

**For Our Future Scholarship
創明天獎學金**

Guidance Notes to Applicants 申請指引 2023/24

1. Objective

The 'For Our Future' Scholarship provides assistance to local university students who demonstrate excellent performance in their academic studies, diverse development or community service, and will be invited to participate in Greater Bay Area tour to help them gain a better understanding of the region.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1. Applicants should be full-time Bachelor's degree or Master's degree local students;
- 2.2. Continuing students who have outstanding academic achievements and obtained a Grade Point Average (GPA in the last academic year) of 3.3 out of 4.0 or 3.5 out of 4.3 or above;
- 2.3. Applicants must be aged between 18 and 40; and
- 2.4. Applicants are able to demonstrate excellent performance in their academic studies, personal development (sports, arts and music, etc.) and social services. They are also expected to have a strong commitment to Hong Kong and a desire to continue serving society after graduation.

3. Award Format and Value

- 3.1. A total of 15 students from 13 Hong Kong educational institutions will be awarded.
- 3.2. The value of each award is HK\$50,000 in cash.
- 3.3. The awardees of the scholarship will automatically become a member of the 'For Our Future' Alumni Club (the Alumni Club) and must join the Foundation's YO PLACE as a member. And all awardees will be required to attend at least 2 activities arranged by the Alumni Club to receive a full scholarship for the coming year. Please find the detailed information about the 'For Our Future' Alumni Club and 'YO PLACE' in the Appendix of 'For Our Future Scholarship' 2023/24 Information Notes.

4. Assessment and Selection Criteria

- 4.1. Applicants are considered according to the following accreditation criteria:
 - Academic performance and distinctive performance in academic projects;
 - Personal Development (sports, arts, music, etc.)
(Details of qualifications/awards of events or competitions should be provided);
 - Participation in social services
(Length of services, nature of services, location coverage, number and stratum of beneficiaries, public recognition, initiation of community project, etc. should be provided); and
 - Other considerations
(Experience in leadership/other training programmes, significant internship programmes, recommendations from external stakeholders and content of personal statement, etc.).
- 4.2. Eligible applicants are not guaranteed to be offered awards.
- 4.3. Shortlisted applicants are required to attend an internal interview. Applicants who do not attend the interview may forfeit the opportunity to be considered for the scholarship/award.

- 4.4. Preference will be given to applicants who have never received the award before.
- 4.5. The Student Affairs Office (SAO) will submit **no more than two** nominations for endorsement of the Student Financial Awards Committee (SFAC) by December 2023. A preliminary selection will be conducted by the Greater Bay Area Homeland Youth Community Foundation Office, and 20 candidates will be shortlisted for final selection. Final selection of 15 awardees will be conducted by the Scholarship Selection Committee which comprises a panel of judges who are distinguished members of the community.

5. Application

- 5.1. Applicants should submit the online application form together with supporting documents to SAO during the application period.
- 5.2. Please read the “Guidance Notes” [XFOF (2023/24) Guide-e] and Information Notes (enclosed) before completing the online application via the student portal “MyHKMU” (<https://www.hkmu.edu.hk/myhkmu>).
- 5.3. Incomplete and late application will not be considered.

6. Notification of Result and Payment Arrangement

- 6.1. All applicants (successful and unsuccessful) will receive internal results by e-mail in late November 2023. The selected nominees who are not notified by March 2024 should consider their applications unsuccessful.
- 6.2. Disbursement arrangement will be made via cheque and directly handled between the successful scholarship recipients and the Foundation. The first payment of \$40,000 will be made on the Scholarship Award Presentation Ceremony in March 2024, and the second and final payment of \$10,000 will be paid once awardees have joined at least 2 activities arranged by the Alumni Club before 31st March, 2025.
- 6.3. Successful applicants will be invited to attend ceremonies, events, activities and programmes organised by the University, Foundation and Alumni Club. They will also be invited to share their stories on the University website.

7. Handling of Personal Data

- 7.1. Applicant is obliged to provide all the required information in the application including personal data. If applicant fails to provide the required information/ documents, the University will not be able to process the application.
- 7.2. The personal data provided will be used for the purpose of processing applicant’s application, reporting the result to donor(s) or relevant stakeholders, as well as compiling relevant statistics, and materials for publicizing and review on granting the awards. Personal data and supporting documents submitted will be kept for a period of no more than three years.
- 7.3. The personal data including the academic records and information provided in the applicant’s application will be disclosed or transferred to the Student Financial Awards Committee (SFAC), other offices in the University and relevant stakeholders for the purposes mentioned in paragraph 7.2 above.
- 7.4. For the purpose of promotion and public relation activities, the awardees’ personal data which includes their name, programme of study and images (including any video or photograph or sound record) will be published through the University website or made available for public access through the Student Affairs Office (SAO). SAO will take photos and videos of the scholarship activities, which may include the images of you and your guest (if any), and these images may be used in printed publications and/or online promotions.

