

Hong Kong Baptist University

Equal Opportunities and Inclusiveness – A practical guide to student admissions and student support

Hong Kong Baptist University is committed to delivering the best student experience by emphasizing integrity, creativity, communication, employability and commitment to the common good of humankind, to be achieved by, *inter alia*, inclusive admissions for diversity. The University is conscientious about providing equal and universal access, wherever reasonably practicable, to all University facilities and services. The University strives to provide reasonable accommodation to students with special educational needs (SEN) and ethnic minority students.

This document, summarizing relevant guidelines and practices, serves as a practical guide to student admissions and student support.

1. **Student Admissions**

- 1.1 The University provides equal opportunities to all students, who are admitted based on motivation and capacity to benefit from the course of study they intend to follow.

(Policy Statement on Equal Opportunities (the Policy) <https://bu-eoc.hkbu.edu.hk/assets/Uploads/equal-opportunities-policy-statement.pdf>)

- 1.2 The University adopts an inclusive admission policy which enables all deserving students to receive education at HKBU, cultivate values of embracing diversity among students and prepare students to collaborate with people of diverse backgrounds. It continues to:
- i. provide diverse subjects and learning modes to suit students of different needs, aptitudes and aspirations; and
 - ii. enable equal access to educational opportunities, regardless of family background, gender, place of origin, ethnicity, disability, age or faith heritage in our admission and student support policies.

(Learning and Teaching Strategy (September 2021): Area 4 - Inclusive Admission for Diversity https://ar.hkbu.edu.hk/f/upload/4182/Learning_and_Teaching_Strategy.pdf)

- 1.3 **Special Admissions Schemes**
The University has launched different special admission schemes for applicants of different talents and achievements.

School Nominations Direct Admission Scheme (SNDAS)

To give due recognition to applicants who have contributed to social services or made outstanding achievements in non-academic areas or who have demonstrated leadership abilities.

HKBU Talented Athletes Direct Admission Scheme (TADAS)

For local talented athletes who wish to achieve their full potential in both sports and academic pursuit.

HKBU Students with Exceptional Talent Direct Admission Scheme (SETDAS)

To recognize exceptional talents in different areas e.g., sports, music, cultural activities, creativity, leadership and others.

(<https://admissions.hkbu.edu.hk/en/hkdse.html>)

1.4 Admissions of applicants with disabilities/ SEN

For undergraduate students, applicants with a disability may indicate the nature of their disability on the application forms, and upload supporting documents together with their applications to JUPAS Office before the stipulated deadline, for consideration by the University (for details, please visit the JUPAS website).

(<https://admissions.hkbu.edu.hk/en/hkdse.html>)

For postgraduate students, applicants with a disability may indicate the nature of their disability in the online application.

For students of other study programmes, applicants with SEN can contact relevant departments for related admission details.

The University reviews these applications on an equal basis with other applications.

2. SEN Service Registration

Students with SEN are highly encouraged to self-report their SEN to the university after their admission to allow timely arrangement of necessary support services. Details of the registration procedures can be found in the link below.

(<https://sa.hkbu.edu.hk/en/cdc/ussen/sen-registration-guidelines.html>)

The Unit for Students with Special Educational Needs (USSEN) will provide further support that would be appropriate, reasonable, and effective, if necessary. Please visit the USSEN website for more details: <https://sa.hkbu.edu.hk/ussen>

3. Learning Support to Students with SEN/ Other Diverse Needs

The University provides reasonable accommodation and learning Support to SEN and ethnic minority students. They range from campus accessibility, on-campus Residential Hall, library from general and facilities provision to specific accommodation and software based on students' diverse academic and learning needs.

3.1 Accessible Campus

The University is conscientious about providing equal and universal access, wherever reasonably practicable, to all University facilities and services (The Policy). All buildings on campus comply

with the Statutory Regulations for “Buildings to be planned for use for disabled person”. Most buildings on campus are accessible via ramps or lifts. Learn more about the location of teaching buildings here.

(<https://www.hkbu.edu.hk/en/quick-links/campus-map.html>)

3.2 Library Support

The Library is committed to providing services and facilities to accommodate users with special needs. Wheelchair accessibility, accessible washrooms, Special Needs User Room equipped with assistive furniture and equipment, priority service; and academic support are provided.

