



## **Press Release**

For Immediate Release

HKSTP and HYAB Announce New Edition for Youth Start-up Internship Programme to Offer 100 Placement Opportunities for Nurturing Future I&T Talent

(Hong Kong, 31 January 2024) - Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP), in collaboration with the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau (HYAB), is set to launch the "HKSTP x HYAB: Youth Start-up Internship Programme" (YSIP) 2024. Building on the success of last year's programme, this initiative is designed to enrich Hong Kong's burgeoning Innovation and Technology (I&T) landscape by nurturing future tech leaders and attracting more tertiary students to join the sector. On top of internship placements, students will gain immersive experience in the thriving I&T ecosystem through networking sessions, workshops and visits to the cities in the Greater Bay Area.

This year's programme has already sparked an impressive wave of support, with 80 park companies offering 165 job opportunities within the first week of company applications. This underscores the community's commitment to fostering the next generation of pioneers that will propel the city's I&T development forward.

Participating start-ups in HKSTP's Incubation and Ideation programmes will receive funding support to provide around 100 cross-disciplinary internship opportunities for both STEM and non-STEM students. These internship roles include but not limited to data analysis, software engineering, marketing, design, among others.

In preparing the aspiring youths for the multifaceted nature of the modern I&T landscape, interns will gain practical industry experience complemented by skill-enhancing training sessions and entrepreneurship workshops organised by HKSTP. Visits to leading tech companies and state-of-the-art facilities will be arranged, along with the chance to build valuable professional networks with like-minded peers and leaders. Students will be joining a day trip to the cities in the Greater Bay Area including visits to Hong Kong Science Park Shenzhen Branch and key enterprises to know more about the GBA as a fast growing global I&T hub.

Ms Fanny Wong, Head of Talents and Human Resources, HKSTP, said: "We are excited to join forces with HYAB on YSIP again, reaffirming our long-term commitment to nurturing future generations of innovation and technology leaders. Our collaborative efforts with various sectors are advancing talent development initiatives, further cementing Hong Kong's reputation as a leading I&T talent hub. The YSIP 2024 will open up more opportunities and equip students with the skills to meet the evolving demands of the I&T industry, priming them to be tomorrow's trailblazers."

The internships, set to commence in March 2024, will last three to six months, with the possibility of extension subject to mutual agreement. To be eligible, applicants must be Hong Kong permanent identity card or Hong Kong identity card holders, full-time students at local post-secondary or tertiary





institutions in Hong Kong, between the ages of 18 and 30, and should not be participating in any other publicly funded internship or hold ownership in the start-up they are applying to during YSIP.

YSIP 2024 is now accepting internship applications. Interested parties can apply for the placements featured on the <u>YSIP Programme Webpage</u>. The companies will manage the application reviews and internship placements.



**Photo 1:** HKSTP and HYAB launch the Youth Start-up Internship Programme for the second year to offer around 100 job placement opportunities for post-secondary and tertiary students.

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## **About Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation**

Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) was established in 2001 with a mission to position Hong Kong as an international innovation and technology (I&T) hub. HKSTP has created a thriving I&T ecosystem supporting over 10 unicorns with more than 13,000 research professionals and around 1,700 technology companies from 24 countries and regions focused on healthtech, AI and robotics, fintech and smart city technologies.

We offer comprehensive support to attract and nurture talent, accelerate and commercialise innovation for technology ventures on their I&T journey. Our growing innovation ecosystem is built around our key locations of Hong Kong Science Park in Shatin, InnoCentre in Kowloon Tong and three modern InnoParks in Tai Po, Tseung Kwan O and Yuen Long. The three InnoParks are realising a vision of new industrialisation for Hong Kong, where sectors including advanced manufacturing, microelectronics and biotechnology are being reimagined for a new generation of industry.

To support Hong Kong's future development and its growing demands of the I&T industry, HKSTP is actively connecting the city with Shenzhen. This aims to strengthen cross-border exchange, attract





technology companies as well as talent from around the world, helping them go global by exploring the mainland China and overseas markets.

Hong Kong Science Park Shenzhen Branch in Futian, Shenzhen, opened in September 2023 with a gross floor area of 31,000 square meters. The two buildings provide both dry and wet laboratories, coworking areas, conference and exhibition spaces, and more. We will focus on attracting enterprises in seven key areas: Medtech, big data and AI, robotics, new materials, microelectronics, fintech and sustainability.

Through our infrastructure, services, expertise, and network of partnerships, HKSTP will help establish I&T as a pillar of growth for Hong Kong, while reinforcing the city's international I&T hub status as a launchpad for growth at the heart of the GBA innovation powerhouse.

More information about HKSTP is available at www.hkstp.org.

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