

Education Bureau Circular Memorandum No. 146/2008

From: Permanent Secretary for Education To: Supervisors / Heads of all aided, government and caput secondary schools, secondary schools under the Direct Subsidy Scheme and Special Schools with senior secondary classes

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Date: 26 September 2008

Funding Arrangement of Diversity Learning Grant (DLG)

SUMMARY

This circular memorandum (CM) announces the general information of the funding arrangement and the application procedures of the DLG to support the implementation of the new senior secondary (NSS) curriculum.

DETAILS

Background

2. As stipulated in the report *New Academic Structure for Senior Secondary Education and Higher Education – Action Plan for Investing in the Future of Hong Kong* published by the Education Bureau in May 2005, to support schools to offer a diversified curriculum to meet the interests of students in the NSS academic structure, a DLG, payable in the form of cash grant, will be provided to schools annually upon application with effect from the 2009/10 school year.

Diversity Learning Grant

3. The DLG is to support Applied Learning (ApL), Other Languages and Other Programmes which include programmes for gifted students and network programmes of NSS subjects. The subsidies for these courses / programmes are depicted as follows:

DLG categories	Subsidies provided by EDB
ApL	* 75% of the average course fee (for two years) of the ApL courses enrolled by the school as a whole, with a subsidy ceiling of \$8,250 per student per course (i.e. schools contribute at least 25% of the average course fee). Examples on the calculation of average course fee can be found on the “334” Web Bulletin (www.edb.gov.hk/334)
Other Languages	\$3,500 per student per year
Other Programmes	\$7,000 per NSS class per year

* Please refer to paragraph 6 for more details on the funding arrangement of ApL courses.

4. Since the DLG is a funding subsidy for schools to offer diversified learning opportunities in addition to the existing resources, it is not intended to fully fund the whole cost of the diverse learning opportunities. Aided schools may need to top up all expenses with their own resources like the Operating Expenses Block Grant (OEBG) / Expanded Operating Expenses Block Grant (EOEBG). Similar arrangement may be employed in other types of schools. A safety net for ApL courses will be put in place to assist schools with genuine financial difficulty. It would be considered on a

case-by-case basis.

Applied Learning

5. The ApL courses aim at enabling students to understand fundamental concepts and theories through application and practice, and to develop their generic skills in authentic context. They are the essential components of the NSS curriculum. There are six areas of studies in ApL, namely (1) Creative Studies; (2) Media and Communication; (3) Business, Management and Law; (4) Services; (5) Applied Science; and (6) Engineering and Production. A tentative list of proposed ApL courses for the first cohort of NSS students to take in S5 and S6 (from 2010/11 to 2011/12 school years) is at the **Appendix** for schools' reference. Synopses of these ApL courses will be available on the EDB website (<http://www.edb.gov.hk/apl/>) in late 2008.

6. Every school is entitled to subsidies for a **maximum of 120** ApL enrolments per cohort under the DLG funding arrangement (i.e. schools need to pay all the costs for enrolments beyond 120 of each cohort). For students taking 4 elective subjects with an ApL course(s) as one of them, the ApL course will be regarded as the 4th elective subject. This ApL course will not be subsidised by the DLG.

Other Languages

7. Other Languages offered as electives within schools for S4-6 students, including French, German, Hindi, Japanese, Spanish and Urdu. These language courses should follow a curriculum leading to the examinations pitched at AS-level offered by the Cambridge International Examinations and administered by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority.

Other Programmes

8. The Other Programmes include programmes for gifted students and network programmes organised by schools. Programmes for gifted students are further structured learning opportunities provided through school-based pull-out programmes and / or off-site support that challenge the abilities of gifted students. These learning opportunities include enhancement programmes (both enrichment, i.e. breadth and extension and / or depth and pace) offered by schools / academic associations / professional bodies; credit-bearing courses especially designed and offered by tertiary institutions targeted for talented / gifted students at senior secondary level; and all programmes provided by the Hong Kong Academy for Gifted Education. As regards network programme, they should be programmes on the NSS subjects (e.g. Ethics and Religious Studies, Visual Arts, Music and Physical Education) jointly organised by schools to enhance the subject choices of students.

