

# **Benchmarking Research Grant on “Curriculum and Assessment”**

## **1. Objective**

Internal: the purpose of benchmarking research is to understand whether Dong Zong’s curriculum and assessment can meet the needs of the market, comparing with other institutions offering the same curriculum or assessment in order to understand the shortcomings, make improvements, as well as to upgrading the current curriculum and assessment practices.

External: to provide related institutions with an understanding of the scope and standard of Dong Zong’s curriculum and assessment, thereby promoting the confidence of academic and related institutions with Dong Zong’s curriculum and assessment. Subsequently broadening the channels of further studies for students in Independent Chinese Secondary Schools, as well as to improve their education quality and confidence.

## **2. Qualification Criteria**

- 2.1 Duration: the research duration shall be limited to one year. However, the MICSS Educational Research and Development Unit (herein after referred to as R&D Unit) can extend the research duration subject to the situation.
- 2.2 Research Theme and Researcher: Open to public, or relevant units can recommend suitable research theme and researchers. The approval subjected to the review of R&D Unit.
- 2.3 Review procedure (refer to appendix 1):
  - 2.3.1 Reviewing method: R&D Unit will appoint a review team which consist of 3 experts to review the research plan, verified and approved the research plan.
  - 2.3.2 Reviewing focus: in addition to the relevancy of research topic with MICSS’s curriculum and assessment, the review team will also be considering the applicant's performance and ability to implement the plan, the importance of the research scope, the feasibility of the content and method, and the expected completion of the project and results.
- 2.4 Funding:
  - 2.4.1 Each research grant is limited to RM5,000.
  - 2.4.2 Expenses are calculated on a project basis, and there is no need to attach individual expense receipts.
  - 2.4.3 After approval, 50% of the research funds will be issued, and the remaining 50% will be allocated after the project research results are accepted by the review team.
  - 2.4.4 If fraud and plagiarism are found in the research, the R&D Unit will terminate the contract and recover the allocated funds.

## 2.5 Scope of Research Report:

2.5.1 The word count should not be less than 10,000 words, and it should consist of the following contents:

- Introduction – introduce the two curriculum, research scope (objectives, contents, instructions, and assessments).
- Research method – explain the research methodology in details.
- Data analysis – explain the details of the two curriculums.
- Conclusions and recommendations – explain the status of Dong Zong’s curriculum, as well as the improvements required.
- References.
- Appendices.

2.5.2 Research report should consist of (but not limited) the following:

- Programme Titles, and Objectives:
  - Topic of Curriculum.
  - Status of Curriculum.
  - Concepts of Curriculum.
  - Objectives of Curriculum.
  - Differentiate the Objectives of Curriculum.
- Content of Programme:
  - Core knowledge and concepts.
  - Non-core knowledge and concepts.
  - Reference books.
  - Framework of content presentation.
  - The numbers of chapters.
  - The duration of teaching sessions.
- Teaching and Learning Strategies:
  - Suggested teaching and learning approaches.
  - Suggested practicum.
  - Suggested outdoor activities.
  - Suggested experiments.
  - Students’ main learning activities.
  - Students’ homework workloads.
- Assessment Strategies:
  - Assessment methods.
  - Assessment structures.
  - Assessment scopes.
  - Standard of assessment.
  - Items analysis.
  - Performance comparison.

