

Three approved course providers appointed to operate designated evening adult education courses

The Education Bureau (EDB) announced today (July 15) the appointment of Kwun Tong Lutheran Evening School, Lutheran Church – Hong Kong Synod and RSEFHK Maria College Limited as Approved Course Providers (ACPs) for the operation of evening secondary courses under the Financial Assistance Scheme for Designated Evening Adult Education Courses (FAEAEC) for the 2021/22 to 2025/26 school years.

A spokesman for the EDB said, "The EDB appoints non-profit-making organisations as ACPs to operate evening secondary courses on a five-year basis. The current cycle will end upon completion of the current school year. To cater for the demand of the adult learners, the EDB will continue to appoint, on a five-year basis, the above-mentioned ACPs to operate evening secondary courses at 14 designated centres located in different areas of the territory. A list of the designated centres is in the Annex.

He added, "Noting that a certain institution will cease to operate evening secondary courses after completion of the current cycle, to minimise the impact on learners pursuing studies at the institution concerned, the ACPs in the coming round confirm to offer the same elective subjects offered in the previous school year to help students transition. The EDB will further communicate with the ACPs in the coming round with a view to offering suitable assistance to learners."

The FAEAEC offers financial assistance to learners aged 17 or above attending evening secondary courses operated by ACPs at the designated centres. In the 2020/21 school year, more than 1 100 students were studying under the FAEAEC.

Learners enrolled in the above-mentioned courses and having fulfilled certain eligibility criteria will be reimbursed a subsidy of 30 per cent of the tuition fees paid. Learners with financial needs, who have passed a means test administered by the Student Finance Office (SFO) of the Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency, can receive full or half reimbursement of the tuition fees paid subject to the means test results. Learners with financial difficulties in paying their tuition fees in advance can also apply to the SFO for loans under the Extended Non-means-tested Loan Scheme.

More information on the financial assistance scheme and the designated centres operating the evening secondary courses is available on the EDB website (www.edb.gov.hk/faeaec_e).