

EDUCATION BUREAU (EDB)
CLASSROOM LANGUAGE ASSESSMENT (CLA) (2026/27 SCHOOL YEAR)
NOTES FOR APPLICANTS

Entry Requirements

1. Applicants must have met the Language Proficiency Requirement (LPR) in all the core language skills of the language subject entered:
 - For English, core language skills refer to—
 - an overall band score of 7.5 or above with no individual band scores (i.e. the Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking band scores) below 7.0 as obtained in the same Test Report Form in the Academic Module of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS)^{NOTE 1}; OR
 - Level 3 or above in the Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking papers in the Language Proficiency Assessment (LPA) (English Language).
(^{NOTE 1} **The Test Report Form of the aforesaid IELTS results must be issued on or after 1 September 2024, but no later than 16 September 2026, which marks the end of the CLA registration period.** Applicants who attempted the CLA (English Language) in the previous school year and are reapplying for the assessment this year need not submit the IELTS Test Report Form again.)
 - For Putonghua, core language skills refer to—
 - Grade A, Level 2 or above in the Test of Proficiency in Putonghua conducted by the State Language Commission (PSC)^{NOTE 2}; OR
 - Level 3 or above in the Listening and Recognition, Pinyin and Speaking papers in the LPA (Putonghua).
(^{NOTE 2} **The aforesaid PSC results must be issued on or before 16 September 2026, which marks the end of the CLA registration period.** Applicants who attempted the CLA (Putonghua) in the previous school year and are reapplying for the assessment this year need not submit the PSC certificate again.)
2. Applicants must be teachers in public-sector schools, Direct Subsidy Scheme schools, or local private primary / secondary day schools offering a local formal curriculum^{NOTE 3}, who
 - (i) are teaching English Language / Putonghua^{NOTE 4} in the 2026/27 school year^{NOTE 5}; OR
 - (ii) attempted but failed the CLA.

(^{NOTE 3} Local curriculum refers to the curriculum developed by the Curriculum Development Council.)

(^{NOTE 4} The Putonghua subject generally refers to the subject with a curriculum planned according to the Putonghua Curriculum Guide (Path: EDB website www.edb.gov.hk Home >Curriculum Development and Support >Key Learning Areas >Chinese Language Education >Putonghua), which can be an independent subject, or integrated with the Chinese Language subject. **If Putonghua is solely adopted as the medium of instruction (MOI) for teaching Chinese Language, it is not regarded as the Putonghua subject.**)

(^{NOTE 5} For those teachers who held a regular post and taught English Language / Putonghua in or before the 2025/26 school year but have not met / attempted but failed to meet the LPR, they cannot continue teaching the subject whilst holding a regular post in the 2026/27 school year (except English teachers who have been exempted from the LPR (English Language)). These teachers can only teach English Language / Putonghua if they hold a temporary post, i.e. a post not within the approved staff establishment (e.g. *contract teachers*.)

Exemption

3. Details of the exemption from the LPR (English Language) are available at the EDB website (www.edb.gov.hk/exemption). No Putonghua teachers will be exempted from the LPR.

Registration Period and Method

4. Applicants should submit their applications via the online entry form. Late applications and other means of application submission will **not** be accepted.

| Online Registration | Registration Period | Documents Required |
|---|---|---|
| Please refer to the link to the online entry form available at the EDB website (www.edb.gov.hk/cla) | 1 September 2026 (09:00 a.m.) to 16 September 2026 (12:00 noon) | <p>(i) A completed online entry form</p> <p>(ii) Applicants are required to upload the following documents (PDF file) [∇]:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The Test Report Form of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) (Academic Module) or Certificate of the Test of Proficiency in Putonghua conducted by the State Language Commission (PSC) (if applicable)● Entire school calendar for the 2026/27 school year● Full teaching timetable officially issued by the school● Form of ‘Verification of Eligibility for the CLA’ with Section B completed and signed by the Principal of the serving school (The Form should be downloaded from the EDB website (www.edb.gov.hk/cla)). <p>[∇]The size of each of the above files should not exceed 1MB. The document(s) collected will be destroyed upon completion of the assessment.</p> |

Payment of Assessment Fees

5. **It is the responsibility of the applicants to ensure that they meet the entry requirements for the CLA before applying.** Submitting the online entry form and paying the assessment fees does not necessarily mean that the applicants have fulfilled the entry requirements for the CLA. Applicants will be notified by email if they are not eligible for taking the CLA, and refund arrangements will be made in due course. All applicants must pay the assessment fees in full at the time of submitting the online entry form, and ensure that they have received an email acknowledgement of payment submission with “success” stated in the Transaction Status and a Payment Transaction ID therein. **Applications will not be processed if applicants fail to submit the online entry form and pay the assessment fees before the end of the registration period.**
6. **No refund of assessment fees will be arranged under any circumstances for applicants who withdraw from the assessment after submitting the online entry form and paying the assessment fees.** The assessment fees paid will only be refunded to the applicants who are not eligible for taking the CLA.

