



PRESS RELEASE (May 2019)

AFA launches the AFA Research Grant 2019

AFA invites research proposals focusing on current Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) and Small and Medium Practices (SMPs) issues relevant to the accountancy profession

The ASEAN Federation of Accountants (AFA) launches the AFA Research Grant 2019. The grant is the second introduced by AFA, after the first initiative in December 2016. It is a realisation of the Federation's aspiration to be a regional though leader on SMEs and SMPs issues relevant to the accountancy profession, and a platform for contribution to the collective regional research capacity in the ASEAN region.

AFA recognises the important role of SMEs as the backbone of the ASEAN region's economy. The grant focuses on topics around the role of the accountancy profession in supporting ASEAN SMEs and SMPs, building from the key findings and recommendations of the AFA Research Report 2018 and the latest trends and changes affecting SMEs and SMPs in the region.

Applicants are invited to submit their proposal, prepared according to the desired format, at the latest by **15 July 2019 (5pm Jakarta/GMT+7)**. Following an independent assessment, the grant recipient will be announced on 16 August 2019. The research is to be conducted within a 9-month research period.

A grant of up to \$27,500 SGD, inclusive of all expenses related to the research activities and production of the research outputs and where relevant, tax according to the jurisdiction where the applicants are based is available for one recipient/a group of recipients.

Submission of research proposal and all related inquiries shall only be directed to

afasecretariat@iaiglobal.or.id.

Information on the AFA Research Grant 2019 Call for Proposals is available in the AFA website:

www.aseanaccountants.org.

The AFA Research Grant 2019 is fully supported by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), the Chartered Accountants Australia & New Zealand (CA ANZ) and the Japanese Institute of Certified Public Accountants (JICPA).



About AFA (www.aseanaccountants.org)

The ASEAN Federation of Accountants (AFA) was organised in March 1977, to serve as the umbrella organisation for the recognised national Professional Accountancy Organisations of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member states. AFA is an accredited Civil Society Organisation of the ASEAN, recognised under the ASEAN Charter since 1994.

About the AFA Research Grant

The AFA Research Grant initiative was first introduced in December 2016, attracting 44 proposals from 9 countries all over the world. Following a nine-month research period, in November 2018, AFA launched the AFA Research Report 2018: *The Institutional Environment for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and Roles for the Accounting Profession (ASEAN Perspectives)*. The report highlights the different approaches in defining SMEs and potential roles of accountants, particularly the SMPs in supporting the SMEs. The AFA Research Report 2018 is available for download at the AFA website.

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