

Health and Medical Research Fund

Explanatory Notes - Grant Application for Investigator-initiated Research Projects

IMPORTANT!

- All applicants **MUST** read these Explanatory Notes in conjunction with the Guidance Notes - Grant Application for Investigator-initiated Research Projects before completing the electronic Application Form (e-Form). Incomplete applications, applications not adhering to these notes, or insufficiently detailed proposals will not be processed and may result in administrative withdrawal.
- For general queries about completing the e-Form, please contact the Research Fund Secretariat (the Secretariat) (email: rfs@fhb.gov.hk or fax: 2102 2444).

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. All applications must be submitted via the electronic Grant Management System (eGMS) (<https://rfs.fhb.gov.hk/eGMS/>) by completing the e-Form on or before the deadline of submission specified by the Secretariat. Principal applicants who are new to the eGMS are strongly advised to prepare their applications ***well before the deadline of submission*** to avoid unexpected situations. Principal applicants will receive an acknowledgement email from eGMS after their applications have been submitted to the Secretariat successfully.
2. Principal applicants should complete one e-Form for each application submission via the eGMS. The Quick Guide for completing the e-Form is available at **Annex A**.
3. Each principal applicant is allowed to submit ***one application*** only (either a new or a resubmission of application). The principal applicant shall be ***based in a Hong Kong institution*** throughout the project period and be employed by the administering institution at the time of submission of application.
4. Application without the endorsement(s) of principal applicant, Head of Department, and authorised persons on behalf of the administering institution and finance office will be treated as incomplete application and will not be considered.
5. The principal applicant should make sure that all co-applicants endorse the application as the track record for the whole project team might be adversely affected if misconduct/fraud is found. All project team members should be well aware of their participation and roles and responsibilities in the project. Please refer to the Management of Track Records of Applicants which can be downloaded from <http://rfs.fhb.gov.hk>.
6. The personal data provided in the e-Form will be used by the Research Council, the Grant Review Board and the Secretariat for the purpose of assessing applications to the Health and Medical Research Fund (HMRF). For successful applications, such data will also be used for project monitoring, research and statistical analysis, promotion, publicity and dissemination purposes as appropriate. Contents of the submitted application set out in Sections 1 to 9 with the status of project will be made available for public access once funding approval is offered.

RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATION FORM

All applicants must confirm that they have read and understood the Explanatory Notes and Guidance Notes before preparing this application.

Area of research: The HMRF will consider funding health and medical research in the following areas:

- Public health, human health, health services and Chinese medicine;
- Prevention, treatment and control of infectious diseases, in particular emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases; and
- Advanced medical research in specific areas, including paediatrics, neuroscience, clinical genetics and clinical trials.

Note: To help the Secretariat identify appropriate peer reviewers and other administrative purposes, please indicate your proposed research areas. The Research Council may revise the proposed research area of the application, if necessary. The selection of research area will not influence fund allocation or funding success.

1. **Submission:** If this is a resubmission, please quote the previous reference number, select the rating of the previous submission, and attach a structured response to the Grant Review Board and expert reviewers in PDF file.
2. **Funding request:** Please select the appropriate category according to the proposed project sum.
3. **Project title:** The project title should be concise but informative and self-explanatory.
Limit to 25 words.
4. **Abstract of project:** Presented ***in BMJ house style*** of **not more than 250 words** with the following headings: objectives; hypothesis to be tested; design and subjects; study instruments; interventions; main outcome measures; data analysis and expected results. For details, please refer to <http://www.bmj.com/about-bmj/resources-authors/house-style>.
 - 4a. **Proposed research group and field:** Please select at least one research group and field. The full list of the research groups and fields is at **Annex B**.
 - 4b. **Keywords:** Please enter up to 10 keywords for the project.
5. **Potential application:**
 - 5a. Please explain how the results of this project will likely benefit health or health care of Hong Kong. Elaborate in **not more than 100 words**.
 - 5b. Please enter the reference code of the most relevant **thematic priority**. Please refer to the Secretariat's website for details and reference codes of the thematic priorities. Researchers should keep under continuous review the question of whether the work has potential wider application, taking appropriate action in accordance with the administering institution's procedures for the protection and exploitation of research findings.

Priorities under Health and Health Services theme:

Public health, Health services, Chinese medicine

Priorities under Infectious Diseases theme:

Respiratory pathogens (including influenza), Emerging & zoonotic diseases, Antimicrobial resistance, Vaccination programmes, Technology platforms, Severe sepsis

Priorities under Advanced Medical Research theme:

Clinical genetics, Clinical trials, Neuroscience, Paediatrics

6. **Proposed start and end dates:** The expected start date is counted as the date on which the administering institution first incurs a direct cost for the funded project. The completion date should be entered based on the proposed duration of the grant. The grant period is calculated from the month closest to the start date up to the month including the end date of the project. The project start date must be after the announcement of funding decisions. For example, applications submitted by the closing date of 29 March 2018 should not expect to start before 1 December 2018.
7. **Summary of financial support requested:** The principal applicant is not required to complete Section 7; the e-Form will automatically summarise the funding requested in Section 10. Costs should be rounded to the nearest dollar. The costs of disseminating results of the research should be included. Applicants should refer to “Items Allowable and Unallowable for Reimbursement” and “Financial Arrangements” in Appendices A & B of the Guidance Notes for Grant Application for Investigator-initiated Research Projects.
8. **Ethics approval / safety approval / consent for accessing third-party data (if applicable):** If ethical approval, safety approval and/or consent for accessing third-party data has/have been received, complete this section. If not, state the current progress of seeking the approval(s) and/or consent in Section 13(k) (if applicable).
9. **Applicants:** Each application should not have more than 9 Co-applicants. The email address of each applicant must be entered twice to minimise incorrect entries. The employment relationship between the principal applicant and the administering institution should be made clear. The principal applicant shall be ***based in a Hong Kong institution*** throughout the project period and be employed by the administering institution ***at the time of submission***. If an applicant holds more than one post, e.g., one in University and one in Hospital or another Service or Unit, details of the position at the administering institution should be stated. All applicants are expected to be personally and actively engaged in the project.
10. **Details of financial support requested:** All items must be fully justified as stated in Appendix A of the Guidance Notes for Grant Application for Investigator-initiated Research Projects. Costs of work incurred ***before*** the commencement date or the writing-up of such work are ***not allowed***. Application should be based on ***actual prices***. No allowance should be made for inflation.

