

中華人民共和國
香港特別行政區政府
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
of the People's Republic of China

政府總部
運輸及物流局

香港添馬添美道 2 號
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Transport and Logistics Bureau
Government Secretariat

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本局檔號 Our Ref.: TLB(TL)PML 9/5

來函檔號 Your Ref.:

Ms Sandy CHAN
The Managing Director
Hong Kong Shipowners Association
12/F., Queen's Centre
58 Queen's Road East
Wan Chai, Hong Kong

7 December 2023

Dear Ms Chan,

**Enhancement Measures
of the Maritime and Aviation Training Fund**

Thank you for the support of Hong Kong Shipowners Association for the nurturing of maritime talents, in particular sea-going officers, for Hong Kong over the past years. We are pleased to inform you that the Government has implemented enhancement measures for three subsidy schemes under the Maritime and Aviation Training Fund ("MATF") on 1 December 2023, to sustain our concerted efforts in attracting and retaining maritime manpower. The three enhanced schemes are namely Sea-going Training Incentive Scheme ("SGTIS"), Local Vessel Competency Enhancement Scheme ("LVCES"), and Ship Repair Training Incentive Scheme ("SRTIS").

The primary objective of SGTIS is to encourage local young individuals to pursue and complete sea-going training, thereby fostering their future careers in maritime support industries. Since April 2014, the Scheme had been offering full reimbursement of the Deck Officer or Marine Engineer Officer Class 3 examination fee and a monthly subsidy of \$6,000 to deck and engineer cadets on sea-going vessels, maximum for 18 and 12 months respectively (Phase 1). Moreover, a monthly subsidy of \$3,000 for a maximum period of 6 months would also be provided to deck and engineer cadets who are preparing for the Certificate of Competency ("CoC") Class 3 examination ashore after completion of cadetship (Phase 2) while a monthly subsidy of \$6,000 for a maximum period of 6 months would be offered to those who return to sea-going vessels after having obtained the CoC Class 3 but are awaited to be promoted to officer rank (Phase 3).

In the endeavor to strengthen the effectiveness of SGTIS in attracting, retaining and motivating young graduates to take up sea-going training, we have enhanced the Scheme by –

- raising the monthly subsidy under Phase 1 from \$6,000 to **\$10,000**;
- extending the subsidy period of Phase 2 from 6 months to **9 months**; and
- introducing a new Phase 4 so as to encourage practitioners to pursue higher professional qualifications through the provision of one-off financial incentives of **\$40,000** and **\$80,000** to those who have passed the examination and obtained Deck Officer or Marine Engineer Officer CoC Class 2 and Class 1 respectively. To attracting these professionals to continuously sail as senior officers onboard, while 30% of the incentive would be disbursed upon the obtaining of CoC, the remaining 70% is payable after they have acquired 12 months of post-qualification sea service.

Enhancement measures have also been taken on LVCES and SRTIS with scheme scope expanded and/or subsidy amounts increased.

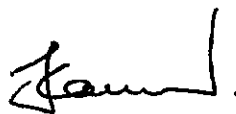
All the enhancement measures have no retrospective effect. They apply to applications submitted on or after 1 December 2023 only. Details of the three enhanced schemes have been uploaded to the website of MATF:

<https://www.tlb.gov.hk/eng/highlights/transport/20140401.html>.

We would like to solicit your assistance in sharing the above message to all your Members for information. We encourage every member of the maritime sector to make use of the enhanced measures of MATF to pursue continuous career development in the maritime sector.

Should there be any enquiries, please feel free to contact Mr Vincent LEUNG (Tel. No.: 3509 7266), Ms Daisy HO (Tel. No.: 3509 7798) of this Bureau or the MATF Secretariat (Tel. No.: 3509 7261, email address: matf@tlb.gov.hk).

Yours sincerely,



(Miss Carmen CHAN)

for Secretary for Transport and Logistics

