

Recruitment under Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth Phase IV starts today

The Government today (April 27) started recruitment under the Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth (MSSY) Phase IV. The application period will close on May 26.

A spokesman for the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) said, "To provide more opportunities for young people to participate in policy discussions and understand government operation, we have regularised the MSSY launched by the current-term Government and expanded it to cover more boards and committees. So far, around 400 posts are currently held by young people who have been appointed to advisory and statutory bodies directly or indirectly through the MSSY. The overall ratio of youth members in these bodies has increased from 7.8 per cent in 2017 to 13.7 per cent at present, gradually approaching the target of 15 per cent set by the current-term Government."

The MSSY has received over 5 300 applications for the past four phases (i.e. the Pilot Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth and Phases I to III of the MSSY). The list of appointees has been uploaded to the [website](#) of the HAB.

The MSSY Phase IV is now open for application. The number of participating committees is increased from 10 to 15, covering a wider spectrum of policy areas:

1. [Advisory Committee on Built Heritage Conservation](#)
2. [Advisory Committee on Countryside Conservation](#)
3. [Assessment Panel of the Innovation and Technology Fund for Better Living](#)
4. [Business Facilitation Advisory Committee](#)
5. [Chinese Language Interface Advisory Committee](#)
6. [Citizens Advisory Committee on Community Relations of the ICAC](#)
7. [Committee on Reduction of Salt and Sugar in Food](#)
8. [Energy Advisory Committee](#)
9. [Family Council](#)
10. [Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board](#)
11. [Joint Committee on Information Technology for the Social Welfare Sector](#)
12. [Quality Education Fund Dissemination and Promotion Sub-committee](#)
13. [Small and Medium Enterprises Committee](#)
14. [Steering Committee on the Child Development Fund](#)
15. [Steering Committee on Promotion of Vocational and Professional Education and Training and Qualifications Framework](#)

"Young people aged between 18 and 35 on May 26, 2021, i.e. the date of the application deadline, with a commitment to serve the community are invited to self-nominate to become members of the 15 specified committees,"

the spokesman continued.

A Recruitment Committee (RC) has been set up by the HAB for overseeing the implementation of the MSSY. The RC comprises the Secretary for Home Affairs, a representative of the Youth Development Commission, non-official chairpersons or members of the aforementioned 15 committees and representatives of the bureaux/departments concerned. Under the RC, 15 Assessment Panels (APs) will be formed to take care of the applications concerning the 15 committees respectively. The APs will conduct interviews with applicants to facilitate assessment.

The APs will consider whether each applicant has a strong commitment to serve the community, good understanding of the policy area concerned and good analytical and communication skills. Following the principle of meritocracy, the Government aims to, through the MSSY, recruit young people who have the commitment to serve the community and the ability to contribute to the committees concerned for recommending to the relevant bureaux/departments for consideration of appointment. Each of the above committees will respectively offer two seats for appointment. Subject to the actual number of applications received, the assessment should be completed in the fourth quarter of 2021.

The application form and other details of the MSSY Phase IV are available on the website of the HAB (www.hab.gov.hk). In completing the application form, each applicant needs to write no more than 600 words or provide a video or audio clip of no longer than three minutes to explain, in either Chinese or English, his or her suitability for being appointed to be a member of the selected committee(s). Applications may be submitted through the online application system, by post or by hand.