Release of Results

7. Results notification letters will be issued to candidates by post on 20 May 2027 (tentative). Application for rechecking will be accepted from 21 to 27 May 2027 (tentative) by email to ltq@edb.gov.hk. Please note that the EDB can only recheck assessment results for technical errors, such as incorrect mark entries. Once the recheck is completed, the results will be considered final and no re-assessment will be conducted for the candidates.

Reference Materials

8. The following reference materials can be downloaded from the EDB website (www.edb.gov.hk/cla):
- (i) Classroom Language Assessment (English Language) Handbook
 - (ii) Classroom Language Assessment (Putonghua) Handbook

Online Briefing (a PowerPoint with voiceover narration)

9. The EDB will provide candidates who have entered for the CLA (2026/27 school year) with an electronic briefing in PowerPoint format, accompanied by voiceover narration. The purpose of the briefing is to familiarise candidates with the requirements and procedures of the CLA. The important points to note when preparing for the assessment will be highlighted with reference to the Handbooks. Candidates will receive notification regarding access to the briefing sessions before the start of the CLA assessment period. The PowerPoint slides of the briefing sessions will be uploaded to the EDB website in early November 2026 for all candidates' reference.

Completing the Online Entry Form

10. The applicant should make sure that the Chinese / English name entered on the entry form agrees with that on his / her HKID Card.
11. Applicants must provide an accurate HKID Card number.
12. A **valid and frequently used** email address should be provided for contact purposes.
13. Please ensure the **accuracy** of the local postal address. Results notification letters will be sent to the local postal address provided. When an applicant changes his / her postal address, he / she should inform the Language Teacher Qualifications Team of the EDB of the new address in writing **by 16 April 2027** (Email: ltq@edb.gov.hk).
14. To prove that they have met the entry requirements as stated under Paragraph 1, applicants, excluding those who possess attained results in the relevant papers of LPA, should submit during registration the Test Report Form of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) (Academic Module) / Certificate of the Test of Proficiency in Putonghua conducted by the State Language Commission (PSC), if applicable.
15. Applicants should submit during registration the entire school calendar for the 2026/27 school year, their full teaching timetable officially issued by the school, and the Form of 'Verification of Eligibility for the Classroom Language Assessment (CLA)'. The Form should be downloaded from the EDB website (www.edb.gov.hk/cla), with Section B completed and signed by the Principal of the serving school. Each of the aforesaid documents should bear the name of the applicant, the HKID Card number and the name of the school.
16. **The provision of all the required documents as stated under Paragraphs 4, 14 and 15 above is obligatory. If applicants do not provide all the required documents when submitting the Online Entry Form, their applications will not be processed any further.**

Assessment Details

17. The assessment period of the CLA will be from 26 October 2026 to 2 April 2027. The date of the CLA will be assigned by the assessors. Candidates will receive notification at least five calendar days before the assessment. For candidates who will be taking an extended period of leave during the assessment period and therefore unavailable for CLA visits, if they do not receive notification for the CLA at least one month before the commencement date of their extended leave, they should contact the Language Teacher Qualifications Team of the EDB at 2892 5783 immediately, failure of which may lead to the CLA not being able to be conducted. In the above event, the EDB will not accept any liability in respect of claims for expenses, refunds or other damages.
18. The CLA takes the form of lesson observation lasting for a single period by one or two assessors. Candidates are assessed once with some of them receiving a paired visit in which two assessors observe the same period in order to verify the actual attainment of various CLA standards.

19. Applicants must ensure they can provide live classroom situations so that their performance can be assessed, and that **none of the following arrangements will be made in the classroom** on the day of the assessment:
- audio and/or video recording;
 - simultaneous online teaching or broadcast;
 - co-teaching; and
 - lesson observation by a person/people other than the assessor(s), including peer lesson observation.
20. In case of special circumstances when the applicant has to leave the teaching post or is not able to teach temporarily during part of the assessment period, related details should be marked in the school calendar and the Form of ‘Verification of Eligibility for the Classroom Language Assessment (CLA)’ (No.4 in Section A). Applications will be considered by the EDB on a case-by-case basis. Any subsequent changes to the information submitted must be reported to the Language Teacher Qualifications Team of the EDB as soon as possible (Tel. No.: 2892 5783 / Email: ltq@edb.gov.hk). Without verified evidence at the time of registration that the applicant is teaching the language subject within the assessment period (26 October 2026 to 2 April 2027), application for the CLA will not be accepted.

Important Notes

21. The EDB may at its discretion determine how to conduct and deal with the CLA as it considers necessary or advantageous and proper, and this includes rescheduling, cancelling or changing the mode of assessment for the whole CLA or any part thereof for all candidates or individual candidates, or refusing, restricting or withdrawing participation in the CLA by certain candidates (e.g. due to public health reasons). In any of the above events, the EDB will not accept any liability in respect of claims for expenses, refunds or other damages.

Enquiries

22. For enquiries concerning the CLA and other LPR arrangements, please contact the Language Teacher Qualifications Team, EDB.

Address: Room 1107, 11/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen’s Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong
Tel. No.: 2892 5783
Fax No.: 2123 1229
Email: ltq@edb.gov.hk

23. For information on criteria for meeting the LPR, please visit the EDB website at <https://www.edb.gov.hk/lpr>.