

2011-12 Assistance Programmes under the Community Care Fund

Assistance Programme		Target Beneficiaries	Estimated Number of Beneficiaries	Full-year Budget (including administrative cost)	Estimated Implementation Timetable	Remarks
(1)	Setting up a new school-based fund to subsidise primary and secondary school students from low-income families to participate in learning activities outside Hong Kong which are organised or recognised by schools (a three-year programme)	Needy primary and secondary school students studying in Government, Aided, Caput and Direct Subsidy Scheme schools	Around 240 000	\$165.9 million	Late May 2011	Needy primary and secondary school students refer to students - (a) who are receiving full or half level of means-tested financial assistance from the Student Financial Assistance Agency (SFAA); or (b) who are receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA); or (c) who meet the criteria of financial difficulties as defined by individual schools.

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(2)	Financial assistance for low-income ethnic minorities and new arrivals from the Mainland for taking language-related international public examinations (a two-year programme)	Hong Kong residents ¹ from low-income families and who are non-school-attending	Around 3 000 applications	\$1.26 million	Third quarter of 2011	Low-income families refer to families – (a) whose total monthly household incomes not exceeding 75% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income applicable to their household size; or (b) who have passed the household-based means tests and are recipients of specified assistance schemes ² .

¹ Hong Kong residents refer to persons –

- (a) Non-Chinese Speaking (NCS) Hong Kong permanent residents: NCS residents who are holders of Hong Kong Permanent Identity Card; or
- (b) NCS new arrivals from other places who have resided in Hong Kong for less than seven years: those who have entered Hong Kong lawfully for settlement and reunion with their sponsors with permission obtained from the Immigration Department (i.e. holders of dependent visas / entry permit); or
- (c) New arrivals from the Mainland who have resided in Hong Kong for less than seven years: those who have entered Hong Kong from the Mainland on One-way Permit.

² CSSA Scheme, financial assistance schemes for students under the SFSA, waiving mechanism of public hospitals and clinics, and tenants of public housing (excluding households of the Tenants Purchase Scheme and well-off tenants in public housing estates).

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						In addition, applicants must be non-school-attending, and only apply for assistance for the same examination for a maximum of two times.
(3)	Subsidy for specified self-financed cancer drugs which have not yet been brought into the Samaritan Fund safety net but have been rapidly accumulating medical scientific evidence and with relatively higher efficacy (First Phase)	Hospital Authority's needy patients who are using the specified self-financed cancer drugs	Around 300 to 500 patients for the first year	Around \$41.7 million to \$71.7 million for the first year	Third quarter of 2011	Needy patients who are using the specified self-financed cancer drugs refer to persons - (a) who fulfil the defined clinical indications for the drugs concerned as specified by medical professionals; and (b) who have passed the means tests (which will be conducted by medical social workers).

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(4)	Subsidy to needy patients who marginally fall outside the Samaritan Fund safety net for the use of Samaritan Fund subsidised drugs (Second Phase)	Patients who have financial difficulties and cannot benefit from the Samaritan Fund	A few hundreds	Not less than \$6.3 million to \$9.45 million	Fourth quarter of 2011 or first quarter of 2012	Needy patients who marginally fall outside the Samaritan Fund safety net refer to persons - (a) who originally fall outside the safety net will become eligible for subsidies after adopting a more relaxed maximum contribution ratio than that for the Samaritan Fund , say 20% across the board, payable by the patients; and (b) whose contribution ratio under the Samaritan Fund mechanism is above 20% will benefit under this programme.

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(5)	A monthly subsidy at a maximum rate of \$480 for elders aged 65 or above from low-income families who are on the waiting list for “Integrated Home Care Services (Ordinary Cases)” to hire household cleaning and escorting services (a one-year programme)	Elders from low-income families	Not more than 4 000	\$24.19 million	Third quarter of 2011	Elders from low-income families refer to persons - (a) aged 65 or above; (b) subject to income test, coming from families with total monthly household income not exceeding 75% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income applicable to their household size; and (c) who are on the waiting list for “Integrated Home Care Services (Ordinary Cases)” on a specified date.
(6)	A monthly subsidy of \$2,000 for persons with severe	Persons with severe disabilities from low-income	Not more than 3 800	\$94.38 million	Third quarter of 2011	Persons with severe disabilities from low-income families refer

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	disabilities aged below 60 who are non-CSSA recipients (a one-year programme)	families				<p>to persons -</p> <p>(a) aged below 60 and who are 100% disabled on a specified date;</p> <p>(b) who are living in the community and require constant attendance;</p> <p>(c) who are non-CSSA recipients; and</p> <p>(d) subject to income test, whose families passed an income test, with the total monthly household income not exceeding 75% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income applicable to their household size.</p>

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(7)	A monthly subsidy of \$2,500 for children from low-income families who are on the waiting list for places of subvented pre-school rehabilitation services (a one-year programme)	Children with special needs from low-income families	Not more than 4 200	\$128.82 million	Fourth quarter of 2011	Children with special needs from low-income families refer to persons - (a) who are on the waiting list for subvented pre-school rehabilitation services on a specified date; and (b) subject to income test, whose families passed an income test, with the total monthly household income not exceeding 75% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income applicable to their household size.

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(8)	A subsidy of \$2,000 for CSSA recipients who are Tenant Purchase Scheme (TPS) flat owners for five years or above (a one-off subsidy programme)	CSSA recipients who are TPS flat owners	Around 1 300 households	\$2.73 million	Second quarter of 2011	CSSA recipients who are TPS flat owners - (a) who are TPS flat owners for five years or above on a specified date; and (b) who are currently CSSA recipients.
(9)	A subsidy of \$1,000 (for one-person households) or \$2,000 (for families with a household size of two or above) for CSSA recipients living in private housing (a one-off subsidy programme)	CSSA recipients living in private housing	Around 23 009 households	\$36.12 million	Second quarter of 2011	CSSA recipients living in private housing refer to persons who are paying an actual rent which exceeds the maximum rent allowance under CSSA.

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(10)	Subsidy to meet lunch expenses at schools for primary school students from low-income families (one academic year)	Needy primary school students studying in Government, Aided and Direct Subsidy Scheme schools	Around 51 000	\$192.78 million	September 2011	Needy primary school students refer to students - (a) who are receiving full level of assistance from SFSA; and (b) who are full-time Primary 1 to Primary 6 students having lunch arranged by schools.
Total Full-year Budget (including administrative cost)				\$727.33 million		

Note: In addition, we will also study the feasibility of three other programmes for implementation as soon as possible i.e. providing after-school childcare service support to needy families, financial assistance on dental services for the elderly including dentures, and language courses for new arrivals from the Mainland and ethnic minorities. \$170 million has been reserved for the purpose.