

HONG KONG CYBERPORT MANAGEMENT COMPANY LIMITED
(香港數碼港管理有限公司)

**Guide and Conditions for Applicants of
the Artificial Intelligence Subsidy Scheme**

1. Introduction

- 1.1. To support the Artificial Intelligence (“AI”) ecosystem development in Hong Kong, the 2024-25 Budget announced the allocation of \$3 billion to implement a multi-pronged three-year AI Subsidy Scheme (“AISS”), including subsidising eligible users to make the best use of the computing power by Cyberport’s Artificial Intelligence Supercomputing Centre (“AISC”) so that they can optimise the use of computing power of the AISC and achieve more breakthroughs in scientific research.
- 1.2. This Guide and Conditions for Applicants of the AISS (the “Guide”) sets out the guidelines, terms and conditions for application of the AISS. Any subsidy approved will be subject to the terms and conditions set out in this Guide. Eligible users interested in applying for the AISS shall read this Guide carefully before submitting an application. By submitting an application, the applicants shall be deemed to have read, accepted and be bound by the terms and conditions under this Guide.
- 1.3. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited (“HKCMCL”) is the administrator of the AISS. For any queries about this Guide or the AISS, please contact HKCMCL through the channel(s) listed at <https://aisc.cyberport.hk/aisc> (“Website”).
- 1.4. The Committee of the AISS (the “Committee”) will advise on the general directions, administration and mode of operation of the AISS, and vet eligible applications for the AISS, including the specific amount, duration and conditions of use. The members of the Committee are appointed by the Government from various sectors, including information technology, AI, public administration, industry and commercial. The composition of the Committee can be found on the Website.

2. Objective

- 2.1. The AISS aims to support the AI ecosystem development in Hong Kong by subsidising eligible users to make the best use of computing power by HKCMCL’s AISC and achieve scientific breakthroughs.

3. Subsidy Scheme

- 3.1. The AISS is a three-year programme commencing from 7 October 2024 to 6 October 2027.

4. Eligibility

- 4.1. Eligible users for the AISS include:

- (a) Local institutions: including the eight universities funded by the University Grants Committee and the self-financing local degree-awarding institutions registered under the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance (Cap. 320), etc.
- (b) R&D Centres: including the government-funded R&D centres¹, R&D Centres under the InnoHK Clusters, Hong Kong Productivity Council, and Hong Kong Institute of Biotechnology, etc.
- (c) Government bureaux and departments.
- (d) AI start-ups which are:
 - i. incorporated under the Companies Ordinance within the last seven years and with one of its offices (headquarter or regional office) or its main business operation or its key management or leadership team being located in Hong Kong;
 - ii. engaged in AI Projects, such as AI model development, fine-tuning, applications of developed models and model inferencing, etc.; and
 - iii. having a total number of employees (including Hong Kong, Mainland and overseas office(s)) of less than 250.

AI start-ups include incubatees and alumni of Cyberport and Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation, start-ups under the Technology Start-ups Support Scheme for Universities, and the Research, Academic and Industry Sectors One-plus Scheme, etc.

- (e) Strategic enterprises: local enterprises from industries of strategic importance to Hong Kong including those set out under the I&T Blueprint or the frontier technology fields under the Nation's 14-5 Plan, such as life and health technology, artificial intelligence and data science, financial technology, advanced manufacturing and new-energy technology industries,

¹ The Government currently maintains five government-funded R&D centres including the Hong Kong Automotive Platforms and Application Systems R&D Centre, Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel, Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute, Logistics and Supply Chain MultiTech R&D Centre, and Nano and Advanced Materials Institute.

from which the projects can contribute to R&D and AI innovation in Hong Kong, and for those non-local enterprises shall undertake to land in Hong Kong and employ a specified number of professionals so as to drive the development of the local AI ecosystem, and/or meet other eligible criteria as agreed by the Committee and the Government.

5. Pricing and Subsidy Amount

- 5.1. Each application can apply for a minimum² of one node, i.e. eight x H800 GPUs, for three months and a maximum of 10 nodes for 12 months³.
- 5.2. The list price for one node per month is shown on the Website. Under normal circumstances, successful applicants will be subsidised up to 70% of the list price. The list price shall be reviewed regularly and can be adjusted according to the market conditions and internal guidelines, subject to consideration by the Committee.
- 5.3. Depending on the uniqueness of individual cases and their significant impact on local AI innovation and application, etc., the Committee may consider, in special and exceptional cases, to subsidise up to 90% of the list price.

