Programmatic Programme
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

S/N.	Question	Response
1	What is the process for research performers to submit Programmatic proposals?	Research Performers keen in submitting proposals for the Programmatic grant call may do so via sending applications to programmatic_ame@hq.a-star.edu.sg at any time of the year. Applications must be endorsed by the applying Host Institution(s) prior to submission. All queries must be submitted through A*STAR (as Implementing agency) at programmatic_ame@hq.a-star.edu.sg
2	For MTC Programmatic applications, what supporting documentation is required to demonstrate potential economic impact and/or strategic relevance? Are letters of interest from industry needed?	For MTC Programmatic, no letters of interest from industry are needed, but the proposal must demonstrate its strategic relevance to MTC.
3	How long does the proposal review process take? When would we know the results of the grant call?	As a general guideline, a well-prepared and complete submission for large grants such as MTC Programmatic will take approximately 6 months between submission to award.
4	Does Programmatic have minimum industry R&D spending (IRS)?	There is no minimum IRS for Programmatic.
5	[For A*STAR RIs] Is endorsement from RI EDs necessary for Programmatic applications that originate from A*STAR RIs?	Yes, RI EDs will need to endorse the proposals prior to submission.
6	Noting that the Programmatic grants are thematic, if researchers have an opportunistic idea but the proposals under a certain theme had already been considered in the last funding cycle, can new ideas synthesized under this same theme still be considered for funding?	Yes. These can be surfaced directly for consideration via programmatic_ame@hq.a-star.edu.sg; or through your RI EDs (for A*STAR researchers).
7	What are the evaluation criteria for Programmatic proposals that the Programmatic Review Panel is looking out for?	• Novelty and comparative advantage of the research approach • Proposed methodology and execution of the chosen approach • Potential scientific/technical impact based on the proposed deliverables

		• Reasonableness of the proposed budget amount requested, technical milestones put forward and targeted key performance indicators • Competencies and international standing of the proposal team members.
8	What is the role of the Programmatic SRP?	The Programmatic SRP eendorses programmes seeking Programmatic funding, including the associated programme budgets and KPIs.
9	What is the minimum and maximum funding amount?	While there is no minimum or maximum, PIs are encouraged to scope their proposals for either $5M or $10M.
10	Can money flow to international collaborators?	No. RIE2025 grants are intended to fund public sector research conducted in Singapore. International collaborators can participate in the research but they will not receive any funding.
11	Can overseas universities participate in a Programmatic project? If funds cannot flow to these overseas universities, there will not be any incentive for them to be part of the project.	RIE2025 funds are intended to support public sector researchers in conducting research in Singapore. Given this, local PIs are free to partner overseas universities but the research funding cannot flow to the overseas partners. To overcome this, PIs could consider a consortia model in which international collaborators source for their own funding but the outcomes are shared by all parties involved.
12	What is overhead costs and how much is it supported at?	Overheads goes to the institution, to support items such as rental, utilities, support staff costs. As these costs have been rising over the years, the funding agencies have assessed and revised to 30%.
13	Are there any other KPIs besides top 10% publications for RIE 2025?	Certain KPIs such as top 10% publications are mandatory. However, additional KPIs and TIs may be set for specific projects, to enable proper tracking of outcomes and deliverables of the projects.
14	CiteScore is not adjusted by field, which means fields which tend to have lower citation numbers will be penalized. Will the top 10% criterion KPI adjust for this?	Publications in Top Journal Percentiles in SciVal indicates the extent to which an entity's publications are present in the most-cited journals in the data universe, calculated using CiteScore Percentile metric. CiteScore Percentile compares the CiteScore of a serial title to that of others in the same subject field, and indicates the relative position of the serial title. CiteScore is not a field-normalized metric, but the CiteScore Percentile is. Hence, it will inherently account for differences in the behavior of academics between fields.
15	Where can we go to verify if a conference belongs to the top conference criteria?	PIs can approach their OREs on the conference list

16	Will the change in KPI definition affect the current ongoing projects?	No. The KPIs for ongoing projects will be as per the Letter of Award, including any revisions raised and approved during the project.
17	Will all the A*STAR grant calls move from iGrant to IGMS platform?	RIE2025 MTC IRG YIRG, MTC IAF-PP, MTC Programmatic, HHP IAF-PP and IAF-ICP awards will be managed on IGMS. Current awards managed on iGrants will continue on iGrants until the close of the project. No active projects will be required to migrate from iGrants to IGMS.