



**King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi Announcement
Regarding Rukkhaphitthayaphat Scholarship for Doctoral Degree,
Academic Year B.E. 2567 (A.D.2024)**

King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi and Forschungszentrum Jülich (Jülich) via Institute of Bio and Geosciences Plant Sciences (IBG-2), Federal Republic of Germany have agreed to cooperate to develop and support the research in the areas of Plant Phenotyping and Sustainable Bioeconomy covering Precision Agriculture such as studies of Phenotype, Genotype, and Physiology of cassava root development since 2561 B.E.

Thus, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi and Jülich Institute cooperate in giving scholarships to graduate students, Rukkhaphitthayaphat Scholarships, whose name bestowed by Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, from academic year 2565-2568 B.E. The scholarships consist of 3 scholarships for doctoral degree and 3 scholarships for master degree for the areas of Plant Science, Robotic Engineering and Automation System and other areas related to Bioeconomy.

By virtue of Article 8 and Article 13 the Regulations of King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi on Students Scholarship Fund B.E. 2553 and 5/2566 meeting resolution of the Board of Student Education Fund Management on January 29, 2024, it has been agreed to make an announcement of the Rukkhaphitthayaphat Scholarship for Doctoral Degree as follows:

Article 1 This announcement is called King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi Announcement Regarding Rukkhaphitthayaphat Scholarship for Doctoral Degree, academic year 2567 B.E. (A.D.2024)

Article 2 This announcement is enforced upon the recipients of Rukkhaphitthayaphat Scholarship for Doctoral Degree, academic year 2567 B.E. (A.D.2024)

Article 3 In this announcement,

"university"	means	King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi
"Board"	means	the Board of Student Education Fund Management
"scholarship"	means	Rukkhaphitthayaphat Scholarship for Doctoral Degree
"recipient"	means	the receiver of Rukkhaphitthayaphat Scholarship for Doctoral Degree

Article 4 Objectives of the scholarship

- 4.1 To increase the quantity and quality of doctoral students in the university.
- 4.2 To support the research cooperation between the university and Jülich Institute in the areas of Plant Science, Robotic Engineering and Automation System and other areas related to Bioeconomy.
- 4.3 To strengthen the university's research system by supporting student exchanges with partnerships towards internationalization.

Article 5 Scholarship Eligibility and Requirements

5.1 General qualifications

- (1) Must be a person who behaves well and never misbehaves.
- (2) Must be ready and willing to help and support the university activities in academic, social, and cultural aspects.
- (3) Must be capable of finishing the study within the maximum period of the applied program.
- (4) Must be a full-time student in the applied program during the time of studying in the program.
- (5) Must not be the receiver of other scholarship. In case of overlapping scholarship, it should be considered by the committee.
- (6) Other qualifications determined by the committee.

5.2 Educational qualifications

5.2.1 Active recruitment applicants

- (1) Must have excellent academic performance in the master level, with GPA not less than 3.50.
- (2) In the case where the applicant has the master degree from the program which only requires thesis, the applicant must have at least 1 publication in national or international journal. Applicants graduated from other programs with GPA lower than 3.50 but not less than 3.25 must have 1 publication in national or international journal.
- (3) Applicants must expect to graduate with master degree and will sign the scholarship agreement only when receiving graduation certificate.

(4) Applicants must not currently be a student in doctoral program of King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi or must never be a doctoral student of the university before.

(5) Other qualifications determined by the committee.

5.2.2 Current student applicants

(1) Applicants must currently be the first year, second semester, or second year doctoral students with a GPA of not less than 3.50 and will sign the scholarship agreement only when presenting the latest transcript.

5.3 Applicants must demonstrate reasons and necessities as well as satisfying knowledge in the area of thesis. Applicants will be assessed by interview and self-written statement of purpose of approximately 600 words.

5.4 Applicants must be capable of conducting research and thesis in the areas of Plant Phenotyping and Sustainable Bioeconomy covering the research such as

5.4.1 Precision, Smart and Digital Agriculture

5.4.2 Plant Phenotype and Genotype and Automation to Study Plant Automation Development

5.4.3 Robotics Engineering and Automation Systems

5.4.4 Other areas related to Sustainable Bioeconomy

5.5 Applicants, who conducted thesis, research or chose to conduct thesis under the research group with performance and potential to create meaningful economical and societal outputs, will be preferred.

5.6 Applicants must have the recommendation letter showing the commitment of studying or working as well as good attitude from former advisor or work supervisor.

