

HKUST Postgraduate Admission – Guangzhou (GZ) Pilot Scheme

Details at pg.ust.hk/gz

1. Intake target for Fall 2020

- 1.1. We target admitting 150 highly qualified students into our PhD and MPhil programs under the GZ Pilot Scheme. The admission requirements and standard are the same as other programs currently being offered in the Clear Water Bay (CWB) campus.
- 1.2. When a student has satisfactorily completed a degree program, the University will confer the corresponding **HKUST degree**. This applies to students on both campuses.

2. Application for admission in Fall 2020

2.1. Application deadline:

(1st Round) 15 March 2020

(2nd Round) 31 March 2020

(3rd Round) 30 April 2020

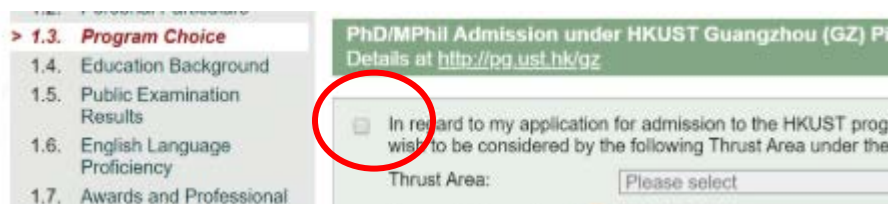
2.2. The Hubs will start reviewing 1st and 2nd Round applications. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for interview accordingly.

2.3. **Online application:** details at pg.ust.hk/gz

2.4. **Application fee:** HK\$180 per program

2.5. Declaration of interest in joining the GZ Pilot Scheme

- Please check the box in the “Program Choice” section in the online application to confirm your wish to be considered for GZ Pilot Scheme admission.



The screenshot shows a web interface for the application. On the left is a navigation menu with items 1.3 through 1.7. Item 1.3, 'Program Choice', is selected and highlighted in red. The main content area shows the title 'PhD/MPhil Admission under HKUST Guangzhou (GZ) Pilot Scheme' with a link to 'http://pg.ust.hk/gz'. Below this is a checkbox that has been checked and circled in red. The text next to the checkbox reads: 'In regard to my application for admission to the HKUST program, I wish to be considered by the following Thrust Area under the Pilot Scheme.' Below the checkbox is a dropdown menu labeled 'Thrust Area:' with the text 'Please select'.

- If you have already submitted an application without checking the box, please write to the respective thrust areas (please see emails provided in this document under “Hub inquiries”). Please clearly state that you authorize the University to check the box and indicate a Thrust Area that is of interest to you.

2.6. Program choice

- It is important to indicate the Thrust Area that you would like to join.
- New programs to be offered by the Thrust Areas are pending Senate’s approval. In the meantime, all applicants apply for admission to MPhil/PhD in Individualized Interdisciplinary Program (IIP). Applicants will be assessed for their suitability for admission based on the Thrust Area. Please also upload the research proposal and the [statement of purpose](#) to the online admission system for Admission Committee’s consideration. You may refer to the [guidelines](#) for the application of MPhil/PhD (IIP) for more details.

- When a new program is approved, the University will start issuing offers to selected applicants for admission into the new program directly. For applicants who have already received an IIP offer, the IIP offer will be replaced accordingly.
- The provision of names of proposed supervisors is **optional**. The Thrust Area will discuss with shortlisted candidates and help them identify suitable supervisors, discuss about the curriculum and the study plan.

2.7. Multiple applications (allowable but in general not encouraged)

- We do hope that you have already had a clear idea of your research interest and the program choice. However, if you wish to submit more than one application, it is allowable. For example, if you have submitted an application for MPhil (Chemistry) and would now also like to be considered under MPhil (Individualized Interdisciplinary Program) for GZ Pilot Scheme admission, you may submit another application. In that case, you have to pay another application fee and the applications will be considered independently.

2.8. Research Proposal

- To be considered for admission under the GZ Pilot Scheme, you are required to provide a cross-disciplinary research proposal.
- Shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend an interview, in person or online, by the corresponding review committee.

2.9. Degree requirement for PhD admission

- It is possible for an applicant holding a bachelor's degree to be admitted to a PhD program provided that the applicant can demonstrate excellent academic ability and research potential. The normative period of a PhD study will be 4 years.
- For students with a relevant research master's degree (normally MPhil), the normative period of a PhD study will be 3 years.

2.10. English Admission Requirements

- If your IELTS/TOEFL score is not yet available by the application deadline, you can provide the scheduled test date in the online admission system, then update the score and upload the document when it becomes available.
- The Admission Committee will consider issuing a conditional offer to suitable candidates requiring a certain IELTS/TOEFL score to be attained.
- Applicants who have obtained a degree from a university where the medium of instruction was English are considered having met the English Admission Requirements.

2.11. Program completion and dates of degree conferment

- If you are considered as a suitable candidate who is about to complete your bachelor's degree, the Admission Committee will consider issuing a conditional offer.
- For applicants who will complete their program in May or June 2020, we understand that some universities may officially confer the degree only in October or November 2020. If there is an official document from the university confirming that the applicant has completed the degree program achieving the required attainments, we will confirm the offer and allow the new student to proceed to register.

2.12. Supporting documents

- Please upload a scanned copy to the online admission system. There is no need to send in original, printed copies at this stage.

3. Tuition fee

- 3.1.** Currently, all research postgraduates pay an annual tuition fee of HK\$42,100. The tuition in the GZ campus will be comparable, pending final approval from the University.

4. Studentship

- 4.1.** All students selected for admission under the GZ Pilot Scheme will be granted studentships. You do not need to submit another application for studentship. The studentship will be at the same level as other students on the Clear Water Bay campus.
- 4.2.** The postgraduate studentship (PGS) is HK\$18,030 per month for 2020/21.
- 4.3.** PGS for students moving over to the HKUST(GZ) will be comparable, pending final approval from the University.

5. Housing Arrangement

- 5.1.** In the initial year(s) when Pilot Scheme students are housed on the Clear Water Bay campus, we will follow the existing policy to provide university housing in the first two years of the research postgraduate studies. Students who take up a place in the university housing will pay the prevailing rental fees.
- 5.2.** We plan to provide on-campus accommodation to all HKUST(GZ) research postgraduate students when the new campus is open in September 2022.
- 5.3.** The cost of on-campus accommodation is around HK\$50-55k per year, which varies according to different apartment configuration.
- 5.4.** Depending on the study plan, if a student is required to hold residency in the HKUST Fok Ying Tung Research Institute (FYTRI) in Nansha, accommodation at FYTRI will be arranged in the corresponding period accordingly.

Hub inquiries

Function: gzfunction@ust.hk

Information: gzinfo@ust.hk

Society: gzsociety@ust.hk

Systems: gzsystems@ust.hk

Updated by HKUST Fok Ying Tung Graduate School (30 Jun 2020)

Additional information may be added to this information sheet as needed at a later stage.