

立法會

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Panel on Education

Meeting on 10 December 2012

Background brief on issues related to the admission of Hong Kong students to Mainland higher education institutions

Purpose

This paper provides relevant background information on issues related to the admission of Hong Kong students to higher education institutions in the Mainland.

Background

2. During his visit to Hong Kong in August 2011, Mr LI Keqiang, Vice-Premier of the State Council, announced a package of support measures covering a wide range of areas¹ which will bring benefit to the entire community of Hong Kong and boost the country's further development. As far as education is concerned, it was announced that more Mainland universities will waive the entrance examinations for Hong Kong students.

3. In November 2011, the Ministry of Education in the Mainland announced a pilot scheme under which 63 Mainland higher education institutions will consider admitting Hong Kong students on the strength of their results in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education ("HKDSE") Examination and the Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination ("HKALE"), thus exempting them from taking the Joint Entrance Examination for Universities ("the Joint Examination") in the Mainland. The 63 institutions are from 11 provinces and municipalities in the Mainland, including Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai, Chongqing, Guangdong, Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Fujian, Hubei, Sichuan and Yunnan.

¹ The areas covered by the support measures include finance, the economy and trade, transport, tourism, supply of food and energy, health-care services and education.

4. Candidates can apply for a maximum of four institutions of their choice and four programmes for each institution. The minimum entrance requirement for admission to the institutions is attainment of Level 3 for Chinese Language and English Language and Level 2 for Mathematics and Liberal Studies. Apart from the four core subjects under the New Senior Secondary ("NSS") curriculum, individual institutions may, based on the requirements of individual programmes, determine the attainment level required for various NSS elective subjects. Institutions will also consider the Other Learning Experiences recorded in the Student Learning Profiles for reference and select students on the basis of merits. To assist students and parents to gain a better understanding of the pilot scheme, the Ministry of Education and the Education Bureau ("EDB") jointly organized the 2011 Mainland Higher Education Expo on 10 and 11 December 2011.

Discussion at the Panel on Education ("the Panel")

5. In the context of the discussion on the implementation of the New Academic Structure ("NAS") at the meeting of the Panel held on 12 July 2010, a member urged EDB to liaise with its Mainland counterparts in the Mainland to explore the possibility of exempting local students from the Joint Examination and accepting the HKDSE Examination results for university admission. The Administration's response at that time was that discussion with the Ministry of Education on the recognition of HKDSE qualifications was still underway.

6. In the wake of the pilot scheme launched in November 2011 and when updating the Panel on the progress of the implementation of NAS at the meeting held on 20 April 2012, EDB and the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority reported that over 4 200 Hong Kong students from more than 480 schools had applied to study in the Mainland under the pilot scheme. Universities in Taiwan would also waive the Overseas Joint College Entrance Examination for Hong Kong school leavers and considered their admission on the strength of their HKDSE Examination results starting from 2012.

7. A member was of the view that the Administration should step up the promotion of HKDSE in developed countries instead of developing countries. According to the Administration, the overseas promotion by EDB covered not only the HKDSE qualification, but also university education as part of the effort to promote Hong Kong's development as an education hub.

Council question

8. Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai raised a written question at the Council meeting on 9 November 2011. As local university places have long been inadequate, thousands of secondary school leavers who meet the basic entrance requirements cannot get admitted to local universities. Noting the launch of the pilot scheme by the Ministry of Education, Dr LAM enquired whether the Government will dovetail with the aforesaid initiative and consider providing subsidies in the form of education vouchers for these school leavers to pursue further studies at Mainland universities. In its response, EDB confirmed that currently, the Government has no plan to provide subsidies in the form of education voucher for Hong Kong students to pursue further studies at Mainland or overseas universities.

9. Regarding the recognition of academic qualifications awarded by Mainland universities for the purpose of civil service appointment, the Administration has advised that in accordance with the prevailing policy, qualification requirements for civil service posts are normally set with reference to local qualifications. Candidates holding non-local qualifications including those awarded by Mainland institutions may also apply for civil service posts. Their qualifications will be subject to individual assessment and they will be considered for appointment if their qualifications are assessed as being comparable in standard to the entry qualification requirements of the posts being applied for. In assessing non-local qualifications, the Civil Service Bureau will usually seek the advice of the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications. As far as public bodies and the private sector are concerned, the Administration has advised that it is for individual employers to decide whether to recognize certain academic qualifications for the purpose of filling their job positions.

Latest development

10. As announced by the Ministry of Education on 1 November 2012, the number of institutions participating in the scheme for the admission of Hong Kong students to Mainland higher education institutions will increase to 70. Starting from 2013, these 70 institutions in 12 provinces and municipalities will consider admitting Hong Kong students on the strength of their results in the HKDSE examination or HKALE. A list of the 70 institutions is in **Appendix I**. The Ministry of Education and EDB jointly held the 2012 Mainland Higher Education Expo on 3 and 4

November 2012 to introduce the detailed arrangements to students and parents.

11. The Administration will brief the Panel on the subject at the meeting to be held on 10 December 2012.

Relevant papers

12. A list of relevant papers on the Legislative Council website is in **Appendix II**.

Council Business Division 4
Legislative Council Secretariat
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**List of 70 Mainland higher education institutions exempting
Hong Kong students from taking joint entrance examination**

Beijing Municipality

Renmin University of China, China University of Political Science and Law, Communication University of China, Peking University, Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, Beijing Foreign Studies University, Beijing Institute of Fashion Technology, Beijing Normal University, Beijing Language and Culture University, Tsinghua University, University of International Business and Economics

Tianjin Municipality

Tianjin University, Tianjin University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Tianjin Normal University, Nankai University

Shanghai Municipality

Shanghai University, Shanghai International Studies University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai Normal University, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, Tongji University, Donghua University, Fudan University, East China University of Political Science and Law, East China Normal University

Jiangsu Province

Nanjing University, Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine, Nanjing Normal University,

Zhejiang Province

Zhejiang University, Zhejiang Chinese Medical University, Wenzhou Medical College, Ningbo University

Fujian Province

Huaqiao University, Jimei University, Xiamen University, Fuzhou University, Fujian University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Fujian Normal University

Hunan Province

Hunan Normal University

Hubei Province

Zhongnan University of Economics and Law, Wuhan University, Hubei University of Chinese Medicine, Central China Normal University

Guangdong Province

Sun Yat-sen University, Beijing Normal University, Zhuhai, Shantou University, Southern Medical University, Xinghai Conservatory of Music, Shenzhen University, South China Normal University, South China University of Technology, Jinan University, Zhaoqing University, Shaoguan University, Guangzhou University, Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine, The Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts, Guangdong University of Technology, Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, Guangdong University of Finance, Guangdong University of Business Studies, Guangdong Pharmaceutical University

Chongqing Municipality

Southwest University, Southwest University of Political Science and Law, Chongqing University

Sichuan Province

Sichuan University, Sichuan Normal University, Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine

Yunnan Province

Yunnan University, Yunnan Normal University

Source:

Press Release of the HKSAR Government dated 1 November 2012

Available from: <http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201211/01/P201211010217.htm>

List of relevant papers

Committee	Date of meeting	Paper
Panel on Education	12.7.2010 (Item IV)	Agenda Minutes CB(2)1996/09-10(03)
Legislative Council	9.11.2011	Question asked by Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai Administration's reply
Panel on Education	20.4.2012 (Item V)	Agenda Minutes CB(2)1694/11-12(04)
Panel on Education	10.7.2012 (Item IV)	Agenda Minutes CB(2)2518/11-12(03)

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