

Education Bureau Circular Memorandum No. 134/2024

From: Secretary for Education To: Heads of Primary, Secondary and Special Schools (excluding ESF and International Schools)

Ref: EDB(LE)/P&R/CL/116 c.c. Heads of Sections – for information

Date: 7 June 2024

Sponsorship Scheme for Teachers Taking the National Putonghua Proficiency Test

Purpose

This circular memorandum aims to announce the details of the Sponsorship Scheme for Teachers Taking the National Putonghua Proficiency Test, which is sponsored by the Language Fund (LF).

Background

2. As promulgated in the Policy Measures of the Chief Executive’s 2023 Policy Address, in order to further encourage teachers to enhance their mastery of Putonghua, serving and prospective teachers of primary and secondary schools will be subsidised for taking the “National Putonghua Proficiency Test” (PSC) with the use of the LF. As such, the Education Bureau (EDB) herewith launches the **Sponsorship Scheme for Teachers Taking the National Putonghua Proficiency Test** with the use of the LF to **fully sponsor eligible serving and prospective teachers**, including but not limited to teachers teaching Chinese Language and Putonghua subjects in local primary and secondary schools, to take the PSC for once on a voluntary basis.

Details

3. Under the PSC Scheme, eligible applicants include –

- (a) **serving teachers** who are **full-time teaching staff** employed by publicly-funded secondary/ primary/ special schools in that school year. An applicant must submit an employment certificate signed by the Principal of the school he/ she works at (please refer to **Annex**).

- (b) **prospective teachers** who are **full-time teaching assistants** (or school staff with an equivalent post as officially verified by the school) employed by publicly-funded secondary/ primary/ special schools in that school year and are **awarded, studying or admitted to the study of** a local Teacher's Certificate or Post-graduate Diploma/Certificate in Education. An applicant must submit an employment certificate signed by the Principal of the school he/ she works at (please refer to **Annex**).

Arrangement for Registration and Test

4. The Scheme will be administered by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA), which will offer one-stop registration and test service. Applicants of the Scheme are required to **submit the relevant supporting documents** as stipulated for verification of their eligibility. Eligible applicants may take PSC free of charge for once, **without** the need to pay the test fee in advance.

5. Registration for the first round of PSC under the Scheme will start on **11 June 2024 (Tuesday) from 10:00 am**, with the test dates scheduled for **16 to 18 August 2024 (Friday to Sunday)**. The test results will be released to the test takers via email within approximately four months after the completion of the test. For more details, please refer to the website of the HKEAA (<https://www.hkeaa.edu.hk/tc/IPE/psc/index.html>).

Online Questionnaire Survey

6. To gain a better understanding on teachers' use of Putonghua in the workplace and their training needs, applicants of the Scheme are required to complete an online questionnaire survey during the registration for PSC through the HKEAA. The data collected from the questionnaire survey will be **integrated** and analysed by the HKEAA only for research purposes. The research results will **not** contain any personally identifiable information of the teachers. No personal information of the applicants will be provided to the EDB by the HKEAA.

Computer-based Practice Test

7. The PSC conducted by HKEAA will be computer-based. To familiarise the test takers with the mode, environment and operation of the computer-based test, successful applicants could take the computer-based practice tests offered **free of charge** by HKEAA. HKEAA will contact successful applicants to make the arrangements nearer the time.

Enquiry

8. For general enquiries, please contact

International and Professional Examinations Division, HKEAA

Tel: (852) 3628 8787

Email: ie@hkeaa.edu.hk

For enquires about the eligibility of the PSC Scheme, please contact

Language Education and SCOLAR Section, EDB

Tel: (852) 3165 1190

Email: psc@edb.gov.hk

Miss Katharine CHOI
for Secretary for Education

(In Chinese Only)

致： 香港考試及評核局 –
申請報考「國家語委普通話水平測試」

敬啟者：

茲證明_____（中文姓名*）於 20xx/xx 學年於本校任職，詳情如下：

* 本證明書上的中文姓名須與申請人的香港身份證或護照上及報名表上的相同。如申請人沒有中文姓名，則可填上申請人的香港身份證或護照上的英文姓名。

請在以下剔選適用內容

受聘學校類別			
1.	<input type="checkbox"/> 中學	<input type="checkbox"/> 小學	<input type="checkbox"/> 特殊學校
受聘職位			
2.	<input type="checkbox"/> 教師	<input type="checkbox"/> 教學助理（或出任相同類別職務的教職員）	

受聘學校類型					
1.	<input type="checkbox"/> 官立學校	<input type="checkbox"/> 資助學校	<input type="checkbox"/> 按位津貼學校	<input type="checkbox"/> 直接資助計劃學校	<input type="checkbox"/> 其他
受聘形式					
2.	<input type="checkbox"/> 全職		<input type="checkbox"/> 其他受聘形式		

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