# 香港卓越獎學金計劃 Hong Kong Scholarship for Excellence Scheme

**Education Bureau 27 October 2015** 

# Introduction of the Scheme

# Background

- Announced in the 2014 Policy Address
- Launched in September 2014
- Benefit 3 cohorts starting from 2015/16 academic year (up to 100 students per cohort)
- Review effectiveness by 2017/18

## **Objectives**

- Support local students to pursue undergraduate or postgraduate studies in world renowned universities outside HK
- Aim to groom talents with global vision, international network and world-class education, who will return home to enrich Hong Kong's talent pool and competitiveness in the longer run
- Support local students with excellent academic achievement but lack financial means to study in top-notch universities outside HK

# **Steering Committee**

- Set up to advise the Education Bureau on the policy, strategy and administration of the HKSES
- Chaired by Dr Victor Fung and comprising 13 leaders and experts with excellent knowledge, experience and network relating to world renowned universities as well as major corporations/organisations with global vision and network

# Eligibility

- Applicants are required to meet two eligibility criteria:
  - have right of abode or right to land, or have entered Hong Kong on One-way Permits
  - have resided in Hong Kong continuously for three complete years immediately prior to commencement of academic programme outside Hong Kong

# Scope of Studies & Eligibility

	Undergraduate Study	Postgraduate Study
Eligibility	Students receiving senior secondary education (local or non-local curriculum) in HK	Students obtaining their undergraduate qualifications in or outside HK

#### **Selection Criteria**

- Merit-based, targeting the best and most outstanding students who are admitted to world renowned universities or programmes
- Selection will be based on applicants' academic achievements and other personal attributes such as:
  - leadership qualities and potential
  - > contribution and commitment to HK

#### **Selection Criteria**

 No pre-determined split of or quotas for awardees at undergraduate and postgraduate levels

 But HKSES will primarily benefit students pursuing studies at undergraduate level

#### **Selection Criteria**

- Priority will be given to:
  - programmes that are conducive to building up HK's long-term competitiveness, in particular those not available in HK
  - > students from needy families who will otherwise not have the opportunity to support their studies in prestigious overseas universities

# **Selection Process & Confirmation of Awardees**

- Three-staged selection process:
   Preliminary Screening → Shortlisting → Interview
- Steering Committee makes final decision on scholarship offers having regard to the assessment of the interview panels. No appeal mechanism for the outcomes.
- May give scholarship title (without any monetary benefits) to awardees who have received full scholarships from other sources

# Scholarship and Bursary

	Non-means-tested scholarship	Means-tested bursary
Target	All awardees	Financially less well-off students
Amount per annum	Up to HK\$250,000 to cover tuition fee	Up to HK\$200,000:  1. Up to HK\$50,000  (to cover tuition fee in excess of HK\$250,000); and
		2. Up to HK\$150,000 (to cover living and other study-related expenses)

# **Subsidy Period**

Undergraduate programmes (covering master and doctoral degrees or equivalent levels)

Normal duration of programme concerned (normally 3-4 years)

Postgraduate programmes (covering master and doctoral degrees or equivalent levels)

Up to 2 years

Renewable annually subject to good academic performance

# Undertaking to Return to HK to Work

- Awardees are required to complete specific study programmes and undertake to return to HK upon graduation to work for at least 2 years or a period equivalent to duration of receiving scholarship, whichever is longer.
- The requirement to undertake to return to and work in HK may be deferred or waived by Steering Committee under exceptional circumstances
- Non-complying awardees will be asked to repay the amount of scholarship and bursary in full or on a prorata basis

### Other Support to Awardees

The Government and the Steering Committee will provide the awardees with other support such as:

- 1. Assist awardees in establishing contact and liaison among themselves
- 2. Invite the awardees to become Hong Kong Student Ambassadors and participate in the events organised by the overseas offices of the Government, Hong Kong Trade Development Council, Hong Kong Tourism Board, etc
- 3. Provide mentorship support/services
- 4. Provide internship opportunities

# Application for scholarship to cover study starting from the 2016/17 Academic Year

(the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cohort)

 Now open for applications for study at world renowned universities outside Hong Kong starting from the 2016/17 academic year, i.e. from August 2016 to July 2017

