

Table 2

Assistance scheme		Income limit for three-person households	Number of applications from three-person households with underage members	Income limit for four-person households	Number of applications from four-person households with underage members
Financial assistance schemes for primary and secondary students	Full grant	\$12,672 per month on average <sup>1</sup>	31 562 <sup>2</sup>	\$14,573 per month on average	42 635 <sup>2</sup>
	Half grant	\$20,240 per month on average <sup>1</sup>	18 361 <sup>2</sup>	\$25,301 per month on average	36 329 <sup>2</sup>
Public rental housing (PRH)		\$18,310 <sup>3</sup>	Requested figures unavailable <sup>4</sup>	\$22,140 <sup>3</sup>	Requested figures unavailable <sup>4</sup>
Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme		\$10,450 <sup>5</sup>	18 409 <sup>6</sup>	\$12,438 <sup>5</sup>	9 357 <sup>6</sup>
Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme		\$15,300 <sup>7</sup>	9 017 <sup>8</sup>	\$17,100 <sup>7</sup>	9 149 <sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> All income limit figures are for the 2012/13 school year. The income ceilings for 3-member families as listed in the table above refer to the average monthly incomes of 3-member families in general. For 3-member single-parent families, they are treated as if they were 4-member families and the income ceiling for full grant for 3-member single-parent families is the same as 4-member families (i.e. \$14,573 per month on average). Similarly, the income ceiling for half grant for 3-member single-parent families is the same as 4-member families (i.e. \$25,301 per month on average).

<sup>2</sup> The figures provided in the table above refer to the number of families benefiting from the schemes rather than the number of applications in the 2012/13 school year.

<sup>3</sup> All income limit figures are for 2013/14.

<sup>4</sup> There is no breakdown on the age of individual family members in PRH applications.

<sup>5</sup> To be eligible for CSSA, the applicant must pass both the income and asset tests. For income test, the applicant and his/her family will be eligible for CSSA if their total assessable monthly household income is insufficient to meet their total monthly recognised needs under the Scheme. The figures in the table refer to the latest average monthly CSSA payment for respective household sizes with no other income. Specifically, this can be considered as the recognised needs under the CSSA Scheme.

<sup>6</sup> The figures refer to the number of families benefiting from the Scheme as at end of December 2013.

<sup>7</sup> This refers to the monthly income limit applicable to the claim months from January 2013 to January 2014.

<sup>8</sup> This refers to the number of applications received in 2013.

Assistance scheme	Income limit for three-person households	Number of applications from three-person households with underage members	Income limit for four-person households	Number of applications from four-person households with underage members
Samaritan Fund (SF)	Drug: Please see footnote <sup>9</sup> Non-drug items: \$23,900 <sup>10</sup>	Requested figures unavailable <sup>11</sup>	Drug: Please see footnote <sup>9</sup> Non-drug items: \$30,700 <sup>10</sup>	Requested figures unavailable <sup>11</sup>
“One-off Living Subsidy for Low-income Households Not Living in Public Housing and Not Receiving CSSA” under CCF	\$18,310	5 027 <sup>12</sup>	\$22,140	3 473 <sup>12</sup>
Waiving Mechanism of Public Hospitals	\$17,925 <sup>13</sup>	Requested figures unavailable <sup>11</sup>	\$23,025 <sup>13</sup>	Requested figures unavailable <sup>11</sup>

<sup>9</sup> For drug subsidies of SF, the amount of subsidy is determined by the patients’ annual disposable financial resources (ADFR). The household income of the patients and their household members is one of the factors used in the calculation of ADFR. The types of self-financed drugs used and their costs vary among patients, and the SF does not set income limits on applications for drug subsidies. So long as the applicants’ annual maximum contribution payable for drug expenses (calculated based on ADFR according to a sliding scale) is lower than the estimated drug cost, SF will provide subsidies.

<sup>10</sup> For non-drug subsidies, the monthly household income of the patient is one of the assessment criteria for applications for subsidy. If household income of the patient is below the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income (\$23,900 and \$30,700 for 3-person household and 4-person household respectively at 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2013) and the assets of the household does not exceed three times of the medical item cost, he/she would receive assistance from the SF. Moreover, SF would consider applications with overriding social grounds on a discretionary basis.

<sup>11</sup> Since whether the applicants’ families have underage members is not a factor of consideration in financial assessment, the requested figures are not available.

<sup>12</sup> The application period runs from December 2, 2013 to August 29, 2014. This is the number of households benefiting from the programme which have been processed as at May 9, 2014.

<sup>13</sup> For medical fee waiving mechanism of public hospitals, the monthly household income of the patient is one of the factors for considering medical fee waiver applications. If the patient’s monthly household income does not exceed 75% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income applicable to the patient’s household size (\$17,925 and \$23,025 for 3-person household and 4-person household respectively at 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2013), and the value of the patient’s household asset is within a certain limit applicable to their household size, he/she would receive medical fee waiver. Moreover, patients who do not meet these criteria could provide other non-financial factors for the consideration of Medical Social Workers or Social Workers of Social Welfare Department.