Invitation for Proposals for Establishing a New Medical School in Hong Kong by the Task Group on New Medical School

INVITATION BRIEF

The Task Group on New Medical School ("Task Group") of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("Government") is inviting proposals from eligible local universities ("Applicant") to establish a new medical school.

TABLE OF CONTENT

PREAMBLE	2
ELIGIBILITY	3
SPECIFIC PARAMETERS AND REQUIREMENTS	3
ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSAL	13
GENERAL TERMS	13
SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL	15
ENQUIRIES	16
SUMMARY TABLE OF PROPOSAL	17

PREAMBLE

1.1 The Government is committed to the long-term development of Hong Kong's healthcare system and recognises the growing demand for medical professionals. This commitment extends to enhancing the city's role as an international leader in medical research and innovation. To meet these objectives, the Chief Executive announced in his Policy Address 2024 that the Government supports the plan, by local universities, to establish a new medical school with the following objectives:

- (i) **increasing the supply of locally-trained doctors** by providing accredited and recognised medical training to ensure graduates' fitness to practice;
- (ii) **attracting talents into Hong Kong** by recruiting clinical teaching staff and students locally, in the Mainland and internationally, thereby elevating Hong Kong's position as an international post-secondary education hub;
- (iii) **leveraging existing experience and expertise** in healthcare training, medical technology and life sciences; and
- (iv) **driving excellence in medical research and innovation** and nurturing clinicians with strong science and research training to become clinician-scientists in health and medical sciences.

1.2 In following up with this initiative, the Task Group was set up to (a) devise directions and parameters for the establishment of a new medical school, (b) invite and assess proposals from interested local universities to formulate recommendations, and (c) liaise with the institution selected for the establishment of the new medical school on its implementation plan. The Task Group has formulated the parameters for the establishment of a new medical school and is inviting proposals to establish a new medical school ("Proposals").

1.3 This Invitation Brief sets out the eligibility and key information that the Proposals are expected to contain for the Task Group to assess and formulate recommendations.

ELIGIBILITY

2.1 An Applicant must be a local self-accrediting university funded by the University Grants Committee ("UGC")¹.

2.2 If the Applicant plans to partner or collaborate with other institutions, either local, Mainland or overseas, for the development or operation of the new medical school, details of the partnerships and collaboration arrangements must be provided in the Proposal².

SPECIFIC PARAMETERS AND REQUIREMENTS

3.1 The establishment of a new medical school should align with the Government's strategic direction of bolstering capacity in medical education, increasing the supply of locally trained doctors who are fit to practice, and fostering Hong Kong's development as an international hub for medical training, research, and innovation.

3.2 The Applicant should demonstrate its understanding of the intended objectives of the new medical school and illustrate, with supporting information and implementation plan, how the key parameters and requirements set out in this Invitation Brief will be met.

3.3 The Applicant should structure the Proposal to address the key parameters and requirements, which should be fulfilled to ensure that the proposed new medical school aligns with the strategic objectives of the Government and meet professional accreditation standards set by the Medical Council of Hong Kong ("MCHK"), and adheres to the best practices in medical education, research, and clinical training. Details are set out in the ensuing paragraphs.

¹ As of November 2024, there are eight UGC-funded universities in Hong Kong, namely: City University of Hong Kong (CityU), Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), Lingnan University (LU), The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK), The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU), The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), and The University of Hong Kong (HKU).

² Details of the partnership or collaboration with other institutions, either local or overseas, for example the mode of cooperation, arrangement of degree conferment, and requirements on governance etc. are required to be provided in the Proposal.

Foundational Requirements

Quality of Graduates

3.4 The new medical school must ensure that its graduates can meet the requirements of the MCHK, and they will receive clinical exposure and clinical training comparable to those received by graduates of the existing local medical programmes. The Applicant should showcase its strengths, as well as highlight its achievements in education, research, and innovation to demonstrate its capacity to establish the new medical school in Hong Kong.

Complementary Role to the Existing Medical Schools

3.5 The new medical school is expected to promote diversity of medical education and research in Hong Kong in pursuit of complementary development with the existing local medical schools, with a strategy to differentiate itself. The Applicant may focus on diversification of student base, programme delivery (pedagogy), admission policy (for both local and non-local students) and financial arrangements, which should also meet the Key Parameters set out in this Invitation Brief.

