

Student Travel Subsidy Scheme

The Government provides students from needy families with subsidies under the Student Travel Subsidy Scheme to assist them in meeting home-school travelling expenses.

The Student Travel Subsidy Scheme is a means-tested financial assistance scheme. Under the scheme, students who study in primary or secondary schools in Hong Kong or pursue full-time education in recognised institutions up to the first degree level and can pass the means test are eligible for travel subsidies, provided that they reside beyond 10 minutes' walking distance from their school and have to take public transport to go to school. They are either paid full grant or half grant subsidies, depending on the financial position of their families. The amount of full grant subsidy is equivalent to the student's average travelling expenses by public transport during the study period, and the amount of half grant subsidy is equivalent to 50% of the said average travelling expenses.

Transport Support Scheme

The existing Transport Support Scheme (TSS) provides a time-limited transport subsidy as an incentive to encourage needy job seekers and low-income employees living in the four designated remote districts (i.e. Yuen Long, Tuen Mun, North and Islands), where job opportunities are fewer and transport costs are relatively higher, to “go out” and seek jobs or work across districts.

Under TSS, each eligible applicant can claim transport allowance of up to \$7,800 (including an On-the-job Transport Allowance of \$600 per month for up to 12 months and a Job Search Allowance of up to \$600 payable on a reimbursement basis).

Transport Supplement

With effect from July 2008, a monthly transport supplement has been provided under the welfare programme to Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients with 100% disability aged between 12 and 64 and Disability Allowance recipients in the same age group to encourage them to participate more in activities away from home, thereby enhancing their contact with and integration into the society. The amount of transport supplement is subject to annual review with reference to the Social Security Assistance Index of Prices and the current amount is \$210 per month.