

LEE KUAN YEW FUND FOR BILINGUALISM

Call for Research Proposals

Fund Application Guidelines

Information provided in this document is correct as of November 2013.
The Fund reserves the right to make changes to the document at any time, without prior notice.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	3
1. OVERVIEW.....	8
2. OBJECTIVES OF FUND.....	8
3. ELIGIBILITY OF APPLICANTS.....	9
4. FUNDING.....	9
5. SELECTION PROCESS.....	10
6. EVALUATION CRITERIA.....	10
7. EVALUATION AND MONITORING.....	11
8. SUBMISSION.....	11
9. CONTACT DETAILS.....	12
ANNEX A: RESEARCH AGENDA.....	13
ANNEX B: DETAILS OF RESEARCH PROPOSAL.....	14

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OVERVIEW

The Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism (the “Fund”) was first announced at the launch of Mr Lee Kuan Yew’s book “My Lifelong Challenge: Singapore’s Bilingual Journey” on 28 November 2011. The Fund is set up as company limited by guarantee, with Charity and Institution of a Public Character status.

OBJECTIVES

Learning English and the Mother Tongue Languages helps prepare our children to plug into a globalised world and strengthen links to our Asian heritage. As the early years are important for setting a strong foundation in language learning, the Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism aims to nurture a love for bilingual learning in our children from young in the pre-school centres, at home and in the community.

ELIGIBILITY

The Fund is open to research proposals from Singapore-based universities, polytechnics and other Institutes of Higher Learning with the relevant experience and expertise to implement the project. The Principal Investigator should be a full time faculty member of one of the above institutions.

FUNDING

The approved funding amount for each project will depend on the nature and scope of the project, as well as the availability of funds.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Eligible applications will be reviewed and evaluated on the following criteria: relevance, impact, foundation and rigour, feasibility of approach, outreach and track record and potential of applicant.

SUBMISSION

Applications may be submitted in the following ways:

- a) E-mail to: **MOE_LKYFB@moe.gov.sg**
- b) Mail or deliver in person to:
Ministry of Education, Singapore
51 Grange Road
Singapore 249564
Attention: Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism

Mondays – Fridays: 8.30am to 5.30pm
Saturdays, Sundays & Public Holidays: Closed

For further information, please download the full Call for Research Proposals Fund Application Guidelines and Research Application Form from www.bilingualism.sg.

摘要

概要

“李光耀双语基金”（简称“双语基金”）是李光耀先生于 2011 年 11 月 28 日在他的新书《我一生的挑战：新加坡双语之路》发布会上正式宣布成立的。该基金注册为担保有限公司，并享有慈善团体与公益机构资格。

宗旨

学习英语和母语不仅能让新加坡与全球化的世界接轨，而且能加强我们对亚洲文化传统的认同感。由于幼儿阶段是奠定语言学习基础的重要时期，因此成立“李光耀双语基金”的目的是培养学前儿童从小在学校、家庭与社区热爱学习双语。

申请资格

“双语基金”向新加坡的大学、理工学院和其他高等教育学府征集研究计划建议书。这些大专院校必须具有相关的经验与专业知识以落实有关计划。“研究建议”的首席研究员必须是上述其中一个机构的全职教员。

资助方式

批准资助的款额将按照申请项目的性质、范围及基金的财务状况而定。

审核标准

所有申请将根据项目内容的相关性质、影响力、研究的理论基础与严密性、研究方法的可行性、规模推展的可能性、可持续性 & 申请者的资历等进行审核与评估。

提呈申请

申请表格可通过以下方式提交：

- a) 电邮：**MOE_LKYFB@moe.gov.sg**
- b) 邮寄或亲自呈交：
Ministry of Education, Singapore
51 Grange Road
Singapore 249564
Attention: Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism
开放时间：
星期一至五：上午 8:30 至下午 5:30
星期六、日及公定假日：休息

欲知更多详情，请从 www.bilingualism.sg 网站下载完整版的研究项目申请说明书及申请表格。

RINGKASAN EKSEKUTIF

GAMBARAN KESELURUHAN

Dana kedwibahasaan Lee Kuan Yew (“Dana”) telah diumumkan buat pertama kalinya semasa pelancaran buku Encik Lee Kuan Yew, “*My Lifelong Challenge: Singapore’s Bilingual Journey*” pada 28 November 2011. Dana ini ditubuhkan sebagai syarikat berhad dengan jaminan, dengan status Kebajikan dan Institusi Perwatakan Awam.

MATLAMAT

Mempelajari Bahasa Inggeris dan Bahasa Ibunda membantu anak-anak kita berhubung dengan masyarakat global dan memperkukuh hubungan dengan warisan Asia kita. Oleh sebab tahun-tahun awal penting bagi membina asas yang kukuh dalam pembelajaran bahasa, Dana Kedwibahasaan Lee Kuan Yew ini bertujuan untuk memupuk rasa cinta akan pembelajaran dwibahasa dalam kalangan anak-anak kita sejak kecil lagi di pusat-pusat prasekolah, rumah dan masyarakat.

KELAYAKAN

Dana ini terbuka kepada cadangan penyelidikan daripada universiti-universiti, politeknik-politeknik dan institusi-institusi pengajian tinggi yang berpangkalan di Singapura yang mempunyai pengalaman dan kepakaran yang sesuai untuk menjalankan projek tersebut. Pengkaji Utama harus merupakan anggota fakulti sepenuh masa daripada salah satu institusi di atas.

PENDANAAN

Jumlah dana yang diluluskan bagi setiap projek bergantung pada jenis dan bidang projek tersebut, serta dana yang sedia ada.

SYARAT PENILAIAN

Permohonan yang layak akan diteliti dan dinilai berdasarkan syarat-syarat berikut: kerelevanan, keberkesanan, dasar dan kerapian, kebolehlaksanaan pendekatan, jangkauan dan rekod prestasi dan potensi pemohon.

PENGHANTARAN

Permohonan boleh dihantar melalui cara-cara berikut:

- a) Emel kepada: **MOE_LKYFB @moe.gov.sg**
- b) Pos atau hantar secara peribadi kepada:
Ministry of Education, Singapore
51 Grange Road
Singapore 249564
Attention: Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism

Isnin – Jumaat: 8.30 pagi hingga 5.30 petang
Sabtu, Ahad dan Cuti Umum: Tutup

Bagi mendapatkan maklumat lanjut, sila muat turun *Call for Research Proposals Fund Application Guidelines* dan *Research Application Form* yang lengkap dari www.bilingualism.sg.

நிதி விவரச் சுருக்கம்

கண்ணோட்டம்

லீ குவான் யூவின் இருமொழிக் கல்வி நிதியானது ("நிதி") திரு லீ குவான் யூ அவர்களின் "எனது வாழ்நாள் சவால்: சிங்கப்பூரின் இருமொழிப் பயணம்" என்னும் புத்தக வெளியீட்டு விழாவில்தான் முதன்முதலில் அறிவிக்கப்பட்டது. அறப்பணி மற்றும் பொது நடத்தைச் சான்றுரிம அமைப்புத் தகுதியோடு, உத்திரவாதம் பெற்ற நிறுவன அமைப்புசார் தன்மை கொண்டு இந்த நிதி நிறுவப்பட்டுள்ளது.

நோக்கங்கள்

ஆங்கில மொழியின் கற்றலும் தாய்மொழிகளின் கற்றலும் உலகமயமான உலகுக்கு நம் பிள்ளைகளைத் தயார்படுத்தவும் ஆசியப் பண்பாட்டு மூலங்களை வலுப்படுத்திக்கொள்வதற்கும் உதவுகின்றன. மொழிக் கல்விக்கு உறுதியான அடிப்படையை உருவாக்குவதில் தொடக்க ஆண்டுகள் அவசியமாகும். லீ குவான் யூவின் இருமொழிக் கல்வி நிதியானது இளவயது முதற்கொண்டு பாலர் பள்ளி நிலையங்கள், இல்லம், சமூகம் ஆகிய நிலைகளில் இருமொழிக் கல்வியின் மீது நம் பிள்ளைகளின் நாட்டத்தை வளர்ப்பதை நோக்கமாகக் கொண்டுள்ளது.

தகுதிநிலை

திட்டத்தை அமல்படுத்தும் அனுபவத்தையும் பொருத்தமான நிபுணத்துவத்தையும் பெற்றுள்ள சிங்கப்பூர் சார்ந்த பல்கலைக்கழகங்களும், பலதுறைக் கல்லூரிகளும் இன்னபிற உயர்கல்வி நிலையங்களும் இந்நிதிக்குத் தகுதி பெறுவர். இத்திட்டத்திற்கான மூல ஆய்வாளர் குறிப்பிட்ட கல்விநிலையத்தின் முழுநேரத் துறையினராக இருத்தல் அவசியம்.

நிதி ஒதுக்கீடு

ஒரு திட்டத்தின் தன்மை, வாய்ப்பெல்லை ஆகியவற்றோடு நிதி இருப்பையும் பொறுத்தே ஒவ்வொரு திட்டத்திற்குரிய நிதித்தொகையானது நிர்ணயிக்கப்படும்.