Development of the Higher Education Sector

3.6 The new medical school must contribute to the overall development of the higher education sector and the development of Hong Kong into an international post-secondary education hub, especially on its unique position at the Northern Metropolis (mentioned in paragraph 3.43 below) which collaboration with the surrounding area at Ngau Tam Mei ("NTM") on research, I&T development (including life and health technology) is expected.

General Considerations

University Mission and Structure

3.7 The new medical school must be fully integrated into the broader university structure and contribute meaningfully to the institution's overall mission. Obtaining support from the governing body/management of the university on the proposal is essential. The establishment of the new medical school should align with the mission of the university, foster synergy with the other UGC-funded programmes in the university, and contribute to the overall development of the university.

Governance

3.8 The governance structure of the new medical school must be clearly defined, both internally as well as in the wider institutional context, and its relationship with the university should be illustrated. The governance framework should ensure effective academic decision-making, scientific research, financial support and other significant functions of the medical school. It should also allow for regular reviews for continuous improvement. Processes must be established to ensure accountability through good governance and effective management.

3.9 The new medical school should ensure that there is engagement and collaboration with stakeholders within the university, in the higher education sector, the medical sector and the wider community to ensure that the new medical school would cater to the aspirations of relevant stakeholders.

3.10 If the new medical school is to be wholly or partly publiclyfunded, it will be subject to the applicable frameworks of the UGC, notably the University Accountability Agreement, the Triennial Planning Exercise and the UGC Notes on Procedures. The financial governance regime of the UGC will also be applicable.

Key Parameters

(A) Innovative Strategic Positioning

Diversification of Medical Education

3.11 The new medical school must differentiate itself from the existing local medical schools by offering graduate-entry route programme that are distinct from the existing undergraduate medical programmes in Hong Kong. The graduate-entry programme is expected to be four years³ in duration, and the Applicant should address how its admission arrangement would ensure the selection of candidates with the right qualifications, and provide information on the proposed measures to offer bridging courses in transitioning and preparing students without medical-related academic background for studying the medical programme. The programme should provide opportunities for individuals who have already completed a first degree in another discipline to pursue a medical career. While focusing on graduate-entry, the Applicant should detail a clear

³ The graduate-entry programme is expected to be four years in duration, but flexibility would be allowed for proposals to present alternative durations with sound justifications.

strategy for the admission requirements to accommodate outstanding candidates with various academic backgrounds.

3.12 The Applicant must detail a clear strategy (e.g. providing scholarship, etc.) for enrolling non-local students, including those from the Mainland and overseas, and for preparing them for integration into the local healthcare system and medical community. This strategy should outline the target percentage of non-local students, and the benefits of a diverse student base. This may include providing language programmes for students who are capable of communicating in the medium of instruction but require further training to facilitate clinical practice.

Curriculum Development

3.13 The medical curriculum must meet the requirements as stipulated by the MCHK to ensure graduates' fitness to practice. Proper arrangements should be made for medical students to undergo an adequate amount of clinical training, thus ensuring that the medical students are well equipped with both professional knowledge and clinical skills to safeguard the interest of patients.

3.14 The Applicant must demonstrate how the new medical school will implement innovative methods in the delivery of the curriculum, focusing on adopting innovative and advanced educational technologies, development of students' critical thinking and analytical skills, and fostering engagement in emerging medical fields. The delivery of curriculum should be innovative while ensuring full compliance with the accreditation requirements set by the MCHK. The Applicant is also required to demonstrate how the innovative approach can attract students, faculty and researchers.

Integration of Research Components

3.15 The Applicant must demonstrate how to integrate research components into the curriculum without compromising the accreditation requirements of the MCHK. This includes encouraging exposure to research, participation in research projects, and fostering students' contribution to future health and medical innovation as clinician-scientists. The Applicant must provide a plan for developing research capabilities, including to set aside adequate resources to support research initiatives.

(B) Staffing

Comprehensive Human Resources Plan

3.16 The Applicant should submit a comprehensive human resources plan and illustrate how the proposed faculty-to-student ratio can maintain high-quality medical education. The plan should also include the recruitment of full-time and part-time staff in addressing both clinical and pre-clinical teaching needs, progression pathway and succession plan. The new medical school should also develop a strategy to attract, recruit and retain non-local staff. The new medical school should include adjunct and honorary staff across various specialties and ranks as appropriate.

