



The Latest Developments of the HKDSE



About HKEAA



- Established in **1977**
 - An independent, public organisation
- **Vision**
 - To be a **world-renowned** and **well-trusted** examination and assessment services provider
- **Mission**
 - To meet educational and societal needs, we shall provide **valid, reliable and equitable examinations** and a range of assessment services in a **professional, innovative, efficient** and **effective** manner

Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE)



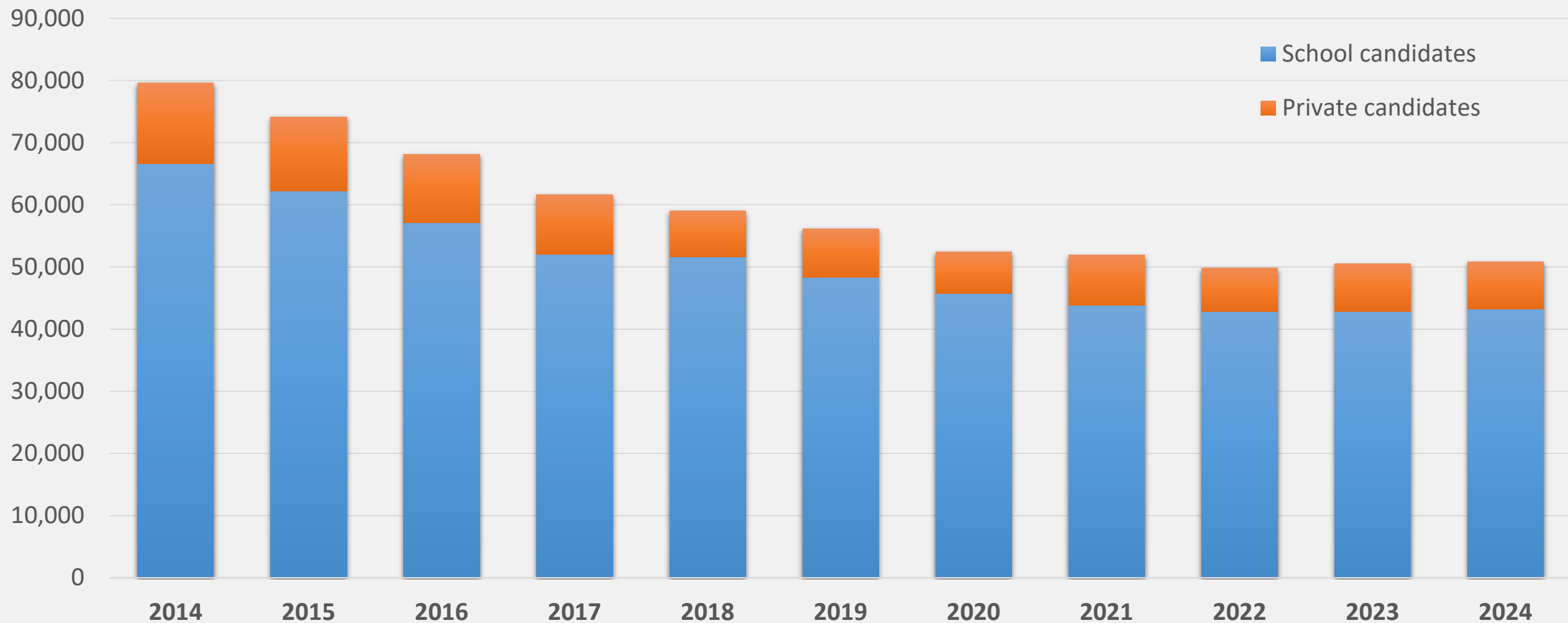
- The HKEAA administered the first HKDSE in 2012 for all students who completed their six-year secondary education
- 850,000 candidates sat the HKDSE over the years
- Over 90% of local school candidates register for the HKDSE



Statistics for the HKDSE



Candidature of the HKDSE (2014-2024)



International Recognition of the HKDSE



>780

Overseas institutions and universities
have published its admission requirements
on the HKEAA webpage