10a. STAFF DETAILS

Staff costs should be justified in terms of the level of expertise and workload required by the research. Applicants ***should consult their finance office about the pay scale and the appropriate pay point proposed***. In general, salary scales that apply to equivalent workers employed by the administering institution are acceptable. Funding may be requested for full-time (which may be for periods shorter than the duration of the grant) or part-time posts. For part-time staff, the aggregated and averaged part-time effort must meet at least the 20% threshold. Monthly contributions to the MPF should also be included and absorbed in the monthly salary instead of stated as a separate item. Staff benefits such as gratuity, bonus, severance payment, untaken leave of staff employed and medical insurance costs will ***not*** be supported.

Information in this section should reflect salary costs for the *entire* project, based on the proposed salaries as at the date of the application and the estimated percentage on level of participation in the project. The *actual* costs for each financial year of the grant should be entered in “Staff Costs”.

Remarks for Section 10(b)-(d): If the grant period exceeds 24 months and the expenses will be incurred more than three financial years, the annual cost of the third financial year and thereafter should be grouped together.

10b. STAFF COSTS

Please provide the annual costs for each post identified in “Staff Details” above during the proposed project period.

10c. OTHER EXPENSES

Other expenses include consumable or equipment items costing less than HK\$10,000, conference (i.e. travel and subsistence), publication costs, reference materials, printing and stationery, etc. Only direct costs can be charged to the project grant. Indirect costs of the project will not be considered.

For incentives

The purchase of gifts, coupons, etc., as incentives/tokens of appreciation for study participants is allowed if well justified with valid reason(s). A governance system shall be in place to adequately monitor the disbursement of incentives to ensure accountability and traceability.

For purchase of services

Purchase of services from non-local institutions, such as consultancy for research, experimental work, Biosafety Level 3 (BSL-3) / P3 laboratory facilities, etc., is allowed if it is well justified with valid reason(s), which should include full justifications for not acquiring the resources/facilities in Hong Kong.

10d. EQUIPMENT

Only include items dedicated to the project and costing HK\$10,000 or above. Items costing less than HK\$10,000 should be included under “Other Expenses”.

Purchase of particular types of equipment should be well justified by, but not limited to, the needs of the research and cost, performance and specifications. Tendering should be carried out according to the administering institution’s procedures. The administering institution should pay attention to the transparency and fairness in the procurement process and follow its disposal procedures properly. Where the relevant guidelines are not in place, the institution should adopt the Notes on Acquisition and Disposal of Equipment Items for Institutions without Established Guidelines which can be obtained from the Secretariat.

For computer equipment, software and computing consumables

Advice should be sought from the Secretariat on the relevance and costs of computing equipment/facilities requested in proposed applications for funding. Applicants should therefore list the make and model, quantity, price and annual maintenance costs of equipment along with any special features required, e.g., communications, graphics, etc. In cases where funding is sought for storage media or devices, an estimate in storage capacity (in megabytes) should also be provided.

The purpose of any special software to be developed, e.g., commissioned in house, or modifications of existing software should be detailed and the development time required given in hours or man-months.

If external resources are to be used, the estimated time required, a breakdown of the resources required, and the cost per unit of computing time/purchase of consultancy, should be given.

Any computing consumable to be purchased should be itemised under “Other Expenses” with a breakdown of both quantity and price.

Should computing advice be sought, details of the persons/organisations to be consulted should be given.

- 11. Other support, similar or related proposals and track record:** All applicants listed in Section 9 ***must declare*** whether any similar grant applications have been submitted in the past 3 years, are currently submitted, or will be submitted in the next 6 months to the HMRF or any of its preceding funding schemes, or other funding agencies (local or overseas). **Failure to make declaration shall be subject to penalty as determined by the Research Council. Please refer to the Management of Track Records of Applicants which can be downloaded from <http://rfs.fhb.gov.hk>.**

Applications rejected in a previous application round of the HMRF investigator-initiated research projects (i.e. no rating, rated “1”, incomplete or outside of the funding scope) or declined by the HCPS and/or Research Fellowship Scheme, or other funding agencies (local or overseas) must be submitted **as a new application with extensive changes or improvements** made to the rejected application and with full justifications. **Resubmission of the rejected application is not accepted.** Principal applicant should provide (i) all comments raised by the funding agency; (ii) the principal applicant’s responses to address these comments; (iii) the revised proposal with highlights of changes made; and (iv) detailed explanation and justifications if no change is made in the proposal. It is always advisable for applicants to declare similar or related proposals when there is uncertainty.

Applicants should declare any duplicate funding in the e-Form. At any time before the announcement of the funding decision of the HMRF application for investigator-initiated research projects, applicants are required to notify the Secretariat immediately about (a) any other similar or related application submitted to other funding agencies in addition to those listed in the e-Form; and (b) the funding decision of any similar or related application once available. If the application has been approved, indicate the current status: on-going, completed, withdrawn, terminated, not yet started, etc.

- 12. Declaration and authorisation:** The e-Form ***must*** be endorsed by all applicants, the Head of Department, and authorised persons on behalf of the administering institution and finance office via the eGMS. The email address of the Head of Department must be entered twice to minimise incorrect entries. If the principal applicant has attached co-applicant(s)’ physical signature(s) (an email confirmation from co-applicant(s) is accepted), the relevant electronic signature is **not** required (i.e. the eGMS will **not** send out notification email to the co-applicant(s) concerned for endorsement.)
- 13. Proposed research project:** Sections (a) – (h) of the research proposal, with the standard header “**2017 HMRF Open Call Proposal**”, should be **attached as a PDF file** to the e-Form. To ensure consistency and fairness, applicants must strictly comply with the formatting requirements listed below. The Secretariat will not process applications that do not comply with these formatting requirements. In particular, insufficiently detailed proposals may be withdrawn.

Format

- Word limit: **Section 13 (a) – (d) inclusive: Not more than 4,000 words. Please provide the word count for Section 13 (a) – (d). Research proposals beyond the word limit will NOT be considered. Figures and tables must be appended separately and SHOULD NOT be embedded within the text.**
- Margin: Left at least 2.5cm. Others at least 1.5cm
- Font: At least 10-point. Preferably Arial.
- Character spacing: Normal
- Line spacing: At least Single
- (Remarks: The template for Section 13(a) – (h) can be downloaded from the Secretariat’s website <http://rfs.fhb.gov.hk>.)

Content

- a. **Title:** Same as Section 3
- b. **Introduction:** Explain the relevance of the proposal to the scope of the fund and summarise previous work in the field (including any by the applicants) drawing attention to gaps in present knowledge and citing key references.
- c. **Aims and hypotheses to be tested:** State the aims and hypotheses, wherever possible, as a list of questions to which answers will be sought.
- d. **Plan of investigation:** Give practical details of how answers will be obtained to the questions posed. This should include information on:
 - (i) Subjects to be included in the study. Where appropriate show a power analysis to support the chosen sample size.
 - (ii) Methods to be employed, giving references where these are non-standard. Where new methods are being developed, arrangements for establishing validity and reliability should be described. Examples of non-standard questionnaires, tests etc. should accompany the application or their content be clearly indicated.
 - (iii) Study design described in sufficient detail to allow assessment of workload and timetable and including experiments, observations to be made, randomisation method where relevant, and the use of controls.
 - (iv) Data processing and analysis including outcome measures, means of validating records, and the type of statistical analysis to be carried out.
- e. **Existing facilities:** Describe resources and facilities available for supervision, equipment, space, staffing, relevant departmental interests, and collaboration. Supplementary sponsorship must be fully justified. Applicants shall state clearly whether any supplementary support has been / will be received from other sources, including but not limited to monetary, investigational new drugs/devices, reagents, and consumables and rental of equipment.

- f. **Justification of requirements:** The staff requirement should be justified in terms of expertise and workload required by the research. Reasons should be given for selecting particular types of equipment. *Please refer to the allowable and unallowable items at Appendix A of the Guidance Notes - Grant Application for Investigator-initiated Research Projects.*
- g. **Purpose and potential:** Describe the underlying purpose of the project, and its possible implications for health and health care in Hong Kong. Where appropriate, describe plans for possible applications arising from the research. Describe the ways in which the research results will be disseminated.
- h. **Key references:** Include a maximum of 25 references in Vancouver style. Follow the “Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals” at www.icmje.org/index.html for referencing. If it is considered essential to cite work by the applicants that are *in press* for publication, please provide a copy (PDF file) in “Section 13 (i) - List of additional materials”.
- i. **List of additional materials:** Include figures/tables, study instruments, questionnaires, consent forms, study protocol, investigation guidelines, diagrams of equipment, etc. Figures and tables should be of sufficient size and resolution to allow easy reading. Use colour where applicable. *Not more than 5 figures and/or tables are allowed.* List the items that have been attached. All attachments should be as PDF files only. The limit of the total file size is 8MB.
- j. **Timetable of work:** In the table provided, describe clearly the key milestones of the project, the date (i.e. months after project commencement) by which these key milestones are expected to be reached, and the resulting deliverable. An example is included for reference, which may be overwritten/deleted in the final submission. Include 3 to 5 key milestones. These milestones will be used to determine the frequency of reporting progress to the Secretariat.
- k. **Research ethics / safety approval/ consent for accessing third-party data:** Select (☑) the appropriate boxes to confirm if approvals for the respective ethics, safety issues and/or consent for accessing third-party data has been obtained or is being sought from the proper authorities. Provision of the ethical approvals and/or consent during the submission of applications is not required. Principal applicants shall submit such approvals and/or consent *within 12 weeks* (or as specified by the Secretariat) after the announcement of funding decisions. Failure to do so will result in withdrawal of grant. Letters of exemption for non-applicable regulatory committees are not required.

Clinical Trials: Under regulation 36B of the Pharmacy and Poisons Regulations (Cap 138A), for the purpose of conducting a clinical trial on human beings or medicinal tests on animals, a Clinical Trial Certificate/Medicinal Test Certificate issued by the Department of Health must be obtained prior to the commencement of the research project. Principal applicants conducting clinical trials, in particular those involving the use of Chinese medicine, are strongly advised to confirm the need of a Clinical Trial Certificate/Medicinal Test Certificate from the Department of Health as early as practical (preferably before/during the submission of applications to the HMRF) to avoid delay in project commencement. If a Clinical Trial Certificate/Medicinal Test Certificate is required, failure to present a valid clinical trial certificate by a specified deadline will result in withdrawal of the grant.