Faculty Development Programmes

3.17 The Applicant must provide a comprehensive faculty development programmes aiming at promoting continuous professional growth and helping faculty adapt to advances in medical technologies and teaching methodologies.

(C) Campus and Teaching Facilities

Long-term and Interim Plan for Medical School Campus and Teaching Hospital

3.18 The Applicant must present a detailed plan for the development of the medical school campus and teaching hospital, including interim measures for pre-clinical and clinical teaching, by specifying how existing facilities or partnerships will be utilised to accommodate students until the permanent campus and facilities are operational. This includes details on temporary teaching locations, purchase of equipment, and any necessary agreements with hospitals or clinical training grounds.

Partnerships with Technology Companies and Healthcare Providers

3.19 The Applicant must provide detailed strategies and plans for establishing partnerships with technology companies and healthcare providers, and demonstrate how these partnerships could enhance clinical training and integrate innovative technologies in medical education, training, and research.

Proposed Facilities in the Future Teaching Hospital

3.20 The Applicant must provide a comprehensive plan for the utilisation of facilities in the future teaching hospital, and demonstrate how it would support both clinical training and research activities. This includes specifying space requirement and necessary facilities.

(D) Clinical Exposure and Learning Resources

Clinical Teaching Staff with Extensive Clinical Experience

3.21 The Applicant should illustrate their recruitment plan and clinical teaching staffing with extensive experience in clinical practice and cover a wide range of specialties, such as internal medicine, surgery, obstetrics and gynaecology, paediatrics, orthopaedics and traumatology, psychiatry, and family medicine. This diversity is essential for providing comprehensive clinical education and exposure.

3.22 The Applicant must demonstrate how the medical school can provide students with exposure to a sufficient complexity of cases, including complex surgeries and rare disorders, to prepare them for handling diverse medical conditions.

Partnerships with Hospitals in the Greater Bay Area ("GBA")

3.23 The Applicant should propose strategies for partnerships with hospitals in the GBA or other places outside Hong Kong to allow students' access to a wider range of clinical cases and medical conditions, enhancing their clinical exposure and educational outcomes.

Primary Teaching Hospital as a Tertiary Facility

3.24 The Applicant must illustrate how to establish partnerships with hospitals to secure adequate clinical training placements. This includes plans to liaise with appropriate parties for a teaching hospital, and any information on previous engagement or exploration with the concerned hospitals or clinical training grounds, such as the Hospital Authority ("HA") and private hospitals, for both interim and long-term clinical training plans.

Adequate Clinical Exposure in Diverse Settings

3.25 The Applicant must provide a detailed plan for clinical training placements or modules, ensuring students receive adequate exposure in diverse clinical settings, aligning with the MCHK's standard and structure.

(E) Curriculum Structure and Assessment Methodologies

Fulfil Accreditation Requirements Set by the MCHK

3.26 The Applicant must demonstrate that the proposed curriculum fully meets the accreditation requirements set by the MCHK, allowing graduates to be fully registered as medical practitioners in Hong Kong after internship, without the need for additional qualifying or licensing examinations.

Continuous, Competency-Based Assessment and Feedback Mechanisms

3.27 The Applicant should describe a continuous, competency-based assessment system with passing criteria and provide timely feedback to students on their progress and areas for improvement. This includes policies for addressing underperforming students, ensuring they receive the necessary support and guidance.

Cross-Disciplinary and Interdisciplinary Modules

3.28 The Applicant is required to exemplify the proposed curriculum to include cross-disciplinary, multi-disciplinary (e.g. allied health professionals, nurses and/or pharmacists, etc.), and interdisciplinary modules, preparing students for future trends in healthcare and medical practice. This includes exposure to fields such as bioinformatics, public health, ethics, and health technology. The Applicant should devise a strategy and plan to incorporate artificial intelligence and technology into the curriculum.

(F) Student Admission Arrangements

Graduate-Entry Oriented and Focused on Recruiting Non-Local Students

3.29 The Applicant should demonstrate a transparent and equitable admission policy focusing on graduate-entry and inclusion of non-local students. The admission policy should take into account the students' profile, academic and achievement records, requirements on pre-requisite qualifications, language capability (including, but not limited to, the ability to communicate in the medical school's medium of instruction), and strategies to attract, recruit and retain non-local students.

