

Patent Application Grant



Innovation and
Technology Commission
The Government of the HKSAR

What is the "Patent Application Grant"?

The Patent Application Grant (the Grant) is a funding scheme to assist local companies and individuals to apply for patents of their own inventions. The Grant is administered by the Innovation and Technology Commission with Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC) as the implementation agent.

What is its objective?

The Grant aims to encourage local companies and inventors to capitalise their intellectual work through patent registration.

Who are eligible to apply?

All locally incorporated companies, Hong Kong permanent residents or Hong Kong residents permitted to remain in Hong Kong for not less than 7 years which/who have never owned any patents in any countries or territories before will be eligible.

For individual applicant, the applicant must be the sole inventor or one of the joint inventors of the invention.

For applicant company, the inventor(s) of the invention shall be a directly related party/parties to the applicant company, e.g. owner, shareholder, director or staff.

What kind of applications will be supported?

All applications for functional patents and inventions with technology element and susceptible of industrial application are eligible. Cosmetic designs will not be supported. The implementation agent of the scheme will first conduct a patent search-cum-technical assessment to ensure that there is a reasonable chance of obtaining patent.

Who is the owner of the patent right?

Patents obtained through funding from the Grant will be fully held by the individual applicant/applicant company.

What is the form of funding support?

For an approved application, a grant of not more than HK\$250,000 or 90% of the total cost of the patent application (including the cost for patent search-cum-technical assessment and the administration fee charged by HKPC which is approximately equal to 20% of the total cost involved in patent application), whichever is the lower, will be provided. Funds are only released to the implementation agent through which the patent application

is processed. The grant is for covering the cost for patent search-cum-technical assessment and the administration fee mentioned above, as well as other direct costs involved in the patent application process. Examples are attorney fees, consultant fees and filing of patent applications. Other expenses, including any costs incurred before the date of approval of the application and the renewal fee of granted patents, are not fundable. The grant is non-transferrable and will be valid for 3 years from the date of approval of the application. The grant may not be sufficient to cover the patent application expenses, and individual applicant/applicant company has to bear the remaining balance.

How will the applications be processed?

Applications will be processed through the implementation agent on a confidential basis. Applicants must provide the agent with details of their idea or inventions. A patent search-cum-technical assessment will be required. Based on the result of the patent search-cum-technical assessment conducted by the implementation agent, the Innovation and Technology Commission will decide whether the applications should be approved. The Commission's decision will be final.

How to apply?

Applications can be made throughout the year. Application forms could be downloaded from any one of the web sites shown below. Please send the completed form together with a crossed cheque of HK\$3,000 made payable to "Hong Kong Productivity Council" directly to the following implementation agent or the Innovation and Technology Commission -

Hong Kong Productivity Council

78 Tat Chee Avenue, HKPC Building, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon.

Tel.: 2788 5958

Fax : 3187 4509

Web Site : www.ipsc.org.hk

Innovation and Technology Commission

10/F, Rykadan Capital Tower, 135 Hoi Bun Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Tel.: 3655 5678

Fax : 2957 8726

Web Site : www.itc.gov.hk/en/funding/pag.htm

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