

Recent Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS) success

The Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS), established by the Hong Kong Research Grants Council, aims to bring talented students from around the world to Hong Kong to undertake PhD studies. Fellowship applicants, who must also be PhD program applicants, should demonstrate outstanding qualities in the following areas: 1) academic performance; 2) research ability and potential; 3) communication and interpersonal skills; and 4) leadership abilities. Each Fellowship awardee will receive a financial bursary of US\$105,320 for their 3-year PhD study. The bursary comprises a CYC SGS Entrance Scholarship (which covers tuition and on-campus hostel fees for the first year of study), a monthly stipend and a conference- and research-related travel allowance. For each successful PhD Fellowship, an additional monetary prize fully funded by the HKPFS Reward Scheme will be allotted to the relevant department on a one-to-one matching basis. This additional funding will be used to support future PhD students. (For further details on HKPFS, see <http://www.sgs.cityu.edu.hk/prospective/RPg/HKPhD>)

While HKPFS applications are very competitive, our Department of Accountancy has had great success nominating outstanding applicants in the past. Two Fellowship recipients are currently studying in our PhD program. They have made valuable research achievements with support from the Fellowship. For example, 2015 HKPFS recipient and third-year PhD student Albert Kwame Mensah has two papers under review in top accounting journals, and other papers ready for submission. He has also presented his papers at top-tier international conferences such as AAA and CAAA. In Spring 2018, a new applicant, Dakadzaklo Cephas Simon, was nominated by our department and obtained an HKPFS grant. Cephas obtained his bachelor's degree with first class honors from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, which is ranked the best university in Ghana and West Africa. He obtained his MPhil in accounting from Xiamen University, which is ranked first for accounting degrees in China. He was awarded the KNUST Provost's Award for Academic Excellence. His study at Xiamen University was supported by a Government Scholarship from the China Scholarship Council. His research has been published in international academic journals such as the Journal of Applied Economics. Our continued admission of talented international students and continued success with HKPFS has significantly contributed to the academic excellence and cultural diversity found in our PhD program and helped build our program's international reputation.