3.30 The Applicant must specify the academic and achievement records required for admission, ensuring those applying for the programme have the necessary foundational knowledge to complete the programme with quality and comparability with the MCHK's accreditation standards and structure.

Transparent and Equitable Admission Process

3.31 The Applicant needs to illustrate a professionally administered, transparent, and equitable admission process, based on the latest available evidence of the students' academic merits, aptitude, and suitability for medicine.

Interview Component to Assess Commitment and Motivation

3.32 An interview component should be included in the selection process to assess and show how to select candidates with commitment and motivation for pursuing a career in medicine. Policies and guidelines for the selection process and interview arrangements should be clearly defined.

(G) Funding Arrangements

Realistic Financial Plans for Capital and Recurrent Costs

3.33 The Applicant must develop robust and realistic plans to commit and finance the capital and recurrent costs of establishing the medical school, with particular emphasis on ensuring long-term financial sustainability. This includes a detailed phased-financial plan and anticipated contributions from various sources, with support from the governing body/management of the university

Detailed Financial Projections and Contributions from Various Sources

3.34 The financial plan should be pragmatic and viable, including cash flow projections, potential revenue sources such as differential fees for local and non-local students, private donations, university funds, and other innovative financing models. The Applicant must demonstrate financial solvency while achieving academic and research objectives. The Applicant should also outline whether central funds of the university will be mobilised to support the new medical school.

(H) Implementation Plan

Comprehensive Implementation Plan

3.35 The Applicant must present a full, detailed implementation plan for the new medical school, outlining both interim measures and the longterm strategy, including a projected timeline of key milestones. The plan should cover the preparation and operation phases, along with the ability to expedite the production of the first cohort of graduates if feasible.

Identification of Challenges and Mitigation Strategies

3.36 The Applicant must identify potential challenges related to clinical training capacity and alignment with the HA's services and resources. Mitigation strategies should be proposed, including securing clinical teaching staff and patient cases beyond the HA.

Ensuring Graduate Eligibility for Registration

3.37 The Applicant must have a plan to ensure that graduates will be granted Provisional Registration and undergo internships in approved hospitals, qualifying them under the MCHK without additional examinations.

3.38 Implementation of robust quality assurance and ongoing monitoring mechanisms is essential to ensure graduates' fitness to practice and meet necessary competencies. This includes mechanisms for continuous programme evaluation, stakeholders' feedback, and performance assessments.

Viable Fall-Back Plan

3.39 The Applicant must provide a detailed and viable contingency plan, including a timeline, in case the programme cannot be accredited by the MCHK in time for the first cohort of graduates to proceed to internship and full registration. This plan should outline alternative pathways for students to complete their training and become registered practitioners in Hong Kong (or elsewhere).

(I) Teaching and Learning Quality

3.40 The Applicant must have in place a framework for ensuring the quality of educational experience of students with regard to academic governance, standards and quality assurance. The new medical school should provide sufficient resources and support for teaching staff to achieve teaching excellence, and the resources and support for students from diverse background to excel in their academic studies and whole-person development.

(J) Research Excellence

3.41 The Applicant must present the research vision, policies and priorities of the new medical school as well as strategies to achieve them. The Applicant should present the planned research capacity of the new medical school in terms of research resources, manpower and interdisciplinary collaboration within and across institutions, and describe the plan for translational research and knowledge sharing to benefit the society with research outputs.

Others

3.42 The Chief Executive announced in his Policy Address 2024 to set aside sites at NTM, Yuen Long of the Northern Metropolis for developing the campus of the new medical school and building a new integrated medical teaching and research hospital.

3.43 The Applicant shall prepare a holistic and practical campus development plan that includes the space requirement (i.e. floor area) and the plan of housing necessary facilities at NTM of both the campus and the teaching hospital for the new medical school. The plan should be supported by realistic financial projections for the construction of state-ofthe-art simulation centres, laboratories, telemedicine platforms, and AI tools.

3.44 As the site for the new medical school at NTM is not readily available for use, interim site and arrangements for clinical training and teaching must be identified and set out clearly in the Proposal.

ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSAL

4.1 The Task Group will holistically examine Proposals received against the Specific Parameters and Requirements mentioned above.

4.2 Applicants may be invited to present their Proposals to the Task Group. The Task Group may seek clarification or elaboration from the Applicants. The supplementary information provided by the Applicants will also be taken into consideration by the Task Group.

GENERAL TERMS

5.1 The Applicant must comply with all applicable laws and regulations of Hong Kong, including those relating to national security and public health.

5.2 The Government reserves the right to disqualify any Applicant if it reasonably believes that the Applicant's activities may endanger national security or be contrary to public interest.

5.3 The Applicant is required to provide detailed information of its Proposal. The Applicant shall be solely responsible for the costs and expenses incurred in preparing and submitting the Proposal. The Government will under no circumstances be liable to any Applicant for any such costs and expenses.

5.4 The Applicant shall take all necessary steps to maintain confidentiality. In particular, the Applicant and each relevant person in preparing and submitting the Proposal shall not make use of, reproduce or otherwise publish that confidential information.

5.5 The Government will take all reasonable steps not to disclose confidential information provided to it by the Applicant in the submission of Proposals. This provision shall not apply to:

- (a) the disclosure of information to any person considered appropriate by the Government for the purpose of processing, evaluating or assessing the Applicant's Proposal;
- (b) the disclosure of information to any person in the Government's exercise of the intellectual property rights granted by the Applicant to the Government hereunder;

- (c) the disclosure of information already known to the Government other than as a result of this exercise;
- (d) the disclosure of information that is or has become public knowledge;
- (e) the disclosure of information that is rightfully in the Government's possession prior to the date of the Applicant's submission of the Proposal;
- (f) the disclosure of any information in circumstances where such disclosure is considered by the Government to be in the public interest, or required pursuant to any law or order of a Court of competent jurisdiction; and
- (g) the disclosure of any information with the prior consent of the Applicant.

5.6 The Government may use the information of the Applicant's Proposal in its publications, websites, newsletters, reports and other publicity materials. The Applicant must agree to allow the Government to publish and use such information.

5.7 The Government may also use the information submitted by the Applicants for its research or policy development purposes.

5.8 If the information provided is insufficient or the supporting documents are missing and the Task Group's request for additional information or clarification is not addressed within the specified time frame, the Task Group reserves the right not to process the Proposal.

5.9 The Applicant with intent to submit false documents or information will have its Proposal revoked, and might be subject to criminal liability.

5.10 The Applicant shall ensure it has no conflict of interest in connection with transactions entered into for the preparation and submission of the Proposal.

5.11 The Applicant is expected to observe the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance (Cap 201). If offences are committed under this ordinance by the Applicant and any relevant person in preparing and submitting the Proposal, the Government shall be entitled to forthwith terminate the submission.

5.12 All works comprised in the Proposals shall not contain any materials infringing any third party intellectual property rights. Applicants shall indemnify and keep the Government fully and effectively indemnified against all expenses, claims, demands, costs and liabilities of whatsoever nature arising from or incurred by reason of any such infringement or alleged infringement.

5.13 Except for the Third Party Materials, all the Intellectual Property Rights in the Proposal shall vest in the Government immediately upon creation. If any materials of which the Intellectual Property Rights are owned by third parties and incorporated into the Proposal ("Third Party Materials"), the Applicant shall have obtained from the third party Intellectual Property Rights owners the grant of all necessary clearances and licences for itself and the Government to use the Third Party Materials. The costs of the above clearances and licences shall be borne by the Applicant.

5.14 The Government shall be entitled to disclose or make copies of any or all of the Proposals for the purpose of considering and/or assessing the Proposals and to keep such copies for record purposes.

5.15 The Government reserves the right, at its absolute discretion, not to accept any Proposals submitted.

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL

6.1 Eligible Applicants interested in submitting a Proposal must prepare their submission in English, with no more than a total of 150 A4 pages (inclusive of any attachments), font size 12 in Times New Roman with no double spacing. A bilingual summary of the Proposal should also be submitted. The Proposal must include one original plus 30 hard copies in sealed envelope(s) marked *"Invitation for Proposals for Establishing a New Medical School in Hong Kong"* and one soft copy to the Secretariat's email (newmedsch@healthbureau.gov.hk).

6.2 The original copy of the Proposal must be delivered by hand during office hours (9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.) to the following address:

Task Group on New Medical School Health Bureau 46/F, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong (Attn: Miss Tiffany NG)

6.3 The closing date and time for submission of Proposals is 17 March 2025 (5:30 p.m.). Late submissions will <u>not</u> be accepted or processed by the Government. Please contact Mr Michael CHIU at 2594 5540 or Miss Tiffany NG at 2594 5550 one day in advance for the necessary logistics arrangement.

6.4 Failure of the Applicant to comply with any or all of the requirements or to submit the required supporting documents may result in the Proposal not being further considered.

6.5 A briefing session on matters within this Invitation Brief will be organised for interested Applicants. Details will be announced separately by the Health Bureau.

ENQUIRIES

For enquiries, please contact: Mrs Lilian LEUNG Secretariat for Task Group on New Medical School Tel No.: 2594 5617 Email: <u>newmedsch@healthbureau.gov.hk</u>

Task Group on New Medical School Health Bureau Education Bureau 2 December 2024

SUMMARY TABLE OF PROPOSAL

Eligibility	Summary of Inputs (with Page Reference to the Proposal)
The Applicant must be a UGC-funded university in Hong Kong	
The partner/collaborating institution(s), if any, in details	

Foundational Requirements	Summary of Inputs (with Page Reference to the Proposal)
Quality of Graduates	
• The new medical school must ensure comparability in the quality of its	
graduates, particularly in terms of their clinical exposure and clinical training,	
to meet the requirements of the MCHK	
• The Applicant should showcase its strengths, as well as highlight its	
achievements in education, research, and innovation to demonstrate its	
capacity to establish the new medical school in Hong Kong	
Complementary Role to the Existing Medical Schools	
• The new medical school is expected to promote diversity and avoid unhealthy	
competition. This being the case, the new medical school should offer	
graduate-entry programme of four years ⁴ in duration (to diversify student base)	
and demonstrate innovation in areas such as curriculum design, admission	
policy (for both local and non-local students) and financial arrangements	
Development of the Higher Education Sector	
• The new medical school must contribute to the overall development of the	
higher education sector and the development of Hong Kong into an	
international hub for post-secondary education, especially on its unique	
position at the Northern Metropolis which collaboration on research, I&T	
development (including life and health technology) with the surrounding area	
at NTM is expected	

⁴ The graduate-entry programme is expected to be four years in duration, but flexibility would be allowed for proposals to present alternative durations with sound justifications.

General Considerations	Examples of Information Required	Summary of Inputs (with Page Reference to the Proposal)
 University Mission and Structure The new medical school should be integrated in the context of a university and add value to the institution The school must develop and adhere to its mission statement The new medical school should align with mission of the university The school, if publicly-funded, will be subject to the applicable governance frameworks of the UGC 	 Membership of the academic board or committee An organisational structure showing the major committees and departments Membership and terms of reference of major committees and advisory bodies of the university and the new medical school Strength of the administrative staff, including full-time and part-time positions, etc. Statements on the role and responsibilities of school head, programme leaders, external advisers, external examiners and student representatives etc. A well-developed mission statement to communicate the values and purposes of the school in alignment with the following principles (i) increasing the supply of locally-trained doctors (ii) attracting talents to Hong Kong (iii) leveraging existing experience and expertise 	
Governance	 An organisational governance structure Terms of reference of the governing body, academic board or committee Information on the academic decision-making process (e.g. governance, meetings) 	

	Parameters	Examples of Information Required	Summary of Inputs (with Page Reference to the Proposal)
(A) Innovative Strategic Positioning (Differentiate the third medical school's positioning from the existing undergraduate programmes of the two existing medical schools)	 (A1) Diversification of medical education Graduate-entry programme of four years⁵ in duration Enrolment of non-local students (A2) Curriculum development Innovation in delivery of curriculum that can meet the MCHK's standard and structure Curriculum designs to attract more students, faculty members and medical researchers 	 Admission policy (such as undergraduate degree and subject requirement) Inclusion of non-local students with % Innovative proposals designed to fulfil the MCHK's comparability requirements 	
	 (A3) Integration of research components Include research component without compromising the basic accreditation requirements of the MCHK Focus on research capabilities, support facilities and strategies 	 Research plans and the form of international collaborations Research support facilities 	

⁵ The graduate-entry programme is expected to be four years in duration, but flexibility would be allowed for proposals to present alternative durations with sound justifications

	Parameters	Examples of Information Required	Summary of Inputs (with Page Reference to the Proposal)
(B) Staffing (Recruitment and development of faculty and staff are crucial to ensure high- quality medical education)	 (B1) Comprehensive human resources plan Reasonable faculty-to-student ratio Recruitment of non-local staff Recruitment of adjunct and honorary staff Development and retainment of clinical teaching talent 	 Proposed % of faculty (including full-time and part-time faculty) with medical background and hold a license to practice as a registered practitioner in Hong Kong to maintain high-quality medical education Recruitment of full-time and part-time staff in addressing both clinical and pre-clinical teaching needs, progression pathway and succession plan Strategy to attract, recruit and retain non-local staff Include adjunct and honorary staff across various specialties and ranks as appropriate 	
	 (B2) Faculty development programmes Implement faculty development programmes to promote continuous professional growth and adaptation to advances in medical technologies and teaching methodologies 	Proposal for faculty development programmes for teaching staff	

Pa	rameters	Examples of Information Required	Summary of Inputs (with Page Reference to the Proposal)
(C) Campus and Teaching Facilities (Prepare a plan for the development of the school campus and related clinical teaching facilities)	 (C1) Long-term and interim plan for medical school campus and teaching hospital Include arrangements for pre-clinical and clinical teaching before the completion of permanent facilities 	 Detailed plan including interim measures before the completion of the school campus and related clinical teaching facilities The location, number of classrooms, tutorial rooms, seminar rooms, meeting rooms, conference rooms, lecture halls, lecture theatres, student lounge, discussion areas, science lab, etc., and the max number of students accommodated in each of the facilities A list of planned-to-buy equipment for the programme The size and the capacity of the library Short (3 years), medium (5 years) and long-term (10 years) planning on the programme 	
	(C2) Partnerships with technology companies and healthcare providers	• Strategy and plan for partnerships with technology companies and healthcare providers	
	 (C3) Proposed facilities in the future teaching hospital Support both clinical training and research by the new medical school 	 A comprehensive plan on the utilisation of the facilities, specifying details such as the number of programmes and students using the facilities and the utilisation schedule to ensure that the facilities are sufficient to cater for all the programmes Required floor area and the necessary facility in the future teaching hospital 	

Pa	arameters	Examples of Information Required	Summary of Inputs (with Page Reference to the Proposal)
(D) Clinical Exposure and Learning Resources (Clinical exposure is a cornerstone of medical training and is critical in preparing students to apply their knowledge and skills)	 (D1) Clinical teaching staff with extensive clinical experience Ensure a diverse range of specialties, such as internal medicine, surgery, obstetrics and gynaecology, paediatrics, orthopaedics and traumatology, psychiatry, and family medicine Provide a sufficient complexity of cases, including complex surgeries and rare disorders 	 Clinical expertise and strength of faculty Profile of clinical academic staff (esp. senior academic staff and Heads of departments), clinical mentors and clinical assessors 	
	 (D2) Partnerships with hospitals in the GBA Allow students to access a wider range of clinical cases and medical conditions 	• Strategy and (short-term and long- term) plan for partnerships with hospitals in the GBA	

	Parameters	Examples of Information Required	Summary of Inputs (with Page Reference to the Proposal)
Cont'd	 (D3) Primary teaching hospital as a tertiary facility Ensure the primary teaching hospital offers a comprehensive range of specialties Develop innovative proposals on clinical training placements 	 Plan to liaise with appropriate parties to identify the primary teaching hospital Information on engagement or exploration with the concerned hospitals or clinical training grounds, e.g. HA, private hospitals, for clinical practicum of students (including interim and long-term plans) Mechanism of communication between the applying training institution and clinical practice organisations, etc. Interim and long-term plan on clinical training placements 	
	 (D4) Adequate clinical exposure in diverse settings Engage HA to support clinical training placements 	 Plan to liaise with appropriate parties to support clinical training placement List of clinical settings both within and outside Hong Kong for clinical training placements Proposed session and modules for clinical teaching/exposure per clinical year (according to the MCHK's standard and structure) Clinical practice performance standard assessment system 	

	Parameters	Examples of Information Required	Summary of Inputs (with Page Reference to the Proposal)
(E) Curriculum Structure and Assessment Methodologies (Curriculum is the foundation of medical education)	 (E1) Fulfil accreditation requirements set by the MCHK Allow graduates to be fully registered as medical practitioners in Hong Kong after internship, without additional qualifying or licensing examination 	 Programme details including title, learning outcomes, award, admission requirement, length, mode of teaching, medium of instruction, pattern of attendance and assessment methods Curriculum and syllabus of the training programme including subjects, learning hours, mode of delivery and teaching methods Samples of teaching and learning materials Samples of study projects and assessment records etc. Organisation policy for awarding qualification Procedures in approval of new programmes Policy and regulation relating to curriculum design, credit weighting, assessment, graduation, grading award, disciplinary and appeal system The development and implementation plan of the training programme Quality improvement strategies 	

	Parameters	Examples of Information Required	Summary of Inputs (with Page Reference to the Proposal)
Cont'd	 (E2) Continuous, competency-based assessment and feedback mechanisms Ensure that students receive timely guidance on their progress and areas for improvement 	 Assessment methods, passing criteria and appeal system Policy for weak performing students Student counselling 	
	 (E3) Cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary modules Prepare students for future trends in healthcare and medical practice 	 Proposal on the modules, i.e. cross-disciplinary, multidisciplinary (e.g. allied health professionals, nurses and/or pharmcists, etc.), and interdisciplinary Committee structure such as advisory committee or academic board involved in the approval, validation and re-validation, and monitoring of training programmes Terms of reference of any external bodies invited to give advice on quality issues of the applying training institution Mechanism for programme evaluation, including the educational process, specific component of the curriculum, teacher and student feedback and the performance of students 	

1	Parameters	Examples of Information Required	Summary of Inputs (with Page Reference to the Proposal)
(F) Student Admission Arrangements (Positioning Hong Kong as a talent hub to	(F1) Graduate-entry oriented, and focused on recruiting non-local students	 Student selection policy Student profile, academic and achievement record Pre-requisite of student admission Strategy, plan and mechanism to attract non-local students 	
attract a diverse range of local and non-local	(F2) Transparent and equitable admission process	 Mechanism to ensure the compliance with stipulated admission policy 	
students)	(F3) Interview component to assess commitment and motivation	 Policy and guidelines for the selection process Policy and guidelines for the interview arrangement 	
(G) Funding Arrangements (Significant investment in setting up a new	(G1) Realistic financial plans for capital and recurrent costs	 Plan for mobilisation of university fund with University Council's support Plan for or private donations already solicited Other innovative financing plans 	
medical school)	(G2) Detailed financial projections and contributions from various sources	 Financial requirement/ projection in phases Potential sources: differential fees for local and non-local students, private donations, university funds, other innovative financing models Projections: cash flow projections for the new medical school demonstrating financial sustainability of the medical school in long run 	

Parameters			Examples of Information Required	Summary of Inputs (with Page Reference to the Proposal)
 (H) Implementation Plan (Hong Kong has a pressing need for qualified doctors due to the manpower gap and need to develop the city into a health and medical innovation hub) 	(H1) Comprehensive implementation plan		A comprehensive implementation plan for the new medical school, outlining both interim measures and the final strategy, including a detailed timeline and timeline of the 1 st cohort of medical graduates	
	(H2) Identification of challenges and mitigation strategies		Proposal for handling limited clinical resources/teaching capacity in HA	
	(H3) Ensuring graduate eligibility for registration		Quality assurance and on-going monitoring mechanism	
	(H4) Viable fall-back plan		A detailed contingency plan and timeline	
(I) Teaching and Learning Quality (Ensuring the quality of educational experience of students)	(I1) Framework for ensuring the quality of educational experience	•	The framework for ensuring the quality of educational experience of students with regard to academic governance, standards and quality assurance Resources and support for teaching staff to achieve teaching excellence, and the resources and support for students from diverse background to excel in their academic studies and whole-person development	
(J) Research Excellence (Ensuring research excellence of the medical school)	(J1) Research vision, policies and strategies	•	The research vision, policies and priorities of the new medical school as well as strategies to achieve them The research capacity in terms of research resources, manpower and interdisciplinary collaboration within and across institutions Plans for translational research and knowledge sharing to benefit the society with research outputs	