

6th CAFEA Young Talent Smart City Forum (17-18 July 2026, Cyberport)

Guidelines for Application of Submission

Please read this Guidelines for Application before filling in the Application Form for Submission.

A. OVERVIEW

Smart city development is part of the digital transformation which leads a to data driven, digitalized, and AI-supported society. A smart city covers a wide range of technologies such as individual wearables, smart appliances, smart homes/buildings, smart campus, and smart communities. The transformation relies on the innovations and engagement from everyone in the society, where students as the future owners who plays a crucial role in shaping a smart city.

Organiser: CAFEA Smart City Limited headquartered in Cyberport

Co-organisers: Digital Policy Office of the Government of HKSAR and Cyberport, Hong Kong

Co-organiser (Macau): Macao Base for Primary & Secondary STEM Education, the University of Macau

Co-Organiser (Shenzhen) Shenzhen Association for Science and Technology

Local Organiser (Macau) Centre for Science and Engineering Promotion, University of Macau

Local Organiser (Shenzhen) Shenzhen Science and Technology Exchange Service Centre

Supporting Organizations: Education Bureau, and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department of the Government of the HKSAR; and the China Science Technology Communication Centre under the Ministry of Science and Technology of China.

B. FORUM DETAILS

I. Eligibility and Method of Submission

The Forum is open to current secondary and primary school students. Application for submission must be made via school/educational organisation whereas each school can submit up to eight applications preferably in different theme areas as set out in part II below. Non-local participants should arrange their own visa, insurance, transportation, and local accommodation.

For applications from Macau, please submit through the Forum Co-organiser (Macau) – Centre for Science and Engineering Promotion, The University of Macau at <https://umstem.um.edu.mo/>

For school applications from Shenzhen, please submit through Shenzhen Science and Technology Exchange Service Centre.

II. Theme of Submission

The forum encourages submissions in relevant themes under smart city, smart campus or other areas according to their interests and decide the title of their submissions.

Possible themes include, but not limited to, the following

- ✓ Smart campus/city vision and functionalities
- ✓ Smart campus – what does it mean for students
- ✓ Smart sensor technologies
- ✓ Smart devices for smart campus/city
- ✓ AI and data analytics for smart campus/city
- ✓ Smart APPs for smart campus/city

- ✓ ICT and next generation telecommunication technologies for smart campus/smart city
- ✓ How smart technologies can enhance students' learning experiences in the context of any STEM or non-STEM subjects
- ✓ the concept, design, planning, and development of social and technological implications of a smart city, such as smart living, smart health, green transportation, ESG and sustainability
- ✓ Artificial Intelligence and Related technologies such as RISC-V, AIoT, AI Data Centre, etc

III. Two Categories of Submission

a. Academic article

This category refers to academic papers describing the scientific discovery, social environmental impact, economic considerations, and innovative work or ideas from students' perspective. Students can write up their understanding of the smart campus / smart city, technical insights, vision and future perspectives, opportunities, and challenges of smart campus/smart city. Accepted academic articles will be presented at the Forum followed by Q&A adopting the format of academic conference presentation and Q&A sessions.

b. Investigative project demonstration

This category refers to summary of school students' project work (e.g. an app, a smart device, a smart system, etc.) which can be demonstrated at the Forum. The investigative project demonstration summary submitted should outline the working project with key information, functionality, and innovation involved, together with visual demonstration such as photos of the device/system as supporting documents at application submission. Accepted investigative project demonstration submissions will be presented/demonstrated at the Forum followed by Q&A whereas their device/system will be displayed at the Forum.

IV. Assessment Criteria

The in-principle assessment criteria are based on the quality and relevance. The submissions' objective, methodologies, innovation & technology element, novelty, presentation, associated entrepreneurship, social benefit, and promotion of school learning objectives towards innovative thinking in a Smart Campus / Smart City context will be considered.

