

School Allocation Exercise 2003 invites application

The Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) today (April 8) invited eligible school sponsoring bodies (SSBs) to apply for any of the 10 secondary school and estate kindergarten premises made available in the School Allocation Exercise (SAE) 2003.

"Two of the school premises, both in Yuen Long, are designated for operating Direct Subsidy Scheme (DSS) or aided secondary schools, while four others in Shamshuipo, Sai Kung, Southern District and Yuen Long respectively are for the same purpose or DSS senior secondary schools," an EMB spokesman said.

"The remaining four - three in Kowloon City and one in Tsuen Wan - are estate premises for operating kindergartens."

An applicant body is eligible for consideration for allocation of school premises 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; and
- (2) a charitable institution or trust of a public character exempted from tax under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance.

Allocation will be considered by a School Allocation Committee comprising government officials and non-officials familiar with the Hong Kong education system.

Allocation of school premises is on a competitive basis. Selection will be based on assessment of the applicant bodies' proposed school plans for the new schools, including their vision and mission, management and organisation, teaching and learning, school ethos and support for students, performance targets and self-evaluation indicators. In the case of existing SSBs, their track record in school operation will also be taken into account.

Upon allocation of a school premises, the applicant body will be required to enter into an agreement with the Government. The agreement sets out the obligations and conditions by which both parties undertake to abide. These include the applicant body's undertaking:

- (1) to provide the educational services as proposed in the school plan;
- (2) to establish a School Management Committee (SMC) for operation of the school;
- (3) to cause SMC to enter into a Service Agreement and a Tenancy Agreement with the Government;
- (4) to ensure that SMC will operate the school to the expected standard as set out in the school plan; and
- (5) to open up the school's buildings and facilities to the community for use outside school hours upon request. Charges may be levied in accordance with the schedule of charges as announced in the latest circular issued by EMB (applicable to aided and DSS schools).

Application forms for SAE 2003 can be obtained from the office of the Infrastructure and Research Support Division of EMB (Room 1427, 14/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai) or downloaded from the homepage of EMB (<http://www.emb.gov.hk/school/allocation>) from April 8, 2003 onwards.

The applicant body is also required to submit a proposed school plan of not more than 10 pages including all annexes plus a three-page executive summary. SSBs with school(s) in operation currently may make reference to the school(s) that they are operating to substantiate their case.

Applicant bodies are required to submit to the Infrastructure and Research Support Division by June 2, 2003 one copy of their application form and detailed information on their eligibility, together with 15 copies of the proposed school plan and executive summary.

For enquiries, please call 2892 5436 or 2892 6391.

End/Tuesday, April 8, 2003

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