

One-off special arrangement of Public Transport Fare Subsidy Scheme to end on January 30

The Transport Department (TD) today (January 25) reminded members of the public that the Public Transport Fare Subsidy Scheme has been implemented from January 1. Under the Scheme, only the public transport expenses paid starting from January 1 are included in the calculation of the monthly subsidy, and the expenses on designated transport tickets are calculated according to the date of purchase of the tickets. In other words, fares on designated transport tickets purchased from January 1 to 31 (regardless of the effective date of the designated transport tickets) are considered as part of the public transport expenses in January.

The TD also reminded members of the public to perform registration for designated transport tickets purchased by cash or any payment means other than Octopus within 30 days from the date of purchase, in order to include the relevant fares in the public transport expenses of that month for subsidy calculation. Each designated transport ticket only has to be registered once. For instance, commuters purchasing designated transport tickets on January 1 are required to perform registration on or before January 30, such that the expense can be included for the calculation of the subsidy in January. Commuters can check the registration status of the designated monthly tickets two days after the date of registration through the website of the Scheme (www.ptfss.gov.hk), the Octopus App and the hotline of the Scheme (2969 5500).

In consideration of monthly tickets of public transport services generally being sold before the effective date of the tickets, the Government has introduced a one-off special arrangement in the first month after the implementation of the Scheme. Commuters who purchased designated monthly tickets, which are designated for use in January 2019, in December 2018 should perform registration on or before January 30, 2019, at the Designated Transport Ticket Self-registration Points or through the staff of operators, in order to include the above expenses into the calculation of the total public transport expenses in January. Please note that this one-off arrangement is applicable to monthly passes – the use of which is restricted to the designated month. An MTR City Saver is valid for 40 days upon activation after the first journey and therefore the one-off special arrangement is not applicable to it. Details of the designated monthly tickets and their respective registration arrangements are listed in the Annex.

Commuters will be able to collect the public transport fare subsidy for January starting from February 16 by tapping their Octopus at the Subsidy Collection Points installed at MTR stations, Light Rail Customer Service Centres and designated ferry piers; at the Octopus readers at the cashier of

any outlet of 7-Eleven, Circle-K and Wellcome supermarket; or at Octopus Service Points, or through the Octopus App. The subsidy will then be credited to the Octopus. Thereafter, on and after the 16th of each month, commuters can collect the subsidy of the previous month through the same channels. The subsidy for each month is valid for collection within the next three months.

Commuters may check their record of public transport expenses and subsidy amount through the website of the Scheme, the Octopus App and the hotline of the Scheme. For enquires about the details of the Scheme, please see the website of the Scheme or call 1823.