

Scheme for Non-means-tested Subsidy on Exchange to “Belt and Road” Regions for Post-Secondary Students (Non-means-tested SSEBR) Application Guidelines

Objectives

1. To capitalise on the new opportunities created by the “Belt and Road” initiatives as well as strengthen and promote further educational exchanges between Hong Kong and the nearby countries along the B&R regions, the EDB has launched a new Scheme named Non-means-tested Subsidy on Exchange to “Belt and Road” Regions for Post-Secondary Students (Non-means-tested SSEBR) to encourage and support more local students to pursue exchange activities in the “Belt and Road” (B&R) regions starting from July 2019.

Student Eligibility

2. **Local** students may submit their application under Non-means-tested SSEBR under **ALL** of the following criteria:
 - Applying students must be HK residents
 - Full-time undergraduate and sub-degree students of Tung Wah College at the time of application and throughout the duration of the exchange programme
 - Have never received any subsidy under the Scheme.

Students are only eligible for the subsidy **ONCE throughout their study in programme(s) at the same level of study in Hong Kong, irrespective of the amount received.*

Exchange Programme Eligibility

3. An outbound exchange activity comprising substantive teaching and learning elements to be held in any B&R regions (excluding the Mainland, Taiwan and Macao) listed at the Hong Kong Trade Development Council website: <http://beltandroad.hktdc.com/en/country-profiles/countryprofiles.aspx>.
4. Programmes which are organised or endorsed by TWC.
5. The hosting institution must be a recognised educational institution/body either in Hong Kong or in the home country.
6. Programmes which are lasting for **at least 5 days** or more if the applicant is a student of an undergraduate programme; or lasting for **at least 5 days** and are related to disciplines/fields of studies or language immersion programmes if the applicant is a student of sub-degree programme. It excludes the travel time back and forth between Hong Kong and the programme destination.
7. Other things being equal, priority should be given to credit-bearing or award-bearing exchange programmes.
8. Internship and volunteer work will NOT be considered as eligible exchange activities in general.

Amount of subsidy

9. The maximum amount of subsidy for each eligible student is calculated by adding up (i) and (ii) below:

(i) Destination	Subsidy Amount (HK\$)	(ii) Duration	Subsidy Amount (HK\$)
Asia (including Middle East, excluding the Mainland, Taiwan and Macao)	\$900	5 - 13 days	\$1,050
Africa	\$2,100	14 - 28 days	\$1,800
Oceania and Europe	\$2,400	29 - 90 days	\$3,000
Central and South America and Caribbean	\$4,500	91 - 180 days	\$7,500
		Over 180 days	\$13,500

Example: If a local student joins an exchange activity in New Zealand for 185 days, the maximum subsidy to be granted under the Non-means-tested SSEBR would be \$15,900 (i.e. (i)\$2,400 + (ii)\$13,500).

10. The College may at its full discretion, adjust the actual amount of subsidy to be granted to the student downwards from that maximum amount, having regard to the actual travelling expenses and participation fees involved in the exchange activities, other subsidy/sponsorship received by the students, etc.
11. Students who have previously received assistance from other scholarships or support schemes wholly or partly funded by the Government/TWC are also eligible for application.
12. Priority would be given to those who have not received any subsidy under scholarship/sponsorship/subsidy schemes wholly or partly funded by the Government/TWC.

Application Procedure

13. Applicants are required to complete and submit the application form (Form/SAO 37b/202310). The completed application form, together with all supporting documents, should be submitted to TWC **AT LEAST ONE MONTH** before the commencement of the exchange programme. Late application and incomplete application form with insufficient supporting documents will **not be considered**.
14. Application form is obtainable at https://www.twc.edu.hk/en/Administration_Units/sao/publications-and-forms
15. Please note that the subsidy will only be disbursed upon completion of the exchange programmes.
16. Any income such as participant fees and sponsorship from outside organisations should be clearly specified in the application form.
17. Applicants will be informed of the result and the amount of approved fund in writing within ONE month after the submission of application.

18. Information collected in the application form will only be used for processing the application for the Scheme for Non-means-tested Subsidy on Exchange to “Belt and Road” Regions for Post-Secondary Students. The personal data/information will be treated with strict confidence and kept for a period of no more than seven years under normal circumstances.

Report and Evaluation

19. Students are required to submit the following to SAO within ONE month upon completion of the programme:

- An evaluation report on the study abroad experience (Form/SAO 37c/202310).
- Official proof /Certificate of completion of the exchange programme
- Original receipts of all expenditure items
- Photocopy of your bank account details (e.g. ATM card copy or the front page of bank book)
- Five photos of event highlights and group photos for publication (*in softcopy format via email; at least 1Mb or above of file size and each photo caption must contain at least 20 - 30 words in English*).

20. The College reserves the right to claim repayment of the awarded if any of the above is violated.

21. Upon the completion of student activity, applicant(s) may be invited to present their findings and outcomes to the TWC community and the wider public.