

Scheme on Relief Grants for Interest Class Instructors Hired by Organisations Subvented by the Social Welfare Department (Phase 5) to open for application tomorrow

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) said today (February 28) that the Scheme on Relief Grants for Interest Class Instructors Hired by Organisations Subvented by the Social Welfare Department (Phase 5) will be open for application from tomorrow (March 1) till May 31. Application details will be uploaded to the SWD website (www.swd.gov.hk/en/index/site_whatsnew) tomorrow.

As one of the measures under the sixth round of the Anti-epidemic Fund, Phase 5 of the Scheme aims at providing a one-off relief grant of \$10,000 for each of the eligible 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, sports and more for service users during the second quarter of 2022, where the units' services have been further suspended and the instructors' income is affected owing to the epidemic situation, so as to provide support and help lessen the impact of COVID-19 on them.

The SWD will streamline the application procedures so that the relief grants could be disbursed to more eligible interest class instructors as early as possible. Eligible interest class instructors who have received the relief grant under Phase 4 of the Scheme but have suffered further income loss due to continued service suspension may apply to the SWD for the relief grant under Phase 5 of the Scheme through completing a simple application form. For those eligible interest class instructors who are eligible for Phase 5 of the Scheme but have not submitted their applications for Phase 4 of the Scheme (deadline on March 31), they may follow the application procedures and submit applications for the relief grants under the two phases in one go to the SWD through the subvented welfare service units concerned, which can provide verification of their eligibility.

Applicants cannot concurrently apply for the relief grants under the sixth round of the Anti-epidemic Fund administered by the Education Bureau for school instructors of learning/interest classes or by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department for registered sports coaches, or the Temporary Unemployment Relief.