Application Procedures

9. Schools should provide different courses / programmes to cater for the diverse needs of students according to their school contexts and individual students' abilities, interests and aptitudes. Schools are requested to provide a brief 3-year plan of the courses / programmes planned for a particular cohort of students when they apply for the DLG. The plan should be endorsed by the School Management Committee / Incorporated Management Committee before submitting the application to EDB. A CM inviting application for DLG for Other Languages and Other Programmes as well as a template for the 3-year plan for the first cohort of NSS students will be issued in April 2009. As ApL courses will only be offered to students studying in S5 and S6, the invitation will be issued in April 2010.

10. Initially, we tend to disburse the provisional DLG to schools in August and to make adjustment in November based on the actual number of operating NSS classes and the number of students enrolled to Other Languages and ApL courses. The 3-year plan must be uploaded onto school's homepage before the end of December each year.

Payment and Accounting Arrangements

11. In principle, each category of DLG can be used to support the diversified learning needs of that particular cohort of students. Any unspent balance of DLG will be clawed back at the end of the NSS study of the cohort (e.g. for the first cohort of students in the 2009/10 school year, the unspent DLG as at 31 August 2012 will be clawed back). Schools will be required to keep separate ledger accounts for each category of DLG for each cohort of students and to record all the income and expenditure chargeable to Other Languages, Other Programmes and ApL respectively. Detailed funding and accounting arrangement will be announced in the above-mentioned CM in paragraph 9.

12. The funding and administration arrangements will be tried out for the first three cohorts of students. A review on the arrangements will be conducted in the 2011/12 school year.

ENQUIRIES

13. For enquiries, please contact the following officers:

General enquiry	Ms Diana TANG	(Tel. no. 2892 6433)
ApL	Ms Ada CHAN	(Tel. no. 3698 3165)
Other Languages	Ms Diana TANG	(Tel. no. 2892 6433)
Other Programmes		
Network programmes	Ms Diana TANG	(Tel. no. 2892 6433)
Gifted programmes	Mr WONG Chung-po	(Tel. no. 3698 3473)

Dr K K CHAN
for Permanent Secretary for Education

c.c. Heads of Section

Applied Learning Courses under 334
334 學制下的應用學習課程
Course List (Provisional) 課程一覽表 (暫定) Note 1 註一

Area of Studies 學習範疇	Course Title 課程名稱	Course Provider - Course Deliverer <small>Note 2</small> 課程提供機構 - 授課機構 <small>註二</small>	Medium of Instruction 教學語言
Creative Studies 創意學習	1. Design Studies 設計學		
	Image Design 形象設計	VTC	English or Chinese 英文或中文
	Innovative Product Design 創新產品設計	VTC	English or Chinese 英文或中文
	Jewellery Arts and Design 珠寶藝術與設計	HKBU(SCE)	Chinese 中文
	2. Media Arts 媒體藝術		
	Commercial Comic Art 商業漫畫設計	OUHK(LIPACE)	Chinese 中文
	Multimedia Entertainment Studies 多媒體科藝	VTC	English or Chinese 英文或中文
	3. Performing Arts 表演藝術		
Introduction to Theatre Arts 戲劇藝術入門	HKAPA	English or Chinese 英文或中文	
Taking a Chance on Dance 舞出新機－舞蹈藝術	HKAPA	English or Chinese 英文或中文	
Media and Communication 媒體及傳意	4. Films, TV and Broadcasting Studies 電影、電視與廣播學		
	Film and Video Studies 電影及錄像	VTC	English or Chinese 英文或中文
	Infotainment Production 娛樂資訊節目製作	HKCT	Chinese 中文
	5. Media Writing and Production 媒體寫作及製作		
	Radio Host and Presentation Skills 電台主持與表達技巧	OUHK(LIPACE)	Chinese 中文
Business, Management and Law 商業、管理及法律	6. Business Studies 商業學		
	Marketing in Global Trade 國際商貿市場拓展	CityU(SCOPE)	Chinese 中文
	Practical Accounting for SMEs 中小企實用電腦會計	HKIAAT – CCHES HKIAAT – CUTW HKIAAT – HKCT HKIAAT – VTC	English or Chinese 英文或中文
	Understanding Financial Services 認識金融服務	OUHK(LIPACE)	English or Chinese 英文或中文
	7. Clientele Management 顧客服務管理		
	Purchasing and Merchandising Studies 採購及營銷實務	VTC	English or Chinese 英文或中文
	Retail Merchandising 零售商品服務	HKBU(SCE)	Chinese 中文
	8. Legal Studies 法律學		
	To be developed 將會發展	N/A 不適用	N/A 不適用
	Services 服務	9. Hospitality Services 款待服務	

