



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **HKEAA welcomes the Government's Paying the Examination Fees for the 2023 HKDSE Candidates**

The Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) welcomes the proposal made by the Financial Secretary in the 2022-23 Budget Speech to pay the examination fees for school candidates sitting the 2023 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE), which will incur HK\$149 million. The Authority believes this can ease parents' and candidates' financial pressure.

The Government will have paid the examination fees for school candidates for five consecutive years by 2023 since the 2019 HKDSE. Mr Samuel Yung Wing-ki, the HKEAA Chairman said, 'For years we have learned through communications with schools and parents in different occasions, the public expectation for the Government to pay the examination fees for the HKDSE school candidates. Every year, we reflected the education sector and parents' views to the Government and the Education Bureau (EDB). We would like to thank the Government and the Bureau for listening to us and continuing to pay the fees for the school candidates in the 2023 HKDSE, despite the enormous expenditure facing the Government under the pandemic. We believe the measure will ease parents' and candidates' financial pressure, especially when the local economy has yet to fully recover under the pandemic. Quite a number of families are experiencing financial difficulty, and we are grateful to the Government's effort to help them overcome the difficult times.'

Professor Wei Xiang-dong, Secretary General of the HKEAA, welcomes the latest proposal, 'Once again we thank the Government for paying the examination fees for HKDSE school candidates. The HKEAA will make the corresponding arrangements based on past experience and discussions with the EDB on the handling of examination fee payment. With the support of HKEAA colleagues and the education sector, despite the pandemic, we will continue to provide for the public equitable, reliable and quality examination and assessment services.'

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