(<https://library.hkbu.edu.hk/services/support-for-users-with-special-needs/>)

3.3 Academic Accommodation

The University is dedicated to fulfilling the educational and training needs of the students and enhancing student independence. Reasonable academic accommodation will be arranged for students registered with SEN such as extension of assignment deadline and extra time allowance for tests and examinations. The University will handle the special arrangements according to the specific needs of the students (with reference to **Section 12.2 of Code of Practice in Education under Disability Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 487) (DDO) of Hong Kong**).

3.4 Licensed Guide Dog/Guide Dog in Training on Campus

The University adopts a principle of “No pet/ animal on campus”. Nonetheless, the University welcomes users with his/her licensed guide dog to access the campus.

(<https://sa.hkbu.edu.hk/en/cdc/ussen/support-for-students-with-sen/other-resources.html?tabs1=guide-dog-tab>)

3.5 Quiet Room (<https://sa.hkbu.edu.hk/en/cla/student-amenities-and-welfare/quiet-rooms.html>)

3.6 Diverse food choices (e.g. Food outlets for Halal or Vegetarian food)

4. **Scholarships and Financial Aid**

To provide equal opportunities in the academic pursuits of students, the University offers a range of scholarship and financial assistance schemes designated for Ethnic Minority students, First Generation students and students with SEN.

(<https://sa.hkbu.edu.hk/sfa/scholarships/scholarships-for-ethnic-minority-students>)

(<https://sa.hkbu.edu.hk/en/cla/student-organisations-and-funding-support/financial-support-for-student-activities/emeg.html>)

(<https://sa.hkbu.edu.hk/sfa/first-generation-university-student-fund>)

(<https://sa.hkbu.edu.hk/en/cdc/ussen/support-for-students-with-sen/financial-support.html>)

5. **Awareness Raising and Capacity Building**

The University recognizes the importance of inclusive education and promotion of equity and diversity. Staff and students are encouraged to participate in related training and programmes organized by the USSEN of Office of Student Affairs, International Office, Human Resources Office and other support units from time to time.

(<http://studentlife.hkbu.edu.hk/>)

(<https://sa.hkbu.edu.hk/en/cdc/ussen/inclusive-u-life/inclusive-initiatives.html>)

- 5.1 Inclusive activities, training and workshops have been organized by the USSEN such as **Inclusion Student Ambassador Programme** engages students who share our vision to cultivate an inclusive and welcoming campus.

(<https://sa.hkbu.edu.hk/en/cdc/ussen/inclusive-u-life/inclusion-student-ambassador-programme.html>)

- 5.2 **Campus Inclusion Activities (CIA) Programme** is to recognise extra-curricular activities which include and engage students with SEN and promote awareness among the University community on campus inclusion with financial subsidies.

(<https://sa.hkbu.edu.hk/en/cdc/ussen/support-for-students-with-sen/financial-support/campus-inclusion-activities-programme.html>)

- 5.3 **Global Engagement Squad (GES)** is an event-organizing committee team for international students to promote the inclusiveness and internationalization of HKBU has been organized by Office of Student Affairs.

(<https://sa.hkbu.edu.hk/en/cla/student-organisations-and-funding-support/financial-support-for-student-activities/ges.html>)

- 5.4 International Office has organized a **Glowing Global Community Programme** which aims to orientate newly arrived international and exchange students and to foster cross-cultural exchanges between local and non-local students.

(<https://intl.hkbu.edu.hk/student-experience/glowing-global-community>)

- 5.5 **The HKBU Survival Guide** is to help Mainland students integrate into life in Hong Kong and HKBU.

(<https://sa.hkbu.edu.hk/en/cdc/mssu/hkbu-survival-guide.html>)

6. **Equal Opportunity Panel and Anti-discrimination Mechanism**

The University adopts a set of formal procedures for the investigation of discrimination complaints if any student believes that he/she has been discriminated against by another staff member or student of the University because of his/her race, gender, family status, disability and/or other forms of discrimination. Details of Equal Opportunity Panel and formal mechanism for the handling of complaints pertaining to discrimination can be found here.

[\(https://bu-eoc.hkbu.edu.hk/policies-and-procedures/procedure-on-handling-complaints-on-discrimination-harassment/\)](https://bu-eoc.hkbu.edu.hk/policies-and-procedures/procedure-on-handling-complaints-on-discrimination-harassment/)

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