Area of Studies 學習範疇	Course Title 課程名稱	Course Provider - Course Deliverer Note 2 課程提供機構 - 授課機構	Medium of Instruction 教學語言
	Hospitality Services in Practice 酒店服務營運	CityU(SCOPE)	Chinese 中文
	Hotel Operations 酒店營運	VTC	English or Chinese 英文或中文
	Western Cuisine 西式食品製作	VTC	English or Chinese 英文或中文
	10. Event Management 項目管理		
	Events Planning and Operation 項目策劃及運作	HKCT	Chinese 中文
	11. Personal and Community Services 個人及社區服務		
	Fundamental Cosmetology 美容學基礎	CCHES	Chinese 中文
	Child Development and Care 幼兒成長教育	HKIEd(SCPE)	Chinese 中文
Applied Science 應用科學	12. Medical Science and Healthcare 醫療科學及健康護理		
	Health Care Practice 健康護理實務	CCHES	English or Chinese 英文或中文
	Health and Beauty Keeping in TCM 中醫保健與美容	CUTW	Chinese 中文
	Health and Nursing Care Practices 健康及護理實務	OUHK(LiPACE)	Chinese 中文
	13. Sports 運動		
	Exercise Science and Health Fitness 運動科學及體適能	HKBU(SCE)	Chinese 中文
	Sports Coaching and Management 運動管理與教練法	HKIEd(SCPE)	Chinese 中文
Engineering and Production 工程及生產	14. Civil and Mechanical Engineering 土木及機械工程		
	Automotive Technology 汽車科技	CCHES	English or Chinese 英文或中文
	15. Services Engineering 服務工程		
	To be developed 將會發展	N/A 不適用	N/A 不適用

Note 1 註一

The Applied Learning courses under 334 will be developed progressively. This provisional course list denotes the first batch of courses being developed while some others are being explored. The updated course list including synopses will be announced on the Applied Learning website (<http://www.edb.gov.hk/apl/>) in late 2008. Details of the courses (including the course fee) to be implemented in the 2010/11 school year will be announced at the beginning of the 2009/10 school year.

三三四學制下的應用學習課程將會逐步發展。這個暫定的課程一覽表顯示第一批正在發展中的課程，而其他課程也正在探索中。最新課程及摘要將於 2008 年年底於應用學習的網頁 (<http://www.edb.gov.hk/apl/>) 公佈。有關 2010/11 學年推行的課程細節(包括課程費用)將會在 2009/10 學年初公佈。

Note 2 註二

Course Provider - Course Deliverer 課程提供機構 - 授課機構	
CCHES	Caritas Community and Higher Education Service 明愛社區及高等教育服務
CityU(SCOPE)	City University of Hong Kong (School of Continuing and Professional Education) 香港城市大學專業進修學院
CUTW	The Chinese University of Hong Kong – Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Community College 香港中文大學 - 東華三院社區書院
HKAPA	The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts 香港演藝學院
HKBU(SCE)	School of Continuing Education, Hong Kong Baptist University 香港浸會大學持續教育學院
HKCT	Hong Kong College of Technology 香港專業進修學校
HKIAAT	Hong Kong Institute of Accredited Accounting Technicians Limited 香港財務會計協會有限公司
HKIEd(SCPE)	The Hong Kong Institute of Education (School of Continuing and Professional Education) 香港教育學院持續專業教育學院
OUHK(LiPACE)	The Open University of Hong Kong (Li Ka Shing Institute of Professional and Continuing Education) 香港公開大學李嘉誠專業進修學院
VTC	Vocational Training Council 職業訓練局