

# **Basic Law and National Security Law Test (BLNST) (non-degree level) organised by the Education Bureau (June 2026)**

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **About the BLNST Requirement**

Q1 : Why is there a BLNST requirement for newly-appointed teachers?

A1 : The words and deeds of teachers have a far-reaching impact on students' growth. Teachers should have a correct understanding of the Basic Law and the National Security Law so that they can enlighten students by helping them fulfill responsibilities as a national and Hong Kong resident with a positive, law-abiding, public interest-oriented and responsible attitude.

Q2 : Who needs to meet the BLNST requirement?

A2 : Starting from the 2023/24 school year, all newly-appointed teachers in public sector schools<sup>1</sup>, Direct Subsidy Scheme Schools (DSS Schools), kindergartens joining the Kindergarten Education Scheme (Scheme-KGs), are required to fulfill the BLNST requirement:

In general, newly-appointed teachers include newly-joined teachers and teachers changing schools:

(i) Newly-appointed teachers in public sector schools include:

- Regular teachers remunerated with Salaries Grant;
- Teachers remunerated with cash grant<sup>2</sup>;
- Teachers remunerated with Salaries Grant and cash grant simultaneously;
- Teachers remunerated with cash grant switching to (i) teachers remunerated with Salaries Grant or (ii) teachers remunerated with Salaries Grant and cash grant simultaneously in the same public sector school;
- Monthly-paid temporary teachers switching to (i) regular teachers, (ii) teachers remunerated with Salaries Grant and cash grant

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<sup>1</sup> Public sector schools include government, aided and caput schools.

<sup>2</sup> Cash grant includes the grant obtained by schools upon freezing their teaching establishment or other grants provided to schools for employment of teaching staff in light of the new initiatives.

- simultaneously or (iii) teachers remunerated with cash grant in the same public sector school; and
- Monthly-paid temporary teachers (including those filling temporary vacancies of teaching posts within staff establishment or serving for more than 90 days and are approved by schools switching from daily-rated to monthly-paid temporary teachers).
- (ii) Newly-appointed teachers in DSS schools and Scheme-KGs refer to all newly-appointed monthly-paid teachers.

The BLNST requirement is **not applicable** to the following newly-appointed teachers:

- Daily-rated supply teachers;
- Teachers employed under the Native-speaking English Teacher (NET) Scheme in public sector schools or NETs appointed on terms (e.g. entry requirements, fringe benefits, etc.) comparable to the NET Scheme for performing the same kind of duties in DSS schools<sup>3</sup> (In general, each DSS school could nominate at most one teacher to perform the same kind of duties as NET, primary-cum-secondary schools are counted as two schools);
- Teachers mainly teach a non-local curriculum (i.e. teaching non-local curriculum as approved by the Education Bureau (EDB) in 80% or more of their lessons) in DSS schools;
- NETs in Scheme-KGs;
- Teachers mainly teach a non-local curriculum (i.e. teaching non-local curriculum as approved by the EDB in 80% or more of their lessons) in Scheme-KGs which also offer a non-local curriculum;
- The following newly-appointed teachers in public sector schools:
  - Re-employment of part-time teachers in the same school, but have his/her part-time ratio changed;
  - Re-employment of teachers remunerated with Salaries Grant and cash grant simultaneously (e.g. each accounts for 50%), but his/her ratio of remuneration with Salaries Grant changed. This includes teachers switching from regular teachers (remunerated with Salaries Grant) to teachers remunerated with Salaries Grant and cash grant simultaneously in the same school;

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<sup>3</sup> In present, one NET is generally provided for every public sector school to enhance the teaching of English Language and increase exposure of students to English. DSS schools may appoint one NET to perform same kind of duties on terms (e.g. entry requirements, fringe benefits, etc.) comparable to NET Scheme in aided schools as the funding related to NET Scheme in aided schools has been subsumed into the DSS unit subsidy rate.

- Re-employment of teachers remunerated with cash grant in the same school;
- Re-employment of regular teachers on terms with a defined contract period (DCP) in the same school;
- Surplus teachers switching from teachers remunerated with Salaries Grant to teachers remunerated with cash grant in the same school;
- The deployment of teachers within the primary and secondary sections of schools (including special schools) which the two sections are headed by one school head and both sections are either aided schools or DSS schools; and
- In principle, a teacher who is redeployed to another school by the School Sponsoring Body because of his/her redundant/surplus status is considered to be a newly-appointed teacher and is required to meet the new requirement. In view of various scenarios involved, schools wishing to appoint these redundant/surplus teachers may apply for a discretionary arrangement by submitting relevant supporting documents issued by the School Sponsoring body. The Bureau will consider their applications on a case-by-case basis.

The examples above are by no means exhaustive. For enquiries, please contact the Teacher Administration 2 Section of EDB by phone at 2892 5709.