V. Forum Awards

- a. Submissions will be first reviewed by the Forum Proceedings editorial team. Shortlisted school applicants will receive comments from the Editorial Team whenever deemed necessary before final submission.
- b. All accepted final submissions will be presented at the Forum and will be published in the Forum Proceedings.
- c. Best Academic Article Award and Most Innovative Project Award
The Technical Panel of the Forum made up of university professors, representatives from Forum organizer, co-organizers, supporting organizations and Forum sponsors. The Technical Panel will select the Best Academic Article Award and the Most Innovative Project Award at HK\$10,000 cash award each plus a trophy among the accepted final submissions. The in

principle assessment criteria used in shortlisting the applications will remain the same as in the award selection assessment.

d. Outstanding Awards

Numerous outstanding awards will be awarded for submissions of outstanding contributions in one or more of the following aspects: novelty, social impact, technological advances, innovative ideas, quality of presentations/demonstrations and other aspects deemed as important for smart campus/smart city development.

e. Certificate of Recognition & Certificate of Appreciation

All accepted applicants will be awarded a Certificate of Recognition at the Forum Award Ceremony, and the rest submission applicants will be awarded a Certificate of Appreciation.

VI. Forum Proceedings

Accepted submissions will be published in the Forum Proceedings which will be made available at the Forum and for free download from the Forum Secretariat website after the Forum.

(Remarks: Forum Proceedings of previous years' Forum can be requested online at www.cafea.hk)

VII. Application Fees

Application fees of the amount of HKD600 per submission in Hong Kong or from Hong Kong schools including the 2-day Forum pass for the group members (max 4 students per group) are non-refundable, payable at the time of completing the online-submission. The application fees include 2 extra complimentary Forum Pass for the respective group teachers.

VIII. Forum Registration

- a. Applicants with submissions being accepted will be notified by the Forum Secretariat via email around mid-June 2026. Confirming registration for participating and presenting at the Forum via email around late-June 2026.
- b. The rest applicants will be invited by the Forum Secretariat via email to confirm their attendance to the 2-days Forum around end of June 2026.

IX. Important Dates

6th CAFEA Young Talent Smart City Forum 17-18 July 2026

Mon 1 June 2026	Deadline of application for submission
Mid-June 2026	Notification of acceptance of submissions entering the Forum
Late-June 2026	Forum registration for students/teachers with accepted submissions
From 30 Jun 2026	Forum registration for public (depending on venue capacity)
17-18 Jul 2026	The 6 th CAFEA Yong Talent Smart City Forum

X. Tentative Forum Program (17-18 July 2026, Cyberport, Hong Kong)

Day One – Friday 17 July 2026	Day Two – Saturday 18 July 2026
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Registration & Opening▪ Parallel sessions of student presentations and demonstrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Forum ceremony & awards session▪ Site visit

For reference: Refer to Program of the 5th CAFEA Young Talent Smart City Forum from www.cafea.hk

C. APPLICATION FOR SUBMISSION

Submission can be in English or Chinese.

- 1) *Guidelines for Application, Application for Submission Form, Checklist for Submission, Template for Submission of Article/Project* can be downloaded from www.cafea.hk or by scanning the QR code below
- 2) How to submit?
Step 1 - To fill in the Forum online application at www.cafea.hk and click the “Submission button” to complete the online submission part;
Step 2 - To email your completed application form with full set of documents listed in the *Checklist for Submission* to forumssubmit@cafea.hk to complete the whole application for submission process.
- 3) Deadline of application for submission is Monday 1 June 2026. Late application will not be accepted.

D. ENQUIRY

Please visit the Forum website at <https://cafea.hk> or scan the QR code for latest Forum information and announcement.

For enquiry on application for submission, please email to the Forum Secretariat at forum@cafea.hk



Web: cafea.hk
Enquiry: forum@cafea.hk
Submission: forumssubmit@cafea.hk

Disclaimer: CAFEA retains the exclusive right for the final interpretation of the guidelines. CAFEA disclaims any responsibility for local arrangements. Participating teams are solely responsible for their own travel and local arrangements.