5.7 Applicants must have the letter of recommendation from the advisor of this scholarship.

5.8 Applicants may submit other supporting documents regarding academic and research performance.

5.9 Applicants must check and certify that they are qualified for application according to this announcement and must present all required documents. If the documents are not received within the application period, the applicants will be disqualified. In the

event of any mistake due to the applicant or lack of qualifications which disqualifies the applicant from receiving the scholarship, the applicant will not be considered for the scholarship and the application is thus canceled and the applicant cannot appeal to the university in any way.

In the case where there is any evidence or qualification check and the applicant is found to lack qualifications or be disqualified according to this announcement, it will be considered that the applicant was not qualified from the beginning and has no right to be awarded this scholarship. Therefore, the university reserves the right to cancel the scholarship and the recipient must pay back the scholarship to the university as in Article 13.

Moreover, if the university finds that any applicant forges the document, uses fake documents or lies partially or totally in applying for this scholarship, the applicant will be guilty according to the criminal codes and the university will thus take legal actions.

Article 6 Advisor qualifications

- 6.1 Professors or researchers who will be the advisor must belong to a research group or research center which has performance or potential to create meaningful economical and societal research outputs according to the assessment of the committee appointed by the university. Also, the advisor must have good research records and receive funding continually.
- 6.2 Professors or researcher who will perform the duty of an advisor must have at least 5 articles of the research paper published in Quartile 1 or Quartile 2 of the Scopus database considering from the CiteScore in the corresponding field of study within the past 5 years and has experience of an advisor for doctoral student until graduation.

As for the programs in the fields of Liberal Arts and Social Science, Education, and Architecture, the instructor or the researcher who will perform the duty of an advisor must have at least 3 articles of the research paper published in Quartile 1 or Quartile 2 of the Scopus database considering from the CiteScore in the

corresponding field of study within the past 5 years and has experience of an advisor for doctoral student until graduation.

6.3 Professors or researchers who have not been thesis advisor can be co-advisor with professors who have experience and research outputs, and must be affiliated with the strong research group in the university.

6.4 If professors or researchers are 57 years of age or higher, they must sign in the scholarship agreement to show the advisor's responsibility as well as provide certification from the dean.

Article 7 Recruitment and Consideration

7.1 Active recruitment applicants can apply for Rukkhaphitthayaphat Scholarship for doctoral degree via the Admission Office Website: <https://join.kmutt.ac.th/> and attach the required documents. The university will then select the qualified applicants via the Research, Innovation and Partnerships Office.

7.2 Current student applicants will be selected by the Research, Innovation and Partnerships Office and the applicants can thus submit the application at the Research, Innovation and Partnerships Office.

Article 8 Conditions upon receiving the scholarship

8.1 The recipient must complete the scholarship agreement and the guarantee agreement.

8.2 Duration of receiving the scholarship is the duration of the program's study plan only and cannot be extended. If the recipient completes the education before such period, the scholarship will be terminated.

8.3 The university will approve the continuation of scholarship annually based upon the following criteria:

- (1) For each academic year, the recipient must receive GPA not less than 3.50. In case there is no coursework in the program, The recipient must have research progress at a good level. If the recipient has a lower GPA or less than good research progress, the recipient should improve the GPA or research progress in the following semester in order to continually receive the scholarship.

(2) The recipient must demonstrate the progress or research and study according to the study plan in order to finish the education successfully and within time. The recipient has to prepare the progress report every semester and present the progress as required by the university. Otherwise, The Recipient may not be considered for continually receive the scholarship.

(3) The recipient must participate in the seminars, knowledge exchanges or other activities with other students as informed by the university. The recipient must also help and support university activities in academic, social and cultural aspects. If the recipient fails to participate in such activities without reasonable causes, the Recipient may not be considered for continually receive the scholarship.

8.4 The recipient may receive partial funding support when not graduating within the program's study plan but not over the maximum period of the program's study plan according to Article 9.5.

8.5 In the case where the Recipient violates students' disciplines or misconducts, which is deemed unsuitable for receiving the scholarship, the university reserves the right to cancel the scholarship and the recipient must pay back the scholarship to the university according to Article 13.

Article 9 The recipient shall receive the funding from the university and Jülich Research Institute as follows:

9.1 The university supports the school fees (credit fees, education fees and insurance fees) as actually paid for the duration of the program's study plan which cannot be extended.

9.2 The recipient shall receive total living expenses monthly for the amount of 18,000 baht and when the Recipient passes the doctoral thesis proposal examination, the Recipient will receive 4,000 baht in addition to the total living expenses in the month following the receipt of the examination result. The recipient must submit the proposal examination result to the Student Financial Aid Unit within 30 days upon receiving the result and in accordance with the specified form. It should be

noted that the total living expenses and the additional living expenses shall be given for the duration of the program's study plan only.