### **About Eligibility**

Q3 : Who can apply for the BLNST (non-degree level)?

A3 : Applicants for the BLNST (non-degree level) organised by the EDB shall meet one of the following criteria:

- (a) should be a serving teacher who does not possess a bachelor's degree and plans to change to another public sector school or DSS school to take up a non-graduate teaching post, or be a teacher in another Scheme-KG; **or**
- (b) should be a person who does not possess a bachelor's degree and plans to take up a non-graduate teaching post in public sector schools or DSS schools, or be a teacher in Scheme-KGs and will have attained relevant qualification in the 2025/26 academic year (e.g. Diploma/Higher Diploma in Early Childhood Education or equivalent); **or**

- (c) should be a person who does not possess a bachelor's degree and plans to take up a non-graduate teaching post in public sector schools or DSS schools, or be a teacher in Scheme-KGs.

The EDB will conduct random check and applicants are required to provide copies of transcripts and/or certificates to prove their eligibility for the test. Applicants who fail to provide the required proof shall be liable to disqualification from the test. The test results will also be voided even the applicants have taken the test.

[Note: Before submitting applications, please refer to the EDB Circular No.13/2022, the EDB Circular Memorandum No. 141/2025 and the EDB webpage at [www.edb.gov.hk/en/blnst](http://www.edb.gov.hk/en/blnst) for information about the relevant details.]

Q4 : I have possessed or will have attained a bachelor's degree in the 2025/26 or 2026/27 academic year. Can I apply to sit the BLNST (non-degree level)?

A4 : A pass result in BLNST (non-degree level) is only applicable for applying for non-graduate teaching posts. For those who have passed the BLNST (non-degree level) and subsequently attained a degree qualification and wish to apply for graduate teaching posts, they will be required to take the BLNST (degree level) to meet the relevant requirement.

Persons who possess a bachelor's degree or will have attained a bachelor's degree in the 2025/26 or 2026/27 academic year, even they plan to take up non-graduate teaching posts, can apply for the Digitalised BLNST (Degree / Professional Grades) organised by the Civil Service Bureau (CSB). Those with a pass result in BLNST issued by CSB will be deemed to have met the relevant requirement and can apply for both graduate teaching posts and non-graduate teaching posts.

Q5 : I have attained a pass result in the Basic Law Test (BLT), do I need to take the BLNST organised by the EDB again if I plan to join the teaching profession or change schools in the 2023/24 school year or after?

A5 : The content of the BLT and BLNST is different. In this regard, newly-appointed teachers are required to obtain a pass result in the BLNST in order to be considered for appointment if they plan to join the teaching profession or change schools in the 2023/24 school year or after.

Teachers who possess a pass result in the BLNST issued by EDB, CSB or government departments will be deemed to have met the relevant requirement and will not be required to take the BLNST again. Please note that the pass result of the BLNST organised by the Independent Commission Against Corruption or other organisations not for civil service recruitment is **not reckoned as having met** the BLNST requirement for newly appointed teachers.

Q6 If I have previously taken and passed the BLNST conducted by CSB or government departments, do I need to apply for the BLNST organised by the EDB if I plan to join or change to another secondary school, primary school or kindergarten to take up a teaching post?

A6 Persons who possess a pass result in the BLNST issued by the CSB or government departments will be deemed to have met the relevant requirement and will not be required to take the BLNST again. Please note that the pass result of the BLNST organised by the Independent Commission Against Corruption or other organisations not for civil service recruitment is **not reckoned as having met** the BLNST requirement for newly appointed teachers.

### **About the BLNST organised by the EDB and Application Procedures**

Q7 : What is the content and format of the BLNST?

A7 : The BLNST, available in both English and Chinese, assesses teachers' knowledge of the Basic Law (including its annexes, instruments, attachments and appendices) as well as the National Security Law. Candidates have to answer 20 multiple-choice questions within 35 minutes in the coming BLNST (non-degree level). For details about the test arrangements, please refer to the EDB Circular No.13/2022.

The scope of the BLNST will be based on the text of the Basic Law (which includes all its annexes, instruments, attachments and appendices) (Basic Law (full text) (<https://www.basiclaw.gov.hk/en/basiclaw/index.html>)) and the National Security Law (National Security Law – (a) Preamble (English) [click here](#) (b) Full text (English) [click here](#)).

Candidates who wish to acquire a better understanding of the Basic Law and the National Security Law may refer to the following links -

- Government's website on the Basic Law (<https://www.basiclaw.gov.hk/en/index/index.html>)

- Government’s website on the Basic Law Court Case Database (<https://www.basiclawcourtcase.gov.hk/en/home/index.html>)
- Government’s website on National Security Education Day (<https://www.nsed.gov.hk/?l=en>)
- Government’s website on Safeguarding National Security in Hong Kong (<https://www.isd.gov.hk/nationalsecurity/eng/index.html>)

Q8 : How can I apply for the BLNST (non-degree level)?

