

Enhancement and Start-up Grant Scheme for Self-financing Post-secondary Education (ESGS)

Summary of Approved Project

Part A – Basic Information	
Project Title:	CIHE Physiotherapy Integrated Clinical Education Centre
Institution:	Caritas Institute of Higher Education
Approved Grant (in million):	33.2
Round of Applications:	2020/21
Designated Project Period:	September 2023 to August 2027
Title of Programme(s) to be enhanced:	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Physiotherapy
Part B – Project Summary	
<p>The Enhancement and Start-up Grant Scheme for Self-financing Post-secondary Education is pivotal to the growth of Caritas Institute of Higher Education in and the development of the education of physiotherapists in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR).</p> <p>Cognizant of the projected manpower shortfall increasing continually to 487 physiotherapists by the year 2040, as described in the HKSAR Legislative Council Paper CB(4)600/20-21(05), CIHE implemented the first cohort of a four-year undergraduate physiotherapy programme [Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Physiotherapy] [BSc(Hons)PT] in the 2020-21 academic year with an annual intake of 50 students. This intake of students to the BSc(Hons)PT of CIHE is projected to be sustained and its number may be increased well beyond 2030's.</p> <p>In addition to appointing a Professor in Physiotherapy to provide strong leadership for further enhancing teaching and learning, clinical practice and research, through the Integrated Clinical Education Centre (ICEC) to be established, CIHE is proactively addressing the under-provision of hospital-based as well as community-care placement for physiotherapy students. Being the first of its kind in Hong Kong, the ICEC will lift physiotherapy education in Hong Kong in line with the international best practices, with the aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facilitate teaching and learning, particularly of high risk and complex diagnostic and therapeutic procedures in a supervised, safe and controlled environment within the campus to prepare students for their first encounter with real patients in the clinical practicum; 	

2. Provide clinical education to physiotherapy students in authentic clinical settings; and
3. Cultivate the creativity, problem-solving and communication skills, and professionalism of CIHE physiotherapy students in identifying and responding to the changing health and health beliefs, and demand for care in the community.

The three functional components of the **ICEC** are:

1. The **Simulation Laboratory**, which bridges the transition from the class and the clinic, by providing an intermediate learning mode with the use of actor-patients and high-tech real size simulation models in a safe and controlled environment to facilitate effective teaching and learning, particularly of high-risk diagnostic and therapeutic procedures and skills on patients.
2. The **Practice Clinic**, which addresses the shortfall in the availability of clinical placement in the Hospital Authority for undergraduate physiotherapy students as well as provides the BScPT students in CIHE the additional advantage of seamless integration of teaching in the classroom and clinical practicum.
3. The **Community Physiotherapy Centre**, which affords the teaching and learning of disease prevention and screening, and education and promotion of healthy lifestyle to well- and afflicted-communities to undergraduate students.

Part C – Contact Details

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Note: The details of the approved project are provided by the institution.