The Greater China Region

138

Mainland China institutions
admit Hong Kong students on the basis of their HKDSE result

>135

Higher education institutions in Taiwan and Macau
consider the HKDSE results for admission purpose

World-renowned institutions released latest entry requirements



North America

- ✓ Yale University
- ✓ New York University
- ✓ The University of Toronto
- ✓ Simon Fraser University

The UK & Continental Europe

- ✓ The University of Cambridge
- ✓ University College London
- ✓ The University of Edinburgh
- ✓ Le Cordon Bleu, Paris
- ✓ Leiden University

Asia Pacific

- ✓ Nanyang Technological University
- ✓ National University of Singapore
- ✓ Kyoto University

Australia & New Zealand

- ✓ The Australian National University
- ✓ The University of Sydney in Australia
- ✓ University of Melbourne
- ✓ The University of Auckland

Continental Europe



- In Germany, the HKDSE is considered as equivalent to the **German school leaving certificate (Abitur)** which allows subject-specific university admission for academic studies in the chosen subject area. Candidates can apply for admission to over **300 German public universities** in the subject area of their HKDSE subjects.



- The HKDSE qualification has been recognised by the [Nuffic](#) of **the Netherlands**, which considered the candidates have achieved a **HAVO diploma** for applying to **78 tertiary institutions** there.



- The Ministry of Education of Spain has published information about the recognition of the HKDSE qualification on the Authority's webpage. HKDSE holders with at least five subjects at levels 2 to 5** will have access to **over 90 Spanish universities** without the prior requirement of an entrance examination.



Senior Secondary Curriculum



The Senior Secondary Curriculum



4 Core Subjects

- Chinese Language
- English Language
- Mathematics
- Citizenship and Social Development



2 or 3 Elective Subjects

- **Category A** Senior Secondary (SS) elective subjects
- **Category B** Applied Learning (ApL) subjects
- **Category C** Other Language subjects



Other Learning Experiences in arts, sports, community service, moral & civic education, career development

Standards-referenced Reporting System

Category A: Senior Secondary Subjects



- Descriptors and exemplars to indicate standards required for each level
- Facilitate tertiary institutions and employers to set appropriate entrance/ job requirements
- Facilitate learning and teaching

Citizenship and Social Development (CS)



The results of CS are reported in one level, 'Attained'.
Achievements below 'Attained' are designated as 'Unattained'.

Attained



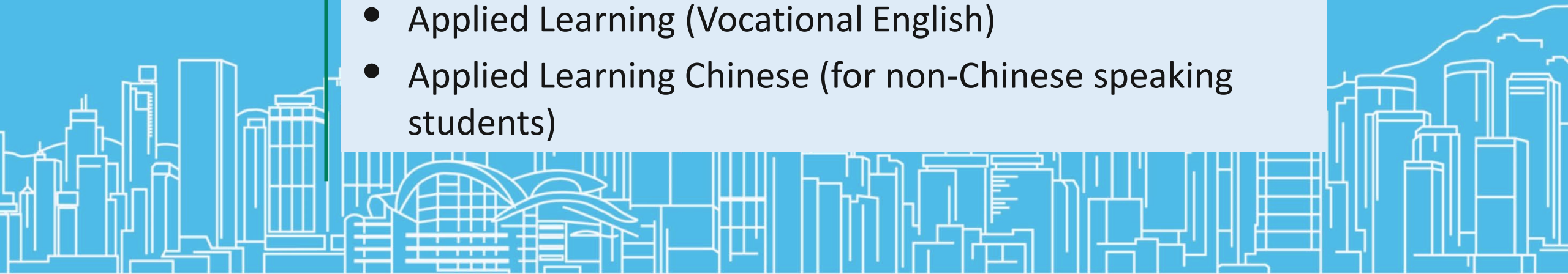


Category	Subjects
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B

Areas of Studies

- Creative Studies
- Media and Communication
- Business, Management and Law
- Services
- Applied Science
- Engineering and Production
- Applied Learning (Vocational English)
- Applied Learning Chinese (for non-Chinese speaking students)