In case the recipient notifies the result of the proposal examination to the Student Financial Aid Unit later than the mentioned period, the Recipient shall receive the additional money in the month following the date the Student Financial Aid Unit receives the notification.

- 9.3 The university shall support additional funding when the recipient publishes in an international, peer-reviewed journal which appears in the Web of Science or Scopus databases (only Quartile 1 or Quartile 2) in the relevant discipline and has the recently announced Impact Factor when submitting the paper. The recipient shall receive 1,500 baht per one article per month for publication in Quartile 1 and 500 baht per month for publication in Quartile 2. The additional money shall be given the month after the notification to the Student Financial Aid Unit of publication acceptance within 30 days upon receiving the publication result and in accordance with the specified form and the additional money shall be given for the duration of the program's study plan only.

In case the recipient notifies the result of publication to the Student Financial Aid Unit later than the mentioned period, the Recipient shall receive the additional money in the month following the date the Student Financial Aid Unit receives the notification.

- 9.4 The recipient shall receive funding supports for research expenses necessary to reach the research objectives and complete the education in the amount not exceeding 150,000 baht, according to the university's rules and regulations. The Recipient shall receive more support from Jülich Research Institute as determined by the institute. Research expenses cover the following expenses:

- (1) Expenses for doing the research, materials, chemical supplies and others concerning and necessary for doing the research except for hardware.
- (2) Transportation cost, equivalent to economy class air ticket, for researching and collecting samples in the country.

- (3) Expenses, such as registration fee, accommodation cost, transportation cost and etc., incurred of attending academic meetings or seminars for a poster or oral presentation.
 - (4) Registration fee for the training out of the curriculum or the seminar of which the contents are related to the area of study and the scholar funded thesis.
 - (5) Costs for science and technology textbooks, publishing Journal, and another related document as the advisor deems appropriate.
 - (6) Costs for photocopying, toner cartridges, papers, and stationaries.
 - (7) Other useful expenses with the advisor's approval.
- 9.5 The university supports the expenses of economy-class airtickets, passport fees, and visa fees as actually paid but not exceeding 65,000 baht for the short-term study or research exchange at Jülich Research Institute, Federal Republic of Germany.
- 9.6 Jülich Research Institute supports the expenses for short-term study or research exchange at Jülich Research Institute, Federal Republic of Germany, for the duration not exceeding one year and six months as determined by Jülich Research Institute as follows:
- (1) Travel insurance, health insurance and monthly living expenses during the time of short-term study or research exchange not exceeding 2,000 euros (after tax and insurance deduction).
 - (2) Housing support during the exchange.
 - (3) Research funding

In the event that the recipient needs to go for such short-term exchange after the duration of the program's study plan, the recipient must propose travel and budget plan for the short-term exchange to the university within the duration of the program's study plan in order to be supported for the expenses of the exchange.

If the recipient needs more time than one year and six months for short-term exchange, the recipient must ask for approval from the university and pay for their own expenses after one year and six months.

Article 10 Rules and regulations regarding scholarship payment to support research. The recipient can ask for payment to support research costs as follows:

10.1 First payment: The recipient shall ask for the amount not more than 30% of scholarship for research support by submitting the following documents:

- (1) Scholarship agreement completely signed.
- (2) Budget plan for research support according to the university's forms.

10.2 Second payment: The recipient shall ask for the amount not more than 40% of scholarship for research support by submitting the following documents:

- (1) Research progress report.
- (2) Document certifying that the recipient passes the qualifying examination (can be requested from the department).
- (3) Budget plan for research support according to the university's forms.
- (4) Financial report according to the forms determined by the university and evidence of spending of the first payment.

10.3 Third payment: The recipient shall ask for the amount not more than 30% of scholarship for research support by submitting the following documents:

- (1) Research progress report.
- (2) Document certifying that the recipient passes the proposal examination or preliminary examination (can be requested from the department).
- (3) Budget plan for research support according to the university's forms.
- (4) Financial report according to the forms determined by the university and evidence of spending of the second payment.

10.4 When the recipient graduates, the recipient must submit relevant documents for the last payment along with graduation request form. If the recipient has spent the money not in accordance with the research budget plan, the Recipient must return the rest of the money to the university.

