The following is issued on behalf of the Community Care Fund Secretariat:

The application period for the Community Care Fund (CCF)'s programme to provide an allowance for new arrivals will end this Saturday (June 30). Eligible persons must submit their applications by the deadline for the allowance of \$6,000.

Target beneficiaries of the programme should have entered Hong Kong for settlement for less than seven years on March 31, 2012, and have reached the age of 18 by that day. They should be from low-income families which have passed the means test establishing eligibility for assistance under the specified assistance schemes (i.e. the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme, student financial assistance schemes under the Student Financial Assistance Agency or the Hospital Authority Medical Fee Waiving Mechanism), or have a monthly household income below the specified income limit.

The application form is available for download from the CCF website. It is also available for collection at the Public Enquiry Service Centres (PESCs) of the Home Affairs Department, Job Centres of the Labour Department and District Social Welfare Offices of the Social Welfare Department.

Applicants should send the duly completed application forms, together with relevant documentary proof, by post to the CCF Secretariat at 4/F, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, on or before the deadline (dated by the postmark). Applicants may also deposit their applications at the drop boxes at the PESCs of the Home Affairs Department during office hours.

For more information about the programme, please visit the CCF's website (www.communitycarefund.hk).

For enquiries, please call the programme hotline at 3118 1818.

Ends/Sunday, June 24, 2012