2.5.3 Research targets can be selected (but not limited) from the following:

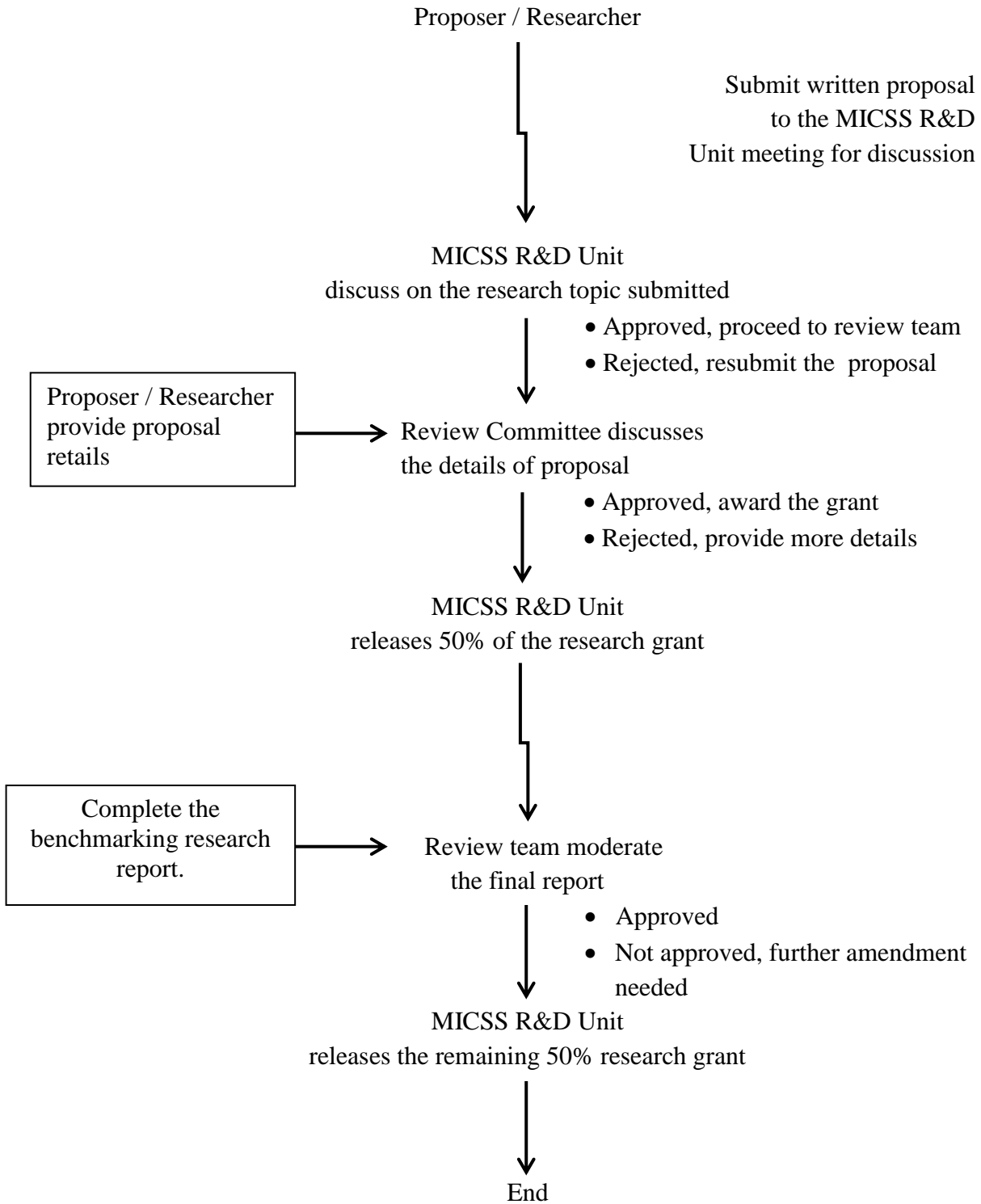
- Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM)
- Sijil Tinggi Pelajaran Malaysia (STPM)
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE)
- O Level

- A Level
  - Curriculum in Singapore, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and other western countries.
  - International English Language Testing System (IELTS).
  - Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).
- 2.5.4 The source of all materials used must be clearly acknowledge.
- 2.5.5 The copyright of the research report belongs to the Association.
- 2.5.6 Research reports, except for sensitive research plans or those involving patents and other intellectual property rights, shall be open to the public for inquiries as much as possible.
3. The rights of interpretation of this Research Grant laid with R&D Unit. If there are deficiencies, the unit has the right to add or delete them.
4. This research grant will be implemented from the date of promulgation.

Noted: This research grant will be implemented on January 1, 2023, after being approved by the MICSS R&D Unit of Dong Zong Secretariat Department.

**Appendix 1**

**Benchmarking Research Grant on  
“Curriculum and Assessment”  
Administrative Procedure**



**Appendix 2**

**Benchmarking Research Grant Application Form**

**Research Title:**

**Applicant's Name: (Chinese, if any)  
(English)**

**Institution / School:**

**Date of Application:**

**For Office Use Only:**

MICSS R&D Unit	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved, proceed to review team
	<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment needed, return to applicant for additional information
	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejected
Head of MICSS R&D Unit sign	Head of Secretariat Dept. sign
Review Team	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved, suggested grant amount: RM
	<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment needed, return to applicant for additional information
	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejected
Head of Review Team sign	Head of Secretariat Dept. sign
Moderation on final report	<input type="checkbox"/> Report accepted
	<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment needed, return to applicant for additional information
Head of Review Team sign	Head of Secretariat Dept. sign

*(Revised on February 4, 2025)*

## Application Information:

No	Applicant's Details																																																																																								
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10.	Co-researcher (if any)																																																																																								
Content of Research Proposal																																																																																									
11.	Summary (not more than 300 words)																																																																																								
12.	Research background																																																																																								
13.	Research objectives																																																																																								
14.	Research methods																																																																																								
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