- 14. Report on previous research grants:** Report all previous research grants supported by the HMRF or any of its preceding funding schemes held by all applicants (if applicable), including projects currently underway and completed research projects ***in the last 3 years***.

If progress, interim, final or dissemination reports for other projects supported by FHB funds are overdue, specify the reasons and indicate when these reports will be submitted. Failure to submit the required reports on time will affect this and future grant applications.

Briefly summarise current perception of the significance of the work done (e.g., apart from knowledge, conceptual or methodological advances, contribution, if any, to health care, medical practice, training, applicability/spin-off) and of the project's significance for your own, your assistants', and your colleagues' scientific development.

Please list full papers published or "in press" in refereed journals with titles, page numbers and co-authorships.

- 15. Curriculum vitae (CV) and roles & responsibilities of all applicants:** Each applicant listed in Section 9 must provide his/her personal particulars and their specific role and responsibilities on this project. All relevant publications of applicant(s) ***over the previous 3 years or 5 most recent publications***, whichever is the smaller, should be listed.

NOMINATION OF OVERSEAS REVIEWERS

Nomination of reviewers: The principal applicant is encouraged to nominate up to 3 overseas experts whom they consider qualified to review this application. Nomination of experts with experience in specialised fields is particularly welcome. Your nominations will enhance the quality and speed of the review process. The Secretariat shall invite appropriate experts to review the application.

When nominating overseas reviewers, the principal applicant is responsible for the proper and complete declaration of any past or present significant personal and/or professional relationship between any of the applicant(s) listed in Section 9 and the nominated expert(s). Significant relationship includes, but is not limited to, spouse/partner/other relative; close personal friend; employer/employee/business partner; mentor/student; departmental colleague; research collaborator/co-author, etc. Please note that a relationship as co-author includes "in press" articles.

Please elaborate, as appropriate, the name(s) of applicant(s) and the nature and duration of the relationship declared (e.g., when and where the relationship was developed, name/nature of project, publications or events involved, etc.). **Failure to declare potential conflict of interest shall be subject to penalty as determined by the Research Council. Please refer to the Management of Track Records of Applicants which can be downloaded from <http://rfs.fhb.gov.hk>.**

Quick Guide for Completing the Electronic Application Form

(A) Minimum system requirements

To use the electronic Grant Management System (eGMS), your computer should meet these minimum system requirements:

1. IE 11 or Safari 7+
2. Enable Transport Layer Security (TLS)* version 1.1 or above in the browser
3. 1280 x 1024 Minimum Screen Resolution
4. Java SE Runtime Environment (JRE) 7 or 8

Operating system

1. Microsoft Windows running 7/8
2. Apple Mac OS x 10.5 or above
3. Fedora Linux Core 7 or above

* How to enable Transport Layer Security (TLS)?

Since old Transport Layer Security (TLS) versions may cause security risks, we highly recommend eGMS users to enable TLS version 1.1 or above in their browsers:

Internet Explorer

- i. Open Internet Explorer.
- ii. From the menu bar, click Tools (or click the gear icon at the top right hand corner) > Internet Options > Advanced tab.
- iii. Scroll down to Security category, check the option box for Use TLS 1.1 and Use TLS 1.2.
- iv. Click OK.
- v. Close your browser and restart Internet Explorer.

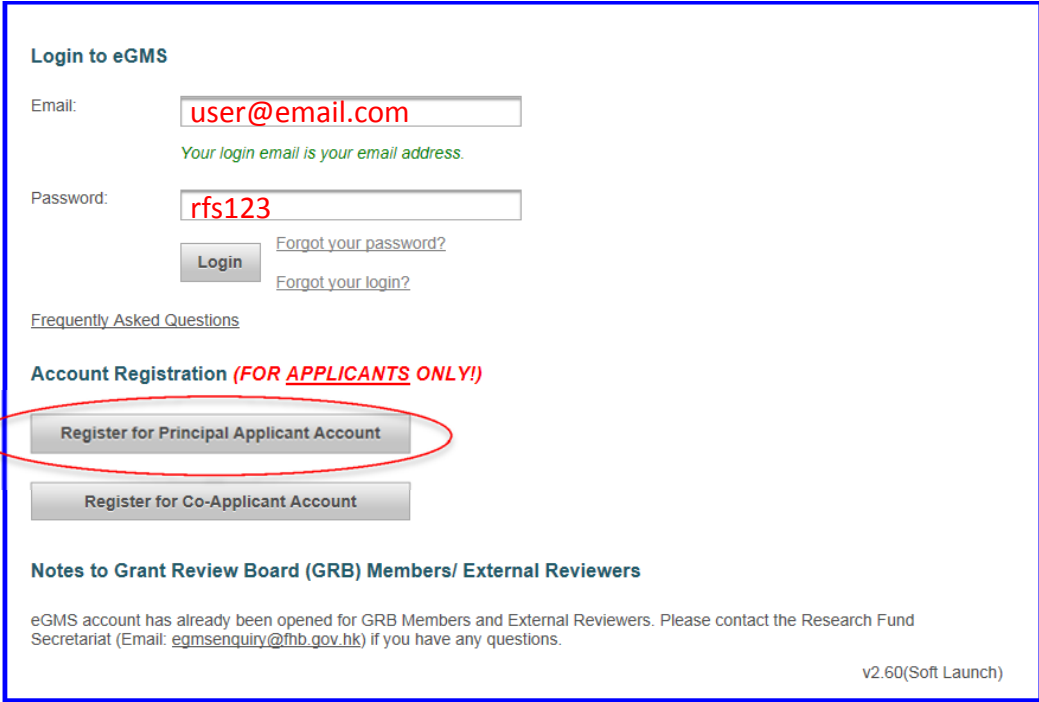
Safari

There are no options for enabling SSL protocols. If you are using Safari version 7 or above, TLS 1.1 and TLS 1.2 are **automatically enabled**.

