

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) in Grant Applications

Effective 1 September 2026

INTRODUCTION

Use of GenAI Guidelines

Generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) technologies are becoming increasingly accessible and are transforming how research information is created, analysed and communicated. A*STAR recognises that GenAI can support productivity and innovation throughout the research lifecycle when it is used responsibly and appropriately.

To maintain the integrity, fairness and credibility of the grant application process, all applicants are expected to follow the principles set out in this guidance. These principles apply to all OGA-administered funding initiatives unless the relevant funding opportunity documentation states otherwise.

DEFINITION

What is GenAI?

GenAI refers to artificial intelligence systems that can generate content such as text, images, audio, video, software code, data analyses or other outputs in response to user prompts.

Examples include large language models, AI-assisted writing tools, image generators, coding assistants and other applications that create or transform content using artificial intelligence.

POLICY POSITION

Our policy



Responsible use is permitted

In general, applicants may use GenAI responsibly, provided that research integrity, accountability and originality are preserved.

APPLICANTS

Use of GenAI in grant applications

Applicants/Principal Investigators may use GenAI to support application preparation, provided that the use is responsible and the applicant remains fully accountable for all submitted content.

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Applicant guideline

The use of GenAI for proposal preparation and for generating media content, such as images, audio and video, is permitted, subject to responsible use.

Examples of GenAI use

✓ Appropriate	! Appropriate with oversight*	✗ Not appropriate
• Grammar, style and formatting • Translation or transcription • Summarising materials owned by the applicant • Creating concept visuals based on applicant-created content • Cleaning or structuring data where judgement is not delegated	• Brainstorming research questions or hypotheses • Comparing literature sources and refining the applicant's ideas • Drafting sections from applicant-generated content • Refining methods, code or workflows • Using AI-assisted analysis, synthetic data or models as part of the research method, with validation • Creating media to illustrate concepts, but not to serve as evidence	• Generating an entire proposal, or substantive sections, without meaningful human input • Fabricating claims, data, citations, references or results • Plagiarising, misrepresenting or misusing third-party intellectual property • Presenting synthetic analysis or data as actual findings

Applicant responsibilities

- Applicants/PIs must declare that they are fully responsible for the content of their applications. This is an accountability declaration, not a mandatory disclosure of GenAI use, unless the grantor requires disclosure.
- Where GenAI is used, the use must be appropriate. The application must not contain confidential information used without consent, falsified or fabricated content, plagiarism, misrepresentation, or an infringement of third-party intellectual property rights.
- *Applicants remain responsible for demonstrating independent scientific judgement, originality and intellectual ownership of the proposed work.

How potential non-compliance is handled

- Checks may include AI detection tools and OICs review for consistency, originality, and attribution. Any adverse finding follows established review procedures.

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For cases of non-compliance

Measures may include rejection of the application and/or withdrawal of an offer or funding. Serious cases may also be addressed under applicable grant, fraud or debarment procedures.

Periodic review of these guidelines



Keeping the guidance current

These guidelines will be reviewed periodically to reflect the latest developments in GenAI technologies, relevant policies and responsible-use practices.

If in doubt about whether a proposed use is appropriate, contact the Grant Secretariat.