

Hong Kong residents aged 60 or above (including eligible persons with disabilities) must use JoyYou Card to enjoy \$2 Scheme from August 25, 2024

The Government announced today (December 28) that, from August 25, 2024, all Hong Kong residents aged 60 or above must use a JoyYou Card to enjoy the Government Public Transport Fare Concession Scheme for the Elderly and Eligible Persons with Disabilities (\$2 Scheme). Existing Anonymous Elder Octopus and ordinary Personalised Octopus will cease to be applicable for the \$2 Scheme from that day. Eligible persons are invited to apply for a JoyYou Card as soon as possible. As for eligible persons with disabilities aged below 60, they can continue to enjoy the \$2 concessionary fare using the Personalised Octopus encoded with "Persons with Disabilities Status" and need not apply for a new card.

Eligible beneficiaries who have not yet applied for a JoyYou Card should submit their applications by post or via the Octopus App to Octopus Cards Limited (OCL). Members of the public may visit the JoyYou Card webpage (www.octopus.com.hk/joyyou/en) for videos illustrating steps for making an application and distribution points for paper application forms (with a postage-free return envelope). In general, OCL will send out a JoyYou Card to an eligible applicant within four weeks upon receipt of a duly completed application.

The Government will step up publicity to remind eligible persons to apply for a JoyYou Card as soon as possible, and make good use of district and service networks to provide facilitation and assistance to eligible persons with disabilities and elderly persons to make an application. Among them, 106 community support service units for persons with disabilities subvented by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will distribute JoyYou Card promotional leaflets and application forms, handle enquiries and render assistance to members/persons with disabilities in their application. The SWD will also invite the self-help organisations of persons with disabilities/chronic illnesses under financial support scheme subsidised by the SWD to reach out to their members aged 60 or above through different channels, with a view to encouraging and assisting them to apply for a JoyYou Card. In addition, over 210 District Elderly Community Centres, Neighbourhood Elderly Centres and Social Centre for the Elderly subvented by the SWD will continue to distribute JoyYou Card paper application forms, while the 99 Day Care Centres/Units for the Elderly, 92 Home Care Services Teams and the residential care homes for the elderly will also render assistance to service users in need in their application.

The Government lowered the eligible age of the \$2 Scheme from 65 to 60 from February 27, 2022, and required Hong Kong residents aged 60 to 64 to use a JoyYou Card to enjoy the concessionary fare. A JoyYou Card carries a

personal photo and the name of the eligible beneficiary as proof of eligibility for enjoying the \$2 concessionary fare. Each eligible person will be issued with one card only. The Government then accepted JoyYou Card applications from Hong Kong residents aged 65 or above (born in 1956 or before) in batches from June 1, 2022, and some 1.25 million applications have been received to date.