Simplified application procedures for post-secondary students from families in receipt of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA)

The Tertiary Student Finance Scheme - Publicly-funded Programmes and the Financial Assistance Scheme for Post-secondary Students administered by the Student Finance Office (SFO) under the Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency provide financial assistance (including grants and loans) to eligible students. Applicants whose families received CSSA throughout the period from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 or are currently receiving CSSA may submit their applications for the aforesaid schemes in the 2022/23 academic year using the simplified application form for CSSA families available on “SFO E-link – My Applications” (please scan the QR code on the right side) and provide the supporting documents as listed below -

1. photocopies of the HKID cards of the applicant (i.e. the student) and his/her family members;
2. a photocopy of the applicant’s student identity card issued by the post-secondary institution; and
3. a photocopy of the applicant’s bank passbook or statement showing his/her full name and the number of his/her bank account for receiving the payment of student financial assistance. **An applicant who has no bank account is advised to open one as soon as possible and provide the bank account number and supporting documents together with his/her application.**

The SFO may contact an applicant if any supplementary information / documents about his/her family incomes and assets are required.

Please note that the SFO will assess an application on reliance of the documentary proofs provided by an applicant showing his/her or his/her family’s receipt of CSSA. If it comes to the knowledge of the SFO that an applicant or his/her family has obtained CSSA by misrepresentation, provision of false information, omission of information, withholding any information or deceptive means or that he/she provided inaccurate particulars as a proof of his/her or his/her family’s CSSA status, his/her application may be rejected. The applicant will be required to refund all student financial assistance which he/she has received. The applicant and his/her family may also be liable to prosecution.

Eligible applicants are advised to get the above information ready and submit their applications as soon as practicable in order to have early receipt of their student financial assistance.

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1 The simplified application procedures for applicants of financial assistance schemes for post-secondary students are applicable to those meeting any of the following conditions -
   (a) the applicant’s father and mother are both CSSA recipients;
   (b) the applicant comes from a single-parent family and the parent who lives with and supports the applicant’s living is a CSSA recipient;
   (c) the applicant is an independent CSSA recipient; or
   (d) the applicant is married and his/her spouse is a CSSA recipient.

2 An applicant who was a successful applicant of the SFO’s financial assistance schemes for post-secondary students in the past three academic years and had submitted copies of permanent HKID card of his/her own and HKID cards of his/her family members with his/her application is not required to submit a copy again provided that there is no change of the personal particulars of the applicant and his/her family members as shown on their HKID cards.