



INTRODUCTION

Human Life Advancement Foundation (HLAF) is an international non-profit organisation that is active in the fields of education, technology transfer and sustainable development in developing nations. Its vision is to be an innovative institution that is responsive to the needs of society for the development in innovation, knowledge and technology by supporting fruitful interaction between academia, firms and the public sector.

Every year, HLAF offers the Science & Technology Scholarship and Grant to PhD and postdoctoral candidates, regardless of nationality, institution and gender. As of 2019, HLAF has awarded more than RM2 Million to 10 deserving alumni in various disciplines of the Science & Technology fields. It is our Foundation shared belief that a good education opens doors to a better life and that the opportunity for education should be equal.

In order to support the development of science and technology innovations, HLAF offers financial assistance through the Human Life Advancement Foundation Science & Technology Grant. We welcome proposals that align with science & technology, including the Foundation's Focus Areas which are Education, Renewable Energy and Agriculture. Other considerations include scalability and replicability of the project, how its impact can transform or catalyse further progress in the fields, as well as the sustainability of the project.

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of the HLAF Science and Technology Grant is to identify and support the development of technology and innovation by providing funds for the research project. We support the importance of education in building an environment conducive to scientific creativity through the enhancement of research and development capabilities.

GRANT POLICY

- I. Human Life Advancement Foundation (HLAF) is honoring the high-value research in science and technology. The Foundation will be giving annual grant funding to the research project.
- II. Grant given is for science and technology research projects
- III. The grant value will depend on the grant proposed budget, as determined by HLAF.
- IV. Our Grant Evaluation Committee will evaluate the grant, set-up by the Foundation to assess all applications. The Grant Evaluation Committee shall consist of 5 panels, three permanent panels, and two guest panels. Professional members of the public or academician deem knowledgeable in the areas of the shortlisted project will make up the guest panel.
- V. The duration of the research project is up to 3 years.
- VI. The grant recipient must submit a six-monthly and a final report outlining their progress to date and ensure that copies of these reports are forwarded to the HLAF. Unable to do so, may lead to the permanent suspension of the grant.
- VII. Grant offered is specific for the approved project. The Foundation will detain the unutilized portion of the grant.
- VIII. HLAF reserves the right to revoke the said grant if the work or conduct of the holder proves to be unsatisfactory. HLAF may also terminate the grant if the recipient:
 - a. Failed to meet the terms and conditions of the grant
 - b. Provided false or misleading information during the application for the grant or once they received the grant.
- IX. All information furnished by the grant recipient must be accurate and correct in all respects. In the event of any inaccurate or incorrect information provided, the grant is liable to be withdrawn without notice. In such an event, the grant recipient shall be returned to HLAF; the amount disbursed to date.
- X. Decision made by HLAF on all matters relating to the grant is final.
- XI. HLAF holds and reserves the right of the first refusal to publications and all intellectual property rights supported by and arising from the HLAF grant.
- XII. HLAF reserves the right to amend the policies and terms of the grant without notice.

ELIGIBILITY

- I. **Nationality:** Unrestricted
- II. **Gender:** Unrestricted
- III. The applicant must be at least a pre-doctoral student on research studies in the science and technology area.
- IV. Maximum age is **35 years old**
- V. In excellent health condition and certified by a Certified Doctor/Medical Professional. The cost of medical examination is to be borne by the applicants.

MINIMUM ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

- I. Strong academic record and excellent academic references
- II. Obtained a minimum CGPA of 3.5 at Bachelor's Degree and a minimum CGPA of 3.8 or very good result at Master's Degree and PhD
- III. Minimum Score for English Language : TOEFL = min of 550; or IELTS = min of Band 6; or MUET = min of Band 4

SELECTION CRITERIA

- I. Strong academic record and excellent academic references.
- II. Excellent publication record
- III. Excellent research proposal and its perspective application
- IV. Attached recommendation letters
- V. Excellent communication, writing and reading skills in English Language.

DURATION AND AMOUNT OF GRANT

The scholarship value will depend on the type of study, as determined by HLAF.

Award	Maximum Duration	Maximum Grant Value (per year)
HLAF Science & Technology Grant	1 Year (2 Semesters)	USD 35,000

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

An organization may submit a proposal each time HLAF Scholarship and Grant Committee opens for submission of proposals. HLAF Scholarship and Grant Committee will verify and evaluate all projects during its Evaluation Research Meeting. Submission of application should be forwarded to scholarship@hlaf.org.my with subject title "HLAF Grant Application Year __: <Applicant Name>".

EVALUATION PROCESS

Stage 1 : The applicant must submit to HLAF a copy of the recommended proposal. HLAF Scholarship and Grant Committee shall verify the proposal by the organization. HLAF Research Panels shall evaluate the recommended proposal, financial proposal, and reports on the evaluation.

Stage 2 : The approval of grant application involves a dual review process. The initial review is at the institutional level by the HLAF Research Panels, which will evaluate the grant application for its scientific merit, appropriateness of budget requests, and investigators' competencies. The External Panel of Experts undertakes the second level of review. The External Panel of Experts will conduct a technical evaluation of the proposal. In the course of screening the proposal, the HLAF Research Panels or External Panel of Experts may call the project leader for clarification of details. Research grant applications with favorable recommendations from both review processes shall be considered for funding.

Stage 3 : Grant applicants not selected for funding will be notified of the reasons for the rejection of their research proposals. Such research proposals may be amended and resubmitted for the second round of evaluation. The decision of HLAF Research Panels and the External Panel of Experts is final, and no appeals will be entertained.

ANNOUNCEMENT DECISION

Applicants will be informed of the funding decisions in writing or equivalent. Prior to the issuing of the offer letter, the applicant may be asked to provide further information of an element of the grant the Committee felt needs further explanation. If an application is unsuccessful and the applicant is invited to re-submit, a detailed feedback letter will be sent as part of the standard practice of the HLAF Scholarship and Grant Committee.

Successful Research Organisations receive an offer letter detailing the level of award and the terms and conditions: It is the responsibility of the lead Research Organisation to distribute copies as necessary. An offer acceptance, which must be returned within 14 working days of the offer being issued. Return of the "Offer Acceptance" will be taken as acceptance of the grant on the terms stated. A memorandum of agreement will be signed between the CEO of HLAF and the Lead Researcher for projects that have been approved.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- I. This research grant shall be utilized following the purpose the Grant was approved.
- II. The Grant should be fully utilized according to the approved schedule.
- III. Prior written approval of the Foundation must be obtained for an extension of the project's scheduled completion.
- IV. The recipient is required to complete and sign the Grant Terms and Condition that stipulate the general terms and conditions of the Grant.
- V. Each year after that and until the research is concluded, each recipient of the Grant is required to submit a six-monthly report together with the up-to-date account of disbursement and utilization of funds, jointly certified by the University/Institution and the recipient. Upon the conclusion of the whole project, a final report and the statement of account must be submitted to the Foundation within three months from the date of such completion.
- VI. After the project, the recipient may be required to present his/her research work/paper at the Research Report Sessions arranged by HLAF from time to time.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For further enquiries, please contact us at:

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