Major-Grants Initiative
Call for Proposals: Major-Grants Seed Fund

NYU Shanghai is pleased to announce the Major-Grants Seed Fund, a new Major-Grants Initiative that seeks to facilitate NYU Shanghai researchers in securing significant external funding for groundbreaking research and projects.

Description
Understanding the complexity and labor-intensiveness of large, complex grant applications, the NYU Shanghai Major-Grants Initiative offers seed funding to research teams to develop competitive proposals seeking funding of RMB 2 million or more from non-NYU Shanghai sources.

The purpose of this new opportunity is to strengthen collaborative research to increase our competitiveness for major external funding:

- Developing high quality proposals with preliminary data and preparing teams/collaborators so they are in a strong position to proactively seek funding
- Creating incentives for collaborative and interdisciplinary research

Funding Priorities
We will prioritize applications that demonstrate the following:

- Commitment to the development and submission of a Major-Grant application to an external sponsor;
- Competitiveness for external funding (e.g. prior funding record with foundational work; contacts with relevant program officers).

Eligibility:
Any NYU Shanghai Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty are eligible to serve as a PI. NYU Faculty or JRI faculty members can serve as co-PI (funding restrictions may apply). Applications from PIs and Co-PIs with a demonstrated record of successful research funding, leadership and/or scholarly productivity will receive priority consideration.

Budget and Award Restrictions:
Awards typically range from RMB 50,000 to RMB 200,000 and not to exceed RMB 400,000. The project period cannot exceed two years.

The budget should only include project related expenses, within the framework of institutional policies (financial, procurement, travel, meal etc.).
Apply
Please follow the checklist in Appendix to prepare for the proposal.

Proposals should be submitted electronically as a single PDF document to
shanghai.researchgrants@nyu.edu, using the following subject line format:
   Major-Grants Seed Fund (AY2021-22) _PI name_project short name.

Deadline
The deadline for AY21-22 is September 15th, 2021. It is likely that there will be multiple award
cycles in the future. Award decisions will be announced approximately 2-3 months after the
cutoff date.

Review Procedures
Proposals will be externally peer reviewed as well as internally reviewed by an internal
panel. The internal panel may include the following: a representative of the Provost Office,
deans, and a representative from the Office of Research.

PIs are also invited to recommend reviewers (up to 4 external reviewers) as well as identify
reviewers who should not be included because of Conflict of Interest or other reasons.

EVALUATION CRITERIA
1. Significant intellectual merit and potential for advancing the field and opening
   new directions of research; feasibility of the plan and methodology
2. Likelihood for successful future extramural funding
3. Team strength (expertise, background, funding record)
4. Budget reasonableness

Reporting
All Major-Grants Seed Fund recipients are required to report on the outcomes within 30 days
from the project end date.

Inquiries
Please direct inquiries to  shanghai.researchgrants@nyu.edu.
APPENDIX   Proposal Checklist

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The completed application should include:

1. **Cover page** (Use the template provided)
2. **Project Plan** (not to exceed 4 pages)
   - Include the specific goals, objectives and anticipated outcome of the proposed work;
   - the significance of the research, its potential impact; the resources available
   - (including external funding and internal resources); especially how the proposal, if
   - funded, will enable the formation of a competitive project.
3. **Project Team**
   - Provide a list of all your team members, along with their skills and commitment that
   - each member brings to the project.
4. **References** (up to 1 page)
5. **Budget**
   - Include a budget plan using the template provided. Only travel/ visit funds will be
   - allowed for non-NYU Shanghai co-PI(s).
6. **A list of potential funders to submit future proposal**
   - Name of funding agencies, specific programs and/or existing interactions with
   - program officers and/or prior funding upon which this proposal is building, how the
   - project fits with funding priorities of the potential sponsor/ program.
7. **Biographical sketch of each PI and team member**
   - Bio-sketch should be provided for PI, Co-PIs and all faculty members, using the
   - template.
8. **[Optional] Recommendation of external reviewers** (up to 4)
   - Use the Template provided, recommend up to four external reviewers, and list any
   - reviewers not to include due to conflict or other reasons.