6. Application Procedure

- 6.1. Applicants shall submit their applications by email to aiss_application@cyberport.hk (“Email”). Submissions by other means, including but not limited to post, will not be accepted.
- 6.2. Applicants should submit full documents listed in **Annex A** for eligibility proof and review.
- 6.3. By submitting an application, the applicant shall be deemed to have read, accepted and be bound by the terms and conditions under this Guide.
- 6.4. Applicants may withdraw their applications by Email at any time prior to approval.

² More options for the minimum consumption of each applicant, such as by GPU / day, will be available in 2025.

³ Additional request for node(s) and/or duration beyond 10 nodes and 12 months will be subject to special approval of the Committee of the AISS.

- 6.5. Upon successful submission, an acknowledgement email with an application number will be sent to the applicant. The applicant is reminded to keep this application number in safe custody as it will be used in subsequent communication with HKCMCL regarding the application.

7. Application Windows

- 7.1. Applications will be accepted all year round.

8. Vetting of Application

- 8.1. Upon receipt of an application, HKCMCL will conduct an eligibility check. HKCMCL may seek clarification(s) and/or supplementary information from the applicant and/or request for a physical and online interview with the applicant if it deems necessary at its sole discretion.
- 8.2. An incomplete application will not be further processed until the applicant has rectified errors or discrepancies (if any) or provided all required information.
- 8.3. Eligible applications will be recommended to the Committee for consideration and approval.
- 8.4. The Committee will approve the amount of computing power resources, duration and amount of subsidy to be granted for each application to ensure effective allocation and utilisation of the precious computing power resources, taking into account the evaluation criteria listed in **Annex B** which can be found on the Website.
- 8.5. The Government and HKCMCL reserve the right to disqualify an applicant or reject an application on the grounds as considered appropriate, including but not limited to:
 - (a) a petition is presented or a proceeding is commenced or an order is made or a resolution is passed for the winding up of the applicant; or
 - (b) a false, inaccurate or incomplete statement or representation is contained in the information submitted in the application; or

- (c) the applicant is in default of its obligation(s) under any other grant agreement entered into with any local public funding sources, or is believed to have reputation risks to work with, whether or not in relation to the AISS; or
- (d) the applicant has engaged, is engaging, or is reasonably believed to have engaged or be engaging in acts or activities that are likely to cause or constitute the occurrence of offences endangering national security or otherwise the exclusion is necessary in the interest of national security, or is necessary to protect the public interest, public morals, public order or public safety of Hong Kong; or
- (e) it is necessary to ensure the prudent use of the funding under the AISS.

9. Result Announcement and Service Agreement

- 9.1. Whether successful or not, applicants will be notified of their application results by email.
- 9.2. Successful applicants shall be notified of their corresponding amount of computing power, amount of subsidy and duration to be granted based on the Committee's final decision.
- 9.3. Signing of Service Agreement for the Artificial Intelligence Subsidy Scheme ("Service Agreement") between the successful applicant and HKCMCL shall be completed within two weeks upon the result announcement.
- 9.4. The granted computing power will be activated according to the start date as stipulated in the Service Agreement after receipt of the prepayment in full or the first quarterly prepayment at a minimum, subject to the availability of computing power.

10. Withdrawal or Change of Planned Usage Period and Computing Power Consumption before Commencement

- 10.1. In case of withdrawal or any change of planned usage period and/or computing power consumption before the signing of the Service Agreement or the start date as stipulated in the Service Agreement, the successful applicant should

promptly notify HKCMCL by Email with the details and the justification.

- 10.2. HKCMCL will assess the feasibility of rescheduling and/or changing computing power consumption. Subject to the feasibility and the Committee's final decision, a written agreement with an updated usage period and/or computing power to be allocated shall be signed between HKCMCL and the successful applicant as part of the service agreement for supplement of the change.

