Education Bureau Circular Memorandum No. 199/2026

From: Secretary for Education To: Heads of all secondary schools
Ref.: 1075-2050-8050-9020-00004-P001
Date: 10 November 2026

Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers (2027/28)

Summary

The purpose of this circular memorandum is to provide secondary schools with information on the Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers (2027/28). Heads of secondary schools are requested to forward the following information to their career guidance teachers so that they would inform all students, especially those who are applying for admission to local universities in the 2027/28 school year, of the Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers (2027/28).

Details

2. The Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers ("the Scholarship") is one of a series of measures to enhance the professionalism of English teachers in Hong Kong. It aims to attract persons proficient in English to pursue relevant local bachelor degree programmes and / or teacher training programmes which will qualify them to become English teachers on graduation. The Scholarship is tenable for the normal duration of the intended study programmes. Upon graduation, awardees have to undertake to teach English full-time in local primary or secondary schools in Hong Kong (day schools offering a local curriculum[1]). For awardees on undergraduate degree programmes, the duration of teaching obligations is three years.

3. The Scholarship (2027/28) will be open for application in August 2027. Students who are interested in the Scholarship have to choose a relevant study programme when applying for admission to local universities in the 2027/28 school year. In this connection, please draw the attention of students graduating from secondary education in 2027 to the Scholarship (2027/28) and distribute to them a copy of the Information Sheet (Annex).

Enquiries

4. For enquiries about the Scholarship, please contact Ms Constance CHOW (Tel. 2892 5786) of the Professional Development and Training Division, Education Bureau.

Ms W P LEE
for Secretary for Education

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[1] The curriculum developed by the Curriculum Development Council

Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers (2027/28)
Information Sheet
for Secondary School Graduates of Local Student Status

Background

1. The Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers ("the Scholarship") is set up by the Education Bureau (EDB), the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) as one of a series of measures to enhance the professionalism of English teachers in Hong Kong.

2. The aim of the Scholarship is to attract persons proficient in English to pursue relevant local bachelor degree programmes and / or teacher training programmes which will qualify them to become English teachers on graduation.

Eligibility for Application

3. Both local and non-local students[1] may apply for the Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers (2027/28). Information for local students interested in applying for a 5-year Scholarship is provided in the following paragraphs. Non-local students should refer to the "Information Sheet for Secondary School Graduates and Undergraduates / Graduates of Universities of Non-local Student Status" posted on the EDB website (http://www.edb.gov.hk/scholarship).

4. Application is open to secondary school graduates who
   (a) have attained Level 5 or above in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Examination, or equivalent[2]; and

[1] "Non-local students" are persons, regardless of their nationalities, who require a student visa / entry permit issued by the Director of Immigration of the Government of the HKSAR for the purpose of receiving education in Hong Kong.

[2] The following results are accepted for applying for the Scholarship:
- Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination (HKALE) – Grade B or above in Use of English (UE)
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) – An overall score of Band 7 or above in the Academic Module (the results are still valid when applying for the Scholarship)
- General Certificate of Education (GCE) Examinations – Grade B or above in AS Level English
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme – Grade 5 or above in Higher Level English Language (A1 or A2 / A: Literature or Language and Literature)
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) – A minimum score of 100 (Internet-based) / An overall score of 5 or above (for the test taken on the updated TOEFL score scale) (the results are still valid when applying for the Scholarship)
- National Joint College Entrance Examination (NJCEE) (全國普通高等學校統一考試, also known as Gaokao 高考) – A score of 130 or above in English

(b) will start pursuing **year one** study in relevant degree programmes in local universities in the 2027/28 school year. A list of such programmes can be found on the EDB website (http://www.edb.gov.hk/scholarship).

5. Broadly speaking, applicants should pursue one of the following programmes in a local university:
   (a) a full-time Bachelor of Education (BEd) degree programme majoring in English; or
   (b) a full-time Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education (BA & BEd) double degree programme majoring in English; or
   (c) a full-time Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree programme majoring in English or a relevant subject (such as Linguistics, with English as the language to be studied) followed immediately by a full-time / part-time Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) programme also majoring in English.

Scholarship Amounts

6. The Scholarship is tenable for the normal duration of the study programme(s). The Scholarship amounts are detailed in the following table:

Study programme	**Scholarship amounts for each awardee of local student status**
BEd degree	HK$50,000 per year
BA & BEd double degree	HK$50,000 per year
BA degree followed by full-time / part-time PGDE	HK$50,000 per year (for BA degree programme); and HK$50,000 (for the whole PGDE programme)

7. To have the Scholarship renewed every year, awardees are obliged to put forward good conduct and academic performance while complying with the terms and conditions of the Undertakings signed by them upon acceptance of the award of the Scholarship.

Application and Selection

8. Application for the Scholarship will be open in August 2027. Details about the application procedure will be posted on the EDB website (http://www.edb.gov.hk/scholarship) in June 2027.

9. Applicants will be shortlisted for an interview on the basis of public examination results attained and the information submitted by applicants. The interviews are scheduled for September 2027. Attendance is mandatory.

10. The Scholarship will be awarded on a merit basis to applicants whose performance is the best in all aspects. Applicants attending the interview will be informed of the selection results by the end of November 2027. The decision of the EDB on the selection of the awardees shall be final and appeals are not accepted.

Teaching Obligations

11. Awardees should undertake to fulfil the teaching obligations by teaching English full-time in local primary or secondary schools in Hong Kong (day schools offering a local curriculum[3]) immediately after graduation. The duration of the teaching obligations is three consecutive school years.

12. In the case of a BA degree programme awardee who has chosen to pursue a recognised 2-year part-time PGDE programme upon completion of the BA degree programme, his / her full-time engagement as an English teacher in a school mentioned above while studying shall be counted towards the fulfilment of the teaching obligations, on condition that he / she completes the PGDE programme as required.

Undertakings and Deed of Indemnity

13. Awardees are required to sign the Undertakings which delineate the terms and conditions that they should comply with. These include, but are not limited to, the requirements for awardees to:
    (a) attain good conduct and academic standards required by the university concerned to complete the relevant study programme(s);
    (b) (for BA degree programme awardees) pursue a PGDE programme majoring in English immediately upon graduation from the degree programme; and
    (c) fulfil the three-year teaching obligations after graduation.

14. At any point of time, when a breach of the Undertakings occurs,
    (a) the Scholarship will cease to be disbursed for the remainder of a study programme; and

[3] The curriculum developed by the Curriculum Development Council

(b) awardees will be required to repay to the HKSAR Government the Scholarship amounts received on an interest-free and, if applicable, pro rata basis.

15. Each awardee has to nominate a person as his / her indemnifier. An indemnifier should be a person at or over 21 years of age who is gainfully employed, financially sound and able to provide a business / office address. Details of the qualifications of an indemnifier can be found in the Undertakings and the Deed of Indemnity upon acceptance of the Scholarship. By signing the Deed of Indemnity, the indemnifier agrees to repay to the HKSAR Government the Scholarship amounts received by an awardee if the awardee fails to comply with the terms and conditions included in the Undertakings and is unable to repay the Scholarship amounts received.

Enquiries

16. For details about the relevant study programmes, please visit the websites of the local universities. Enquiries about the Scholarship can be sent to ltq@edb.gov.hk or directed to Ms Constance CHOW (Tel. 2892 5786) of the Professional Development and Training Division, EDB.

Education Bureau
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
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