

Appendix I: Details on Link University Scholarship 2024/25

	Scholarship for Year 1 University Studies	Scholarship for Year 2-4 University Studies
Application Notes	Student applicants must be a Secondary Six full-time student who will be applying university studies in the current year and is nominated by their secondary school. Each secondary school can nominate up to two eligible students and submit the application online .	Applicants must be a full-time university student who will continue their Year 2/3/4 full-time bachelor's study at one of the Hong Kong's universities# in September 2024 and is the first undergraduate amongst three generations in the family . Eligible applicants are invited to submit application online .
Eligibility	<p>The nominee must be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The first-generation university student from his/her family if he/she receives a university admission offer (i.e. his/her grandparents and parents do not hold any degree from any university); 2. A Secondary Six full-time student attending a local secondary school, including government-aided and government secondary schools, aided special schools, Direct Subsidy Scheme schools or private secondary schools; 3. A student who is a candidate of <u>HKDSE in 2024</u>; 4. Academically outstanding and holding a full-time undergraduate programme admission offer from a local university# (proof of university admission offer to be submitted later); 5. A local student*** (e.g. holder of HKID Card (Permanent) or Permit for Proceeding to Hong Kong and Macau (One-way Permit)); 6. Aged 25 below (i.e. born on or after 1 September 1999); and 7. Proactively participating in community services. 	<p>Student applicants must be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The first-generation university student from his/her family (i.e. his/her grandparents and parents do not hold any degree from any university) to study at one of the Hong Kong's universities#, and is able to provide one of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. A recommendation letter by the principal or teacher of his/her previous secondary school (click here to download the template), or b. A declaration* issued by Home Affairs Department of HKSAR (click here to download the template); 2. A full-time student who will continue their Year 2/3/4 full-time bachelor's study at one of the Hong Kong's universities#; 3. Having a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of at least 3.0** on a 4.0 scale and eligible for next year's admission by a Hong Kong university#; 4. A local student*** (e.g. holder of HKID Card (Permanent) or Permit for Proceeding to Hong Kong and Macau (One-way Permit)); 5. Aged 25 below (i.e. born on or after 1 September 1999); and 6. Proactively participating in community services <p>*Student applicants can make the declaration at any Home Affairs Enquiry Centre free-of-charge, declaring they are the first amongst three generations of their families to study at university.</p>

		<p>**HKCSS will contact you or your relevant university in Aug to verify your latest CGPA</p>
	<p>***Definition of local student: Please click here</p> <p>#Twelve Local Universities are (in alphabetical order): City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong Metropolitan University, Hong Kong Shue Yan University, Lingnan University, Saint Francis University, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The Education University of Hong Kong, The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and The University of Hong Kong</p>	
<p>Selection Criteria</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Link and The Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS) will conduct a first round screening based on the information provided by the student/secondary school and the student's performance in first online interview. The scholarship is non-means-tested. 2. Shortlisted students will be invited to attend an interview and assessed by the Link University Scholarship Selection Panel consisting of representatives from various sectors including the government, business, academics, social welfare services and Link. 3. The panel will assess students' performance (e.g. communications capability, logical thinking, achievement and commitment to social service etc.) at the interview to select the awarded students. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Link and The Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS) will conduct a first round screening and assessment based on the information and academic result provided by applicants/universities. The scholarship is non-means-tested. 2. Shortlisted students will be invited to an interview. They will be assessed by the Link University Scholarship Selection Panel consisting of representatives from various sectors including the government, business, academics, social welfare services and Link. 3. The panel will assess students' performance (e.g. communication capability, logical thinking, achievement and commitment to social service etc.) at the interview to select the awarded students.
<p>Application Procedures</p>	<p>Link has commissioned HKCSS to send an e-invitation to school principals of all local secondary schools including government-aided and government secondary schools, aided special schools, Direct Subsidy Scheme schools and private secondary schools.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interested schools must complete the Letter of Intent for Nomination with signature and email to sch@hkcss.org.hk on or before 28 May 2024 (11:59 pm). HKCSS will provide a link to online application system and first-time login password to school's contact person via email. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eligible applicants should submit application via online system (https://fgu.hkcsswg.org.hk) before 11:59 pm on 17 July 2024. Late submissions will not be accepted. 2. HKCSS will coordinate all successful applications and verify the information submitted. 3. After the first-round assessment, shortlisted students will be invited to the interview. The applications can be considered unsuccessful if applicants do not receive any invitation for interview. 4. Interview will be held in November 2024, and the results will be announced in December. Awarded students will be notified.

2. The nomination should be submitted **via the online application system (<https://sch.hkcswg.org.hk>) on or before 3 July 2024 (11:59 pm). Late submissions will not be accepted.**
 3. **Applicants with university admission offer will have to submit the proof^ and join the first interview via an online platform.**
 4. Shortlisted students after the first interview will be invited to attend the Interview Day. Selection will be conducted by the Link University Scholarship Selection Panel. The applications can be considered unsuccessful if applicants do not receive any invitation for interview. Interview will be held in November 2024, and the results will be announced in December. Awarded students and the secondary school will be notified.
- ^HKCSS will provide a separate login information to the nominee and invite them to upload the proof of admission offer in early August 2024.

Programme Schedule

Item	Schedule
HKCSS to send Link University Scholarship e-invitation to all local secondary schools	7 May 2024
Secondary schools to submit <u>Letter of Intent for Nomination</u> (School principal must complete the form with signature and email to sch@hkcss.org.hk)	28 May (before 11:59 pm)
Secondary schools to submit nomination on online application system	3 July (before 11:59 pm)
Scholarship interview day	2 Nov (tentative)
Scholarship results announcement	On or before late Dec
Awarded students to attend Link Scholarship Presentation Ceremony	Jan or Feb 2025 (tentative)
Scholarship disbursement+	On or before late Mar 2025

Item	Schedule
Open to online application	7 May – 17 July 2024 (before 11:59 pm)
Scholarship interview day	2 Nov (tentative)
Scholarship results announcement	On or before late Dec
Awarded students to attend Scholarship Presentation Ceremony organised by Link	Jan or Feb 2025 (tentative)
Scholarship disbursement+	On or before late Mar 2025
+At the time of awarding the scholarship, the awarded student must still be enrolled in a full-time undergraduate programme at a local university# in the 2024/25 academic year; in the meantime, Link reserves the right of final decision on scholarship arrangements	

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Disbursement of Scholarship	Each awardee will receive a grant of HK\$20,000.		
Use of Scholarship	Awarded students can make use of the grant to realise their goals and plans for improving of their learning environment and/or seeking further learning opportunities. Awarded students will be automatically admitted to the Link Scholars Alumni, through which Link will provide talks, workshops, volunteer activities as well as priority consideration to the company's internship programme. Awarded students are eligible to apply for the scholarship in the next funding cycle.		
Obligation of Awarded Students	Encourage participation in the Link Scholars Alumni activities, including the Scholarship Presentation Ceremony, volunteer activities and other activities organised by Link. We encourage students to continue their care for our society and participate in community service activities. Attendance rate might be assessed in the next year's scholarship application.		
About Personal Information Collection	According to the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, Link and HKCSS will use the personal data for various contact and verification purposes, and also for direct marketing of the Link Programmes defined in the Personal Information Collection Statement issued by Link at https://www.linkreit.com/en/community/link-together-initiatives/link-university-scholarship/ and Guideline for the Use of Personal Data of HKCSS at https://www.hkcass.org.hk/privacy-policy/?lang=en . If there is any inconsistency, Link's documents shall prevail. A copy of Link's Personal Information Collection Statement is enclosed.		