A8 : Applicants must submit an application for the BLNST at or before 5 p.m. on 30 April 2026 through the on-line application system. Late applications will not be accepted. In addition, submission by post, fax, e-mail or in person will not be accepted.

Q9 : When and how will EDB notify candidates of the test details?

A9 : The applicants will be notified of the application results and test details by e-mail on or before 28 May 2026. An SMS message will also be sent to applicants to remind them of the email. All candidates must take the test on the date, and at the time and place specified in the e-mail. Any requests for change of test date / time / venue will NOT be considered.

Q10 : How do I know that the application procedure is completed?

A10 : Upon successful submission of an on-line application, an acknowledgement file with an application number (a transaction reference number in the format “EDB039xxxxxxxx”) will be provided immediately to applicants. Applicants who wish to receive an e-mail acknowledgement must provide a correct e-mail address in their application. Applicants are required to record and keep the application number properly until the test is over. If applicants are unable to obtain the application number after submitting the application, please submit the application again.

To avoid missing any notification, applicants are responsible for providing an accurate email address in their application and ensuring that their email accounts can receive emails from the EDB, and checking each incoming mailbox (including the folders for spam, bulk and junk mails) regularly.

- Q11 : Will a fee be charged for the BLNST?
- A11 : There is no fee for the BLNST organised by the EDB.
- Q12 : If I want to amend my personal particulars after submitting my application, what can I do?
- A12 : If you want to amend your personal particulars, such as your name, HKID/Passport No. and correspondence address, etc., you are required to submit your amendment request in writing by providing your English name and HKID/Passport No. to Teacher Administration 2 Section by post to Room 1110, 11/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen’s Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong or by e-mail at [tpdsdt@edb.gov.hk](mailto:tpdsdt@edb.gov.hk).
- Q13 : Will the BLNST be cancelled in case of bad weather conditions?
- A13 : Generally speaking, the test will be held as scheduled when the Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 3 or lower, and / or “Amber” or “Red” Rainstorm Warning Signal is issued.

If the Hong Kong Observatory issues a Pre-No. 8 Special Announcement (i.e. Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 8 will be issued within two hours), Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 8 or higher, or “Black” Rainstorm Warning Signal, or if the government announces “extreme conditions”, the test may be postponed.

In the event of bad weather on the test day, before you leave for the test centre, you should visit EDB webpage at <http://www.edb.gov.hk/en/blnst> for the latest test arrangements.

### **About the result obtained from the BLNST organised by the EDB**

- Q14 : Is there a passing mark in the BLNST?
- A14 : Candidates who score at least 10 out of 20 questions will be deemed to have a pass result in the BLNST.
- Q15 : Is the result of the BLNST (non-degree level) organised by the EDB of permanent validity?
- A15 : A pass result in BLNST (non-degree level) is only applicable for applying for non-graduate teaching posts. For those who have passed the BLNST (non-

degree level) and subsequently attained a degree qualification and wish to apply for graduate teaching posts, they will be required to take the BLNST (degree level) to meet the relevant requirement.

Q16 : Will a teacher's / a prospective teacher's teacher registration status be affected if he/she fails to meet the BLNST requirement?

A16 : Failing to meet the BLNST requirement will not affect a teacher's registration status / a prospective teacher's application for teacher registration.

### **About BLNST result notification and recruitment of schools**

Q17 : When and how will I receive the results of the BLNST?

A17 : Result notifications will be sent **by post** to candidates within one month after the test.

Q18 : What should I do if I want to request a review on my BLNST result?

A18 : Your request should be made to Teacher Administration 2 Section of EDB by e-mail (tpdsdt@edb.gov.hk) **by the deadline shown on the result notification**. Late submissions will **NOT** be considered. If candidate has attained a pass result in BLNST, the review request will NOT be considered.

Q19 : Do I need to retain the letter of BLNST result?

A19 : You must retain the letter of BLNST result and are required to present the letter to the recruiting schools as a proof of your attainment in obtaining the requisite BLNST results when you apply for teaching posts in public sector schools, DSS schools and Scheme-KGs.

Q20 : I have lost the letter of BLNST result. Can I request another copy?

A20 : You may make a request to the Teacher Administration 2 Section of EDB by e-mail to tpdsdt@edb.gov.hk.

Q21 : If I obtain a pass result in the BLNST, will I be qualified for applying for teaching posts?

A21 : The acquisition of the BLNST pass result does not imply that a candidate has

fully met the entry requirements of any teaching post. Verification of academic and / or professional qualifications will be carried out by the recruiting schools which will handle according to their school-based mechanism.