

School Allocation Exercise 2004 invites application

The Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) today (September 16) announced that two secondary school premises were now open to applications by eligible school sponsoring bodies (SSBs) for reprovisioning of existing government and aided secondary schools in sub-standard premises.

"The Government is committed to seeking continuous improvements to the facilities of schools through a Redevelopment and Reprovisioning Programme. The two secondary school premises, one in Shamshuipo and the other in Yuen Long, are of non-standard design with 30 classrooms, with construction scheduled for completion in mid- 2006. They are open to applications for reprovisioning of existing government and aided schools," an EMB spokesman said.

"Allocation of school premises is on a competitive basis. Quality of education will be prime consideration in assessing schools' reprovisioning applications. Factors to be considered may include the operation track record of the school proposed to be reprovisioned and the school plan for the school after relocation. "

"Physical condition and location factors will also be considered in making assessment. Schools classified as non-feasible under the School Improvement Programme or have benefited marginally from the Programme, with site area less than 3 000 square metres and premises over 30 years old will be favourably considered. Relocation of existing schools may help meet projected new demand of individual districts (e.g. Yuen Long). "

"As these are reprovisioning projects, schools which have been allocated the new premises are required to surrender their existing premises to the Government upon relocation," he added. The surrendered premises will be considered for alternative education use.

All applications will be considered by the School Allocation Committee comprising an equal number of official and non-official members familiar with the Hong Kong education system. The applicant SSB is required to complete a reprovisioning application form and submit it together with supporting documents including detailed information on their eligibility, a survey form on the facilities, physical conditions and land/building status of the existing school, an undertaking of the SSB to surrender the existing premises upon relocation of the school, and a

proposed school plan (of not more than 10 pages including all annexes plus a three-page executive summary) covering the vision and mission, management and organisation, teaching and learning, school ethos and support for students, performance targets and self-evaluation indicators.

The applicant SSB may make reference to the school(s) that the applicant SSB is operating and their respective performance to substantiate its case and should include information as regards parents' views about the re-provisioning plan as appropriate.

An applicant body is eligible for consideration in this allocation exercise when it is:

(1) incorporated under the Companies Ordinance, and its memorandum and articles of association contain all the standard clauses and articles required for allocation of a school, or incorporated under other ordinances and the Permanent Secretary for Education and Manpower is satisfied, having regard to its constitution, that it is fit to be considered for allocation of a school;

(2) a charitable institution or trust of a public character exempted from tax under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance; and

(3) currently running one or more secondary schools in Hong Kong.

Application forms for the SAE 2004 can be obtained from the office of the Infrastructure and Research Support Division at Room 1427, 14/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong, or downloaded from the EMB homepage (<http://www.emb.gov.hk/index.aspx?nodeid=246&langno=1>). More information on this school allocation exercise can also be found in the homepage.

Applicant bodies are required to submit to the Infrastructure and Research Support Division by November 10, 2004 one copy of their application form and the supporting documents, together with 15 copies of the proposed school plan and executive summary.

For enquiries, please call 2892 5436 or 2892 6391.

End/Thursday, September 16, 2004

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