

Education Bureau Circular Memorandum No. 56/2025

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

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

Date: 31 March 2025

Fourth Round of Test under the Sponsorship Scheme for Teachers Taking the National Putonghua Proficiency Test

Purpose

This circular memorandum aims to announce the details of the fourth round of test under 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) launched the **Sponsorship Scheme for Teachers Taking the National Putonghua Proficiency Test** in June 2024 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 is administered by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA), which is offering 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 fourth round of PSC under the Scheme will start on **31 March 2025 (Monday) from 10:00 am**, and will conclude at **5:30 pm on 12 May 2025 (Monday)**. The test dates are scheduled for **5 and 6 July 2025 (Saturday and Sunday)**. The test results will be released to the test takers via email within approximately four months after the completion of the test. The Certificate of Putonghua Proficiency Test (普通話水平測試等級證書) issued by the State Language Commission (國家語言文字工作委員會) will be mailed to the test takers who attain a corresponding PSC level around six months or later 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>). If there are any updates on the registration or test arrangements, they will be announced on the aforementioned HKEAA website. The EDB will also provide relevant information to schools via the “Fast Information Transmission System - School Messaging Module”.

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 the HKEAA will be computer-based. To familiarise the test takers with the mode and operation of the computer-based test, successful applicants could take the computer-based practice test offered **free of charge** by the HKEAA. The HKEAA will provide the link of the computer-based practice test and the operational guidelines through the PSC admission email to successful applicants 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 20_ _ / _ _ 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

<u>受聘學校類別</u>			
1.	<input type="checkbox"/> 中學	<input type="checkbox"/> 小學	<input type="checkbox"/> 特殊學校
<u>受聘職位</u>			
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）	

<u>受聘學校類型</u>					
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
<u>受聘形式</u>					
2.	<input type="checkbox"/> 全職	<input type="checkbox"/> 其他受聘形式			

學校名稱： _____

校長姓名： _____

校長簽署： _____

學校蓋印： _____

日期： _____