

The Hong Kong Jockey Club Music and Dance Fund
Music and Dance Scholarship Scheme (Local Studies) 2024-25

Guidance Notes to the Scholarship Scheme (Local Studies)

Objective

1. The objective of the scholarship scheme is to enable candidates of outstanding calibre to pursue post-graduate studies (including taught or research programmes) in music or dance at degree-awarding tertiary education institutions in Hong Kong.
2. The scope of the scholarship is not confined to “performer training programmes”, i.e. instrumental music or dance studies. Applicants may apply for non-performing studies directly related to music or dance performance, such as composition, choreography, musicology, arts criticism and performance-based research relating to music and dance. **Please note that this year, the Scholarship Scheme (Local Studies) continues accepting applications for pursuing music and dance education, but not arts administration and music or dance therapy.**

Expected Applicants

3. Applicants are expected to demonstrate outstanding calibre, artistic excellence and high technical competence in music or dance for entry to degree-awarding tertiary education institutions in Hong Kong. Scholarship award is limited to those whose inherent musical/dance gift shows promise of development to exceptional professional standard.

Eligibility

4. Applicants for the scholarship must fulfill the following criteria:

(a) Applicants must be permanent residents of Hong Kong.

(b) Age Limit

There is no age requirement. Nonetheless, applicants who are aged under 18 will require a Guarantee from his/her parent/guardian. A copy of the Guarantee form can be downloaded from the Fund’s website.

(c) Doctoral Programme

For applicants seeking to study doctoral programme in music or dance, only those pursue the **last two years** of the doctoral programme will be eligible for application. Applicants are required to specify the programme duration and their expected graduation in the application form for the consideration of the Fund.

(d) Qualifications

(i) Applicants must be holders of a relevant degree in either music or dance specifically. Applicants who are studying in the final year and are expected to obtain the required qualification at the end of the school year may apply. At the time when they are selected for the award of scholarships, they should possess the required qualification; or

(ii) Applicants who do not obtain the qualifications specified in paragraph 4(d)(i) but have at least three years of relevant performing experience in established professional bodies are eligible for application for scholarships. Examples of established professional bodies include the following:

Music

- Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra
- Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra
- Hong Kong Sinfonietta
- other comparable organisations as recognised by the Fund

Dance

- Hong Kong Ballet
- Hong Kong Dance Company
- City Contemporary Dance Company
- other comparable organisations as recognised by the Fund

(e) The Fund's Previous Scholarship Awardees

The past awardees of the Scholarship Scheme (Non-local Studies) of the Fund may apply for the Fund's Scholarship Scheme (Local Studies) and vice versa. Nonetheless, applicants who have obtained scholarship(s) from the same scholarship scheme of the Fund before will normally not be considered.

Intended Programmes and Institutions

Intended Discipline of Study

5. Applicants are allowed to apply for different disciplines of post-graduate studies in music or dance but they should fill in and submit separate applications for the respective disciplines. For instance, an applicant who intends to pursue a master programme in choreography and a master programme in performing dance should file two separate applications, which may be auditioned separately.

Intended Programmes

6. Applicants are required to submit details about their choices of intended programmes (e.g. curriculum and course content) together with their applications. If none of the chosen programmes are considered by the Fund as post-graduate studies, the application will not be considered any further.

Intended Institutions

7. Applicants may put down in each application one to five choices of local degree-awarding tertiary education institutions. If any chosen institution is not considered by the Fund as local degree-awarding tertiary education institution, the Fund may, at its absolute discretion, require the applicant to substitute his/her choice by another local degree-awarding tertiary education institution by a date specified by the Fund. Failing which, the application will not be considered any further.

Admission to the Programmes and Institutions

8. It is the applicants' responsibility to secure admission to the intended programme. Applicants must observe the entry requirements of the intended programme and/or institution and ensure that they could meet such requirements. At the time when the Fund offers scholarships to the selected applicants, they should have secured unconditional admission to at least one of the intended programmes; failing which the scholarship award may be withdrawn.

Other Sources of Financial Aids/Scholarships

9. Apart from this scholarship, applicants are encouraged to apply other financial aids/scholarships. Applicants are required to provide details of other financial aids/scholarships that they have applied and received.

