment or other official documentation to substantiate the extension of their tenure. MOST will determine if the project will be approved based on review results and the duration of the principal investigator's tenure.

XIV. Review method, criteria, and duration for research projects are as follows:

1. Review method:

- (1) To be implemented in accordance with MOST Research Project Review Mechanism and Operation Guidelines for Research Project Review Committee Member Selection.
- (2) For projects that were deemed unsuitable for a grant as an integrated research project, if the proposed sub-project were deemed suitable as an individual project, MOST may review the sub-project in question as an individual research project.

(3) For an integrated research project, when deemed necessary, the principal investigator may be asked to report to MOST or MOST may send its representative to make an onsite visit at the applicant institution.

2. Review criteria:

(1) For individual research projects, factors to consider include the principal investigator's competence in research performance and project execution; the significance and innovative characteristics of the subject of the project; the feasibility of research content and methodology and the feasibility of the items anticipated to be completed, the outcome, the budget, and the labor required.

(2) For integrated research projects, in addition to criteria involved for individual research projects, other factors to be considered include the necessity of project integration (i.e., the overall objective, overall framework of task division and collaboration and the level of correlation and integration between different sub-projects), the coordination of manpower (i.e., the leadership ability and the coordination capacity of the principal investigator the professional competence of principal investigators of different sub-projects and the harmony of their collaboration), the integration of relevant resources (i.e., the status of various instruments and equipment under shared use needed for various sub-projects, research experience, ideas of result sharing and so forth), the degree of collaboration and coordination between the applicant institution and other units and the anticipated synergy and benefits from the integration and so forth.

3. Operation Review Period: The reviews shall be completed and the results shall be announced within six months after the submission deadline. However, the duration may be extended when deemed necessary.

XV. Applicants with research projects that have not been approved for a grant may submit an appeal in accordance with Directions for Appeal of Review Results for Single-Topic Research Projects Funded by the Ministry of Science and Technology.

XVI. The signing of the contract and disbursement of subsidy for grant projects shall be processed in accordance with the letter of approval issued by MOST.

XVII. A grant project with an approved subsidy shall be carried out duly in accordance with the contents of its proposal and may not be changed. However, after submitting relevant documentation during the execution period of the project and with consent from MOST, this restriction may not apply under the following circumstances:

1. Failure of the principal investigator or co-investigators to continue the project or meet with required qualifications as stated in III; unless explicit consent

from MOST is given to continue with the project under special circumstances, the project in question shall be cancelled, halted, suspended, transferred to a new research conducting institution with the principal and/or co-investigators replaced.

2. Per MOST regulations, changes in budget purpose, transfer or budget increase may only be made with the approval of MOST after notifying MOST regarding the matter.
3. Changes to the duration of implementation: With the exception of special circumstances, extensions to any project may not exceed a year in duration. No additional subsidies will be granted for any expenses incurred during the period of extension.
4. Principal investigators seconded to central government agencies to serve as ministers or legislators and thus failing to meet the requirements described in Item 2 of XII shall submit an application to MOST to change their project within three months after assuming their new positions.

Per previous item, the original employer of a principal investigator applying to continue with his or her project after transferring to a different institution shall submit a photocopy of the letter of employment from the new employer to MOST so that the transfer can be made with approval from MOST.

XVIII. Applicant institutions must complete their grant report within three months of the conclusion of their research projects in accordance with the following regulations:

1. For MOST-granted projects involving local verification of original documentation of expenses, all relevant original documents of expenses shall be verified in accordance with Implementation Guidelines Governing Local Verification of Original Documents of Expenses for MOST Subsidies and regulations governing research project subsidy contracts, with a copy of the research project budget statement submitted to MOST for grant reporting.
2. For MOST-granted projects not involving local verification of original documentations of expenses, the following documentations shall be submitted to MOST for grant reporting:
 - (1) Original documents of expenses: A binder of the original copies of receipts for various expenditures under different subsidy categories along with the project application and budget approval list.
 - (2) A copy of the research project budget statement.
3. Should a project end up with a remaining balance, the balance shall be remitted to MOST in full. However, schools that have implemented a campus fund system, institutions operating under the National Social Education Operations Fund and Academia Sinica are exempted from

having to remit the balance of their research projects to MOST except as otherwise stated in pertinent MOST regulations.

