



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局  
Education Bureau  
Government Secretariat, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
The People's Republic of China

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18 September 2014

Clerk to Finance Committee  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong  
(Attn: Mr Andy Lau)

Dear Mr Lau,

**Finance Committee  
Follow-up to Meeting on 12 July 2014**

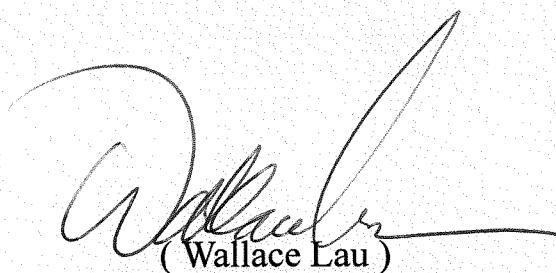
At the meeting of the Finance Committee on 12 July 2014, the Administration was requested to provide supplementary information on various issues, including the following new initiatives which are under the purview of the Education Bureau –

- (a) FCR(2014-15)17 – Scholarship Scheme for Studying Outside Hong Kong (the Scholarship Scheme); and
- (b) FCR(2014-15)15 – Mainland University Study Subsidy Scheme

On (a) above, in pursuance of the arrangement set out in the FCR(2014-15)17, a Steering Committee is being established to advise the Education Bureau on the policy, strategy and administration of the Scholarship Scheme. We will submit an information paper on the implementation progress of the Scholarship Scheme to the Panel on Education as soon as possible.

As regards (b) above, the requested information is set out at the Annex for Members' reference.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wallace Lau', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

(Wallace Lau)  
for Secretary for Education

**Finance Committee**

**Supplementary information requested at  
the meeting on 12 July 2014**

**Mainland University Study Subsidy Scheme**

**1. Information on the number (and percentage) of students under the Subsidy Scheme, who have been admitted to these institutions in the previous academic years**

The Mainland University Study Subsidy Scheme (MUSSS) will benefit three cohorts of students starting from the 2014/15 academic year (i.e. those entering the first year of undergraduate studies in the 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17 academic years). Students of the previous academic years are not eligible for application under the Scheme.

**2. Information on the number of Mainland “Project 211 institutions” that have participated in the Scheme for Admission of Hong Kong Students to Mainland Higher Education Institutions**

Of the 75 Mainland institutions participated in the Scheme for Admission of Hong Kong Students to Mainland Higher Education Institutions in 2014, 38 are under “Project 211”<sup>1</sup>.

**3. Information on the number (and percentage) of students who have accepted the offer from these institutions**

As the 2014/15 academic year in the Mainland begins in September 2014, information on the total number of students who have accepted the offer from the “Project 211 institutions” is not yet available.

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<sup>1</sup> “Project 211” was initiated in 1995 by the Minister of Education with the intent of raising the quality and standard of teaching, research, management and programmes of certain higher education institutions, so that they became the base of nurturing talents and cultivating strategies for socio-economic development. As at present, there are 112 higher education institutions under “Project 211”.

**4. Information on when the last review on means test as administered by the Student Financial Assistance Agency and applicable to secondary students was conducted, and the outcome of the review**

The Government last reviewed the means test mechanism administered by the Student Financial Assistance Agency (SFAA), which was applicable to all means-tested financial assistance schemes from pre-primary to post-secondary levels, in 2011. The review recommended that the income ceiling for full level of assistance under the means test mechanism should be relaxed so that more eligible students at all levels of study could receive full assistance. Recommendations of the review were approved by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council on 27 May 2011 and implemented in the 2011/12 school year. Subsequent to the relaxation of the income ceiling, the percentage of students (from pre-primary to post-secondary levels) receiving full level of assistance increased significantly from about 30% in previous school years to about 59% of beneficiaries in the 2011/12 school year. The percentage is maintained at around the same level in the school years that follow.