

Criteria and Conditions for Applying for the School-Based Support Scheme (SBSS) Grant

Schools must ensure that the criteria and conditions as set out in Part A and Part B below are satisfied when applying for the SBSS Grant:

Part A

The child^{Note} should satisfy the following criteria in order to be eligible for the SBSS Grant:

1. For Children Newly Arrived from the Mainland

(This refers to those children who had been living in the Mainland before studying in Hong Kong, irrespective of their places of birth and their current place of residence, for example, Type II children who were born in Hong Kong but had been living in the Mainland before they attended schools in Hong Kong.)

- (a) the period between the date of first arrival in Hong Kong and the first day of attending the school is less than one year (the requirement of arrival less than one year); or
- (b) in the case of the child who has arrived in Hong Kong for more than one year, he/ she should not have attended any local school (including kindergarten) for more than one year prior to admission to the school (the requirement of schooling less than one year).

For children newly arrived from the Mainland holding the Form of Recognizance and there being no comments from the Hong Kong Immigration Department on allowing them to attend schooling in Hong Kong during the time that their cases are still under examination, their names should be entered on Appendix NAC-1 as other eligible NAC. However, schools are requested to find out their dates of arrival in Hong Kong before completing the Appendix.

2. For Non-Chinese Speaking (NCS) Children newly joining the local education system

- (a) the child has the right of abode in Hong Kong/ is eligible for admission to public sector schools; and
- (b) the child satisfies either the requirement of arrival less than one year or the requirement of schooling less than one year as stipulated in criteria 1.

3. For Returnee Children

- (a) the child was born of parents who are permanent residents of Hong Kong and who have returned to settle in Hong Kong from other places recently; and
- (b) the period between the date of returning to Hong Kong and the first day of attending the school is less than one year and he/ she has not studied in a local school for the past three years prior to admission to the school.

Note: Please refer to the EDB Circular No. 16/2025 dated 15 July 2025 on Entry of Non-local Children and Children Holding a Form of Recognizance to Schools in Hong Kong or the latest relevant circular for details.

Part B

Schools should also ensure that the following conditions are satisfied:

1. no previous claim of the SBSS Grant has been made in respect of the child;
2. the child's first day of attending the school must fall within the period of 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026 and the school has provided appropriate support services to the child; and
3. those who have attended the full-time Initiation Programme are not eligible for the SBSS Grant.

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