Quick Guide for Completing the Electronic Application Form

(B) Access to eGMS

1. Address: <https://rfs.fhb.gov.hk/eGMS/>
2. Login account: If you have not registered a Principal Applicant (PA) account in the electronic Grant Management System (eGMS), please register on the login page of the eGMS (see below) for endorsement by your Administering Institution (AI).



Login to eGMS

Email:
Your login email is your email address.

Password:
 [Forgot your password?](#)
 [Forgot your login?](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Account Registration (FOR APPLICANTS ONLY!)

Notes to Grant Review Board (GRB) Members/ External Reviewers

eGMS account has already been opened for GRB Members and External Reviewers. Please contact the Research Fund Secretariat (Email: egmsenquiry@fhb.gov.hk) if you have any questions.

v2.60(Soft Launch)

Quick Guide for Completing the Electronic Application Form

(C) Options for completing the electronic application form (e-Form)¹

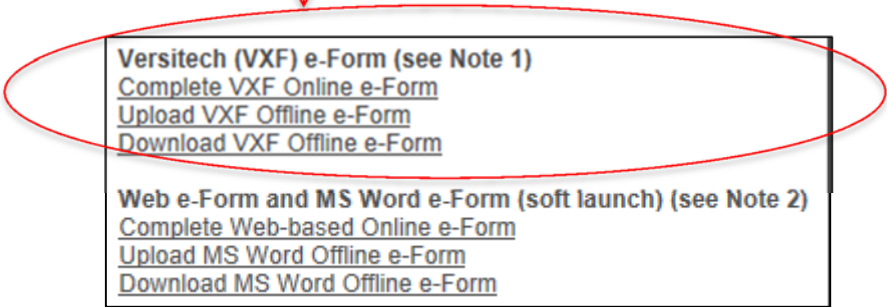
1. Complete the **Versitech (VXF) online e-Form** directly via eGMS

Path: Project > Application

Year	Scheme	Announcement Date	Internal Deadline	Closing Date	Actions
2017	HMRF	31 Oct 2017	N/A	15 Dec 2017	Versitech (VXF) e-Form (see Note 1) Complete VXF Online e-Form Upload VXF Offline e-Form Download VXF Offline e-Form Web e-Form and MS Word e-Form (soft launch) (see Note 2) Complete Web-based Online e-Form Upload MS Word Offline e-Form Download MS Word Offline e-Form

Note 1: Applicants **MUST** complete the applications using Versitech (VXF) e-Forms unless they have technical difficulties in using VXF e-Forms.

Note 2: MS Word Offline e-Form and its corresponding Web-based Online e-Form should only be used when applicants have technical difficulties in using the VXF e-Forms. Due to the limitations of MS WORD, some sections (i.e. Section 4a, 11, 14 and Nomination of External Reviewers) must be completed separately in the Web-based Online e-Form after applicants have uploaded the MS WORD Offline e-Form to the eGMS. Unlike VXF e-Forms, the validation checking can only be done when applicants submit their application to their Research Office. Applicants are required to read the Training Manual carefully and reserve sufficient time for amending any errors discovered during validation checking at the time of submission.



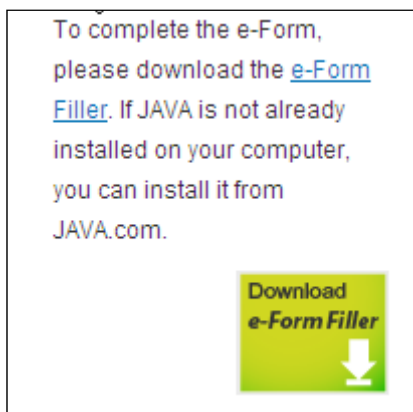
Versitech (VXF) e-Form (see Note 1)
[Complete VXF Online e-Form](#)
[Upload VXF Offline e-Form](#)
[Download VXF Offline e-Form](#)

Web e-Form and MS Word e-Form (soft launch) (see Note 2)
[Complete Web-based Online e-Form](#)
[Upload MS Word Offline e-Form](#)
[Download MS Word Offline e-Form](#)

¹ Applicants **MUST** complete the applications using Versitech (VXF) e-Forms unless they have technical difficulties in using VXF e-Forms. MS Word Offline e-Form and its corresponding web-based online e-Form are soft-launched for use by applicants who have technical difficulties in using the VXF e-Forms only. Due to the limitations of MS WORD, some sections (i.e. Section 4a, 11, 14 and Nomination of External Reviewers) must be completed separately in the web-based online e-Form after applicants have uploaded the MS WORD Offline e-Form to the eGMS. Unlike VXF e-Forms, the validation checking can only be done when applicants submit their application to their Research Office. Applicants are required to read the Training Manual carefully and reserve sufficient time for amending any errors discovered during validation checking at the time of submission.