Article 11 The main advisor or co-advisor and the foreign advisor who travel to supervise the research of the recipient will receive the funding from the Research, Innovation and Partnerships Office and Jülich Research Institute as follows:

11.1 Expenses for the main advisor or co-advisor to make a visit and academic exchange during the time of the recipient's short-term study or research exchange at Jülich Research Institute, Federal Republic of Germany, for the duration not exceeding 7 days as follows:

- (1) Allowance and lodging expenses according to the university's regulations.
- (2) Economy-class airtickets, passport fees, visa fees, travel insurance, health insurance and other insurance fees as actually paid but not exceeding 65,000 baht.

11.2 Expenses for the foreign advisor from Jülich Research Institute to follow up the Recipient's research, as determined by Jülich Research Institute.

Article 12 The university shall terminate the scholarship to the recipient in the following cases:

12.1 The recipient changes the faculty, department, program or majoring after having applied for admission or during studying in the program.

12.2 The recipient changes the advisor after having applied for admission or during studying in the program.

Unless there are compelling reasons and such changes would benefit both the recipient and the university, the recipient must demonstrate that the proposed changes will enable them to successfully complete their studies within the program plan. This is subject to the discretion of the committee in considering approval. The recipient must require providing advance notice Student Financial Aid Unit of no less than 30 days using the specified form.

12.3 The recipient is no longer in student status by resigning or being dismissed.

The recipient must inform Student Financial Aid Unit within 30 days using the specified form.

Article 13 In the case where the recipient violates the agreement, the university terminates the scholarship, the recipient ignores, stops or cancels the study or is no longer in student status, or the Recipient does not graduate without any reasonable causes, the Recipient agrees to pay back the amount of the scholarship received from the university within 30 days after receiving the payment notification. If the recipient does not pay back or does not complete the payment within such period, the recipient

agrees to be charged for interest for the rate of 15% per year counting from the day after the due date. If the recipient asks for making the payment in instalments, it is up to the university's considerations to allow to do so. However, the Scholarship recipient must submit the memorandum, as per the specified form, to the Student Financial Aid Unit within 30 days from the date of the occurrence in the first paragraph.

Article 14 The recipient will be exempted from paying back the scholarship in the following cases:

14.1 Death.

14.2 Suffering from 7 critical illnesses: non-invasive cancer, invasive cancer, major stroke, chronic kidney failure, severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease / end-stage lung disease, acute heart attack, and fulminant viral hepatitis.

14.3 Mental infirmity

14.4 Mental disordered or physically incompetent

14.5 Any other reasons to be considered by the Board.

For the causes specified in Article 14.2 and Article 14.3 the recipient must provide the certificate of medical diagnosis from a government hospital stating that the recipient is unfit to continue his/her study due to diseases, mental infirmity, and Article 14.4 the recipient must provide the court order that declares the person as physically incompetent, resulting in the recipient being unable to continue his/her study.

Article 15 The recipient must present the thesis which shows the discovery of new technology, initiation or new idea of critique. As such, the recipient must have two research outputs as part of the thesis which are published or accepted for publication before graduation as follows:

15.1 Full papers which are neither an article from academic conference proceedings nor journals resulting from academic conferences and are published in at least two refereed international journals searchable from Web of Science or Scopus databases. Also, this requirement must not be less than what is mentioned in the recipient's program and the recipient's name must appear as the first author.

15.2 Other outputs such as copyrights, innovations, creative work or prototypes which can be used commercially or publicly. The recipient may ask for additional funding from Jiaranai Petchara Scholarship.

15.3 In the case where the recipient publishes more full papers than specified in 15.1, the Recipient may ask for additional funding from Jiaranai Petchara Scholarship.

15.4 In the case where the recipient publishes in high qualities journals such as Nature, Cell and Science, the recipient may ask for additional funding from Jiaranai Petchara Scholarship.

15.5 In publishing partial or full research from the doctoral level, the recipient must mention in the acknowledgment as follows: “The Joint Research Program for Ph.D. students under IBG-2, Forschungszentrum Jülich and King Mongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi (Rukkhaphitthayaphat Scholarship)

Article 16 For the recipient who is of the active recruitment applicant type, the right affirmation fee will be waived as determined by the university.

Article 17 Chairman of the Board of Student Education Fund Management shall oversee that all are proceeded in accordance with this announcement. In case there is any conflict or any circumstance out of this announcement, Chairman of the Board of Student Education Fund Management’s order and consideration on that shall be deemed final.

Announced on March 25th, 2024

(Assoc. Prof. Dr.Chaowalit Limmaneevichitr)
Chairman of the Board of Student Education Fund Management
King Mongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi