

**THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF EDUCATION**

**Postgraduate Diploma in Education (Teaching Chinese as a Second Language)
PGDE (TCSL) (self-funded)**

Applications are invited for admission in September 2025 to the one-year full-time Postgraduate Diploma in Education (Teaching Chinese as a Second Language) [PGDE (TCSL)] (self-funded) programme.

Programme Aim

This programme prepares students to teach Chinese as a second language in international school contexts at primary level. The programme adopts an inquiry-based orientation and has a full content coverage, including international curriculum design and implementation, cutting-edge second language pedagogy, and the International Baccalaureate (IB) Chinese curriculum. This programme aims to improve students' understanding of teaching Chinese as a second language and to shape them as professional educators and leaders in this field. This programme is recognized by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) for the IB Certificate in Teaching and Learning (Primary Years Programme) for Teaching Chinese as a Second Language. The graduates of this programme are specialised only for teaching Chinese in international schools. The PGDE is a teacher training qualification recognized by the Education Bureau of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR).

Please visit the [PGDE \(TCSL\) website](#) for the programme structure and course outlines.

Admissions Requirements

A candidate shall satisfy both the University Admissions Requirements and the Programme Specific Requirements as listed below.

All candidates shall:

1. comply with the [General Regulations](#) and the [Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula](#);
2. hold a Bachelor's degree of this University or a qualification of equivalent standard from this University or another comparable institution accepted for this purpose; preferably with a major in Teaching Chinese as a Foreign/Second Language, Chinese Language, Chinese Literature, Psychology, Special Education or a relevant major.

In addition,

3. a candidate who is seeking admission on the basis of a qualification from a university or comparable institution outside Hong Kong where the language of teaching and/or examination is not English, shall satisfy the University English language requirement applicable to higher degrees as prescribed under General Regulation G2(b) having:
 - a) a score of 550 or above (paper-based test) or 80 or above (internet-based test) in the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)[#]; or
 - b) a minimum overall band of 6 with no sub-test lower than 5.5 in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS)[#]; or
 - c) grade C or above in either the Overseas General Certificate of Education, the International General Certificate of Secondary Education, or the Cambridge Test of Proficiency in English Language.
4. all candidates shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination, if required.

Applications for exemption from the above requirements shall be considered on a case-by-case basis.

[#] For admission, only TOEFL / IELTS score recorded in the two years before the date of application will be considered.

Interview

Applicants who are shortlisted may be invited to attend interviews or tests and will be informed by email (at least one day before the interview). Applicants are advised to visit the [PGDE \(TCSL\) website](#) for the latest information, and to check their email for confirmed arrangements.

[Composition Fee](#)

The fee for the PGDE (TCSL) programme for 2025-26 is under review and will be announced on the programme website in due course. The fee for the PGDE (TCSL) programme for 2024-25 is HK\$237,000 payable in 2 instalments.

[Submission of Application](#)

Your application including a fee of HK\$300, which is non-refundable and non-transferable, should be submitted online at <https://www.admissions.hku.hk/tpg/programme/postgraduate-diploma-education-teaching-chinese-second-language> (from 12:00 noon, November 1, 2024). Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis so early submission is highly encouraged.

Application deadline: 12:00 noon (GMT +8), January 3, 2025 (Friday)

[Submission of Supporting Documents](#)

After submission of an online application, you are required to **upload the supporting documents** by logging on to <https://www.admissions.hku.hk/tpg/login.html> by the application deadline or within four weeks from the date of creation of your account, whichever is earlier. Please refer to the “**Instructions for Submitting Supporting Documents**” for details. Posting of documents is NOT required at the application stage. Should an applicant be considered for admission, he/she will receive an email notification from the PGDE Programme Office to submit the required documents. Please note that our request to submit documents does not necessarily mean that you will receive an offer of admission.

[Announcement of Results](#)

Successful applicants will be notified of the admission results by **email** and will receive an official Offer of Admission enclosing a Notice of Admission statement. Applicants who do not hear from the Faculty of Education by **June 30, 2025** may assume their application unsuccessful. No individual notifications will be sent.

[Enquiry](#)

General enquiries:

Admissions hotline: 3917 2544

Email: pgdetcs1@hku.hk

Academic enquiries:

Course Coordinator: Ms Sherlene Ng

Email: nghiulam@hku.hk

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