Submission of Applications

10. In submitting their applications, applicants must submit all the required documents and materials as listed in paragraph 17 below together with the completed application forms, failing which their applications will not be considered any further.
11. The Fund reserves the right not to consider any application not complying with the requirements set forth in this Guidance Notes.
12. The Fund will reject any application with any false, untrue, forged, inaccurate, incorrect or incomplete declarations, guarantees, or representations.
13. The Fund further reserves the right to disqualify an applicant on grounds that:
 - (a) the applicant has engaged or is engaging in illegal acts or activities;
 - (b) the applicant has engaged, is engaging, or is reasonably believed by the Fund to have engaged or be engaging in acts or activities that are likely to cause or constitute the occurrence of offences endangering national security or otherwise be contrary to the interest of national security; or
 - (c) it is reasonably believed by the Fund that the disqualification of the applicant is in the interest of national security, or is necessary to protect the public interest of Hong Kong, public morals, public order and/or public safety.
14. In case of occurrence of the events under paragraphs 12 or 13, the Fund reserves the right to rescind any funding support already approved (if any) or claw back a portion or all of the funding support already disbursed (if any).

Recommendation Letters

15. Applicants are required to name at least **two referees** for their applications. At least one of the referees should be a professional in the corresponding music/dance field (e.g. a current/retired faculty member of a tertiary institution,

a current/retired player in an established music/dance professional body, etc.); and the other one should be from an appropriate person who could help the Fund to assess the applicants' individual characteristics and potential to succeed in the field (e.g. a teacher of the current school, the current employer, etc.).

16. The recommendation letters should be completed and returned by the applicants' referees to the Fund **directly (by post or by email) on or before the application deadline**. Applicants should remind the referees to submit the recommendation letters timely.

Pre-audition/interview Assessment

17. All applications will be assessed based on the materials submitted for the purpose of shortlisting. Only the shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend the auditions/interviews. Applicants are required to comply with the following submission requirements:

Discipline of Studies	Submission Requirement
All disciplines of studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Applicants should vet carefully their works and/or files to ensure that names or an introduction of themselves is NOT contained in whatever forms of materials (except the application form) before submission. If an applicant is found to have included his/her name or his/her self-introduction in the works and/or files submitted for whatever reasons, the application will be <u>disqualified</u> and will NOT be considered any further. The Fund will strictly enforce this requirement.
Performer training music courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Audio recordings of <u>three</u> complete music pieces (not excerpts) of their own choice, each should be saved in a separate file and submitted in formats supported by "Windows Media Player" (such as WAV, MP3), are required. ● An electronic copy of the scores of the three music pieces, each to be saved in a separate file in Portable Document Format (PDF), is also required. ● The three music pieces are preferably of contrasting styles and varying period. ● All works, if with accompaniment, must be

Discipline of Studies	Submission Requirement
	<p>performed with accompaniment of piano or musical instrument as specified by the music piece.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recordings of music pieces must be genuinely performed by the applicants and they should neither be edited nor added with any effects.
Performer training dance courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Video recordings of two dance performances of their own choice, with a total duration of <u>not less than seven minutes</u> and each should be saved in a separate file and submitted in MP4 format, are required. ● The two dance performances are preferably of contrasting dynamics and varying styles. Solo dance performances, either ballet or modern, could be original choreography or from standard repertory but should show the artistic level and performance ability of the applicants.
Composition courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Three pieces of their original composition in the form of (1) scores (with a short note in around 100 words for each work, on the creative concept); and (2) separate audio recordings of these compositions should be submitted. ● For the scores, four hard copies and an electronic copy of the three compositions, each to be saved in a separate file in Portable Document Format (PDF), are required. ● The audio recordings must be in three separate files and submitted in formats supported by “Windows Media Player”, such as WAV, MP3.
Conducting courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Three pieces of their work in three separate video recordings in MP4 format should be submitted. ● An electronic copy of the scores of the three conducting pieces, each to be saved in a separate file in Portable Document Format (PDF), is also required.
Choreography courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Video recordings of two pieces of their work

Discipline of Studies	Submission Requirement
	<p>(using different dynamics and tempi) in two separate files should be submitted in MP4 format.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A short note in around 100 words for each work on the creative concept. Four hard copies and an electronic copy of the short notes, each to be saved in a separate file in PDF, are required.
Non-performing studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Two pieces of written work in the form of study reports, essays or dissertations should be submitted. ● Four hard copies and an electronic copy of the two written works to be saved in separate files in PDF are required.

Audition and Interview

18. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend the auditions/interviews in April/May 2024 in person.
19. Applicants who are currently studying outside Hong Kong and, due to the institution's compulsory academic requirement (such as examination, graduation recital, etc.), are unable to attend the audition/interview in person may be allowed to conduct the audition/interview through video conferencing, upon submission of a documentary proof from their institutions seven days before the scheduled audition/interview to the satisfaction of the Secretariat. **For quality assurance, they must arrange the audition in a proper studio and employ high-quality audio and visual as well as connection facilities for video-conferencing at their end. Failing which, the Fund reserves the absolute right to disqualify the application.** Due to the keen competition among applicants, overseas applicants are strongly recommended to attend the auditions/interviews in person to facilitate the Audition Panel to have a better assessment of the applicants' performance standard.
20. For applicants who are unable to perform at the audition or attend the interview due to sickness/injury, they are required to inform the Secretariat before the scheduled audition/interview and submit within seven days a medical certificate for the Audition Panel's consideration.

