

Education Bureau Circular Memorandum No. 197/2026

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

Ref: 1047-2045-8080-9020-00014 c.c. Heads of Sections – for information

Date: 15 October 2026

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

Purpose

This circular invites **full-time teachers and teaching assistants of publicly-funded schools in Hong Kong** to participate in the seventh round of test under the Sponsorship Scheme for Teachers Taking the National Putonghua Proficiency Test (PSC), with full funding support from the Language Fund (LF).

Background

2. In response to the Policy Measures of the Chief Executive's 2023 Policy Address, 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, **the Scheme fully sponsors 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 once on a voluntary basis, with the aim of further encouraging teachers to enhance their mastery of Putonghua. The Scheme is administered by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA), which is offering one-stop registration and test service. Eligible applicants may take PSC **free of charge** once.

The Seventh Round of PSC

3. The seventh round of PSC is scheduled for **16 and 17 January 2027 (Saturday and Sunday)** and will be conducted in a computer-based format. Eligible applicants¹ may register **from today until 5:30 p.m. on 16 November 2026 (Monday)**. The test results will

¹ 'Eligible applicants' refers to serving teachers who are **full-time teaching staff or 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. If the applicant is a teaching assistant, he/she **must have been awarded, be currently studying, or have been admitted to** a local Teacher's Certificate or Post-graduate Diploma/Certificate in Education Programme, or possess a non-local academic credential in teaching accredited by the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications. The subsidy does not apply to individuals who have submitted applications but have not yet been admitted to the above education diploma/certificate programmes.

Under the PSC Scheme, each eligible applicant will receive the LF sponsorship to participate in the PSC once only.

be released to the candidates via email within approximately four months after 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 candidates who attain a corresponding PSC level around six months after the test. During the registration for PSC through the HKEAA, applicants are required to complete an online questionnaire survey related to their use of Putonghua in the workplace and training needs. The data collected from the questionnaire survey will be integrated and analysed by the HKEAA for research purposes only. 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.

4. The scope of the PSC is set out in the **Implementation Guide of the Putonghua Proficiency Test (2021 Edition)** (《普通話水平測試實施綱要(2021年版)》). Candidates are advised to use the Implementation Guide as the primary reference for test preparation, familiarise themselves with the test content and requirements, and make adequate preparations for the test.

5. The following support measures will be provided to the candidates:

- (i) Pre-test seminar: It will be conducted online on 5 December 2026 (Saturday) morning by a nationally accredited PSC examiner from the State Language Commission's Putonghua and Character Application Training and Testing Centre. The 2.5-hour seminar will focus on key points of the test scoring criteria and common pronunciation difficulties, with a view to helping candidates understand important points to note for taking the test;
- (ii) Online mock test: Each registered candidate may take a free online mock test to familiarise themselves with the mode and operation of the computer-based test; and
- (iii) Post-test feedback report: Each candidate subsidised by the PSC Scheme will receive an electronic report, identifying the key areas of difficulty and providing suggestions for improving Putonghua proficiency.

6. Applicants must submit an employment certificate signed by the Principal of their serving school (see **Annex**) for verification of eligibility. Details of registration, test arrangements and support measures are available on the HKEAA website (www.hkeaa.edu.hk/tc/IPE/psc/).

Enquiry

7. For general enquiries, please contact

International and Professional Examinations Division, HKEAA

Tel: (852) 3628 8787

Email: ie@hkeaa.edu.hk

Online Enquiry Form: https://mip.hkeaa.edu.hk/mip/PSC_FORMS

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

Language Education and SCOLAR Section, EDB

Tel: (852) 3863 1782

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 2026/27 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.	☐ 中學	☐ 小學	☐ 特殊學校
<u>受聘職位</u>			
2.	☐ 教師	☐ 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.	☐ 官立學校	☐ 資助學校	☐ 按位津貼學校	☐ 直接資助計劃學校	☐ 其他
<u>受聘形式</u>					
2.	☐ 全職		☐ 其他受聘形式		

學校名稱：_____

校長姓名：_____

校長簽署：_____

學校蓋印：_____

日期：_____