

**Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers (2017/18)**  
**Information Sheet**  
**for Undergraduates / Graduates of Universities of Local Student Status**

Background

1. The Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers is set up by the Education Bureau (EDB), the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) as one of a series of measures to enhance the professionalism of English language teachers in Hong Kong.

Aim of the Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers

2. The aim of the Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers is to attract persons proficient in English to pursue relevant local bachelor degree programmes and/or teacher training programmes, which will qualify them to become English teachers on graduation.

Eligibility for Application

3. Both local<sup>1</sup> and non-local<sup>2</sup> students may apply for the Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers (2017/18) (“the Scholarship”). Information for local students interested in applying for a 1-year scholarship is provided in the following paragraphs. Non-local students should refer to the “Information Sheet for Secondary School Graduates and Undergraduates / Graduates of Universities of Non-local Student Status” posted on the EDB website (<http://www.edb.gov.hk/scholarship>).
4. Application is open to undergraduates/ graduates of universities<sup>3</sup> who
  - (a) have attained Level 5 or above in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Examination or equivalent<sup>4</sup>; and

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<sup>1</sup> Local students are persons, regardless of their nationalities, who do not require a student visa/entry permit issued by the Director of Immigration for the purpose of receiving education in Hong Kong.

<sup>2</sup> Non-local students are persons, regardless of their nationalities, who require a student visa/entry permit issued by the Director of Immigration for the purpose of receiving education in Hong Kong.

<sup>3</sup> Those who have graduated from degree programmes majoring in English and are employed in professions other than teaching, as well as those who are final year students graduating from relevant degree programmes in 2017 are included.

<sup>4</sup> The following results are accepted for the purpose of applying for “the Scholarship”:

- Hong Kong Advanced Level Examinations (HKALE) – Grade B or above in Use of English (UE)
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) – An overall score of Band 7 or above in the Academic Module
- General Certificate of Education (GCE) Examinations – Grade B or above in AS Level English
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme – Grade 5 or better in Higher Level English Language (A1 or A2)
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) – A minimum score of 600 (Paper-based) or 250 (Computer-based) or 100 (Internet-based)
- National Joint College Entrance Examination (NJCEE) (全國普通高等學校統一考試) (also known as Gaokao 高考) – A score of 130 or above in English

- (b) hold a recognized first degree majoring in English or a relevant subject with honours not lower than Second Class Upper Division or equivalent; and
- (c) will start pursuing a full-time Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) programme majoring in English in local higher education institutions in the 2017/18 school year. A list of such programmes can be found on the EDB website (<http://www.edb.gov.hk/scholarship>).

#### Scholarship Amounts

- 5. Each local student will be awarded HK\$50,000 for the pursuit of a full-time PGDE programme majoring in English.

#### Application and Selection

- 6. Applications for “the Scholarship” will be accepted in August 2017. Details about the application procedure will be posted on the EDB website (<http://www.edb.gov.hk/scholarship>) in June 2017.
- 7. Applicants will be shortlisted for an interview on the basis of public examination results attained. The interview is scheduled for late August 2017. Attendance is mandatory.
- 8. “The Scholarship” will be awarded to applicants whose performance is the best in all aspects. When all factors being considered are equal, priority will be given to applicants who intend to teach in primary schools, as indicated by the choice of their study programmes. Applicants will be informed of the selection results by the end of November 2017.

#### Teaching Obligation

- 9. Awardees of “the Scholarship” should undertake to fulfil a teaching obligation by teaching English full-time in primary or secondary schools in Hong Kong (day schools offering a formal curriculum) immediately after graduation. The duration of the teaching obligation for awardees pursuing a PGDE programme is one school year.

#### Undertaking and Deed of Indemnity

- 10. Awardees are required to sign an undertaking which delineates the terms and conditions that they should comply with. These include, but are not limited to, the requirements for awardees to:
  - (a) attain good conduct and academic standards required by the higher education institution concerned to complete the relevant study programmes; and

(b) fulfil the one-year teaching obligation after graduation.

11. At any point of time, when a breach of the Undertaking occurs, awardees will be required to repay to the HKSAR Government the scholarship amounts received on an interest-free and, if applicable, pro rata basis. However, these circumstances will be considered on a case-by-case basis and flexibility will be exercised for reasons of breaching the Undertaking not within the awardees' control such as accidents, deaths, ill health, etc.
12. Each awardee has to nominate a person as his/her indemnifier. An indemnifier should be a person at or over 21 years of age who is gainfully employed, financially sound and able to provide a business/office address. Details of the qualifications of an indemnifier can be found in the Undertaking and the Deed of Indemnity. By signing the Deed of Indemnity, the indemnifier agrees to repay to the HKSAR Government the scholarship amount received by the awardee if the awardee fails to comply with the terms and conditions included in the Undertaking and is unable to repay the scholarship amount received.

#### Enquiries

13. Please visit the websites of local higher education institutions for details about the relevant study programmes. Enquiries about “the Scholarship” can be sent to [ltq@edb.gov.hk](mailto:ltq@edb.gov.hk) or directed to Ms Louisa YUNG (Tel. 2892 5760) or Mr Eddie KWAN (Tel. 2892 5492) of the Professional Development and Training Division, Education Bureau.

Education Bureau

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

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