

**Applying for the Prince  
Philip Scholarship -  
for admission  
to Cambridge in 2014**

# History

- Managed by The Friends of Cambridge University in Hong Kong.
- [www.cambridge.org.hk](http://www.cambridge.org.hk)
- Set up in 1982.
- Funded 163 students to Cambridge.
- No strings attached!
- Highly competitive – we look for the best students.

# Who can apply?

- Hong Kong Permanent Identity Card holders who have resided in Hong Kong for a continuous period of at least 7 years.
- We welcome students taking the HKDSE, GCE A-level, IB, Cambridge Pre-U or similar exams in 2014.

# What does a full scholarship cover?

- **Non-means tested –**
  - Annual Cash Award (GBP 4,500 p.a.).
  - 1 x Economy class HK-London return airfare – to be arranged through the Friends.
- **Means tested –**
  - University Composition Fee.
  - College Fee.
  - Living Expenses.
  - Settling-In and Vacation Allowance (one-off).

# Which programme will the scholarship fund?

- **No restrictions on the choice of subject.**
- **Duration –**
  - Cover the entire undergraduate programme (Tripos) at the University of Cambridge, leading up to a BA degree,
  - but, subject to satisfactory performance, may be extended to:
    - a 4<sup>th</sup> year in Engineering, Mathematics and some subjects in Natural Sciences; and
    - subject to approval on a case-by-case basis, **post-graduate research programmes** at Cambridge.
  - Not cover clinical studies for Medics or legal practice courses for Lawyers.

# Timetable for PP applications

On or before 15 Oct 2013	Submit application papers to ensure timely receipt.
Nov 2013	Shortlisted applicants will be notified of time and venue for interviews (and written tests, if any). Medic applicants – sit BMAT.
27 Nov 2013	Written tests in HK.
28 Nov - 6 Dec 2013	Interviews in HK.
Before end of March 2014	Conditional Offers issued.
April 2014	Means tests carried out.
Summer 2014	Sit GCE-AL, IB, HKDSE, etc exams. (Maths applicants – sit STEP too.) Notify The Friends of exam results.

# When to apply?

- For admissions in Oct 2014, all application documents must be *received* by The Friends **on or before 15 Oct 2013**.

# What documents to submit?

- 1. PP Scholarship Application Form**, duly completed and signed by the applicant and endorsed by the school principal.
  - 2. Confidential School Principal's Report** in the prescribed format – format can be downloaded from The Friends' website.
- Both documents are available at:  
[www.cambridge.org.hk/scholarship.html](http://www.cambridge.org.hk/scholarship.html)

- **Important**: Read the “**Application Guidelines and Notes**” carefully before you complete the forms. (Also available on The Friends’ website.)
- **+ Attach** to the PP Scholarship Application form:
  - Printout of UCAS application.
  - Printout of COPA (if studying outside EU).
  - Copy of SAQ, if any.

# The School Principal's Report

- Academic Achievements:
  - Public examination results (if any).
  - Performance in learning activities and school assessments since S4, with ranking in class. (If awarded prizes and scholarships, state what they are for.)
  - Predictions for forthcoming exams.
- Intellectual Potential:
  - Rank the applicant in terms of critical thinking, intellectual curiosity, motivation, etc.

- Interests and personal achievements:
  - Suitability in undertaking the proposed course of study.
- Work attitude and personality:
  - Time management, maturity, perseverance, discipline, self-motivation, etc.
- Suitability for life and study in Cambridge:
  - Ability to adapt and fit into new environment.
  - Benefit from and contribution to life in Cambridge.
- Comparison with former PP scholars from the same school.

# Are there any fees?

- Application for the Prince Philip Scholarship is free of charge.
- Processing Fee (GBP 30) for COPA.
- Overseas Interview Fee (GBP 120) – if applicant is to be interviewed outside UK, but this fee will not be levied against a PP applicant who is shortlisted by the PP selection panel for an interview in HK.

# Written Tests

- Aptitude tests required by Cambridge in addition to the HKDSE.
- Depends on proposed subject of study:
  - Medicine – BMAT;
  - Law – Cambridge Law Test;
  - Mathematics – STEP;
  - Economics, Engineering, etc. – Thinking Skills Assessment
- Held in HK for shortlisted candidates on 27 Nov 2013 (except BMAT and STEP).
- No revision required.

# The Interview

- Who are the interviewers?
  - Academics from Cambridge and HK.
- How many interviews will there be?
  - In HK: usually one, for both the Scholarship and admission to Cambridge.
  - But for some subjects, it may be preferable for students to attend an interview in Cambridge, if asked. (e.g. architecture).
- How long will the interview last?
  - About 30 minutes. Strong academic bias.

# Selection Criteria

- What qualities are we looking for?
  - Academic excellence.
  - Genuine interest in the proposed subject.
  - Aptitude to study the proposed subject.
  - Overall intellectual ability.
  - Language ability.
  - Personal qualities.

- Pre-requisite subjects?
  - Always check the website of Cambridge and that of your preferred college. Some colleges may not offer your subject.
  - HKDSE:
    - At least 2 relevant academically-based Category A subjects. For some subjects, may also require Extended Module in Mathematics.
    - Integrated Science does not provide adequate preparation for Cambridge Tripos.
    - Not prefer subjects like Business, Accounts and Financial Studies; Information and Communication Technology; Health Management and Social Care; Technology and Living; Tourism and Hospitality Studies.