

**National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG)
Problem Gambling Research Grant**

1 Eligibility Criteria

Applicants: Applicants of the Grant have to be full-time students pursuing an Honours/Masters/PhD degree (or an equivalent degree) in a local university (i.e. NTU, NUS, SMU).

Nature of Thesis: The thesis should be an original empirical research examining issues directly related to problem gambling (e.g. gambling behaviours and mindsets, risk/protective factors, prevention, treatment, impact, costs) (see Annex B for sample research topics). There is no restriction on the methodology of the research. Examples of the research design may include true experiment, quasi-experiment, and correlational survey/questionnaire.

Terms and conditions for application: The topic and methodology of the thesis research proposal have to submit the application form (Annex A) and the following:

- Be approved by the student's thesis supervisor (who must be a faculty member of the local university)
- Obtain clearance from the relevant Institutional Review Board or committee on human subjects in the university/department.

2 Grant Amount

Successful applicants will get reimbursement for:

- Direct expenses incurred on the research study, of up to maximum of \$1,000, for Honours or equivalent degree students.
- Direct expenses incurred on the research study, of up to maximum of \$2,000 for Masters/PhD or equivalent students.

3 Disbursement of Grant

Approved thesis will receive up to 50% of the approved grant amount upon signing the Research Agreement with MCYS. The remaining monies will be reimbursed upon submission of the final report sent to their institution and project expenditure receipts.

The awarded grant should be used exclusively for the research, for instance, in the following purposes:

- Transport costs incurred during fieldwork
- Incentives or tokens to respondents for participating in the research
- Cost of printing questionnaires or materials used for research
- Cost of items needed for conducting the research (Note: For hardware or equipment, only rental costs will be considered)

The awarded grant cannot be used for the payment of tuition fees and other administrative charges imposed by the universities as part of the course of study. The Grant also does not fund overseas travel expenses relating to the research as fieldwork is expected to be undertaken in Singapore.

4 Award for Best Research

In addition to the grant amount, all successful applicants will be automatically eligible to compete for the Most Outstanding Research Award. This Award will be a cash award of \$1000 and it will be given out each application year to the most outstanding thesis (among the approved and completed theses submitted) as judged by the NCPG Research sub-committee. No cash award will be given if there is no deserving thesis. The Award will be given out about one month from the receipt of all completed theses.

5 Applications

Applications are open all year round.

Students are to submit their applications with their supervisor's endorsement (see appended application form) to the NCPG c/o secretariat.

Successful applicants will be notified within 2 months of receipt of their application.

6 Evaluation Mechanism and Criteria

Applications will be evaluated by a Panel to be appointed by MCYS and the NCPG. Applications will be evaluated according to whether:

- a) the proposed study is within the scope for funding and addresses a priority research gap in issues related to gambling or problem gambling, and
- b) the proposed study is likely to generate new knowledge and findings with practical implications related to issues of gambling or problem gambling.

7 Conditions of Award

Successful applicants must seek permission in writing from MCYS to receive additional research funding or grants from other sources.

Successful applicants should submit a copy of the entire completed thesis and a concise summary (approximately 4000 words) of the thesis to NCPG no later than two weeks from the date they submitted the completed thesis to the University for grading.

The copy of thesis submitted to NCPG must be identical to the copy submitted to the University.

The NCPG Research Grant recipients may publish and present their findings in journals, conferences, seminars and other forms of media or channels, in their own capacity, subject to prior clearance from MCYS.

The NCPG and MCYS will be allowed to reproduce or report the summary and parts of the thesis on their websites, annual reports, newsletters, and any other document or medium for the purpose of informing the Government or public on the study findings. In all these publications, the authorship of the thesis will be clearly attributed to the student. Successful applicants should also be prepared to present their findings at relevant platforms

8 Contact Details

For more information or queries, please contact:

NCPG Research Grant
c/o NCPG Secretariat
Gambling Safeguards Division
Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports,
510 Thomson Road, #12-05/06
SLF Building
Singapore 298135
Email: admin@ncpg.org.sg