மதிப்பீட்டு அளவைகள்

தகுதியுடைய விண்ணப்பங்கள் பொருத்தப்பாடு, தாக்கம், அடிப்படையும் கடும் ஈடுபாடும், செயற்படுத்தக்கூடிய அணுகுமுறை, வெளிக்களமும் அனுபவப் பின்னணியும், விண்ணப்பத்தாரரின் தகுதி நிலைப்பாடு ஆகிய அளவைகளின் அடிப்படையில் மறு ஆய்வும் மதிப்பீடும் செய்யப்படும்.

சமர்ப்பித்தல்

விண்ணப்பங்கள் கீழ்க்காணும் வழிகளில் சமர்ப்பிக்கப்படலாம்:

(அ) மின்னஞ்சல் - MOE_LKYFB@moe.gov.sg

(ஆ) அஞ்சல்மூலமாக அல்லது நேரடியாக:

Ministry of Education, Singapore
51 Grange Road
Singapore 249564
Attention: Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism

திங்கள் - வெள்ளி : காலை 8.30 - மாலை 5.30

சனி, ஞாயிறு, பொது விடுமுறைத் தினங்களில் மூடப்பட்டிருக்கும்

மேலும் தகவல்கள் பெற, ஆய்வு முன்மொழிவுக்கான நிதி விண்ணப்ப வழிகாட்டி மற்றும் விண்ணப்பப் பாரத்தைப் பின்வரும் இணையப் முகவரியிலிருந்து முழுமையாகத் தரவிறக்கம் செய்துகொள்ளவும்:

www.bilingualism.sg

1. OVERVIEW

- 1.1 The Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism (the “Fund”) is set up as a company limited by guarantee, with Charity and Institution of a Public Character (IPC) status. The Fund was first announced at the launch of Mr Lee Kuan Yew’s book “My Lifelong Challenge: Singapore’s Bilingual Journey” on 28 November 2011.
- 1.2 Bilingual education is a cornerstone of our education system. Research has shown that early-years exposure is effective for nurturing bilingualism and the learning of multiple languages. Strengthening our efforts to encourage bilingualism in the early years, especially in listening and speaking capabilities, would provide our children with a headstart in language acquisition and lay a stronger foundation for bilingual learning in their later years.
- 1.3 The Fund will be used to supplement efforts by MOE in the teaching and learning of the English Language (EL) and the Mother Tongue Languages (MTLs), which are officially Chinese Language (CL), Malay Language (ML) and Tamil Language (TL). For a start, the Fund will focus on initiatives at the pre-school level. The Government has pledged 1:1 matching grant for donations to the Fund, capped at \$50 million.
- 1.4 The Fund is managed by a Board and advised by an International Advisory Panel (IAP) of experts. The Board is supported by the Audit Committee (AC), Investment Advisory Committee (IAC), Project Evaluation Committee (PEC) and Publicity and Outreach Committee (POC).

2. OBJECTIVES OF FUND

- 2.1 Learning English and the Mother Tongue Language helps prepare our children to plug into a globalised world and strengthen links to our Asian heritage. As the early years are important for setting a strong foundation in language learning, the Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism aims to nurture a love for bilingual learning in our children from young in the pre-schools, at home and in the community.
- 2.2 Children should be engaged as active learners in the teaching of EL and MTLs. MOE’s focus of EL and MTL teaching and learning at the pre-school level is on developing children’s interest in the languages, and their listening and speaking skills through fun and engaging activities.
- 2.3 This Call for Research Proposals is dedicated to supporting research proposals aligned to the Fund’s **Research Agenda** ([Annex A](#)) which focuses on language acquisition and learning in the early years and early childhood bilingualism relevant to the Singapore context, with an emphasis on research that informs policy and practice. In addition, other relevant research topics not specified in the Research Agenda but aligned to the Fund’s objectives may be supported.

3. ELIGIBILITY OF APPLICANTS

- 3.1 The Fund is open to research proposals from Singapore-based universities, polytechnics, and other Institutes of Higher Learning with the relevant experience and expertise to implement the project. The Principal Investigator should be a full time faculty member of one of the above institutions.
- 3.2 Applicants shall submit proposals with specific objectives, timeline, milestones and project costing as stated in the Application Form for Call for Research Proposals.

4. FUNDING

- 4.1 The approved funding amount for each project will depend on the nature and scope of the project as well as the availability of funds. Please refer to Table 1 below for the sample list of items that are generally not fundable. Please note that this list is not exhaustive.

