

Scheme on Relief Grants for Interest Class Instructors Hired by Organisations Subvented by the Social Welfare Department (Phase 3) opens for application

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) said today (January 4) that the Scheme on Relief Grants for Interest Class Instructors Hired by Organisations Subvented by the Social Welfare Department (Phase 3) (Scheme III) is open for application from today, with March 31 as the closing date. Application details have been uploaded to the SWD website. Successful applicants of Phase 1 (Scheme I) and/or Phase 2 (Scheme II) will be notified of Scheme III through short message service. Eligible applicants may apply for Scheme III through completing and mailing the application forms to the SWD direct for processing. For new applicants, completed application forms are to be submitted to the SWD through the subvented welfare service units concerned.

As one of the measures under the Anti-epidemic Fund approved in December 2020, Scheme III aims at providing a one-off relief grant of \$7,500 for each of the eligible successful applicants of Scheme I and/or Scheme II, and interest class instructors engaged/planned to be engaged by subvented welfare service units of the SWD-subvented organisations for providing training in arts, dancing, handicraft work and sports, etc, for service users during the period from January to April 2021, where the units' services have been suspended and the instructors' income affected owing to the prevailing epidemic situation, so as to provide further support and help lessen the impact of COVID-19 on them. For those instructors who have submitted applications to the Education Bureau for relief grants for school instructors of learning/interest classes or to the Leisure and Cultural Services Department for relief grants for registered sports coaches, further submission to the SWD is not required.