

Non-means-tested Loan Scheme for Full-time Tertiary Students (NLSFT) 2023/24

Submission Guidelines (New Students)

The Non-means-tested Loan Scheme for Full-time Tertiary Students (NLSFT) is administered by the Government Student Finance Office of the Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency (SFO). It provides non-means-tested loans to students up to the total annual tuition fees payable in the academic year. For details, please visit the website of SFO at <https://www.wfsfaa.gov.hk/sfo/en/postsecondary/nlsft/overview.htm>.

Eligibility

- ✧ Applicants should be registered as a full-time student in The Chinese University of Hong Kong;
- ✧ Applicants must take up exclusively University Grants Committee (UGC)-funded or publicly-funded student places of recognized programmes. The Course Coding Sheet of the recognized programmes is available at SFO's website: <http://www.wfsfaa.gov.hk/sfo/en/postsecondary/tsfs/general/coding.htm>;
- ✧ Applicants should have the right of abode in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (Hong Kong) or alternatively, applicants or their families must have resided in Hong Kong continuously for 3 complete years prior to the commencement of the programme. This does not cover students who are staying in Hong Kong with student visas / entry permits; and
- ✧ Students can only submit an application for one eligible full-time course in any particular academic year.

Online Submission of Application

- ✧ Applicants may submit their applications through "SFO E-link – My Applications" online platform at <http://ess.wfsfaa.gov.hk>. New students should submit their online applications **on or before 22 September 2023**.

Submission of Declaration and Supporting Documents

- ✧ When completing the online application, applicants are required to provide the transaction details of the administrative fee paid (\$260) and **upload** the corresponding transaction advice, account deposit form or ATM transaction advice at "Step 5" of the online form. Please keep the original copy of the administrative fee payment proof properly, SFO may request applicants to submit the payment proof in original.
- ✧ After submission of the online form, applicants will be required to submit the declaration, and supporting documents by online uploading, by post or to the collection boxes at SFO's office. Applicants may also submit the documents to the collection box at Room 1206, 12/F, Yasumoto International Academic Park from 8:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., **Monday to Friday (except public holidays) during 4 to 29 September 2023**.
- ✧ Applicants should print the declaration and supporting documents on blank A4 white paper (Documents printed on used paper are not accepted). Applicants should staple the declaration and supporting documents together before submission.

Notes

- ✧ Applicants should study the "Guidance Notes" before submitting their applications. The Notes are available at <https://www.wfsfaa.gov.hk/sfo/pdf/common/Form/nls/NLSFT111B.pdf>.
- ✧ Applicants may refer to the online demonstration at the homepage of SFO E-link – My Applications (<https://ess.wfsfaa.gov.hk/demo>) when completing the application form.
- ✧ SFO will issue a Remittance Advice to successful applicants stipulating the amount of the NLSFT loan to be disbursed and the loan disbursement date. The NLSFT loan will be disbursed to CUHK directly to settle applicants' tuition fee payment. Office of Admissions and Financial Aid will contact those applicants who have already settled the tuition fee payment via CUHK@link email to provide their bank account information, the loan will then be paid to their bank accounts.
- ✧ Applicants who have difficulties in settling the tuition fee payment and have not received the Remittance Advice before the tuition fee payment due date or the NLSFT disbursement date is later than the tuition fee payment due date may apply for deferment of tuition fee payment. For application details, undergraduate and postgraduate students can contact their respective College and academic department respectively.
- ✧ TSFS applicants will be informed of the financial assistance they are entitled under TSFS and NLSFT, if any, simultaneously through the TSFS result notification. If they wish to accept the NLSFT loan offered, they may download the required loan documents from SFO website and submit the duly completed loan documents and other required supporting documents by post or to the collection boxes at SFO's office on or before the deadline stated in their TSFS result notification.
- ✧ **If applicants attend postgraduate courses (by research)** that commence between March 2023 and February 2024, they should apply for NLSFT under the 2023/24 academic year. The application deadline is one month following the commencement of the course and in any case not later than 31 March 2024.

Enquiries

- ✧ Government Student Financial Office
Tel. No: 2150 6222
Website: <http://www.wfsfaa.gov.hk/sfo>
- ✧ Office of Admissions and Financial Aid
Tel. No: 3943 1898 / 3943 7205
Website: <http://admission.cuhk.edu.hk>