

## EDUCATION BUREAU CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM NO. 131/2017

From : Secretary for Education  
Ref : EDB/LTQ/PRO/19/7/1  
Date : 31 August 2017

To : Heads of All Primary and Secondary  
Schools (except ESF schools and  
international schools)  
- for necessary action

---

### **Administrative Arrangements for Applications related to Language Proficiency Requirement (LPR) for Teachers of English/Putonghua:**

- (i) Entry for Language Proficiency Assessment for Teachers (LPAT) 2018;**
- (ii) Application for Exemption from the LPR; and**
- (iii) Application for LPR Certificate of Merit and Attainment Certificate**

(Note: This circular memorandum should be read by supervisors/  
heads and teachers of all primary and secondary schools)

### **Summary**

This circular memorandum provides information on LPR-related applications. The purpose of this circular memorandum is to announce the administrative arrangements for (i) entry for LPAT 2018; (ii) application for exemption from the LPR; and (iii) application for LPR Certificate of Merit and Attainment Certificate. Related application forms can be downloaded from Education Bureau (EDB) website (<http://www.edb.gov.hk/lpr>). Applicants should read relevant information on the above website before submitting an application.

### **Details**

2. According to the LPR policy, all new / newly deployed teachers of English/Putonghua holding a permanent post should at least have met the LPR in all the core language skills<sup>1</sup> before taking up teaching the respective language subjects. They have to meet the LPR in Classroom Language Assessment (CLA) within the first year of their taking up the duties. There are two channels to attain the LPR: (i) taking the LPAT and/or (ii) applying for exemption from the LPR if they hold appropriate qualifications. Applicants who have fully attained the LPR or have attained an overall proficiency level of 4 or above can apply for the LPR Attainment Certificate or Certificate of Merit respectively.

#### *Entry for LPAT 2018*

3. **LPAT 2018 is open for application from 1 to 20 September 2017.** Applicants who wish to sit for LPAT 2018 may submit their applications by post, by internet, in person or by an authorized representative. Related application forms and detailed information on LPAT are

---

<sup>1</sup> For English, core language skills refer to the Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking papers in the LPAT (English Language). For Putonghua, core language skills refer to Listening and Recognition, Pinyin and Speaking papers in LPAT(Putonghua).

available on EDB website (<http://www.edb.gov.hk/lpat>) and Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) website (<http://www.hkeaa.edu.hk>). For enquiries concerning the LPAT arrangements, please contact the HKEAA at 3628 8860. For enquiries concerning CLA, please contact the Language Teacher Qualifications Team, EDB at 2892 5783.

#### Application for Exemption from the LPR

4. Applications for exemption from the LPR are accepted all year round and processed in two batches. In the 2017/18 school year, applications submitted by **30 November 2017** will be processed in the first batch and those submitted by **31 May 2018** will be processed in the second batch. Related application forms and detailed information are available on EDB website (<http://www.edb.gov.hk/exemption>). Provided that applicants submit all the necessary supporting documents/information with the applications, they will be informed of the results individually in about three months from the respective cut-off dates.

#### Application for LPR Certificate of Merit and Attainment Certificate

5. Applications for LPR certificate are accepted all year round and processed in two batches. In the 2017/18 school year, applications submitted by **31 January 2018** will be processed in the first batch and those submitted by **30 June 2018** will be processed in the second batch. Related application forms and detailed information are available on EDB website (<http://www.edb.gov.hk/cert>). Provided that applicants submit all the necessary supporting documents/information with the applications, they will receive certificate collection notification by post in about three months from the respective cut-off dates.

6. The details of the above-mentioned applications will also be announced in the “Latest News” of EDB website in due course.

### **Enquiries**

7. For enquiries, please contact the Language Teacher Qualifications Team, EDB at 2892 5783.

Benjamin YUNG  
for Secretary for Education

c.c. Heads of Sections – for information