11. Payment

- 11.1. Successful applicants shall make the prepayment in full or the first quarterly prepayment at a minimum for the approved computing power on or before the payment due date as stipulated in the Service Agreement before being granted access to the computing power.
- 11.2. Subsequent prepayments should be made on a quarterly basis and at least seven calendar days in advance of the start of the following quarter. For the avoidance of doubt, successful applicants should refer to the payment due date as stipulated in the invoice issued by HKCMCL.
- 11.3. Prepayment is considered fulfilled only when it is paid, settled, and appears in the bank account of HKCMCL in full by the payment due date. It is the sole responsibility of the successful applicants to allocate enough time for the settlement of the prepayment by banks.
- 11.4. Prepaid amount would not be returned to successful applicants even if the actual usage is less than the allocated computing power.

12. On-going Monitoring of Successful Applicants

- 12.1. HKCMCL will issue monthly computing power usage report to successful applicants. Successful applicants are required to promptly reply to any queries or requests made by HKCMCL regarding computing power consumption.
- 12.2. Successful applicants who are granted computing power for more than six months are required to submit a progress update by Email within 14 calendar days after mid-term. The progress update shall be written in English, and include the following and such other information as may be required by HKCMCL:

- (a) Progress update of the project milestone
- (b) Training or skill development related to AI technologies, if any
- (c) R&D achievement and/ or successfully commercialised applications, if any
- (d) Patents and research publications in progress, submitted, granted or published, if any
- (e) Partnership/ collaboration with other enterprises, if any
- (f) R&D teams and start-ups recruited, if any
- (g) Recognition received through local, Mainland and overseas awards, if any

12.3. The successful applicants shall submit a final report by Email within 14 calendar days after the expiration of the usage period. The final report shall be written in English, and include the following and such other information as may be required by HKCMCL:

- (a) Details of AI project(s) started and/or completed
- (b) Training or skill development related to AI technologies, if any
- (c) R&D achievement and/ or successfully commercialised applications
- (d) Patents and research publications in progress, submitted, granted or published, if any
- (e) Partnership/ collaboration with other enterprises, if any
- (f) R&D teams and start-ups recruited, if any
- (g) Recognition received through local, Mainland and overseas awards, if any
- (h) Achievement against key performance indicator(s) set out in the AISS Application

12.4. HKCMCL reserves the right to conduct interview(s) or ask for supplemental

information as a follow-up on the project within 12 months from the expiration of the usage period.

- 12.5. HKCMCL reserves the right to seek restitution of, and the applicant agrees to repay, any granted subsidy if the applicant fails to fulfil the progress update and/or final report requirements.
- 12.6. The successful applicants must acknowledge their use of the AISC in their research and the support received from the AISS when publishing books, submitting research papers to academic conferences, journals, or any other forms of publications.

13. Termination and Reduction of Approved Computing Power

- 13.1. The Government and HKCMCL may at any time terminate all or any part of the subsidy by issuing a Letter of Termination to the applicant with immediate effect and cease the provision of computing power on the occurrence of any of the following events:
 - (a) the applicant fails to comply with any terms and conditions set out in this Guide;
 - (b) the Government or HKCMCL has any reasonable ground to believe that the applicant has provided to HKCMCL any materially misleading or inaccurate information during the application or throughout the usage period or any subsequent supporting document is found to be incorrect or incomplete to the extent that the Government or HKCMCL considers to be significant;
 - (c) the applicant has acted dishonestly or negligently at any time during or before the application or throughout usage period, and such act(s) is in any way to the detriment of the Government or HKCMCL or their reputation;
 - (d) the Government or HKCMCL forms the opinion that:
 - i. the project shall be terminated in the public interest;
 - ii. the passing of any resolutions, the initiation of any proceedings, or the making of any order which may result in the winding up or dissolution of the applicant (other than for the purpose of reconstruction or amalgamation) or if a receiver, provisional liquidator, liquidator or administrator is appointed in respect of the whole or any part of its assets, or if the applicant makes an assignment for the benefit of or

composition with its creditors generally or threatens to do any of these things, or any judgement is made against the successful applicant, or any similar occurrence under any jurisdiction that affects the successful applicant;

- iii. the successful applicant has engaged or is engaging in acts or activities that are likely to constitute or cause the occurrence of offences endangering national security;
- iv. the continued engagement of the successful applicant or the continued performance of the relevant funding arrangements is contrary to the interest of national security; or
- v. the Government or HKCMCL reasonably believes that any of the events mentioned above is about to occur.

- (e) For any urgent and severe violation incidents determined by HKCMCL at its sole discretion, HKCMCL shall have the right to suspend the provision of the computing power and the successful applicant shall not be entitled to any compensation arising out of or in connection with such suspension.

