Student Grant (2020/21 School Year)

Frequently Asked Questions

Eligibility Criteria

Q1: Who are eligible for the Student Grant?

A1: The student grant is non-means-tested. All students\(^1\) who are, as at the date of application, studying in secondary day-schools, primary schools and special schools (including public sector schools, Direct Subsidy Scheme schools, English Schools Foundation schools and private schools) as well as kindergartens (whether having joined the kindergarten education scheme or not) offering local or non-local curriculum in Hong Kong, are eligible for the grant. Students of evening schools, students of private studies, holders of student visa for entry into Hong Kong for studies and holders of Form of Recognizance issued by the Immigration Department are not within the scope of subsidy.

Taking into account that there are some students who should meet the eligibility criteria above but attend other programmes owing to special circumstances, we also deem the following students eligible for the grant:

(a) children at the age of two years and eight months or above as at 1 September of the school year concerned attending Special Child Care Centres subsidised by the Social Welfare Department owing to special needs;

(b) newly arrived children attending the full-time Initiation Programme funded by the Education Bureau (EDB); and

(c) students taking full-time programmes for Secondary 3 school leavers offered by the Vocational Training Council.

\(^1\) Kindergarten students have to be at the age of two years and eight months or above as at 1 September of the school year in order to be eligible for the student grant.

Q2: If there are over-aged students attending secondary, primary or special schools, will their age affect their eligibility under the grant?

A2: No. All students who are studying in kindergartens, secondary and primary schools (including special schools), regardless of their age, are eligible for the grant.
Application Procedure

Q3: What are the differences between Form B and Form A?

A3: For the “Student Grant” Application Forms, there are Form B and Form A. Form B is pre-printed with the basic information of the student as well as that of the applicant (applicable to students who have been promoted to the next class level in the same school) while Form A is a blank form (applicable to students who are newly admitted to a school in this school year or have transferred to another school). Parents/guardians may fill in the application forms according to the circumstances set out below –

Form B:

✧ In general, parents/guardians are only required to check the accuracy of the pre-printed information, put a “✓” in the confirmation box at the bottom part of the form, sign to confirm and submit the application forms to the EDB through schools. There is no need for them to fill in the information anew.

✧ If the pre-printed information on Form B requires updating (except Student’s Name in English, Name of Day-school and School Level), parents/guardians have to provide the amendment(s) in the space above the relevant information in BLOCK letters using black or blue ball pen, leave the confirmation box blank and submit the application forms to the EDB through schools.

✧ If Student’s Name in English, Name of Day-school or School Level pre-printed on Form B requires amendment, parents/guardians of the students concerned should use Form A for application.

Form A:

✧ For students who are newly admitted to a school, have transferred to another school or individual students without Form B provided by the EDB, parents/guardians should use Form A for application.

Q4: The application form is uploaded onto the EDB website and can be downloaded by parents. Can parents submit the completed application forms to the EDB directly?

A4: The application form is uploaded onto the EDB website for individual parents or students who have lost or damaged the application forms and need a new form. As schools have to verify the student status, the application forms must be submitted through schools.
Q5: What can schools do if they cannot submit the applications forms before the end of the period specified as individual students could not submit the applications before the end of the period specified?

A5: If individual students could not submit the applications before the end of the period specified, schools can return the completed Application Forms to the EDB by batches. The EDB will handle those applications submitted before the end of the period specified first.

Q6: By what means can parents enquire about the progress of their applications?

A6: If individual parents have enquiries about their applications, please contact the Special Duties Office of the EDB via email (spdoenquiry@edb.gov.hk). Please provide student name, school name, parent name and contact number to facilitate follow-up.

Disbursement of Grant

Q7: Why the subsidy is disbursed via bank transfer only but not by other means?

A7: As parents generally possess local bank accounts, the subsidy will be disbursed to parents via bank transfer.

Q8: How will the parents without local bank accounts receive the disbursement of subsidy?

A8: Parents generally possess local bank accounts. For special circumstances, applicants could contact the EDB for individual consideration and follow-up.

Q9: Why does the subsidy have to be disbursed to a sole-name local bank account? Is it not acceptable for parents to receive the subsidy through a joint account?

A9: To avoid disputes, no joint account will be accepted for disbursement of subsidy.

Education Bureau
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