Quick Guide for Completing the Electronic Application Form

2. Complete the **Versitech (VXF) offline e-Form** and then upload it to eGMS
 - (a) Please make sure you have installed e-Form Filler as below:



- (b) Download the VXF offline [e-Form](#) from the Secretariat's website

Forms

Grant Applications

Investigator-initiated Research Projects

- [Electronic Application Form \(e-Form\)](#) (VXF File 1861K) updated

(D) Completing the Versitech (VXF) e-Form

1. The data entry fields are colour-coded:
 - (a) Yellow fields are for text entry:
 - A **red border** will show when text is being entered into an active data entry field.
 - A **green border** will show if the data entry field is inactive; data cannot be entered into these fields until the field is activated (e.g. by making an appropriate selection in another section or check box on the application form).
 - (b) Green fields will be completed automatically based on text/figures inserted by the applicant into other fields; direct data entry into green fields is not permitted.
2. All file attachments uploaded to the e-Form must be as PDF files (Max limit: 15 MB total for the e-Form and all attachments).

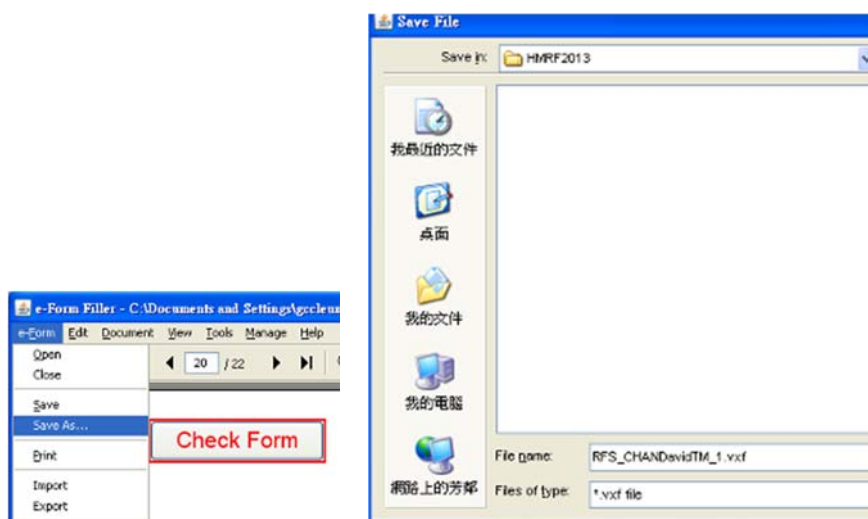
Quick Guide for Completing the Electronic Application Form

3. Email address of the Applicants or administrator shall be in the Administering Institution's domain/sub-domain name. Public email addresses (e.g. Yahoo, Hotmail, Gmail) will not be accepted.
4. When completing **Section 4**, please refer to [full list of the research groups/fields](#) for information.
5. You should complete the research proposal **13 (a) – (h)** using the [WORD template](#), with the standard blue header "**2017 HMRF Open Call Proposal**" convert the WORD file to a PDF file after completion, and attach it to **Section 13** of the e-Form.

(E) After completing the Versitech (VXF) e-Form

You should click the "**Check Form**" button to ensure the e-Form is error free. If errors are found, you will be guided to the field concerned by clicking the error message box.

(F) How to save the Versitech (VXF) file? (Applicable to offline e-Form only)



(G) Need Help?

1. Help text is available when you move the mouse over a field on the e-Form.
2. Help manual for completing the electronic application form is available when you click the "**Help**" button on this application form.
3. For enquiry, please contact the Research Fund Secretariat:
Email: rfs@fhb.gov.hk or fax: 2102 2444

Classification of Areas of Expertise (Research Field) (Version 3.0)

Adapted and modified (with permission) from the Australian Bureau of Statistics:

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and Statistics New Zealand (Statistics NZ). *Australia and New Zealand Standard Research Classification (ANZSRC) 2008*, cat. no. 1297.0, ABS, Canberra, 31 Mar 2008, <http://www.abs.gov.au/2008>.

This work is based on Statistics New Zealand's data which are licensed by Statistics New Zealand for re-use under the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 New Zealand licence