Annex A

**Problem Gambling Research Grant
Application Form**

Name(s):
Name of University, Department, Course of Study:
Contact Address & Email:
Details of Thesis (e.g. title, research questions, hypotheses, methodology, relevance to problem gambling and possible policy implications): * please attach additional pages if necessary
Projected Cost of Research (please provide breakdown, e.g. printing of questionnaire, photocopying, etc.):
Thesis Supervisor(s): (name, appointment, affiliation, address) * Please attach a letter of endorsement from the supervisor(s) to support the application
Please send this application form to: NCPG Research Grant c/o NCPG Secretariat Gambling Safeguards Division Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports, 510 Thomson Road, #12-05/06 SLF Building Singapore 298135

**NCPG Research Grant
Sample Topics**

Discipline	Sample Research Topics
Psychology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cognitive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Underlying Cognitions in Gambling Behaviour</i> - <i>Role of irrational beliefs</i> - <i>Is knowledge of mathematics (odds/probability) a protective factor</i> • Biological <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Neuronal and Chemical Activity in the Brain Affecting Gambling Behaviour</i> - <i>Gambling as an Addiction</i> • Behavioural <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Perception of Different Forms of Gambling</i> - <i>Role of frustrative non-reward in non-continuous reward situations</i> • Personality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Motivations for Gambling</i> - <i>Pathological Gamblers and their Obsessions</i> - <i>Illusion of Control in Gambling</i> - <i>Sensation Seeking and Pathological Gambling</i> • Treatment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Different Forms of Treatment Relevant to Gambling (e.g. Drugs, CBT)</i> - <i>How Effective is an Online self-help Treatment System in Singapore</i> • Prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Effectiveness of Warning Messages in Gambling</i> - <i>Prevention strategies for gambling</i> - <i>Harm minimization in gambling</i> • Others <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Binge Drinking and Gambling</i> - <i>Suicide and Gambling</i> - <i>Co-morbidity studies of Problem Gambling and Other Addictions / Psychiatric Disorders</i> - <i>Issues Related to Casino Self-Exclusion Programmes</i> - <i>Protective/ Risk factors for youth gambling</i>

Discipline	Sample Topics
Sociology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socio-cultural Issues of Gambling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Long-term Social Impacts of underage/youth gambling - Asian Culture and Gambling - Gambling and Gaming in Religious Culture - Why Women Gamble - How Gambling Undermines Deep-Seated Values in Singapore - Demographic trends in gambling • Family <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Family Violence and Linkages to Gambling - Partner Influences in Gambling - Impact of gambling on family/marriage/children • Others <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How Social Structure perpetuates underage gambling - Motivations for Gambling - Intervention/prevention methods relevant for Singapore's context - Study of Gambling Related Crime
Social Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Usefulness of Self-Help Groups - Problem Gambling Among Older People - The Bidirectional Influence of Poverty and Gambling - Is counseling really effective for problem gamblers - Role of family and other forms of social support in continuation of treatment - Role of stigma in seeking treatment - Help-seeking behaviour by Problem Gamblers, Friends and Family - Family Exclusion - Adolescent and Gambling - Public Education and Gambling - Social Impact of Gambling - Effective Primary Prevention Strategies for Gambling - Gambling and Social Policy - Effectiveness of Singapore's Service Framework for gambling e.g. Helplines, 2 pilot centres, FSCs, CAMP - Demographic Trends in Gambling - Staff Training and Development - Corporate Social Responsibilities of Casinos (Responsible Gambling) - Impact of gambling on family/marriage/children

Discipline	Sample Topics
Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Business of Internet Gambling</i> - <i>Marketing Analysis of the Gambling Industry</i> - <i>The Management of Casinos</i> - <i>Corporate Social Responsibilities of Casinos (Responsible Gambling)</i>
Economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Solutions to gambling related crime</i> - <i>The Government and Online Gambling</i> - <i>How jurisdictions address youth problem gambling and Applications for Singapore - Gambling and Public Policy</i> - <i>Roles and Challenges of Industry and Government in Education and Prevention</i>
Communications and related media studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Tobacco, Alcohol and Gambling – impact of vice advertising</i> - <i>Extent of casino advertising that can be granted to media</i> - <i>Ways to control Internet gambling</i> - <i>Effectiveness of Public Education on Gambling</i> - <i>How Mass Media Affects Public Opinion on Gambling</i>
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Tourism and Gambling</i> - <i>How Gambling affects the Image of Singapore</i>

***This list is not exhaustive; applications may submit any other topic that is related to gambling in Singapore.**