Table 1: Examples of non-fundable items

Non-Fundable Items	Examples
Manpower related expenses <i>(including salaries, CPF and fringe benefits such as medical, dental, contribution to welfare fund, bonuses, incentive payments etc.)</i>	Scholarships or fees for postgraduate students, salaries and compensation for Principal Investigator, Co-Principal Investigators and existing employees on the organisation's payroll, including clerical and support staff Staff overtime, bonuses, recruitment and related cost, staff insurance
Purchase of equipment	General purpose IT and communication equipment (e.g. computers, printers, PDAs, handphones, SMARTphones), office equipment, office furniture and fittings, cost of repair/renovation/refurbishment works and general infrastructure that are not directly related to the research
Other operating related expenses	Professional membership fees, staff retreat, fines and penalties, and attending local/overseas conferences Overhead expenses – rental, utilities, telephone charges, internet charges

- 4.2 Applicants must declare other sources of funding for the proposed project and related work. This includes funding that has been received as well as funding that the applicant is in the process of applying for or is intending to apply for. The Fund reserves the right to be notified of the progress of other fund/grant applications for the project. The Fund may support projects that are co-funded with other sponsors. However, the Fund will not double-fund.

- 4.3 The maximum time-validity for the funds awarded to each project will typically be **up to three years** and projects should be completed within this time frame.
- 4.4 Depending on the nature and scope of the project, approved funds will be disbursed to successful applicants in tranches set at suitable milestones of project implementation and subject to the completion and submission of all project deliverables.

5. SELECTION PROCESS

- 5.1 Only proposals accompanied by a fully completed application form will be considered for funding. Short-listed applicants may be required to make a presentation of their proposal(s) before a final decision is made. However, short-listed applicants or presentation of any proposal by the applicant may not necessarily lead to the award of funding. The Fund reserves the right to retain the proposals submitted by all parties without liability for the costs of such documents.
- 5.2 Successful applicants will be notified of the final outcome and a Letter of Offer will be issued. A Project Agreement, highlighting the terms and conditions of funding support, will be signed between the Fund and the successful Principal Investigator's institution. The Intellectual Property (IP) rights for the supported proposals will typically be retained by the applicant, but the Fund may propose different ownership structures of the IP or conditions of use of the IP, on a case-by-case basis where there is good reason, and this will be indicated in the Project Agreement.

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA

- 6.1 Eligible applications will be reviewed and evaluated on the following criteria:
- a) **Relevance** – Proposal is aligned to the Fund's Research Agenda (Annex A) and/or meets the Fund's objectives. The objectives and key research questions of the proposal are clear and well-developed.
 - b) **Impact** – Proposal has the potential to be applied to enhance existing teaching approaches, pedagogies and resources in Singapore's unique socio-linguistic context, thus informing policy decisions and practices in pre-school centres. It can also contribute to current knowledge about language acquisition and learning in the early years and early childhood bilingualism. The research findings can be used to catalyse future research projects aligned to the Fund's Research Agenda and objectives.
 - c) **Foundation and Rigour** – Proposal is based on an appropriate theoretical foundation, clear analysis of concept and theories, and rigorous and appropriate methodology and design.
 - d) **Feasibility of Approach** – Proposed plan, schedule and budget are adequate and appropriate. There is adequate contingency planning which mitigates project risk.

- e) **Outreach** – Proposal intends to disseminate project findings effectively to a wide range of audiences including academics, policy makers, educators, parents and/or the general public, as appropriate.
- f) **Track Record and Potential of Applicant** – Applicant possesses a good track record or demonstrates good potential and the relevant experience and expertise to carry out the research project.

7. EVALUATION AND MONITORING

- 7.1 All supported proposals must submit progress and expenditure reports at project milestones set out by the Fund. The Fund will require supported proposals to submit a Final Report at the end of the project.
- 7.2 Principal Investigators of supported research proposals must submit a full final research report with an abstract and detailed description of methodology, analysis, results and discussion of the research project formatted according to the guidelines in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. In addition, the Fund may require the recipient to publish and present at appropriate meetings and platforms identified by the Fund.

8. SUBMISSION

- 8.1 The Application Form for Call for Research Proposals can be downloaded from the Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism website at **www.bilingualism.sg**. Applicants must complete and submit the Application Form for Call for Research Proposals together with all supporting documents required or deemed necessary by the applicant. The Application Form for Call for Research Proposals and all supporting documentation must be submitted in the English language.
- 8.2 Applicants may include a detailed proposal using A4-sized paper, typewritten with double-spacing using Arial, font-size 12 that should generally not exceed 20 pages. The proposal should cover the areas detailed in Annex B.
- 8.3 The Fund reserves the right to request for additional information. In the event that the Fund seeks clarification upon any aspect of the application, the applicant should provide comprehensive responses within 7 days of notification. Any additional costs required for any additional information requested by the Fund shall be borne by the applicant.
- 8.4 Applications will be accepted only if submitted according to the instructions in the Call for Research Proposals Fund Application Guidelines.
- 8.5 The application deadline for the Call for Research Proposals is **28 Feb 2014**.

8.6 Applications may be submitted in the following ways:

a) E-mail to: **MOE_LKYFB@moe.gov.sg**

b) Mail or deliver in person to:

Ministry of Education, Singapore
51 Grange Road
Singapore 249564
Attention: Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism

Mondays – Fridays: 8.30am to 5.30pm

Saturdays, Sundays & Public Holidays: Closed

9. CONTACT DETAILS

9.1 Applicants can email their enquiries regarding this Call for Research Proposals to MOE_LKYFB@moe.gov.sg or call the hotline at +65 6872-2220.

RESEARCH AGENDA OF THE LEE KUAN YEW FUND FOR BILINGUALISM

The Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism supports research that informs policy and practice in the following areas:

Strand	Possible Areas of Study
Factors Affecting Pre-school Children's Language Acquisition and Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding pre-school children's differing language learning styles, development, abilities and needs • Effect of code-switching and code-mixing on language acquisition, mastery and performance • Effect of Singaporean colloquial English (Singlish) on language acquisition, mastery and performance • Relationship between pre-school language mastery and performance in primary school
Language Learning Theories, Approaches, Beliefs and Pedagogical Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding early childhood teachers' beliefs and practices in bilingual and biliteracy acquisition and learning • Effectiveness of professional development programmes on enhancing early childhood teachers' capacity to teach languages skilfully • Effectiveness of language teaching and learning approaches, programmes, and resources such as dual language books, songs and ICT resources used in pre-school centres • Implications of theories and effectiveness of approaches and pedagogies such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Input or Interaction Hypothesis ○ Language Interdependence Hypothesis ○ Transfer Facilitation Model/ Structural Sensitivity Theory/ Revised Hierarchical Model ○ Threshold Hypothesis ○ The use of English to teach Mother Tongue Languages ○ The use of hanyu pinyin on early language acquisition and learning

DETAILS OF RESEARCH PROPOSAL

The description of the proposed research should be in no more than 20 pages **Arial font size 12, double line spacing**, and should cover the areas detailed below. Please include references cited in the American Psychological Association (APA) style at the end of the document. Information provided should be sufficiently self-contained for an assessment of the proposal without further reference to other materials.

Relevance

- State concisely and realistically how the research project is aligned to the Fund's Research Agenda/ objectives. Specify the objectives of the research project and research questions to be addressed.

Impact

- Describe how this project addresses an important issue and fills an existing knowledge gap. As part of this, provide a brief literature review of the area of study. This should include salient and substantial studies whether local or overseas and should be appropriately referenced using APA style.
- State concisely how the project findings:
 - can be applied to enhance existing teaching approaches, pedagogies and resources in Singaporean pre-school centres, homes and/ or society, thus informing policy decisions and practices in pre-school centres; and
 - will contribute to current knowledge about early childhood bilingualism in the local context.
- State concisely how the research findings can be used to catalyse future research projects aligned to the Fund's Research Agenda.

Foundation and Rigour

- Discuss how the specific aims of the project would be achieved.
- Discuss in detail the research questions, the theoretical underpinnings, design and methods (including sample size, procedures for data collection and data analysis). Describe how the research questions, theoretical underpinnings, design and related elements are integrated and appropriate to the aims of the project.

Feasibility of Approach

- Outline the research questions, proposed plan and schedule.
- Describe the intended research participants, how they will be recruited and what will be asked of each participant.
- Highlight potential difficulties, limitations and problem areas in the proposed research design and method, and propose alternative tactics that may be employed if and when these difficulties arise.
- Justify why the cost of items budgeted for represents value for money.

Outreach

- State how this project intends to disseminate its findings effectively to a wide range of audiences including academics, policy makers, educators, parents and/ or the general public, as appropriate.
- Specify the proposed platforms for dissemination of research findings (e.g., titles of journals, names of conferences, future collaborations with educators to develop

effective teaching and learning resources or programmes and/ or a brief description of future research projects). Explain how these platforms are appropriate and effective in ensuring that the research findings are used to inform policy decisions and practices in pre-school centres.

Track Record and Potential of Applicant

- Discuss the role and contribution of each investigator in the project.
- Provide an account of the Principal Investigator's and Co-Principal Investigators' preliminary studies (if any) pertinent to the research project and/or any other information that will help to establish the team's potential and competence.