Group No.	Field No.
A01 Cardiorespiratory medicine and haematology	A01-01 Vascular medicine and surgery (<i>incl. cardiology</i>)
	A01-02 Haematology (<i>incl. blood transfusion</i>)
	A01-03 Respiratory medicine
	A01-99 Cardiorespiratory medicine and haematology not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A02 Clinical sciences	A02-01 Anaesthesiology
	A02-02 Dermatology
	A02-03 Emergency medicine
	A02-04 Endocrinology (<i>incl. diabetes mellitus, obesity-related metabolic disorders</i>)
	A02-05 Gastroenterology and hepatology
	A02-06 Geriatrics and gerontology
	A02-07 Infectious diseases (<i>incl. prevention, control, treatment and management of patients</i>) (<i>Please also refer to A04 for Medical microbiology</i>)
	A02-08 Intensive care
	A02-09 Nephrology and urology
	A02-10 Nuclear medicine
	A02-11 Orthopaedics
	A02-12 Otorhinolaryngology
	A02-13 Pathology (<i>excl. oral pathology</i>)
	A02-14 Physiotherapy
	A02-15 Podiatry
	A02-16 Radiology and organ imaging
	A02-17 Rehabilitation and therapy (<i>incl. occupational therapy but excl. physiotherapy</i>)
	A02-18 Rheumatology and arthritis
	A02-19 Surgery
	A02-20 Venereology
	A02-21 Palliative medicine and care
	A02-22 Sleep medicine
A02-99 Clinical sciences not elsewhere classified Please specify.	
A03 Traditional Chinese Medicine	A03-01 Traditional Chinese Medicine (<i>natural products, incl. herbs</i>)
	A03-02 Acupuncture (<i>incl. electroacupuncture, auriculotherapy</i>)
	A03-03 Mind-body therapies (<i>incl. Taichi, Qigong, Yoga, mindfulness and relaxation training</i>)
	A03-04 Manipulative and body-based practices (<i>incl. guasha, tuina, etc</i>)
	A03-05 Integration of Traditional Chinese Medicine with conventional therapy
A03-99 Traditional Chinese Medicine not elsewhere classified Please specify.	
A04 Medical microbiology (microbiology related to human medicine and health, laboratory diagnosis)	A04-01 Medical bacteriology (<i>incl. antibiotic resistance</i>)
	A04-02 Medical infection agents (<i>incl. prions</i>)
	A04-03 Medical parasitology
	A04-04 Medical virology
	A04-05 Medical mycology
	A04-06 Infection control
A04-99 Medical microbiology not elsewhere classified Please specify.	
A05 Mental health and behavioural disorders (<i>incl. dementia, Alzheimer's disease, delirium, addictive behaviour, schizophrenia, psychosis, depression, anxiety, sleep disorders, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), autism, post-traumatic stress disorders, violence</i>)	A05-01 Organic, including symptomatic, mental disorders (<i>incl. dementia, Alzheimer's disease, delirium</i>)
	A05-02 Mental and behavioural disorders due to psychoactive substance use (<i>incl. addiction, smoking, drinking alcohol</i>)
	A05-03 Schizophrenia, schizotypal and delusional disorders (<i>incl. psychosis</i>)
	A05-04 Mood [affective] disorders (<i>incl. mania, depression</i>)
	A05-05 Neurotic, stress-related and somatoform disorders (<i>incl. stress, anxiety, somatoform pain, post-traumatic stress disorders</i>)
	A05-06 Behavioural syndromes associated with physiological disturbances and physical factors (<i>incl. eating disorders, nonorganic sleep disorders; non-disease-based sexual dysfunction, abuse of non-dependence-producing substances</i>)
	A05-07 Disorders of adult personality and behaviour (<i>incl. habit and impulse disorders, self-harm, gender identity disorders, violence</i>)
	A05-08 Mental retardation
	A05-09 Disorders of psychological development (<i>incl. specific development disorders of speech and language, reading and spelling disorders, autism spectrum disorders, overactive disorder associated with mental retardation and stereotyped movements</i>)
	A05-10 Behavioural and emotional disorders with childhood and adolescence onset (<i>incl. hyperkinetic disorder, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), conduct disorders (e.g. school violence), Tic disorders</i>)
A05-99 Mental health not elsewhere classified Please specify.	
A06 Neurosciences (<i>incl. Parkinson's disease, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, stroke</i>)	A06-01 Autonomic nervous system
	A06-02 Cellular nervous system (nervous system at the cellular and molecular levels)
	A06-03 Central nervous system (<i>incl. Parkinson's disease, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, stroke</i>)
	A06-04 Neuromuscular system
	A06-05 Peripheral nervous system
	A06-06 Sensory systems
A06-99 Neurosciences not elsewhere classified Please specify.	
A07 Psychology	A07-01 Health psychology
	A07-02 Clinical and counselling psychology
	A07-03 Risk behaviour
	A07-04 Behavioural decision-making (<i>incl. decision science and behavioural economics</i>)
	A07-99 Psychology not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A08 Cognitive sciences	A08-01 Linguistic processes (<i>incl. speech production and comprehension</i>)
	A08-02 Neurocognitive patterns and neural networks
	A08-99 Cognitive sciences not elsewhere classified Please specify.

Group No.	Field No.
A09 Dentistry	A09-01 Dental materials and equipment
	A09-02 Dental therapeutics, pharmacology and toxicology
	A09-03 Endodontics
	A09-04 Oral and maxillofacial surgery
	A09-05 Oral medicine and pathology
	A09-06 Orthodontics and dentofacial orthopaedics
	A09-07 Paedodontics
	A09-08 Periodontics
	A09-09 Special needs dentistry
	A09-10 Dental public health
	A09-11 Oral biosciences (<i>incl. oral microbiology</i>)
	A09-99 Dentistry not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A10 Nursing	A10-01 Aged care nursing
	A10-02 Clinical nursing: primary (preventive), secondary (acute care), tertiary (rehabilitative)
	A10-03 Mental health nursing
	A10-04 Midwifery
	A10-99 Nursing not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A11 Nutrition and dietetics	A11-01 Clinical and sports nutrition
	A11-02 Dietetics and nutrigenomics
	A11-03 Nutritional physiology
	A11-04 Nutrition
	A11-99 Nutrition and dietetics not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A12 Oncology and carcinogenesis	A12-01 Cancer biology
	A12-02 Cancer diagnosis and prognosis (<i>incl. cancer markers</i>)
	A12-03 Cancer genetics, genomics and epigenetics
	A12-04 Cancer therapy (<i>excl. chemotherapy and radiation therapy</i>)
	A12-05 Chemotherapy
	A12-06 Haematological tumours
	A12-07 Molecular targets
	A12-08 Radiation therapy
	A12-09 Solid tumours
	A12-10 Psychosocial oncology
	A12-99 Oncology and carcinogenesis not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A13 Ophthalmology and optometry	A13-01 Ophthalmology
	A13-02 Optical technology
	A13-03 Vision science
	A13-99 Ophthalmology and optometry not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A14 Paediatrics and reproductive medicine	A14-01 Foetal development and medicine
	A14-02 Obstetrics and gynaecology
	A14-03 Paediatrics (<i>incl. neonatology</i>)
	A14-04 Reproduction (<i>incl. infertility</i>)
	A14-99 Paediatrics and reproductive medicine not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A15 Pharmacology and pharmaceutical sciences	A15-01 Basic pharmacology (<i>non-human laboratory experiments incl. animal, organ, tissue</i>)
	A15-02 Clinical pharmacology and therapeutics (<i>incl. pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, pharmacoepidemiology</i>)
	A15-03 Clinical pharmacy and pharmacy practice
	A15-04 Pharmaceutical sciences (formulation and drug delivery research)
	A15-05 Pharmacogenomics
	A15-06 Toxicology (<i>incl. clinical toxicology</i>)
	A15-99 Pharmacology and pharmaceutical sciences not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A16 Public health and health sciences	A16-01 Aged health care
	A16-02 Care for disabled
	A16-03 Community child health
	A16-04 Environmental and occupational health and safety
	A16-05 Epidemiology
	A16-06 Family care
	A16-07 Health and community services (<i>incl. services provided at the interface between primary and secondary care, health and social services</i>)
	A16-08 Health care administration (<i>incl. services provided at ONE specific sector at primary or secondary care</i>)
	A16-09 Health counselling
	A16-10 Health information systems (<i>incl. surveillance</i>)
	A16-11 Health promotion (<i>incl. physical activity</i>)
	A16-12 Preventive medicine
	A16-13 Primary health care
	A16-14 Quality of life research
	A16-15 Complex interventions evaluation
	A16-16 Food safety
	A16-17 Public health genomics and screening
	A16-18 Adolescent health
	A16-19 Vaccination programme
A16-99 Public health and health services not elsewhere classified Please specify.	
A17 Immunology	A17-01 Allergy
	A17-02 Applied immunology (<i>incl. vaccine science and development, antibody engineering, xenotransplantation and T-cell</i>)
	A17-03 Autoimmunity
	A17-04 Cellular immunology
	A17-05 Humoral immunology and immunochemistry
	A17-06 Immunogenetics (<i>incl. genetic immunology</i>)
	A17-07 Innate immunity
	A17-08 Transplantation immunology
	A17-09 Tumour immunology
	A17-99 Immunology not elsewhere classified Please specify.

