

Eighteen nomination forms for Legislative Council General Election received

The nomination period for the 2020 Legislative Council General Election starts today (July 18) and runs until July 31. A total of 18 nomination forms were received by the Returning Officers for the five geographical constituencies and the 29 functional constituencies on the first day of the nomination period.

The number of nomination forms received for each geographical constituency is as follows:

Hong Kong Island:	3
Kowloon West:	1
Kowloon East:	0
New Territories West:	1
New Territories East:	3
Total:	8

The number of nomination forms received for each functional constituency is as follows:

Heung Yee Kuk:	0
Agriculture and Fisheries:	1
Insurance:	0
Transport:	0
Education:	2
Legal:	0
Accountancy:	1
Medical:	0
Health Services:	0
Engineering:	2
Architectural, Surveying, Planning and Landscape:	0
Labour:	0
Social Welfare:	1
Real Estate and Construction:	0

Tourism:	1
Commercial (first):	0
Commercial (second):	0
Industrial (first):	0
Industrial (second):	0
Finance:	0
Financial Services:	1
Sports, Performing Arts, Culture and Publication:	0
Import and Export:	0
Textiles and Garment:	0
Wholesale and Retail:	0
Information Technology:	0
Catering:	1
District Council (first):	0
District Council (second):	0
Total:	10

Particulars of the nominees will be available on the election website (www.elections.gov.hk/legco2020/eng/nominat.html).

Labour Department reminds foreign domestic helpers and employers of specifications relating to travelling to Hong Kong

The Government announced today (July 18) that it had gazetted the specifications under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Regulation of Cross-boundary Conveyances and Travellers) Regulation (Cap. 599H) to impose conditions based on public health grounds in order to further reduce the number of imported cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). A traveller who, on the day on which the traveller boarded a civil aviation aircraft that arrives at, or is about to arrive at Hong Kong, or during the 14 days before that day, has stayed in any specified place (i.e. Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines and South Africa), he/she must meet the conditions specified by the Secretary for Food and Health. The relevant specifications will come into effect at 0.00am on July 25, 2020, and will remain effective until further notice.

The Labour Department (LD) reminds foreign domestic helpers (FDHs), employers and employment agencies (EAs) to take note of the aforementioned specifications. For an FDH to whom the specifications apply, he/she must provide the following documents:

1. a letter or certificate in English or Chinese issued by a laboratory or healthcare institution bearing the name and identity card or passport number of the relevant FDH to show that:

- (a) the relevant FDH underwent a nucleic acid test for COVID-19 the sample for which was taken from the relevant FDH within 72 hours before the scheduled time of departure of the specified aircraft;

- (b) the test conducted on the sample is a nucleic acid test for COVID-19; and

- (c) the result of the test is that the relevant FDH was tested negative for COVID-19;

2. the original of the report for the test issued by the laboratory or healthcare institution bearing the name and identity card or passport number of the relevant FDH;

3. a letter in English or Chinese issued by the relevant authority of the government of the place in which the laboratory or healthcare institution is located certifying that the laboratory or healthcare institution is recognised or approved by the government; and

4. the relevant FDH has confirmation in English or Chinese of room reservation in a hotel in Hong Kong for not less than 14 days starting on the day of the arrival of the relevant FDH in Hong Kong.

An LD spokesman said, "Before the relevant FDH is checked-in for a flight to Hong Kong, he/she should produce the above documents to the operator of the aircraft for boarding the aircraft. Employers and EAs (if applicable) are reminded to make necessary preparations for their FDHs beforehand. If an FDH is not able to meet any of the conditions specified by the Secretary for Food and Health, he/she may not be allowed to board the flight to Hong Kong and newly arrived FDHs may be denied entry into Hong Kong upon arrival. Relevant FDHs are reminded to stay at the hotel address as stated in the quarantine order during the 14-day compulsory quarantine."

"Employers should bear the cost of the nucleic acid test for their FDHs. Employers applying to the Immigration Department (ImmD) to employ domestic helpers will be required to sign an undertaking to the Government, indicating that they will comply with the relevant specifications and bear the cost of the nucleic acid test when arranging for their FDHs to come to Hong Kong, in case their FDHs have stayed in a specified place on the day on which they boarded an aircraft that arrives at, or is about to arrive at Hong Kong, or during the 14 days before that day. Employers found to be in breach of the undertaking may be given an adverse record and ImmD may refuse their future applications for employment of FDHs. Employers are also reminded to comply with their obligations under the Standard Employment Contract, including bearing the accommodation expenses and providing food allowance to FDHs during the FDHs' compulsory quarantine," the spokesman continued.