13.2. Failure to prepay on time

- (a) If the successful applicant fails to prepay by the payment due date as stipulated in the invoice, HKCMCL shall issue a Letter of Termination and cease the computing power services at 23:59hrs on the date as stipulated in the Letter of Termination, and thereafter HKCMCL shall not have any further obligation under this Guide.

13.3. Under-utilisation of computing power

- (a) HKCMCL may contact the successful applicants to understand the latest status and plan of using the approved computing power if any under-utilisation is observed.
- (b) Successful applicants with less than 50% utilisation rate for three consecutive months as reflected in the monthly usage report without reasonable justification will be subject to computing power and subsidy reduction or termination as approved by the Committee.
- (c) In the case of reduction, HKCMCL shall issue a Letter of Reduction of Approved Computing Power with the revised amount of computing power, duration, amount of subsidy and the effective date to the successful applicant. The successful applicant shall not be entitled to any compensation arising out of, or in connection with such reduction.
- (d) In the case of termination, HKCMCL shall issue a Letter of Termination with an effective date and cease the computing power provision to the successful

applicant accordingly, and thereafter HKCMCL shall not have any further obligation under this Guide.

- 13.4. In cases outlined in Clause 13.1 to Clause 13.3, it may affect the approval and priority of the applicants in their further applications.
- 13.5. In the event HKCMCL issues a Letter of Termination, Letter of Reduction of Approved Computing Power or suspends the provision of the computing power under Clause 13.1 to Clause 13.3, to the maximum extent permitted by law and if requested by the Government and/or HKCMCL, HKCMCL reserves the right to claim the costs incurred, including without limitation the allocated computing power from the commencement date up to the end of the original approved duration, in full or (if determined by HKCMCL at its sole discretion) in part, at the list price (including all subsidy paid to the successful applicant) together with all administrative, legal and other costs incurred by HKCMCL, and interest accrued up to the date of repayment, from the applicant.

14. Voluntary Computing Power Usage Reduction or Withdrawal

- 14.1. Successful applicants who are granted computing power for more than three months are eligible to apply for a voluntary reduction in computing power usage or a voluntary early withdrawal provided that the application is supported by sound justifications.
- 14.2. Request for voluntary reduction or withdrawal with sound justifications should be submitted by Email to HKCMCL at least one month in advance of the planned reduction or withdrawal date.
- 14.3. In the case of reduction, upon the Committee's approval, HKCMCL shall issue a Letter of Reduction of Approved Computing Power with the revised amount of computing power, duration, amount of subsidy and the effective date for the successful application.
- 14.4. In the case of termination, upon the Committee's approval, HKCMCL shall issue a Letter of Early Withdrawal with an effective date and cease the computing power services accordingly, and thereafter HKCMCL shall not have any further obligation under this Guide.
- 14.5. The released computing power will be allocated to other successful applicants and/or other users upon the Committee's approval.

15. Duty to Disclose

- 15.1. To prevent double subsidy, the applicant must disclose to HKCMCL any and all forms of financial support received from other sources and/or the AISS (if applied and granted previously) for i) the same project or ii) any of the costs covered under the AISS when submitting application(s) in respect of the AISS and throughout the validity period of the project. The applicants shall make positive declarations to HKCMCL in case they have not received any double financial support from sources other than the AISS.
- 15.2. The applicant will not be granted additional subsidy for the same cost from the AISS without prior approval from the Committee.
- 15.3. It is the responsibility of the successful applicant to promptly notify HKCMCL of any changes in the information provided in the application that may affect the eligibility and/or the subsidy amount of the applicant or the project. The changes should be presented by means of declaration in change request form and progress update by Email. Failure for such a disclosure may be subject to termination as stated in Clause 13.2.