Category B: Applied Learning Subjects



Except for ApL Chinese (for non-Chinese speaking students), three levels of performance are reported including:

Attained with distinction (II)

Attained with distinction (I)

Attained

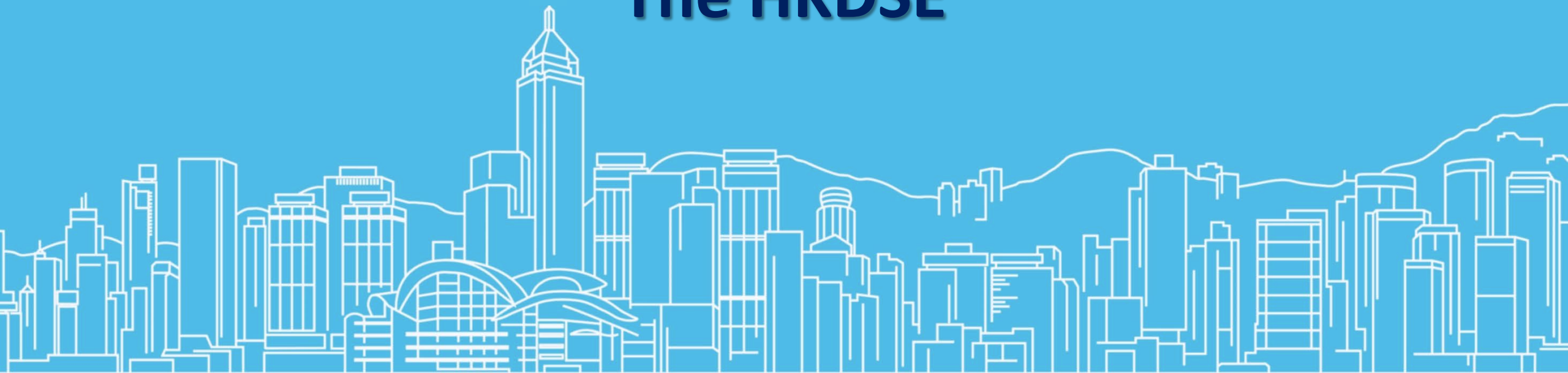
2024 HKDSE Examination Results



- About 50,000 candidates registered, and more than 40,000 were from day schools.
 - **18,314 (45%)** day school candidates obtained levels '332A', meeting the general entrance requirements of the four core subjects for **local undergraduate degree programmes**.
 - A total of **29,902 (75.6%)** day school candidates obtained level 2/'Attained' or above in five subjects (including Chinese Language and English Language). They are eligible to apply for **local sub-degree programmes**.



Benchmarking Studies of The HKDSE



IELTS and HKDSE English Language (2019, 2021 and 2023)



HKDSE English Language Subject/ Component Level	Average IELTS Overall Band Score	Average IELTS Section Band Score			
		Reading	Writing	Listening	Speaking
5**	8.22	8.65	7.24	8.77	7.60
5*	7.86	8.27	6.92	8.57	7.04
5	7.55	7.97	6.78	8.20	6.73
4	7.09	7.41	6.36	7.81	6.42
3	6.35	6.59	6.02	6.89	6.10

Arrangement for Category C Examination for 2025 HKDSE and beyond



- Candidates are to take the language exams administered by **official organisation recommended** by the respective Consulate General.
- The examination is linked to the **national standard** of the language proficiency level for recognition of the results.

French

German

Japanese

Korean

Urdu

Spanish

Arrangement for Category C Examination for 2025 HKDSE and beyond



- Candidates' results in the language examinations obtained from these organisations would be passed to the HKEAA for inclusion in the HKDSE results and released to the tertiary institutions.
- The HKDSE accepts results obtained in the language examinations taken **within two years** preceding the HKDSE the candidate sits.
- If a candidate takes the language examinations more than once at the same or different levels, **only the highest level** and result attained will be reported under the HKDSE Category C subjects.



Merci

