

I Eligibility criteria for Old Age Living Allowance (OALA)

To be eligible for OALA (including Higher OALA and Normal OALA), an applicant must:

- (1) be aged 65 or above;
- (2) have been a Hong Kong (HK) resident for at least seven years;
- (3) have resided in HK continuously for at least one year immediately before the date of application (absence from HK up to a maximum of 56 days during the one-year period is treated as residence in HK);
- (4) not be in receipt of any other allowance under the Social Security Allowance Scheme (including Old Age Allowance and Disability Allowance) or assistance under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme; and
- (5) have income and assets not exceeding the following limits (with effect from February 1, 2018):

		Single person	Married couple
Normal OALA	Total income per month	\$7,820	\$12,770
	Total asset value	\$334,000	\$506,000
Higher OALA	Total income per month	\$7,820	\$12,770
	Total asset value	\$146,000	\$221,000

For other eligibility criteria, please visit the SWD's website.

II Lump-sum retrospective payment arrangement for Higher OALA

Elderly persons who meet the monthly income and asset limits as below will receive a lump-sum retrospective payment counting from May 1, 2017 at the earliest.

	Single person	Married couple
Total income per month	\$7,750	\$12,620
Total asset value	\$144,000	\$218,000
Monthly allowance	\$3,435	

Elderly persons who meet the monthly income and asset limits as below will only be granted a lump-sum retrospective payment counting from February 1, 2018 at the earliest.

	Single person	Married couple
Total income per month	\$7,820	\$12,770
Total asset value	\$146,000	\$221,000
Monthly allowance	\$3,485	

The above arrangements are only applicable to cases in “Auto-conversion” phase under the Higher OALA or applications for the Higher OALA in “Postal Submission” or “New Application” phases received on or before December 31, 2018. For applications received on or after January 1, 2019, eligible elderly persons will only be entitled to receive the Higher OALA from the date of eligibility.

Elderly persons must note that all payments granted on the basis of incorrect declarations will be taken as overpayment and would be duly recovered.