16. Probity Policy for Applicants

- 16.1. To ensure the openness, fairness and integrity of the AISS, all applicants shall:
 - (a) observe the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance (Cap. 201) and advise their respective employees, agents, subcontractors and other personnel who are in any way involved in its application/project (the “**Personnel**”) that they shall observe the same, and that they are not allowed to offer, solicit or accept from any person any advantages as defined in the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance in relation to the application;
 - (b) comply with the Competition Ordinance (Cap. 619) in all their applications/offers made in relation to the AISS;
 - (c) not offer or give or agree to give any person employed by HKCMCL, the Committee, or any members acting on its behalf, any advantage as defined in the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance (Cap. 201) during the application period or as an inducement or reward for such person’s doing or forbearing to do or for having done or forborne to do any act in relation to the AISS or for showing or forbearing to show favour or disfavour to any person in relation to the AISS;
 - (d) promptly declare and notify HKCMCL in writing of any potential or actual conflicts of interest upon becoming aware of the same. “Conflicts of interest” shall include (but are not limited to) any situation where the private interest

of an applicant or its Personnel, conflict or compete, or may be expected to conflict or compete, with the role, duties and/or impartiality of such applicant or Personnel under the AISS; (e.g. any relative of any directors and/or employees working in HKCMCL);

- (e) apply the funding prudently, efficiently and solely for the purposes of the projects approved under the AISS;
 - (f) abide by the principles of openness, fairness and competitiveness in the procurement of any goods/services in connection with the AISS; and
 - (g) take all necessary measures (including by way of a code of conduct or contractual provisions) to ensure that its Personnel are aware of and comply with the requirements under this section.
- 16.2. When doing business overseas and/or setting up legal entities in foreign locations to support local operations, all applicants are required to comply with anti-bribery laws and regulations in such other jurisdictions when conducting business there or where applicable.
- 16.3. All applicants must adhere to the laws of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and all other applicable laws and regulations (“Laws”) and refrain from engaging in any acts and/or activities that constitute or result in the violation of Laws and/or offenses endangering national security or which would otherwise be contrary to the interest of national security, acts and/or activities that could be detrimental to the infrastructures or the services provided by the AISC, and/or any other actions unfavourable to the AISS and/or the AISC.
- 16.4. Subletting of the computing power resources to any third party is strictly prohibited. The allocated computing power is intended solely for the use of the successful applicant and must not be shared, provided, rented, or sublet to any other individual or entity without prior written consent from HKCMCL.
- 16.5. Failure to observe the above policies may be subject to termination as stated in Clause 13.

17. Disclaimer

- 17.1. HKCMCL serves only as an administrator of the AISS. By assessing or approving an application of the AISS, HKCMCL does not provide any guarantees or endorsements to the AI projects in relation to the application.
- 17.2. HKCMCL reserves the right to supplement or change the eligibility criteria and details of the arrangements as set out above from time to time without prior notice.

- 17.3. HKCMCL hereby disclaims any responsibility or liability in connection with any potential damages, losses, costs, expenses or liabilities incurred to the applicants or users due to operation, support, termination, expiration or any actions related to the usage of the computing power.
- 17.4. Without prejudice to the foregoing and to the maximum extent permitted by law, the Government and HKCMCL make no warranties or representations, express or implied, either in fact or by operation of law, statutory or otherwise, whether oral or written, including but not limited to warranties of merchantability, satisfactory quality, fitness for a particular use and non-infringement, and without limiting the foregoing the Government and HKCMCL do not warrant that any computing power provided under the AISS will be uninterrupted, timely, secure, error free or virus free, or that any computing power will meet the applicant's own requirements. Any computing power is provided on an "as is" basis. By using the computing power, the applicant voluntarily accepts all and any of the risks arising from or in relation to such computing power.
- 17.5. As Internet communications may be subject to interruption, transmission blackout, delayed transmission and incorrect data transmission, HKCMCL and the Government exclude any liability for any failures or malfunctions in communications, and other facilities not under their control that may affect the accuracy or timeliness of messages and transactions sent or received by the applicant or the Government/HKCMCL.
- 17.6. To the maximum extent permitted by law, the Government and HKCMCL shall not be liable for any indirect, incidental, special, consequential or exemplary damages, including but not limited to, loss of profits, business opportunity, or savings or loss or corruption of data.
- 17.7. Nothing in this Guide is intended to, or shall be deemed to, establish any partnership or joint venture between any of the parties, constitute any party the agent of another party, or authorise any party to make or enter into any commitments for or on behalf of any other party.
- 17.8. Each party retains all rights, title, and interest in and to its own pre-existing intellectual property. Nothing herein shall transfer, assign, licence or grant the applicants any right, title or interest in or to HKCMCL's or the Government's intellectual property rights.

