

Education Bureau Circular Memorandum No. 68/2025

From: Secretary for Education

Ref.: 1084-2010-8050-9075-00025 (Part 001)

Date: 14 May 2025

To: Supervisors / Heads / Teachers of Kindergartens, Primary and Secondary Schools (including Special Schools) (except English Schools Foundation Schools, International Schools and Private Schools offering non-formal curriculum)

Educational Research Award Scheme (2025/26) under T-excel@hk Project

Summary

The purpose of this circular memorandum is to invite applications for the Educational Research Award Scheme (“the Scheme”) (2025/26).

Details

2. Since its inception in June 2013, the Committee on Professional Development of Teachers and Principals (COTAP) has been working towards building shared vision, mission and objectives for enhancing the professional development of teachers and school leaders in Hong Kong. To achieve these goals, COTAP has launched T-excel@hk, an overarching project which comprises eight areas of focus¹.
3. The Scheme is an initiative under T-share, which is one of the focus areas under T-excel@hk. It aims to encourage teachers to try out, improve and share new or effective pedagogical practices through educational research; further enhance teachers’ professionalism and support their continuous professional development; and promote a research culture within the education sector.
4. All full-time regular teachers^{2&3} serving in local kindergartens, primary and secondary schools (including special schools) (except English Schools Foundation schools, international schools and private schools offering non-formal curriculum) are eligible to apply for participation in the Scheme.

¹ The eight areas of focus are T-standard⁺, T-dataset^{PD}, T-train^β, T-surf^{24/7}, T-craft³, T-share, T-applause and T-bridge.

² In the context of Direct Subsidy Scheme schools and private schools, “regular teachers” refers to regular members of the teaching staff in school.

³ For teachers applying for participation in the Scheme (2025/26) as a group, the principal researcher must be a full-time regular teacher in the 2025/26 school year. Teachers applying individually will have to be a full-time regular teacher in the 2025/26 school year.

5. The Scheme (2025/26) will be open for applications from 2 to 31 October 2025. Interested teachers may submit an application together with a research proposal to the Secretariat of the Working Group on the Educational Research Award Scheme (“the Secretariat”) on or before the deadline (31 October 2025). The application should be recommended by the Principal of the applicant’s/applicants’ school/kindergarten. For more details of the Scheme, please refer to the Information Sheet at **Annex 1**. The Application Form can be found at **Annex 2**.

6. Submitted applications will be vetted by the Working Group on the Educational Research Award Scheme (“the Working Group”), consisting of experienced education professionals, based on criteria such as feasibility and significance of the research. Successful applicants have to submit an educational research report, in either Chinese or English, on or before 31 August 2026. The report will be vetted by the Working Group holistically with regard to various considerations including implementation of the research, discussion and analysis of data, presentation and contributions to the education profession, etc.

7. Each research group with its research report accepted will receive an award of HK\$10,000 and a certificate. Selected reports will be incorporated into an education publication to be released online to facilitate sharing of new or effective pedagogical practices.

Enquiries

8. For more information about the Scheme and the online education publication, please visit the “Educational Research Award Scheme” webpage (<https://www.cotap.hk/index.php/en/t-share/educational-research-award-scheme>). For further information about the Scheme, please contact the Secretariat at 3698 3698.

Ms W P LEE
for Secretary for Education

c.c. Heads of Sections – for information