The Hong Kong Jockey Club Scholarships – Undergraduate Scholarship

Regulations

Objectives

The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust (the “Trust”) aims to identify and nurture outstanding talents to become compassionate leaders who will create positive change and inspire the wider society to strive for excellence. Since 1998, some HK$400 million were awarded to more than 600 young talents to support their undergraduate programmes at eight UGC-funded institutions and the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. More information is available on this website: http://jcscholarships.hk/.

Terms of the Scholarship

Under “The Hong Kong Jockey Club Scholarships – Undergraduate Scholarship” scheme (hereafter the “Scholarship”), up to 45 students from Hong Kong’s eight UGC-funded institutions and the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts will receive full scholarships in each cohort. For each of these nine institutions, up to FIVE scholarship awards will be allocated to:

- Four Hong Kong students (including a student with special educational needs\(^1\)) ; and
- One student from mainland China.

Full scholarships, covering tuition fee, academic expenses and living costs for the entire normal length of study\(^2\) towards an undergraduate degree programme, are awarded. The actual value of each scholarship is revised each year with reference to recommendations from the Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency and respective institutions on the tuition fee and living expenses of the current academic year.

The actual scholarship amount payable to individual students for a particular academic year is subject to adjustments. For example, the scholarship amount will not cover non-credit bearing programmes in which students opt to participate, either held locally or overseas, in lieu of their normal coursework required by their study programme.

Understanding that students with special educational needs may not necessarily follow the normal length of study required by their study programme due to health or other special conditions, the Trust will provide flexibility and accommodation on scholarship payment schedule upon request from the students and advice from their respective institution.

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\(^1\) One of the four scholarships for Hong Kong student is dedicated to a student with special educational needs. For definition, please refer to the Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan released by the Labour and Welfare Bureau. See http://www.lwb.gov.hk/eng/advisory/rac/rpp_report.htm (Chapter 2).

\(^2\) Students who are awarded the scholarship in year two will receive the scholarship payment for year one in arrears. The normal length of study refers to the normal number of terms or semesters that are required to complete the degree programme but not necessarily the normal number of years required.
Eligibility

To be eligible for the Scholarship, applicants must:

- Be a permanent resident of the HKSAR or a citizen of the People’s Republic of China;
- Be a full-time first-year or second-year student studying their first undergraduate degree;
- Have a high standard of academic performance [see note 1]:
  - First-year applicants must demonstrate academic excellence in DSE or another recognised entry qualification. If selected, the scholarship will be offered on the condition that the student is ranked among top 10 percent in class\(^3\) or have attained a cumulative GPA of 3.50 [see note 2] at the end of the first term;
  - Second-year applicants must be ranked among top 10 percent in class or have attained a cumulative GPA of 3.50 [see note 2] at the time of application;
- Have proficiency in Chinese (including Putonghua) and English; and
- Provide proofs for their special educational needs, if applicable.

[Note 1] Considering the additional challenges that may be faced by students with special educational needs, special accommodation may be made in the assessment process including the application of a corresponding set of academic performance requirements:

- Scholarship may be offered to first-year applicants on the condition that the student will achieve 70% of the maximum GPA achievable under the study programme. For instance, the minimum GPA required is 2.80 (out of possible GPA of 4.00) and 3.00 (out of possible GPA of 4.30).
- Second-year applicants must have attained a cumulative GPA of 2.80 (out of possible GPA of 4.0) or 3.00 (out of possible GPA of 4.30).

[Note 2] Applicants with outstanding achievements or exceptional leadership qualities but with a lower class rank (among top 15 percent) or a lower GPA of 3.30 or above may also be considered. Evidence of these qualities, which are subject to examination by the JC Scholarship Secretariat, may include but not limited to awards, prizes, or other forms of recognition/credentials for demonstrating leadership in projects that benefit the community or other outstanding achievements.

Selection Criteria and Process

All Scholars are selected according to their merits and attributes in the following aspects:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intellect</th>
<th>Academic achievements, analytical aptitude and appetite; genuine interest in their subject of study; imagination, curiosity, and a global vision</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>Outstanding leadership and team work inside or outside school activities, personal accomplishments or community commitments; potential and capabilities in challenging status quo; embrace diversity and a spirit of collaboration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Strength of character – truth, courage, devotion to duty, empathy, social awareness, commitment to fairness and justice, compassion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commitment to service</td>
<td>Commitment to betterment of others, care for social and community issues of public rather than personal benefit; connect with Hong Kong and has a view about how its community needs may be addressed</td>
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All applications received are screened and a selection panel is set up to interview shortlisted candidates at The Hong Kong Jockey Club Headquarters. All candidates must appear in person at the interview without exception.

\(^3\) ‘Class’ is defined as the group of students of the same cohort studying in the same programme.
Conditions for Renewal

The Scholarship is renewed on an annual basis subject to:
- The Scholar’s continued enrolment in the same institution;
- A class rank among top 15 percent or a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.30 [see note 3];
- Participation in community services; and
- Recommendation by the institution.

Students who do not meet the above conditions may be considered for conditional renewal upon recommendation by the institution with strong justifications. The Scholarship may be terminated if a student is unable to meet the renewal conditions.

[Note 3] Special accommodation may be provided to students with special educational needs and they are in general required to achieve consistent academic performance.

Concurrent Awards

Upon conferment, recipients of the Scholarship should not or should no longer receive another full scholarship or any other scholarships or awards that subsidise their local tuition fees, academic expenses and living expenses. The Scholars may continue to receive other honours, recognitions and awards, such as those that support the students’ non-credit-bearing overseas studies, recognise the students’ specific contributions or achievements, and, in the case of students with special educational needs, provide for supporting equipment.

The Jockey Club Scholar Experience

Recipients of the Scholarship may be called “Jockey Club Scholars” or “JC Scholars” in short. Being a JC Scholar, the student will become a member of a network of past and current JC Scholars and enjoy various privileges, such as opportunities to participate in learning, networking and community service programmes.

All JC Scholars are expected to actively support alumni activities to the best of their abilities. Most importantly, they are required to attend the scholarship award presentation ceremony of their cohort and an induction programme. Scholars are also automatically enrolled as a member of the Jockey Club Scholars Alumni Association, a self-running, Trust-supported organisation that was established to mobilise JC Scholars to serve the community.

Application and Deadline

Interested parties should approach their respective institution for more information and application details, including the application deadline. Eligible candidates will be invited to complete an application form and submit essays in both Chinese and English. All applications should be submitted to the applicants’ own institution. Application results are announced and individual applicants are notified around March of the following year.

For enquiries, please contact the respective office of your institution.

HKJC Scholarship Secretariat
Revised in July 2019