18. Handling of Information

- 18.1. Subject to the provisions below, information provided by the applicants in their applications, progress updates (if applicable) and the final reports will be treated as classified information by the Government and/or HKCMCL. All personal data will be handled in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Personal Data

(Privacy) Ordinance (Cap. 486). In this regard, the Government and/or HKCMCL shall have the right to disclose, without further reference to the applicants, whenever it considers appropriate, the information to other Government bureaux/departments, statutory bodies or third parties for purposes of processing the application, conducting research and survey, compiling statistics, meeting requirements of the law and/or performing their functions, and if the application is approved, monitoring the project, disbursing funding or other related purposes including publication of the name of the organisation(s) of the approved applicant and the corresponding project name(s), amount of computing power, amount of subsidy and duration granted to the successful applicant, or if explicit consent to such disclosure is given by the applicant. By submitting the application form, each applicant irrevocably and unconditionally authorises the Government and/or HKCMCL to make and consents to the Government and/or HKCMCL making any of the aforesaid disclosure.

19. Warranties and Indemnity

19.1. By submitting an application, the applicant warrants that:

- (a) it has provided true, full and accurate information to HKCMCL;
- (b) it has complied and will comply with the provisions of this Guide;
- (c) it has obtained all relevant consent(s) from the project owner(s) and/or any other parties in relation to the provision of their information, if any, to HKCMCL, and the further use and disclosure of such information by the Government and/or HKCMCL;
- (d) it will comply with the AISC usage regulations (as may be issued and updated by HKCMCL from time to time) and avoid using AI computing power beyond the AI R&D norms, which could potentially affect the hardware and software of the AISC (including that it will not introduce or permit the introduction of any virus or vulnerability into the AISC system);
- (e) it will comply with all applicable laws, by-laws, rules, regulations and requirements of any government or other competent authorities in the use of the computing power, and maintain all necessary licenses and consents relating to the use of the computing power; and
- (f) it will comply with all lawful and reasonable requests and instructions that may from time to time be given by HKCMCL and will work and cooperate with any employee, servant, contractor or agent of HKCMCL.

19.2. The applicant shall indemnify the Government and/or HKCMCL (including any of their officers, members, directors, partners, agents, attorneys, employees and

other independent contractors) (collectively, “**Indemnified Parties**”) and keep indemnified the Indemnified Parties and hold them harmless, against all and any liabilities, costs, claims, expenses, damages and losses (including but not limited to any direct, indirect or consequential losses, loss of profit, loss of reputation and all interest, penalties and legal costs and all other reasonable professional costs and expenses) suffered or incurred by the Indemnified Parties arising out of or in connection with any breach of the warranties contained in this section or any other terms in this Guide.

20. Assignment

- 20.1. Unless prior written request is made to and approval is obtained from the Committee and/or HKCMCL, the applicant shall not assign, transfer, extend the use, sub-contract or otherwise dispose of any or all of its interests, rights, benefits or obligations related to the AISS.

21. Governing Law

- 21.1. The validity, performance and construction of the provisions of this Guide shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.
- 21.2. The courts of Hong Kong shall have jurisdiction to settle any disputes which may arise out of or in connection with this Guide and accordingly any proceeding, suit or action arising out of or in connection with this Guide may be brought in such courts.

22. Miscellaneous

- 22.1. If any provision or part-provision of this Guide is or becomes invalid, illegal or unenforceable, it shall be deemed deleted, but that shall not affect the validity and enforceability of the rest of this Guide.
- 22.2. HKCMCL reserves the right to amend this Guide at any time upon the Committee’s approval. Any updated Guide will be published on the Website.
- 22.3. References to the singular include a reference to the plural and references to one gender include all genders and vice versa (in each case), unless the context otherwise requires.

Application Document

Type of applicant	Application Documents Required
Local institutions	Application form with submission of the following documents: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Project proposal with:<ol style="list-style-type: none">i. Detailed project milestones with timeline;ii. Implementation plan on the computing power requirement and usage duration with justifications;iii. Market analysis (if applicable);iv. R&D methodology (if applicable) and details leveraging computing power;v. Risk assessment;vi. Other ICT infrastructure requirements (e.g. storage, RAM, OS, AI development framework, etc.), if any2. Team structure and Curricula Vitae of team members3. Track records of computing power usage and the team, if any4. Financial proof5. Copy of Certificate of Incorporation and Business Registration, or equivalent as a proof of entity6. Supporting/ Reference document(s), if any
R&D centres	
Government bureaux and departments	Application form with submission of the following documents: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Project proposal with:<ol style="list-style-type: none">i. Detailed project milestones with timeline;ii. Implementation plan on the computing power requirement and usage duration with justifications;iii. Market analysis;iv. R&D methodology and details leveraging computing power;v. Risk assessment;vi. Other ICT infrastructure requirements (e.g.