7.5. In accordance with the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, applicant has the right to ascertain whether the University holds personal data on the applicant, (and if so) to ask for a copy of such personal data, and to require any inaccuracies in such personal data to be corrected. Data access request should be made by using the form provided by the University. Copies of these forms may be obtained from the University Data Protection Officer (email address: dpo@hkmu.edu.hk or Hong Kong Metropolitan University, Ho Man Tin, Kowloon Hong Kong). The University may charge a reasonable fee to cover the administrative costs for complying with a data access request.

8. Important Dates

Application Period	13 October – 12 November 2023
Internal Interview	29 November 2023
Release of Internal Result (E-mail)	Late November 2023
Disbursement Notification (E-mail)	Directly made between the recipients and the Foundation <i>First payment of \$40,000 (March 2024)</i> <i>Second and final payment of \$10,000 (Before 31st March, 2025)</i> <i>(See paragraph 6.2 above)</i>
Scholarship Award Ceremony	March 2024
HKMU Celebration Event	June 2024

9. Enquiries

Student Scholarships, Student Affairs Office, Rm C0512, Hong Kong Metropolitan University



2768 6730



sao_sch@hkmu.edu.hk



2712 2301

(08 November 2023)



'For Our Future Scholarship' 2023/24 **Information Note**

1. The Greater Bay Area Homeland Youth Community Foundation is offering the 'For Our Future Scholarship' to local students in recognition of their academic studies and contributions to society through financial support that enables them to achieve their goals and aspirations.
2. Successful candidates will be those students who have demonstrated excellent performance in their academic studies, personal development (sports, arts and music, etc.) and social services. They are also expected to have a strong commitment to Hong Kong and a desire to continue serving society after graduation.
3. Anyone who is a full-time postgraduate or undergraduate student in one of the 13 educational institutions* in Hong Kong in the 2023/24 academic year and who meets the criteria set out in this Information Note may apply.
4. The awardees of the scholarship will automatically become a member of the '**For Our Future' Alumni Club** (the **Alumni Club**) and must join the Foundation's **YO PLACE** as a member. And all awardees will be required to attend **at least 2** activities arranged by the **Alumni Club** to receive a full scholarship for the coming year. Please find the detailed information about the '**For Our Future' Alumni Club** and '**YO PLACE**' in the *Appendix*.
5. Further details of the Scholarship are given below:

Name: 'For Our Future Scholarship'

Eligibility:

An applicant for the Scholarship must be

- (i) a local student
- (ii) aged between 18 and 40
- (iii) studying for a full-time bachelor's (year 2 and above) or master's degree at a Hong Kong university/college

Accreditation Criteria:

- (i) Academic performance (in the last academic year) with a GPA \geq 3.3 out of 4 or 3.5 out of 4.3, and distinctive performance in academic projects
- (ii) Personal development (sports, art, music, etc.) (Details of qualifications/awards of events or competitions should be provided)
- (iii) Participation in social services (Length of services, nature of services, location coverage, number and stratum of beneficiaries, public recognition, initiation of community project, etc. should be provided)
- (iv) Other considerations (Experience in leadership/other training programmes, significant internship programmes, recommendations from external stakeholders and content of personal statement, etc.)

Quota & Amount of Scholarship:

HK\$50,000 per student, will be awarded to a total of **15** students from 13 Hong Kong educational institutions.

Notification of Result and Payment Arrangement:

- (i) All applicants (successful and unsuccessful) will receive results by e-mail in March 2024.
- (ii) Disbursement arrangement will be made via cheque. The first payment of \$40,000 will be made on the **Scholarship Award Presentation Ceremony** in March 2024, and the second and final payment of \$10,000 will be paid once awardees have joined **at least 2 activities** arranged by the **Alumni Club before 31st March, 2025**.
- (iii) Awardees will be invited to attend ceremonies, events, activities and programmes organised by the Foundation and **Alumni Club**.

Conditions of Scholarship:

A successful candidate must comply with or agree to comply with all the requirements of the scholarship application should he/she decide to accept an award made under this scheme.

