

## 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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4 May 2012

Legislative Council Panel on Education Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road, Central, Hong Kong (Attn.: Ms Amy Yu)

Dear Ms Yu

## Panel on Education Follow-up Action on Meeting on 20 April 2012

At the meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Education on 20 April 2012, members requested the Administration to provide written information on its consideration of members' suggestion of including the new Yi Jin Diploma programme as a reimbursable course under the Continuing Education Fund (CEF).

We have consulted the Labour and Welfare Bureau, which oversees the policy and implementation of the CEF, and the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau, which looks after the overall financial policy of the Government. We understand that the CEF was established in 2002 to encourage people to upgrade themselves by pursuing continuing education courses through the provision of subsidy on a reimbursement basis. To avoid the situation of double subsidy, the Legislative Council Finance Committee, in examining the funding proposal for the CEF, has agreed that if an applicant of the CEF is eligible for any student financial assistance under other financial assistance / fee reimbursement schemes supported by public funds, the applicant must choose between a grant from the CEF and such other financial assistance.

In this connection, it is noteworthy that students pursuing the new Yi Jin Diploma programme will be eligible for a non-means-tested reimbursement of 30% of tuition fees paid for each satisfactorily completed module, or means-tested reimbursement of 50% or 100% of tuition fees. The proposed student financial

assistance scheme is more comprehensive than the subsidy available under the CEF, and can meet the requirement of a wider spectrum of students. Students may also save the chance of using the \$10,000 subsidy under the CEF when they pursue further studies.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the above for members' information.

Yours sincerely

(Wallace Lau)
for Secretary for Education