21. Applicants who are shortlisted for audition / interview are required to:

Discipline of Studies	Requirement at Audition / Interview
Performer training music courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Play three music pieces of their own choice within <u>a total duration of ten minutes</u> and preferably of contrasting styles and varying periods. ● Arrange accompanists themselves for all music pieces, if with accompaniment. ● The pieces can be either complete works or excerpts, and the music pieces performed at the audition need not be identical to the pre-audition submissions. ● Provide details of the audition pieces when they are invited to attend the audition/interview.
Music composition courses, conducting courses and other non-performing music studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be assessed on their written works and other supporting materials including audio/video recordings submitted together with the application forms. Nevertheless, applicants are required to attend an interview.
Performer training dance courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Perform two dances of their own choice, preferably of contrasting dynamics and varying styles, within <u>a total duration of seven minutes</u>. ● The dances performed at the audition need not be identical to the pre-audition submissions. ● Provide details of the audition pieces when they are invited to attend the audition/interview.
Choreography courses and other non-performing dance studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be assessed on their written works and other supporting materials including video recordings submitted together with the application forms. Nevertheless, applicants are required to attend an interview.

Duration and Value of Scholarship Award

22. Each scholarship is normally tenable up to a maximum of two years subject to

the selected candidates' satisfactory progress at regular intervals and the assessment from the candidates' course supervisors. Applicants intending to apply for a scholarship lasting for more than one year are required to list out the course's tuition fee (excluding various kinds of fees) for the first year and second year separately.

23. A full scholarship covers the tuition fees and subsistence allowances for a maximum of two years of study. The "tuition fees" are meant to meet the tuition fees and part of other study-related fees required by the intended institution for the intended course for the year(s) under application. The "subsistence allowances" (lump-sum allowances) are meant to subsidise part of the cost of living expenses in Hong Kong.
24. **The Fund may, at its own discretion, decide on the amount and duration of the scholarship to be awarded. The duration and amount of the scholarship may be different from that applied by the applicant and the Fund may impose any conditions which it deems appropriate.**

Undertaking

25. A selected candidate for the scholarship will be required to sign an undertaking with the Fund and to arrange for an indemnifier to sign a deed of indemnity. Upon completion of his/her studies/training, he/she is expected to pursue his/her career in Hong Kong and contribute to the Hong Kong community, as well as the Fund.

Application Procedures

26. Application forms and Guarantee forms can be downloaded from the website of the Fund (<https://www.hkjcmf.org.hk/tc/scholarship.html>) .
27. Before sending out the application, please ensure that you have included all the required documents and materials listed at **Annex I**.
28. Completed application forms, with all the required documents and materials, **should reach** the Secretariat of the Fund **by hand or by post to the following address at or before 3:00 pm on 22 January 2024.** Late applications will not be considered:
- (a) By post:
The Hong Kong Jockey Club Music and Dance Fund Secretariat

13/F, West Wing, Central Government Offices
2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong

(b) By hand:

The Hong Kong Jockey Club Music and Dance Fund
Scholarship Schemes Collection Box
Staff Entrance, 2/F, East Wing, Central Government Offices
2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong

29. Applicants should submit:

(a) **the duly completed application form which should be typewritten** (in both hard and electronic copy. The electronic copy should be saved in Microsoft Word format); and

(b) a USB Flash Drive containing the electronic copy of the application form and the required materials for the Pre-audition/interview Assessment as detailed in paragraph 17 above. **Applicants must ensure that the recordings submitted are of high quality. Otherwise, the Fund reserves the absolute right to disqualify the application.**

Concurrent Application

30. Applicants may apply for another scholarship scheme run by the Fund concurrently but they should fill in and submit separate application forms for the two scholarship schemes. If the applicants are selected for audition/interview, they should confirm the priority of the scholarship schemes applied at the time of audition/interview. Depending on the courses that the applicants intend to pursue, they may be auditioned separately. Successful candidates will only be awarded **one** scholarship.

Result

31. Applicants will be informed of the result of their applications in writing in June/July 2024 at the earliest.

Enquiry

32. For further information, please email us at hkjcmdf_secretariat@cstb.gov.hk or contact Miss CHAU (Tel: 3509 7083) of the Secretariat during office hours.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club Music and Dance Fund Secretariat
January 2024