	<p>storage, RAM, OS, AI development framework, etc.), if any</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Team structure and composition or manpower plan (such as outsourcing) for using the computing power 3. Track records of computing power usage and the team, if any 4. Financial proof, if applicable 5. Supporting/ Reference document(s), if any
AI start-ups	<p>Application form with submission of the following documents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Project proposal with: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Detailed project milestones with timeline; ii. Implementation plan on the computing power requirement and usage duration with justifications; iii. Market analysis; iv. R&D methodology and details leveraging computing power; v. Risk assessment; vi. Other ICT infrastructure requirements (e.g. storage, RAM, OS, AI development framework, etc.), if any 2. Team structure and Curricula Vitae of team members 3. Track records of computing power usage and the team, if any 4. Financial proof 5. Copy of Certificate of Incorporation and Business Registration, or equivalent as a proof of entity 6. Start-up document(s) proof, if any <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Incubatee and alumnus of Cyberport/Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation ii. Grantee of the Technology start-ups Support Scheme for Universities iii. Grantee of Research, Academic and Industry Sector One-plus Scheme 7. Shareholding structure of the company 8. Supporting/ Reference document(s), if any

Strategic enterprises	<p>Application form with submission of the following documents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Project proposal with: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Detailed project milestones with timeline; ii. Implementation plan on the computing power requirement and usage duration with justifications; iii. Market analysis; iv. R&D methodology and details leveraging computing power; v. Risk assessment; vi. Other ICT infrastructure requirements (e.g. storage, RAM, OS, AI development framework, etc.), if any 2. Team structure and Curricula Vitae of team members 3. Track records of computing power usage and the team, if any 4. Financial proof 5. Copy of Certificate of Incorporation and Business Registration, or equivalent as a proof of entity 6. Shareholding structure of the company 7. Supporting/ Reference document(s), if any
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Evaluation Criteria

Applications will undergo a review process and be assessed according to the following criteria:

1. Alignment with I&T and AI Development needs in Hong Kong (25%)

- a) Technological innovation, uniqueness in industry with competitive edge or novelty in academic research with advancement.
- b) Contribution to I&T⁴ and AI development in Hong Kong (e.g. new methodology, strategic objective, etc.)
- c) Potential economic and/or social impacts and benefits.
- d) Collaboration and ecosystem building among enterprises, Government, universities and start-ups, if any.

2. Reasonableness of Project's Computing Power Requirement (20%)

Justification of the requested computing power and duration based on proposed project's nature, model complexity, training dataset size, batch size, precision, inference vs. training, etc. to demonstrate the computing power request is:

- a) Necessary and Reasonable
- b) Fairly allocated to project(s) based on the size(s) of AI model(s) and dataset(s)
- c) Proposed with sound work schedule to effectively utilise the computing power

3. Technical & financial capabilities, track record and other attributes (25%)

- a) Technical expertise, qualification and team structure of the applicant and the team (e.g. Curriculum Vitae of team members, etc.)
- b) Financial strength/healthiness, and source/availability/sustainability of funding of the applicant and the team (e.g. financial statements, proof of funding, etc.)
- c) Track record, market reputation or academic influence and other attributes of the applicant and the team (e.g. publications, product catalogue, awards, etc.)

4. Probability of success, expected outcomes and social impact of the project (30%)

- a) Probability of successfully delivering claimed R&D achievements (e.g. previous R&D projects, project plan, research methodology, risk assessment, partnership, market analysis, etc.)
- b) Expected outcomes and feasibility of the projects (e.g. specific goals, products/solutions, patents, publications, timeline & milestone, etc.)
- c) Expected technological, economic and social impact of the project (e.g. unique methodologies, market growth, long-term social benefits, job creation, etc.)

⁴ Such as whether the project can promote the development of strategic industries set out under the I&T Blueprint or the frontier technology field under the Nation's 14-5 Plan.