

Use of Life-wide Learning Grant

Background

As proposed in the 2018 Policy Address, a recurrent Life-wide Learning Grant (the Grant) will be provided to public sector schools (including special schools) starting from the 2019/20 school year to support schools in taking forward, on the present foundation, life-wide learning with enhanced efforts. As for schools under the Direct Subsidy Scheme (DSS), the provision of the Grant will be subsumed in the DSS unit subsidy rates. Schools may, in light of their school contexts, flexibly deploy the Grant to organise more out-of-classroom experiential learning activities in different Key Learning Areas (KLAs) and curriculum areas, so as to enliven and enrich the learning experiences of students to broaden their horizons, enhance their learning motivation and interest, and foster their whole-person development.

Estimated amount of grant

The Grant comprises a school-based component and a class-based component. For the 2019/20 school year, the school-based provision for each public sector school will be \$150,000; the class-based provision is calculated based on the number of approved classes at the per class rates of \$42,000 for secondary schools. Therefore, the estimated amount of grant for a 24-class secondary school is about 1.1 million. The Grant amount will be adjusted annually in accordance with the movement of the Composite Consumer Price Index.

Recommended areas for using the grant

Schools may deploy the Grant to:

- organise out-of-classroom experiential learning activities and infuse life-wide learning into different KLAs / subjects and cross-curricular teaching;
- enrich students' learning experiences, including intellectual development, moral and civic education, community service, physical and aesthetic development, and career-related experiences;
- procure equipment (including repair and maintenance fees), consumables, and learning resources for promoting life-wide learning; and
- defray the expenses incurred by teachers for leading student activities.

Proposed uses of the grant in UCCKE

1. The school has already coordinated quite a big number of learning activities including subject learning and non-academic activities. The coach/tutor fees that incurred by students were \$816,000 and \$868,000 in 2017/18 and 2018/19

school years respectively. The school proposes to use the grant to subsidize half of the coach/tutor fees to alleviate the financial burden of parents in joining these life-wide learning activities. The estimated budget for this part is \$450,000 in 2019/20 school year.

2. The school has already organized quite a big number of learning trips during GLocal Week and post-exam activity period; however, the expenses incurred by teachers leading the trips were covered by participants in the past. The school proposes to use the grant to cover expenses incurred by teachers in all these learning activities (camps and trips). A good estimation of this part is \$300,000 in 2019/20 school year.
3. In the procurement of equipment, the school is going to equip two new gym rooms. The tender price for the equipment is about \$800,000. With 5 years of depreciation, the budget of this part is \$160,000 in 2019/20 school year. With an additional \$90,000 for procurement of consumables, the budget for procurement is \$250,000 in 2019/20 school year.

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