"For EAs, they have the responsibility to provide correct information to employers and FDH. They should remind and/or assist employers in making relevant arrangements to comply with the relevant specifications. If there is evidence that an EA has violated the requirements in the Code of Practice for Employment Agencies, the EA concerned will be penalised."

A list of licensed hotels is available at the website of the Office of the Licensing Authority of the Home Affairs Department (www.hadla.gov.hk/cgi-bin/hadlanew/search.pl?client=1&searchtype=1&licenceNo=&name=&address=&room=0&district=0&displaytype=2). When choosing a hotel for quarantine purpose, employers and EAs (if applicable) are reminded to contact the hotel for more details and refer to the Infection Control Advice for Person under Compulsory Home Quarantine (www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/infection_control_advice.pdf) issued by the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health.

For enquiries on employment rights and benefits, please contact LD at the dedicated FDH hotline at 2157 9537 (manned by "1823") or by email to fdh-enquiry@labour.gov.hk. As to enquiries on FDH visa applications, please contact ImmD by calling the enquiry hotline at 2824 6111 or by email to enquiry@immd.gov.hk.

QEH announces passing away of COVID-19 patient

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) today (July 18) announced that a 94-year-old male COVID-19 confirmed patient (case number: 1365) passed away at 10.08am today.

The patient with chronic disease was admitted to QEH Accident and Emergency Department on July 9 due to fever and cough. He was confirmed positive of COVID-19 and transferred to isolation ward for treatment. His condition had deteriorated on July 13. The hospital had communicated with the family about the patient's condition. The patient's family agreed to have Do-Not-Attempt Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (DNACPR) if the patient condition further deteriorated. The hospital provided oxygen as supportive treatment to patient. The patient eventually succumbed on today morning.

The hospital was saddened about the passing away of the patient and would offer necessary assistance to his family members.

Including the above case, 12 COVID-19 patients have passed away in public hospitals so far.

NTWC announces case of staff members of Tuen Mun Eye Centre tested preliminarily positive to COVID-19

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson of New Territories West Cluster (NTWC) made an announcement today (July 18) on a staff member of Tuen Mun Eye Centre (TMEC) tested preliminarily positive to COVID-19:

A female clerical staff of TMEC sought medical treatment at Tuen Mun Staff Clinic on July 16. Her deep throat saliva test result released yesterday (July 17) afternoon was preliminarily positive to COVID-19 while confirmatory test is still pending. The staff had been working in the back office on the ground floor of TMEC and last reported duty on July 15.

NTWC started to arrange TMEC staff to undergo COVID-19 test once the hospital learnt that a staff member was tested preliminarily positive yesterday afternoon. At least 28 staff members were arranged with the test as at this morning. Among those tested, it was found that two more staff members mainly working in ground floor office were tested preliminarily positive. The two staff members reported duty yesterday and worn surgical masks during their duty.

TMEC had conducted thorough cleansing and disinfection arranged by NTWC last night. NTWC is working closely with the Centre for Health Protection for close contact tracing.

Around 1 000 applications of Anti-epidemic Subsidy Scheme for the Laundry Trade approved

A spokesman for the Environment Bureau (ENB) said today (July 18) that the Anti-epidemic Subsidy Scheme for the Laundry Trade under the Anti-epidemic Fund (AEF) launched by the Government continues to disburse subsidies.

The ENB spokesman noted that the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has received over 1 400 applications for the Scheme, of which around 1

000 applications have been approved, involving subsidies of around \$60 million. The EPD has gradually posted cheques to the approved applicants and will continue to process the remaining applications with a view to providing assistance to the laundry trade as soon as possible.

A sum of about \$90 million has been earmarked under the AEF for the Scheme to provide a one-off subsidy to help the laundry and dry cleaning services industry meet its operational costs. Depending on the size of operation, each eligible laundry shop and workshop will receive a subsidy ranging from \$10,000 to \$150,000. To take care of the livelihood of elderly employees, the applicants are required to undertake not to reduce the total number of employees aged 65 or above for three months upon receipt of the subsidies.

The application period for the Scheme ended on June 12. Laundry trade members can call 3107 8403 or send an email to laundry_subsidy@epd.gov.hk to check the status of applications.