2026 Academia Sinica Funding Opportunity Announcement

Investigator Project Grant

The Academia Sinica **Investigator Project Grant** (IV) provides funding incentives of up to 5M NTD per year for at most 5 years to outstanding Investigators with strong past performance to tackle important scientific or societal problems with innovative ideas and original thinking, as a major component of their research career.

Interested Investigators are requested to submit a proposal that would clearly describe i) the **specific problem to be solved**, ii) the **innovative ideas and approaches to be taken**, iii) the **impact of the work** if the goals are realized, and iv) the overall **plans to test the ideas**, its feasibility, scientific or technical challenges, potential risks and key deliverables, along with any alternative plans to de-risk. The applications will be critically reviewed based on these criteria, and the applicants are advised to prepare the proposal accordingly.

1. Application Process

1.1 Eligibility

1. The Project PI for IV must be an Academia Sinica Associate Research Fellow or above.

1.2 Deadlines and Important Reminders

- Application deadline is April 30, 2025; Proposals from Division of Life Sciences and Division of Mathematics and Physical Sciences should be written in English, adhering to the guidelines and format specified within the document template provided (<u>Appendix 1</u>), with a Research Plan describing the following four major aspects: 1) the problem to be solved, 2) the innovative ideas proposed, 3) the potential impact of the work, and 4) plans to test the ideas. Proposals from Division of Humanities and Social Sciences can be written in alternative language befitting its professional field.
- 2. In preparing the proposals, applicants should keep in mind the following review criteria: i) **the significance of the problem to be addressed**, ii) **the degree of innovation**, iii) **the extent of anticipated impact**, and iv) **the feasibility of the research plan**. The project should also be deemed internationally competitive by the reviewers. Furthermore, successful applicants should have relevant expertise, will devote sufficient effort to the project, and demonstrate a commitment to the project as a major component of their career.

Applicants are advised to read the Review Criteria (<u>Appendix 2</u> also available online) before starting to write their proposals.

- 3. Applicants are required to submit a **Letter of Intent** by **March 31, 2025**. The Project PI needs to log into the online application system at <u>https://asms.sinica.edu.tw</u> using the PI's SSO account and follow through the steps as instructed, which includes a brief synopsis (≤250 words in English or ≤500 words in Chinese) of the intended research and scientific/societal problem to be addressed, and names of suggested potential reviewers. The Letter of Intent will not be used for screening nor will it be subject to review. It serves only to facilitate the administrative aspects of the grant review process.
- 4. Any research project involving biological and/or genetically engineered materials, animal experiments or human subjects must obtain approval from the appropriate authorized AS committees. If the official approval document cannot be submitted at the time of grant application, proof of having applied for approval must be provided instead.
- 5. Please note that, in accordance with the regulations of Academia Sinica (Lett No. 1111401198, dated September 19, 2022), "Research staff (including research technical personnel) shall not engage in research related to the scope of a subject matter of technologies that have been exclusively licensed with the use of funds from the public sector."

6. Academia Sinica encourages researchers to learn various new tools, including advanced AI-driven applications, to enhance research quality, ensure thorough considerations of supporting background information, and improve work efficiency. However, the responsibility for the accuracy of all content, writing quality, and adherence to academic research integrity standards rests solely with the applicant.

2. Funding Period and other Requirements

- 2.1 Proposals should be written with a **five-year** vision and goals. The actual funding may be adjusted on a yearly basis based on budget availability and progress.
- 2.2. Grant Acceptance and Requirements prior to Project Execution
 - 1. Project PIs of a successful application grant must sign and abide by the terms as stipulated in the Project Execution Agreement, and complete the Conflict of Interest declaration process, prior to commencing the project.
 - 2. Approval from the authorized AS committees must be obtained and submitted before commencing any project involving biological and/or genetically engineered materials, animal experiments or human subjects. Should there be any change in the experimental content or subject matter during the project period, appropriate amendment or new application must be filed for approval.
 - 3. In accordance with the AS Research Ethics regulations, all personnel who directly perform any ASfunded research activity should receive at least one hour of research ethics training every three years. Such training must be completed within six months of joining the research project, or within the duration of the project for a project lasting less than six months.
 - 4. In cases where the Project Principal Investigator is found to be in violation of academic ethics or conflict of interest regulations, the "Code of Ethics for Academia Sinica Research Fellows and Research Specialists" will apply.
 - 5. Project PI must declare that the research content of this project including the research, development, production of products or services, does not entail the use of anything within the scope of any technology under exclusive licensing or patented technology of AS. The scope of the intellectual property right that might derive from the research in this proposal falls beyond the scope of any exclusive licensed technology or related patents.

2.3 Reports and Evaluation

- 1. A brief annual progress report of the current funding period must be submitted by September each year for review
- 2. A final written report to the AS Department of Academic Affairs and Instrument Services is due in 3 months upon completion of each project.

