



AI SINGAPORE RESEARCH PROGRAMME KICKSTARTER GRANT CALL 2019

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(A) PROGRAMME DETAILS 2

- 1. What is the difference between AISG Kickstarter Grant and the AISG Research Grant? .2
- 2. Is there a KPI requirement for the AISG Kickstarter Grant?2
- 3. Is there a restriction in topics for the AISG Kickstarter Grant?2
- 4. Where can researchers or administrators download the full set of call documents?3

(B) SUBMISSION AND IMPORTANT DATES 4

- 1. Is there a quota on the number of proposals allowed per institution?.....4
- 2. Will AI Singapore accept submissions by Research Teams after the institution or consortium of institutions have made a formal submission?4
- 3. What are the important dates for the Kickstarter Grant Call 2019?4

(C) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA OF PI and CO-PI..... 5

- 1. Who is eligible to apply as PI and/or Co-PI?5



(A) PROGRAMME DETAILS

1. What is the difference between AISG Kickstarter Grant and the AISG Research Grant?

AISG Kickstarter Grant

The AISG Kickstarter grant call is a seed grant that provides a platform for AI researchers within Singapore to explore innovative ideas, with the potential to be developed into Full Proposals for large-quantum grant calls (such as CRP (NRF), MOE Tier 3 Grant and equivalent). Specifically, Kickstarter Grant Call 2019 aims at funding multi-disciplinary applications reflecting novel ideas/visions that are underexplored, and/or also have a clear and significant social impact. The funding support (inclusive of 20% IRC) is up to \$100,000 per proposal, for a maximum of 1 year.

AISG Research Grant

The AISG Research Grant is the main research grant that seeds high-quality research efforts aimed at developing AI and adjacent technologies that will eventually contribute to the other pillars of AI Singapore. The funding support (inclusive of 20% IRC) is up to \$750,000 or \$1.5 million per proposal, for a maximum of 3 years (if conditions are met).

2. Is there a KPI requirement for the AISG Kickstarter Grant?

There is no specific KPI or publications requirements to be met. However, successful applications are expected to submit applications to NRF Competitive Research Programme (CRP) / MOE AcRF Tier 3 and its equivalent grant calls after the Kickstarter Grant ends. Otherwise, a report, detailing why the initial proposed approach is not feasible, is required.

3. Is there a restriction in topics for the AISG Kickstarter Grant?

There is no restriction in topics. However, researchers may consider some of these suggested areas: Trustworthy AI, Privacy-Aware AI, Collaborative AI, Resource Efficient AI and Life Long Learning AI.

Proposals should emphasise novel and significant contributions in methodologies and algorithms, rather than domain-specific solutions.



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4. Where can researchers or administrators download the full set of call documents?

Please visit www.aisingapore.org/research to download the documents when the grant call opens on 16 April 2019. In addition, the research offices from each eligible institution will receive a set of the call documents.



(B) SUBMISSION AND IMPORTANT DATES

1. Is there a quota on the number of proposals allowed per institution?

Each eligible institution must follow the quota below:

- NUS, NTU, and A*STAR: Not more than three (3) applications per institution.
- SMU, SUTD, SUSS, SIT and Fraunhofer Singapore: Not more than two (2) applications per institution.

2. Will AI Singapore accept submissions by Research Teams after the institution or consortium of institutions have made a formal submission?

No, unless the following criteria are met:

- The relevant institutional authority / director of research (or equivalent) has endorsed the complete application;
- The institutional quota has not been reached; and
- The full application is submitted to research@aisingapore.org by 21 May 2019, 4pm.

Late submissions or submissions from individual applicants without endorsement from the relevant institutional authority / director of research (or equivalent) (by the deadline stipulated above) will not be entertained.

3. What are the important dates for the Kickstarter Grant Call 2019?

The schedule for the **Kickstarter Grant Call 2019** is as follows:

Event	Dates
Grant Call opens	16 April 2019
Closing date for <u>endorsed softcopy</u> submission (via email)	21 May 2019
Evaluation & Selection	May - July 2019
Release of Outcome and Award	August 2019
Project Commencement	1 Oct 2019



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(C) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA OF PI and CO-PI

1. Who is eligible to apply as PI and/or Co-PI?

PI

- Hold a full-time appointment in NUS, NTU, SUTD, SMU, SUSS, SIT, A*STAR Research Institute, or Fraunhofer Singaporeⁱ ;
- Must have the background/qualifications in AI knowledge;
- Must be an independent researcher with a track record of leadership ability in coordinating research programmes and providing mentorships to research team, as well as having productive research outcomes; and
- No outstanding report(s) from other national grants.

Co-PI

- Hold a full-time appointment in a NUS, NTU, SUTD, SMU, SUSS, SIT, A*STAR Research Institute, Fraunhofer Singapore, or CREATE entity; and
- No outstanding report(s) from other national grants.

ⁱ Researchers from Fraunhofer Singapore must submit a multi-institutional proposal with a Co-PI from a Singapore-based Institute of Higher Learning (IHL) or A*STAR Research Institute.