When finalizing the expenditure of a project, the applicant institution is required to use the MOST website to prepare and print out the research project budget statement and the grant reporting confirmation checklist.

- XIX. Applicant institutions ought to supervise principal investigators by reminding them to submit electronic copies of required documents such as their research findings report, report on overseas travel, and so forth within three months of their project conclusion on the MOST website:
1. With the exception of science and technology projects that are sensitive in nature, research reports shall be published in accordance with the following format:
 - (1) Abstract of report: To be published immediately. Content involving patent application, technology transfer and other intellectual properties that are not suitable for public disclosure shall be omitted.
 - (2) Full report: To be published immediately. Content involving patent application, technology transfer, other intellectual properties or dissertations that have yet to be published may be delayed for public disclosure for up to no longer than two years after the date of project conclusion. This restriction may not apply under special circumstances with explicit consent from MOST.
 2. Applicants who have received subsidies for overseas travel in order to conduct international collaboration, off-site research, or visits are required to submit their report on the visit or the outcomes of the collaborative research.
 3. Applicants who have received subsidies for overseas travel in order to attend an international academic conference are required to submit their report on the conference, along with substantiating documentation proving the publication of their papers at the event and the published abstract/full article of their papers.
 4. For research projects that have subsidized pay for post-doctoral research fellows under labor fees, the researchers involved are required to submit their research reports.
 5. For research projects involving clinical trials and gender analysis, the submitted report should also include a report on the gender analysis that was conducted, with an account on the outcome of the gender analysis.
- XX. For applicant institutions that conducted a MOST-granted research project, grant reporting and the submission of the research report as described in points XVIII and XIX must be completed in order for the research project in question to be deemed closed.
- XXI. Principal investigators who fail to complete their grant report or submit their

research report will no longer be eligible for future project grants from MOST. Applicant institutions that fail to complete their grant report or submit a research report within the specified deadline even after notification from MOST shall have a portion of their administrative fee or the scheduled subsidy of the subsequent disbursement for an ongoing project deducted by MOST. Depending on the circumstances, MOST may even suspend a portion or all approved subsidies for the applicant institution in question. The same penalty will apply to applicant institutions that fail to complete their grant report in the required manner or submit non-conforming research reports even after notification from MOST to rectify the situation by a specific deadline.

XXII. Should an applicant institution discover any instance of violation of academic research ethics committed by any participant in their research project, appropriate actions shall be taken immediately and the outcome of the actions shall be reported promptly to MOST.

Should the conception of idea, its implementation, or the presentation of project outcomes by the principal investigator and/or co-investigators violate academic research ethics, the violation shall be handed in accordance with MOST Guidelines for Handling and Investigating Research Misconduct.

XXIII. Where the applicant institution fails to comply with relevant MOST regulations for grant/subsidy application, implementation and administration, MOST may recover subsidies, deduct subsidies from the subsequent installment, or reduce the ratio of the subsidy assigned to administrative fees for the institution in question, depending on the severity of the offense.

XXIV. When executing a granted research project, the principal investigator shall utilize the subsidies as per the purpose(s) stated for the grant. The principal investigator shall assume full responsibility for the authenticity of all documents of expense and full liability for providing false expense documentation.

The applicant institution shall audit *de facto* the expenses of the research project grant. The institution shall not approve any expenses not used as per the grant purposes by the principal investigator and shall request the principal investigator to make improvements. Should the institution discover reports of false or inflated accounts by the principal investigator, the institution shall take appropriate actions and report the outcome of the actions promptly to MOST.

XV. MOST may seek to recover any expense from an applicant institution should any document of payment be found to suggest that a payment has not been made in accordance with the stated grant purpose.