Application Deadline	31 December 2015 (6pm)
Application Method	Online submission via a web-based scholarship application system at the HKSES website:
	www.edb.gov.hk/hkses

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Hong Kong Scholarship for Exce Application Form for the 2016/17	Academic Year
I) Personal Particulars	
Surname	* Other names
Surname	Other names
lame in Chinese	Chinese Name in Code
e.a. 陝大文	
Date of Birth	Gender
DD / MM / YYYY	Male
Hong Kong Identity Card Number	
Are you	
(i) a permanent resident of the Hong Kong	Special Administrative Region
(ii) having the right to land in Hong Kong	
(iii) a One-way Permit holder	
If in doubt, you are advised to make enquiry al Administrative Region through the Immigration	bout your eligibility for the permanent resident status in the Hong Kong Special Department Right of Abode Enquiry Hotline 2824 6111.)
Residential Address	District

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Undergraduate application

Taught Postgraduate application

Research Postgraduate application

Indicate up to 4 universities/institutions and programmes in the application
(No change after the application deadline)

Should have submitted applications to chosen universities/institutions and provide documentary proof

Submit assessment by School Principal	Submit one reference letter	Submit one reference letter
	<u>-</u>	Submit a summary of the research project/ plan

- In choosing the universities/institutions and programmes,
   applicants may make reference to
  - > the top 100 universities/institutions in each of the 4 world university ranking tables published by:
    - QS
    - ♦ Shanghai Jiao Tong University
    - **♦** Times Higher Education
    - ♦ US News and World Report
  - > Top 30 colleges in the National Liberal Arts Colleges Rankings published by US News and World Report
- Choices not listed in the above ranking tables will still be considered subject to justification provided by the applicants

#### **Process and Timeframe**

1. Application 25 Sept to 31 Dec 2015 2016 2. Preliminary Screening Jan to Feb 3. Shortlisting Feb to March **Shortlisted applicants** who have received confirmed offers from universities 4. Interview **April onwards** 21 5. Confirmation of final list of 100 awardees & **August** disbursement of scholarship

# Results of the First Cohort of Applications

(i.e. study starting from 2015/16 academic year)

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# Overview (as at 27 October 2015)

	Total No. of Applications received (% over total)	Total No. of Awardees (% over total)
Undergraduate	399 (61%)	62 (69%)
Postgraduate	259 (39%)	28 (31%)
Total:	658	90

 A few more candidates expected to be interviewed later (e.g. those who will commence study in Australia in Feb 2016)

#### Distribution of Awardees

(as at 27 October 2015)

#### (A) By Sex

Sex	No. of Awardees (% over total)
Male	47 (52%)
Female	43 (48%)
Total:	90

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#### (B) By University

University	No. of Awardees (% over total)
University of Cambridge (UK)	16 (18%)
University College London (UK)	11 (12%)
London School of Economics and Political Science (UK)	8 (9%)
University of Oxford (UK)	7 (8%)
University of Edinburgh (UK)	6 (7%)
King's College London (UK)	5 (6%)
Imperial College London (UK)	5 (6%)
Harvard University (US)	3 (3%)
Durham University (UK)	2 (2%)
Guildhall School of Music & Drama (UK)	2 (2%)
University of Glasgow (UK)	2 (2%)
University of Manchester (UK)	2 (2%)
Yale University (US)	2 (2%)
Others (Australia, Canada, UK & US)	19 (21%)
Total:	90

#### 90

#### (C) By Discipline to be Pursued

Discipline to be Pursued	No. of Awardees (% over total)
Law	19 (21%)
Science	13 (14%)
Economics and Finance	10 (11%)
Arts	9 (10%)
Performing Arts	7 (8%)
Engineering	5 (6%)
International Relations and Global Affairs	5 (6%)
Architecture	4 (4%)
Veterinary Medicine	4 (4%)
Art Gallery and Museum Studies / Arts Administration and Cultural Policy	3 (3%)
Medicine	3 (3%)
Others	8 (9%)
Total:	90

#### Aide-Memoire

 Applications now open for study starting from the 2016/17 academic year, i.e. from August 2016 to July 2017

Apply on or before 31 December 2015
 (6pm)

Visit www.edb.gov.hk/hkses

# Thank you