3. Application Materials to be submitted

The applicant should first maintain and update the personal information of the PI by logging into the online application system at https://asms.sinica.edu.tw using the PI's SSO account, and then complete the following processes:

- 1. Submit a Letter of Intent by March 31, 2025 (by 17:00 Taiwan Time) through online application system, which includes a brief synopsis (≤250 words in English or ≤500 words in Chinese) of the intended research and scientific/societal problem to be addressed, and names of suggested potential reviewers.
- Complete the online application process by April 30, 2025 (by 17:00 Taiwan Time). Items to be completed online include the Executive Summary, Chinese Abstract, Budget & Justification, PIs' Current and Pending Support. Use the document template provided (<u>Appendix 1</u>) to prepare the Full Research Proposal, adhering to the format and rules specified within. This document should then be uploaded as a single PDF electronic file via the online system.

- 3. Upon completion of the online application process, an automatic confirmation email will be generated and sent by the system to acknowledge receipt, which can be used as proof of submission.
- 4. IV Grant Office contact information:

Email: <u>asiv@gate.sinica.edu.tw</u> Department of Academic Affairs and Instrument Service c/o Ms. Ching-Ping Hsu (Tel: 2789-9351)

壹、計畫申請作業

一、申請人資格

(一) 研究計畫主持人需為本院專任副研究員(含)以上。

二、計畫申請時程與其他注意事項:

- (一) 申請時程為即日起至 114 年 4 月 30 日止·數理組及生命組之計畫書應以英文撰寫·格式請見 附件 1;人文組以該專業領域之國際學者熟悉的文字為主要考量。
- (二) 撰寫計畫書時,應著眼於欲解決的關鍵議題之重要性、所提出的思維與方法之創新突破性,及 研究成果對該領域的影響力。敬請參酌本徵求的英文版說明,及適用於數理組及生命組之計畫 審查基準英文說明(附件 2)。
- (三) 有意願申請者應於 114 年 3 月 31 日前至本院學術研究管理系統 (https://asms.sinica.edu.tw, 以 SSO 帳號登入)所敘明之步驟填寫意願書,含中英文摘要及相關資料,並上傳建議審查委員名 單,以利安排審查作業。
- (四)研究計畫中涉及生物材料及基因重組相關實驗、動物實驗及以人為研究對象者,應檢附相關委員會之核准文件。核准文件未能於申請時提交者,須先提交已送審之證明文件,並於計畫審核通過前補齊核准文件。
- (五)依據本院111年9月19日學術字第1111401198號書函規定「本院研發成果已完成專屬授權者· 研究人員(含研究技術人員)不得再以公部門經費從事涉及該專屬授權標的範圍之研究」。
- (六)本院鼓勵研究人員學習各種新的工具,包含各式人工智慧的應用,藉此提升研究品質、確保背 景資料的周全性,及改善工作效率。惟所有計畫內容的正確性,撰寫品質,和遵守學術倫理規 範的責任均由申請人全權承擔。

貳、計畫補助年限與執行前需求

一、計畫之撰寫應一律提 5 年研究目標,每年實際核定經費可視前一年之執行進度及當年的預算金額。

_、核定後執行前須知

- (一) 經核定通過之計畫主持人須簽署相關計畫執行同意書,並於計畫執行前完成利益揭露程序。
- (二) 核定通過之研究計畫,若有涉及生物材料及基因重組相關實驗、動物實驗及以人為研究對象 者,應於提供相關委員會之核准文件後,方可核撥經費。如相關實驗內容於執行期間有所變更, 亦須重新申請或修訂審核同意文件。
- (三) 依據「中央研究院學術研究倫理教育課程實施要點」·執行以本院預算支應之研究計畫者·參 與計畫人員每3年應接受至少1小時之學術倫理教育課程訓練·至遲應於開始參與研究計畫之 日起6個月內完成;研究計畫執行期限少於6個月者·應於計畫執行期限內完成。
- (四) 計畫主持人如涉有違反學術倫理之情事者,依本院研究人員及研究技術人員倫理規約辦理。
- (五)、計畫主持人應聲明本計畫研究內容沒有利用本院已專屬授權技術或相關專利之範圍,進行研

發、生產產品或服務;計畫研究所產生之智慧財產權範圍不屬於已專屬授權技術或相關專利之 範圍。

三、執行進度與成果報告

- (一) 計畫執行期間·每年9月須提交當年度之精簡進度摘要報告
- (二) 計畫執行期滿3個月內·須提交完整執行成果報告。

參、申請資料

申請者應先於本院學術研究管理系統 (<u>https://asms.sinica.edu.tw</u>,以 SSO 帳號登入),線上維護及 更新計畫主持人之個人履歷,再進行下列申請:

- 一、申請意願書·應於114年3月31日(台灣時間下午五點)前至上述系統填寫中英文摘要及相關資料, 並提供建議審查委員名單,以利安排審查作業。
- 二、申請計畫書·應於 114 年 4 月 30 日 (台灣時間下午五點) 前完成線上申請。申請者應填妥線上申請 資料,含摘要、經費需求與說明,及目前執行與申請中計畫資料。完整計畫書請依提供的文件範 本 (附件 1) 所規定之格式撰寫備齊後,轉存為一個 PDF 電子檔於線上系統上傳。
- 三、完成線上申請後、申請人將即時收到系統自動發送之確認回函、可作為收件之存證。
- 四、學術及儀器事務處「深耕計畫」辦公室電子郵件聯絡方式:<u>asiv@gate.sinica.edu.tw</u>

承辦人:徐靜萍女士(電話:2789-9351)