When an applicant institution is under suspicion for reporting false or inflated amounts for any expense reported in accounts for its research project, MOST

shall be responsible for implementing a preliminary review, where the applicant institution and the principal investigator of the project will be asked to provide a written account of the incident in question. If the outcome of the preliminary review confirms such suspicions to be valid, MOST shall convene a taskforce to review the incident:

1. The taskforce shall be chaired by the MOST Deputy Minister, with members comprising heads of relevant MOST departments and external experts.
2. Should sufficient evidence be found to confirm a violation during the review, the following penalties may be made depending on the severity of the offense, and the applicant institution and the principal investigator shall be notified of the penalty:
 - (1) Written reprimand for the principal investigator;
 - (2) Revocation of the principal investigator's privileges for life or for a specific number of years;
 - (3) Request to the applicant institution and principal investigators to reflect upon the violation and rectify the situation;
 - (4) Recovery of a portion of the grant or the grant in full;
 - (5) Recovery of the administrative fee granted to the applicant institution; the amount may be 100% - 300% of the false/inflated amount;
 - (6) Reduction in the percentage of the administrative fee subsidy from the grant for the applicant institution starting from the following year; or
 - (7) If the violation results in serious consequences that require criminal investigation by law enforcement agencies, the applicant institution and principal investigator shall be reported to the police.

XXVI. Other terms:

1. The applicant institution is under obligation to carefully review a principal investigator's qualifications and only prepare the application list after verifying said qualifications. Responsible personnel shall sign the application list as endorsement from the institution. Should a principal investigator be found not to have the required qualifications after the project has been approved for the grant, the applicant institution shall be required to remit any grant/subsidy that it may have received for the project.
2. Principal investigator s are obliged to carry out their projects in accordance with Confidentiality Guidelines for Technological Data and other pertinent regulations.
3. Applicant institutions and principal investigators are required to establish corresponding safety and control measures in accordance with the Handbook of Safety Control Operations for Sensitive Government-Funded Technological Research Projects during the execution of projects that have

been deemed by MOST to be sensitive in nature and must comply with pertinent regulations and MOST's regulation for confidentiality. Applicant institutions and principal investigators who fail to comply may be rejected by MOST in future applications for project grants/subsidies and have their previous project subsidies revoked in addition to facing relevant legal liabilities.

4. For two or more research projects with implementation periods overlapping for three months or longer (including extensions permitted by MOST), the tally should count normally towards the principal investigator's portfolio for MOST projects conducted (with the exception of general research projects that MOST has specifically excluded).
5. Applicants may not repeatedly submit the same research proposal for a MOST grant. MOST will take action against applicants who violate this requirement as per MOST Directions for Handling and Reviewing Research Ethics Cases.
6. Applicants submitting the same research proposal to MOST and to other institutions for subsidy are required to clearly state which items and amounts of subsidy they are seeking from MOST and which from the institution in question. Applicants may not seek multiple subsidies for the same item from MOST and the institution in question.
7. For research projects involving animal experimentation, the application unit shall apply to be reviewed in accordance with the Implementation Guidelines Governing Animal Science Application, Organization, Supervision and Administration. If the applicant institution received a "Poor" rating and has failed to make relevant improvements, the project may not be granted by MOST.
8. The applicant institution shall complete the following tasks by no later than December 1, 2017. MOST shall decline research proposals from applicant institutions that fail to complete the following by the aforementioned deadline:
 - (1) Establish academic research ethics administration and self-governing regulations;
 - (2) Appoint or set up a dedicated unit governing academic research ethics;
 - (3) Establish an academic research ethics education system; and
 - (4) Establish a standard operating procedure to handle cases of academic research misconduct.
9. Effective from December 1, 2017, principal investigators submitting their proposal to MOST for the first time and all listed participating researchers in their proposal will be required to complete no less than six hours of research ethics training within three years of proposal submission. Substantiating

documentation of their training shall be issued to the applicant institution for reference purposes. Upon project commencement, researchers participating in a MOST project for the first time shall complete six hours of research ethics training within three months of their employment and submit their training documentation to the application unit for reference purposes.

XXVII. The MOST Principles for Handling Research Project Grants, the research project grant contract, the research project execution agreement and other pertinent government regulations shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to matters not covered in this document.