Group No.	Field No.
A18 Human movement and sports science	A18-01 Movement control and biomechanics
	A18-02 Exercise physiology
	A18-03 Sports medicine
	A18-04 Sport and exercise psychology
	A18-99 Human movement and sports science not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A19 Mathematics and Statistics in Health	A19-01 Biostatistics
	A19-02 Meta-analysis
	A19-03 Clinical trial research methodology
	A19-04 Instrument development (incl. self-reported outcomes, psychometric analysis)
	A19-05 Mathematical modelling
A19-99 Statistics not elsewhere classified Please specify.	
A20 Biochemistry and cell biology	A20-01 Analytical biochemistry
	A20-02 Bioinformatics
	A20-03 Metabolomics, proteomics and intermolecular interactions
	A20-04 Cellular processes, signal transduction and mechanisms
	A20-05 Stem cell
	A20-06 Genomics, Genetics and epigenetics (excl. cancer genetics)
	A20-07 Protein chemistry (incl. protein functions and dynamics)
	A20-08 Structural biology (incl. proteins, nucleic acids)
	A20-09 RNA biology (incl. non-coding RNA)
	A20-99 Biochemistry and cell biology not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A21 Analytical chemistry	A21-01 Analytical spectrometry
	A21-02 Electroanalytical chemistry
	A21-03 Immunological and bioassay methods
	A21-04 Instrumental methods (excl. immunological and bioassay methods)
	A21-05 Quality assurance, chemometrics, traceability and metrological chemistry
	A21-06 Sensor technology (chemical aspects)
	A21-99 Analytical chemistry not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A22 Macromolecular and material chemistry	A22-01 Chemical characterisation of materials
	A22-02 Physical chemistry of materials
	A22-03 Synthesis of materials
	A22-99 Macromolecular and material chemistry not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A23 Medicinal and biomolecular chemistry	A23-01 Biomolecular modelling and design (incl. drug design and development)
	A23-99 Medicinal and biomolecular chemistry not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A24 Organic chemistry	A24-01 Natural product chemistry
	A24-99 Organic chemistry not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A25 Environmental science and management	A25-01 Environmental management
	A25-02 Environmental monitoring
	A25-03 Environmental science
	A25-99 Environmental science and management not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A26 Biomedical engineering	A26-01 Biomaterials
	A26-02 Biomechanical engineering
	A26-03 Biomedical instrumentation (incl. surgical instrumentation)
	A26-04 Medical devices (incl. implants, prosthetics)
	A26-05 Rehabilitation engineering
	A26-99 Biomedical engineering not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A27 Medical biotechnology	A27-01 Gene and molecular therapy
	A27-02 Medical biotechnology diagnostics (incl. biosensors)
	A27-03 Medical molecular engineering of nucleic acids and proteins
	A27-04 Regenerative medicine (incl. stem cells and tissue engineering)
	A27-99 Medical biotechnology not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A28 Nanotechnology	A28-01 Nanomaterials
	A28-02 Nanomedicine
	A28-03 Nanotoxicology, health and safety
	A28-99 Nanotechnology not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A29 Specialist studies in education	A29-01 Learning sciences
	A29-02 Special education and disability
	A29-99 Specialist studies in education not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A30 Applied economics	A30-01 Health economics
	A30-99 Applied economics not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A31 Demography	A31-01 Family and household studies
	A31-02 Fertility
	A31-03 Migration
	A31-04 Mortality
	A31-05 Population trends and policies
	A31-99 Demography not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A32 Policy and administration	A32-01 Environment policy
	A32-02 Health policy
	A32-99 Policy and administration not elsewhere classified Please specify.

Group No.	Field No.
A33 Applied ethics	A33-01 Medical ethics
	A33-99 Applied ethics not elsewhere classified Please specify.
A99 Others	A99-99 Health and medical research not elsewhere specified Please specify.