



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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5 May 2015

Clerk to Panel
Legislative Council Panel on Education
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central
Hong Kong
(Attn: Miss Polly YEUNG)

Dear Miss Yeung,

Panel on Education
Follow-up to the meeting on 16 March 2015

I refer to the meeting on 16 March 2015 requesting the Administration to provide supplementary information on Implementation of Applied Learning in the Senior Secondary Curriculum. The supplementary information is at the **Annex** for Members' reference.

Yours sincerely,

(Stephen Y W YIP)
for Secretary for Education

Encl.

Panel on Education
Supplementary information in response to enquiries on
Implementation of Applied Learning in the Senior Secondary Curriculum
raised at the Meeting on 16 March 2015

In response to the enquiries raised by Members at the meeting on 16 March 2015 [LC Paper No. CB(4)620/14-15(02) Implementation of Applied Learning in the Senior Secondary Curriculum], supplementary information is provided as follows:

Number and percentage of Applied Learning (ApL) student enrolment from 2010-12 to 2014-16 cohorts

Cohort	2010-12	2011-13	2012-14	2013-15	2014-16
ApL student enrolment	6 690	6 193	5 894	5 142	4 883
S5 student population	79 322	77 371	73 044	69 159	63 860
ApL student enrolment as a percentage of S5 population	8.4%	8.0%	8.1%	7.4%	7.6%

Implementation arrangement of ApL

All Secondary 4 students who are following the senior secondary curriculum recommended by the Curriculum Development Council may apply for studying ApL courses in Secondary 5 and 6. Each student can opt to take a maximum of two ApL courses as elective subjects in Secondary 5 and 6.

Schools are encouraged to adopt different modes of implementation to offer ApL courses according to the learning needs of their students. The following are two non-exclusive modes of implementation currently adopted by most of the schools:

Mode 1: Courses take place mainly at the venues of course providers and are taught by the staff of the course providers. Schools should make arrangements for students to attend the courses according to the timetables set by the course providers.

Mode 2: Courses take place mainly in schools and are offered by schools in collaboration with course providers which send their staff to the schools. Schools are expected to work out the detailed arrangements with the course providers, such as sharing of teaching loads, provision of venues and facilities, rendering assistance in classroom teaching, etc.

Student enrolment for each of the listed courses and the number of secondary schools offering such ApL courses

For the 2015-17 cohort as mentioned in Appendix 1 of the Administration’s paper, student enrolment for the listed courses is not yet available as application is still in progress. Student enrolments for the courses offered in the 2014-16 cohort are given below for reference.

Area of Studies	Course	Student Enrolment
Creative Studies	Image Design	215
	Interior Design	146
	Jewellery Arts and Design	31
	Commercial Comic Art	104
	Computer Game and Animation Design	167
	Introduction to Theatre Arts	47
	Taking a Chance on Dance	51
Media and Communication	Film and Video Studies	178
	TV Infotainment Production	43
	Public Relations and Advertising	17
	Radio Host and Programme Production	74
Business, Management and Law	Applied Business Research	9
	Financial Markets and Operations	36
	Marketing in Global Trade	14
	Practical Computerised Accounting	40
	Purchasing and Merchandising	33
	Law Enforcement in Hong Kong	31
Services	Food and Beverage Operations	173
	Western Cuisine	1105
	Hospitality Services in Practice	267
	Hotel Operations	370
	Child Care and Education	169
	Fundamental Cosmetology	249

Applied Science	Foundation in Chinese Medicine	67
	Fundamental Health Care	38
	Health Care Practice	132
	Medical Laboratory Science	58
	Applied Psychology	136
	Exploring Psychology	83
	Sports and Fitness Coaching	164

Engineering and Production	Automotive Technology	67
	Environmental Engineering	19
	Mobile and Online Apps Development	62
	Aviation Studies	442
	Building Technology	46

The most popular courses are mainly found in the Services area. Due to course nature, some courses under the areas of studies of Business, Management and Law, and Engineering and Production may be more attractive to only a particular group of students who aspire to pursue further studies/career in the related fields, and so the student demand is less than more popular areas such as Services. As ApL courses provide additional choices to complement traditional subjects for students to learn through application, some courses could be offered at a smaller class size to cater for student diversity.

The total number of schools participating in the 2014-16 cohort of ApL is 316. Schools would offer different ApL courses according to students' needs and curriculum planning of individual schools.

Participation of students from special schools

Students with special educational needs (non-intellectual disabilities), whether they are in mainstream secondary schools or special schools, can choose to study ApL courses according to their interests, aptitudes and abilities.

Students from special schools can opt ApL courses as well as Adapted ApL courses. Among the 60 special schools, 31 of them serve students with mild or moderate intellectual disabilities who are likely to choose Adapted ApL courses to suit their learning needs. For example, in the 2014-16 cohort, there are 30 students taking ApL courses and 199 students taking Adapted ApL courses.

To encourage students from special schools to take ApL courses, we are reviewing the implementation arrangement, strengthening our support and publicity to schools to facilitate student enrolment. We are liaising with schools on implementation issues and exploring with them their considerations in offering ApL and Adapted ApL courses for students.

Pathways of ApL Graduates

A first destination survey was conducted to collect information on the pathways of students completing ApL courses.

A total of 3 385 and 3 819 ApL graduates from the 2011-13 and 2010-12 cohorts respectively responded to the survey.

First destination

In both cohorts, most ApL graduates chose to continue their studies after Secondary 6 (2011-13: 78.9%; 2010-12: 77.7%).

First destination	2011-13	2010-12
Continued studies	78.9%	77.7%
Full-time employment	10.7%	11.1%
Part-time employment	6.6%	6.5%
Unemployed or undecided	3.8%	4.6%

Further studies

The top 3 programme levels taken by ApL graduates who pursued further studies were higher diploma, foundation diploma and associate degree.

Examples of pathways in fields relevant to ApL courses taken by graduates in 2014 are shown below.

	ApL course	Other elective subjects	Pathway
1	Aviation Studies	Biology, Chemistry, Physics	Bachelor of Science
2	Fundamental Health Care	Biology, Chemistry	Bachelor of Nursing
3	Practical Accounting for SMEs	Economics, Business, Accounting and Financial Studies	Bachelor of Business Administration in Professional Accountancy
4	Applied Psychology	Health Management and Social Care	Bachelor of Social Work
5	Medical Laboratory Science	Biology, Combined Science	Associate of Health Science in Biomedical Sciences
6	Health Care Practice	Chinese Literature, Biology	Higher Diploma in Nursing
7	Introduction to Theatre Arts	Chinese Literature, Business, Accounting and Financial Studies	Associate in Translation and Interpretation
8	Automotive Technology	Economics, Business, Accounting and Financial Studies	Automotive technician programme (4.5-year, with on-the-job training)

* Source: information from course providers / HKEAA / students