2025 Academia Sinica Funding Opportunity Announcement
Thematic Research Program

The Academia Sinica **Thematic Research Program (TP)** provides funding incentives to a collaborative research team with complementary expertise (capped at ≤8M NTD per year for three years) to tackle important scientific or societal problems with promising plans to deliver impactful outcomes.

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.

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1. Grant Category

Team TP Project, coordinated by a Project PI who also serves as the PI and can invite any number of Co-PIs and/or collaborators.

(The individual TP projects will not be included in the grant category starting from 2025.)

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2. Application Process

2.1 Eligibility

1. The Project PI must be an Academia Sinica Research Fellow of any rank.

2. PIs can invite non-Academia Sinica scientist(s) to participate in the project and serve as co-PI(s).

3. Collaborators enlisted should be justified in the proposal and each is required to provide a Letter of Support delineating their expertise and specific roles in the TP projects.

2.2 Deadlines and Important Reminders

1. Application deadline is **April 30, 2024**; 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 (Appendix 1), 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,** along with any supporting preliminary data. Proposals from Division of Humanities and Social Sciences can be written in alternative language befitting its professional field (also refer to guidelines in Appendix 1).

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 and will devote sufficient effort to the project.

Applicants are advised to read the Review Criteria (Appendix 2) before starting to write their

proposals.

3. To submit a Letter of Intent by **March 31, 2024**, the Project PI needs to log into the online application system at https://asms.sinica.edu.tw 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.

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3. Funding Period and **other Requirements**

3.1 Proposals should be written with a **three-year** vision and goals. The actual funding may be adjusted on a yearly basis based on budget availability and progress.

3.2. Grant **Acceptance** and **Requirements** prior to Project Execution

1. Project PIs and co-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 AS-funded 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 an AS Project PI (inclusive of Project Co-PI) or a non-AS project participant 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.

3.3 Reports and **Evaluation**

1. A brief annual progress report of the current funding period must be submitted by September

each year.

2. A final written report must be submitted in 3 months upon completion of each project.

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4. Application Materials to be submitted

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

1. Submit a Letter of Intent by **March 31, 2024** 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.

2. Complete the online application process by **April 30, 2024**. Please fill in online the required basic information including the project category, title, the budget requested, executive summary, and keywords. Use the document template provided (Appendix 1) to prepare the **Full Proposal**, adhering to the format and rules specified within. Each of the required items including research plan, supporting letter, recent research accomplishments, and personal track record with a list of current and pending grant support, should be uploaded as <mark>ONE</mark> 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. TP Grant Office Contact information:

   Email: astp@gate.sinica.edu.tw
   Department of Academic Affairs and Instrument Service

   c/o Ms. Chin-Cheng Tseng (Tel: 2789-9386, chincheng@gate.sinica.edu.tw)
       for Division of Mathematics and Physical Sciences;

   Ms. Mei-Hsiu Chien (Tel: 2789-9676, mhchien@gate.sinica.edu.tw)
   For Division of Life Sciences;

   Ms. Wan-Ling Chao (Tel: 2789-8067, bchao@gate.sinica.edu.tw)
   for Division of Humanities and Social Sciences

申請 **中央研究院 114年度「主題研究計畫」** 簡要中文說明

壹、計畫類型：

主題研究計畫型別為單一整合型研究計畫 (個人型計畫不再受理申請)

貳、計畫申請作業

一、申請人資格

(一) 研究計畫之(總)主持人須為本院專任研究人員。

(二) 計畫主持人可邀請非本院專家學者參與研究團隊，擔任該計畫共同主持人。

(三) 若因執行計畫需邀請合作專家學者或協同參與人員，計畫主持人可於申請書詳細說明其必要性，並檢附被邀請者同意參與計畫並提供協助或支持該計畫之說明信函 (supporting letter)。

二、計畫申請時程與其他注意事項：

(一) 申請時程為即日起至**113 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；人文組可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，應著眼於欲解決的議題之重要性、所提出的思維與方法之創新性，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，及計畫審查基準英文說明 (附件 2)。

(三) 有意願申請者應於 **113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。

參、計畫補助年限與執行前需求

一、計畫應以 3 年研究目標撰寫，每年實際核定經費將視當年之預算金額及前一年之執行進度而定。

二、核定後執行前須知

(一) 經核定通過之總主持人及共同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) 本院計畫主持人(含共同主持人)如涉有違反學術倫理或利益衝突規範之情事者，依本院研究人員及研究技術人員倫理規約辦理；院外參與計畫人員準用前述規約辦理。

(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。

肆、申請資料

申請者應先於本院學術研究管理系統 (https://asms.sinica.edu.tw, 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**113年3月31日前**至上述系統填寫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。

二、**申請計畫書**，應於**113年4月30日前**完成線上申請。申請者應填妥計畫類別、名稱、經費需求、摘要、關鍵字等基本資料。計畫內容、支持說明信函、近期研究成果、目前正執行與申請中之計畫件數及經費補助情形等，則依計畫書 (附件1) 規定之格式撰寫後，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「主題研究計畫」辦公室電子郵件聯絡方式：astp@gate.sinica.edu.tw
承辦人：

數理組：曾錦錚小姐 (Tel: 2789-9386, chincheng@gate.sinica.edu.tw)

生命組：簡玫秀小姐 (Tel: 2789-9676, mhchien@gate.sinica.edu.tw)

人文社會組：趙婉伶小姐 (Tel: 2789-8067, bchao@gate.sinica.edu.tw)