Application:

Completed applications should be submitted to the Student Affairs Office of the institution. Hard copies of application form and supporting documents of nominated students are required to be sent to the Foundation via post or courier through the Student Affairs Office of respective institution.

Deadline for applications is 5:00pm, 20 November 2023. Late applications will not be considered.

Selection Procedure:

- (i) Each university/college will recommend 1 to 2 students (maximum of 26 candidates), with nomination notes provided by school;
- (ii) A preliminary selection will be conducted by the Foundation office, and 20 candidates will be shortlisted for final selection;
- (iii) Final selection of 15 students to be awarded will be conducted by the Scholarship Selection Committee, comprising a panel of judges who are distinguished members of the community.

Handling of Information & Personal Data supplied in application:

The personal data collected in this exercise will be used for activities related to the application process under this Scholarship and the compilation of relevant statistics to facilitate reviews of the award.

The Foundation may also publicise the personal data of a successful candidate (such as his/her name, gender, age, education background, public examination results, academic and non-academic achievements, extra-curricular activities/community services and employment history) and any photos or videos capturing his/her image (limited to those taken when he/she attends official events organised by the Foundation in the public domain, such as the website of and publications issued by the Foundation for the purpose of promotion or publicity).

The personal data provided in the application forms for this Scholarship will ONLY be disclosed to relevant parties:

- (a) for the purposes mentioned in the preceding paragraphs; and
- (b) for any other purposes with the consent of the data subjects, unless such disclosure is permitted under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance without the consent of the data subjects.

*The 13 educational institutions in Hong Kong (arranged in alphabetical order):

Chu Hai College of Higher Education

City University of Hong Kong

Hong Kong Baptist University

Hong Kong Metropolitan University

Hong Kong Shue Yan University

Lingnan University

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

The Education University of Hong Kong

The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong

The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

The University of Hong Kong

'For Our Future Scholarship' 2022/23
Notes on Completion of Application Form

- (a) All information provided by you in this form must be typewritten or written in English using a ball-pen in black/blue ink; you may also complete an editable PDF proforma downloaded from the Foundation's website.
- (b) Please write 'Not Applicable (N.A.)' or 'Nil' for item(s) deemed inappropriate.
- (c) Please append additional sheets to the application form, if necessary.
- (d) Documents and materials submitted with this application will not be returned.
- (e) The Greater Bay Area Homeland Youth Community Foundation may not be able to process the application if the information provided is unclear, incorrect, incomplete or without the necessary supporting document(s).
- (f) Papers and documents submitted with the Application Form should be in A4 size.
- (g) English translations must be provided if the papers and documents submitted are not in English. Submission of any papers/documents in a foreign language may not be considered.
- (h) Completed Application Forms must be returned to the Student Affairs Office of the institution together with the necessary supporting documents (including but not limited to Annexes A and B). Candidates should read and complete the "Checklist on Completion of Application Form" (Annex B) before submitting the Application Forms.
- (i) Deadline for applications is **20 November 2023**. Late applications will not be considered

Appendix

About the 'For Our Future' Alumni Club

The 'For Our Future' Alumni Club (the Alumni Club) is an organisation that is established by the Greater Bay Area Homeland Youth Community Foundation (the Foundation) under the 'For Our Future Scholarship' Programme.

The Alumni Club aims to sustain the connection among the members and Foundation, support the members on their further development and create positive impact to the community through the members' efforts to develop projects for social good.

Every year, the Alumni Club organises a wide range of youth activities for all members on a regular basis. These activities include volunteer services, member gatherings, Greater Bay Area exchange tours, mentor sharing sessions, and skills enhancement workshops, etc. Furthermore, we encourage members to actively propose activities and offer suggestions to enhance our offerings.

There are two categories of Alumni Club members namely Official Member and Affiliate Member. All Scholarship awardees of the prevailing year are obliged to participate as official members, and those university students who have applied for the scholarship and other Hong Kong local full-time university students who are below 30 years old are welcome to join as Affiliate Members.

About YO PLACE

YO PLACE is an integrated online and offline youth platform which is operated by the Foundation under a membership scheme. It supports Hong Kong youths with information and services in studies, careers and entrepreneurship, in order to seize opportunities in the GBA.

Members of YO PLACE can browse the information of the Greater Bay Area on the online website, learn about the services provided by the Foundation, apply to participate in related activities and rent offline facilities.

The offline platform is a centre that provides venues with multimedia facilities, ie. LED wall, projector screens and shooting equipment for youth activities, such as KOL live broadcast, training courses, workshops, etc.

To learn more details, please visit YO PLACE website: www.yoplace.org.hk.