

HASS INTERNATIONAL PHD / POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP (HIPS)

HIPS Document #1: INFORMATION BOOKLET

(For applications received on or before 30 November 2017)

Updated: 28 August 2017

1. WHAT IS HIPS?

- 1.1 The College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (HASS) International **PhD / Postdoctoral Fellowship Scholarship (HIPS)** aims to encourage outstanding Singapore citizens to pursue an academic career in the humanities, arts and social sciences at the Nanyang Technological University (NTU), by supporting their doctoral studies / fellowship abroad.
- 1.2 Under HIPS, the successful candidates will be employed as University staff. They will be granted paid leave to pursue a sponsored PhD programme / postdoctoral fellowship in an approved overseas university or in NTU with an extended period of research in an approved overseas partner university. Upon successful completion of the PhD programme / postdoctoral fellowship, they will be appointed as tenure-track Assistant Professors of the University.

2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 HIPS is open to **Singapore Citizens only**.
- 2.2 The successful applicant will possess at least a Second Upper Class Honours Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts or Bachelor of Communication Studies degree or a Master's degree from NTU or equivalent qualification. Undergraduate students in their final year of study may also apply. A detailed study plan and interviews by Programme, College, and University panels will form an important part of the selection process.

3. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

- 3.1 The area of research pursued should be relevant to the University's and College's current and future teaching and research directions.
- 3.2 HIPS allows successful candidates ("Awardees") to pursue their PhD programme / postdoctoral fellowship overseas, through:
 - (a) Pursuing the entire PhD programme / postdoctoral fellowship in an approved overseas university; or

For PhD candidates only

- (b) Pursuing a PhD programme in NTU, with at least two years of study in an approved overseas partner university to ensure sufficient exposure to a different learning environment; or
- (c) Pursuing a joint PhD degree. This degree must be jointly offered by NTU and a recognised partner University.

3.3 The Awardee will maintain a regular and academically significant relationship with NTU during the PhD programme / postdoctoral fellowship years, including delivering several presentations, engaging in yearly discussion with the host Programme at NTU, and acknowledging NTU on all publications and conference presentations.

4. MENTORSHIP

4.1 NTU will appoint one or more Faculty Mentors to each Awardee from the Awardee's home School and primary disciplinary area.

4.2 The responsibilities of the Faculty Mentor include:

- (a) Providing regular guidance to Awardees as their PhD programme / postdoctoral fellowship progresses; and
- (b) Ensuring that Awardees engage in the academic life and activities of the University.

5. BENEFITS

5.1 Before the start of the programme, PhD Awardees will be appointed by NTU to a Teaching Assistantship, and Postdoctoral Awardees to a Research Fellowship.

5.2 Awardees will enjoy prevailing staff benefits, as follows:

Benefits	PhD	Postdoctoral Fellowship
Starting salary	S\$3,300 per month	S\$4,000 per month
Tuition fees	Fully covered	Not applicable
Compulsory fees	On a case by case basis	On a case by case basis
Contributions to Central Provident Fund (CPF) account	Prevailing rate	Prevailing rate
Return economy-class airfares between Singapore and country of study	Up to two sets per candidature	Up to two sets per fellowship
Overseas maintenance allowance	S\$1,500 per month	S\$1,500 per month
Conference and fieldwork grants	S\$3,000 per year	S\$2,000 per year
Medical benefits	In accordance with the University's medical benefits scheme or as required by the host institution	In accordance with the University's medical benefits scheme or as required by the host institution
One-time upfront pre-studies allowance	S\$2,800	S\$2,800
Thesis allowances	S\$1,700	Not applicable
Visa and immigration fees	In accordance with visa requirements	In accordance with visa requirements

- 5.3 Awardees pursuing a PhD degree in an approved overseas university will be granted full-pay study leave of up to **five [5] years** to pursue their PhD studies. An extension of up to six [6] months may be granted only in exceptional cases.
- 5.4 Awardees pursuing a postdoctoral programme in an approved overseas university will be granted full-pay study leave of up to **two [2] years**. An extension of up to six [6] months may be granted only in exceptional cases.
- 5.5 Upon successful completion of the PhD programme / postdoctoral fellowship, Awardees will be appointed as tenure-track Assistant Professors of the University.

6. SERVICE OBLIGATIONS

- 6.1 The appointment will be tenable for an initial period of four years. Upon expiry of the term, Awardees may be offered a further contract of three years by the University taking into consideration the Awardee's teaching and research performance.
- 6.2 PhD Awardees have to serve at least four years at NTU after completion of PhD studies. Mid-term awardees will have a service commitment of one year for every year's worth of sponsorship, for example, two years of sponsorship would translate into a two-year-service commitment.
- 6.3 Postdoctoral Awardees have to serve least at least one year at NTU after completion of postdoctoral training. The same service commitment will apply for mid-term awardees.
- 6.4 To remain in the HIPS programme, Awardees must:
 - (a) Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 4.50 on a five-point scale, or an A- average, or its equivalent, for their graduate courses (applicable only for PhD programmes with a coursework component); and
 - (b) Submit an annual progress report to the University, stating their progress in their research.
- 6.5 Awardees must seek the College's approval if they wish to change their area of research midway through their PhD programme / postdoctoral fellowship.
- 6.6 Awardees must visit their home School in HASS at least once during their study overseas, for a period of no less than four weeks. During which, Awardees are to interact with fellow faculty, and participate in suitable teaching / research and school activities.

7. OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING

- 7.1 Awardees are permitted, and encouraged, to contribute to university-level teaching in the host university, while pursuing their PhD programme / postdoctoral fellowship, subject to open disclosure to NTU.
- 7.2 Awardees cannot be recipients of scholarships or on talent development programmes that are already in receipt of direct public funding.
- 7.3 Awardees are permitted to seek external funding from other institutions (e.g. waiver of tuition fees and/or provision of stipends or maintenance allowances), only if they do not impose obligations that are in conflict with the terms of the HIPS.