

THE EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
Student Affairs Office

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

Background

Scheme for Non-means-tested Subsidy on Exchange to “Belt and Road” Regions for Post-secondary Students (Non-means-tested SSEBR) is established to encourage and support local students of full-time locally-accredited programmes at sub-degree and undergraduate (including top-up) levels to participate in exchange activities held in the Belt & Road regions, excluding the Mainland, Taiwan and Macao.

Eligibility Criteria

- Local students enrolled in full-time locally-accredited sub-degree and undergraduate (including top-up degree) programmes at the time of application and throughout the duration of the subsidised exchange activity;
- Going to participate in an eligible exchange activity in the academic year 2024-25 as detailed below;
- Selected through a merit-based mechanism administered by EdUHK; and
- Never received any subsidy under Non-means-tested SSEBR during their previous study at programme(s) of the same level as that of their current programme.

Eligible Exchange Activities

Exchange activities:

- must be held any B&R country/economy¹ excluding the Mainland, Taiwan and Macao anywhere outside Hong Kong;
- must be organised and/or endorsed by EdUHK;
- last for at least five days if the applicant is an undergraduate student; or lasting for at least five days and is related to his/her discipline/field of study if the applicant is a sub-degree student; and
- fall into the following categories:
 - Learning activities (comprise substantive learning elements and/or intended learning outcomes)
 - Internship programmes as well as placements or practicums (refer to work experiences offered to participants for a limited period of time, remunerated or unremunerated, credit-bearing or non-credit bearing)
 - Service programmes (service-learning activities that integrate experiential learning with community services and reflections)

¹ The definition of B&R country/economy refers to the one listed at the Hong Kong Trade Development Council website at <http://beltandroad.hktdc.com/en/country-profiles/country-profiles.asp>. The list of B&R country/economy is subject to review and update from time to time without prior notice.

- National, regional and international events and competitions (Endorsed/organised by EdUHK to represent EdUHK)

Subsidy for Students

The maximum amount of subsidy to be granted to an eligible student for participating in an exchange activity under Non-means-tested SSEBR varies according to the destination and duration of the exchange activity as set out below:

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

**For Student Exchange Programme (SEP) organised by EdUHK, duration is set at 91-180 days.*

- In general, the duration of an exchange activity should cover the period from the commencement date to the completion date of the official programme of the exchange activity. Travelling time back and forth between Hong Kong and the exchange destination should not be counted towards the duration of the exchange activity.
- For each exchange activity, the maximum amount of subsidy to be granted to the student is calculated by adding up the subsidy under (A) and (B) above.
For 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. (A)\$2,400 + (B)\$13,500).
- The amount of subsidy granted to an eligible student under Non-means-tested SSEBR should not exceed the direct costs arising from his/her participation in the concerned exchange activity. Students are required to report to the EdUHK on the actual cost of the activities, and return the exceeding amount upon completion of the activities.
- EdUHK 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.

- Students are only eligible for assistance under the Non-means-test SSEBR once throughout his/her study in programmes at the same level of study in Hong Kong.
- Each student will not be eligible to receive subsidy under the SSE/Means-tested SSEBR/Non-means-tested SSEBR if he/she has received subsidy under any of these Schemes for the same exchange destination. Such restriction does not apply to the Non-means-tested MES.
- Subject to the discretion by EdUHK, Non-means-tested SSEBR may be granted to students who have once received assistance under the Means-tested SSEBR with a different exchange destination, and vice versa during their study in programme(s) at the same level of study in Hong Kong.
- Students who have previously received assistance from other scholarships or support schemes wholly or partly funded by the Government are also eligible for assistance under Non-means-tested SSEBR.
- Students receiving assistance under Non-means-tested SSEBR may receive subsidies from other sources (including Government and other organisations) to cover expenses in connection with the same exchange activity.
- Priority should be given to those who have not received any subsidy under scholarship / sponsorship / subsidy schemes wholly or partly funded by the Government.
- Granting of subsidy is subject to the funding available in that particular academic year.

Application Procedure

- Eligible students should submit an online application form together with supporting documents 1) SID copy; 2) Acceptance letter issued from the overseas exchange institution/Appendix A-Endorsement Form (Organiser).
- Applicants should complete an online application form AND Declaration for Exchange Subsidy Claim Form together with the required documents WITHIN one month after the programme end date, or by 31 August of the academic year in which they join the activity, whichever is earlier. The Student Affairs Office of EdUHK holds absolute discretion to reject any late/incomplete application.
- The approved subsidy will be issued in one instalment, and will be disbursed in cheque in around 2 months after the submission of application and Declaration Form or upon completion of the exchange activity, depending on when the activity takes place.

Subsidy Recipient's Obligations

- Sign an online undertaking form to comply with respective terms and conditions.
- Submit the online Declaration for Exchange Subsidy Claim Form after the programme end date.

EdUHK reserves the right to adjust the approved amount of subsidy or demand the return of the subsidy amount granted if the subsidy recipients do not fulfil any of the above conditions or

the subsidy received is greater than the actual direct costs associated with the exchange activity.

Enquiries

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(The information contained in this leaflet is subject to change without prior notice.)

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