

## EDUCATION BUREAU CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM NO. 115/2025

From: Secretary for Education  
Ref.: 1123-2005-8070-9020-00152-P001  
Date: 7 July 2025

To: Heads of Government, Aided  
(including Special Schools), Caput  
and Direct Subsidy Scheme Primary  
and Secondary Schools

### Junior Secondary and Upper Primary School Students Exchange Programme Subsidy Scheme: “Understanding Our Motherland” (2025/26)

#### Summary

This circular memorandum invites primary, secondary schools (including special schools) to participate in the captioned scheme.

#### Details

2. The Junior Secondary and Upper Primary School Students Exchange Programme Subsidy Scheme: “Understanding Our Motherland” (the “Scheme”) aims to subsidise schools to organise school-based exchange activities for junior secondary or upper primary students to enhance their understanding of the history, culture and development of our country and broaden their horizons.

3. The school-based exchange activities organised for students can be conducted in Hong Kong or the Mainland. Mainland activities may include learning activities in the Macao Special Administrative Region. The Scheme provides different subsidy ceilings for the activities conducted in Hong Kong, within or beyond the Guangdong Province to cater for the learning needs of students. To better facilitate the arrangement of school-based exchange activities for the whole school year, applications for the Scheme will be received and processed in the following two batches. Please refer to the “Application and Funding Guidelines” (Chinese version only) for details of the Scheme.



Batch	Submission of Application	Period of Subsidised Activity	Notification of Result (Month)	Release of Funding (Month)*
1	On or before 15/8/2025	1/10/2025 – 31/8/2026	9/2025	10/2025
2	16/8/2025 – 10/10/2025	1/2/2026 – 31/8/2026	12/2025	1/2026

\* Release of funding to schools is subject to the approval for the applications and the usage of the quota of the Scheme.

4. Successful schools are required to plan and organise the activities with reference to the “Guidelines on Outdoor Activities” (for Hong Kong activities) or the “Guidelines on Study Tours Outside Hong Kong” and the “Points to Note for Schools in Planning Mainland Exchange Activities for their Students” (for Mainland exchange activities including Macao) accordingly. The schools are also required to follow the standing guidelines on quotation and procurement procedures relevant to their respective school types when commissioning service providers to organise the activities. They should supervise and monitor the planning and organisation of the activities. In addition, the schools should introduce the learning objectives and content of the activities to the parents of student participants. **Participation of students is on a**

**voluntary basis.**

5. For interested schools, please return the completed Application Form(s) according to the schedule for application submission listed in paragraph 3 of this circular memorandum by email ([lwlme2\\_subvention@edb.gov.hk](mailto:lwlme2_subvention@edb.gov.hk)) to the Life-wide Learning and Mainland Exchange Section 2 of the Education Bureau (EDB). **Late submissions will not be considered.** The Application Form, Activity Report and other relevant documents can be found in the “Application and Funding Guidelines” (Chinese version only). Schools may also [download](#) the documents from the “Passing on the Torch” Website.

### **Enquiry**

6. For enquiries, please contact the Life-wide Learning and Mainland Exchange Section 2 of the EDB on 2892 6405 or 2892 5730. For more information about the Mainland exchange programmes for students, please visit the “Passing on the Torch” Website (<https://www.passontorch.org.hk/en/index.html>).

Ms Vanessa LEE  
for Secretary for Education

c.c. Heads of Sections – for information