



**長者院舍住宿照顧
服務券試驗計劃**
Pilot Scheme on Residential Care
Service Voucher for the Elderly

Introduction

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) launched the Pilot Scheme on Residential Care Service Voucher for the Elderly (Pilot Scheme) commencing in March 2017. Adopting the principle of “money-following-the-user”, the Pilot Scheme will provide **an option** whereby elderly persons in need may choose to receive residential care service (RCS) at residential care homes for the elderly (RCHes) run by Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) or private sector.

Eligibility Criteria of Elderly Participant

- Assessed under SWD’s Standardised Care Need Assessment Mechanism for Elderly Services to be of moderate level of impairment; and
- Waitlisting for care and attention places on the Central Waiting List (CWL) of the Long Term Care Services Delivery System.

Recognised Service Providers (RSPs)

- RCHes joining the Pilot Scheme as RSPs should meet the track record and service requirements as specified by SWD.
- The Pilot Scheme will be implemented in three phases with RSPs as follows –
 - Phase I: Subvented/contract/self-financing homes meeting entry requirements
 - Phase II: extended to the existing Enhanced Bought Place Scheme EAI homes meeting entry requirements
 - Phase III: All RCHes meeting entry requirements

Scope of Service

RSPs have to provide **“a standard service package”** under the voucher value for individual voucher holders as follows –

- accommodation within shared rooms;
- at least 3 meals a day plus snacks;
- basic and special nursing care;
- staff on duty 24 hours per day;
- personal care service;

- rehabilitative services session twice per week;
- regular visits by a registered medical practitioner;
- social or recreational activities on regular basis; and
- laundry service.

Voucher Value & Co-payment

Sliding scale of co-payment with **8 levels** and each voucher applicant will be assessed on **individual basis** on both assets and income –

User co-payment ratio								
Levels	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Ratio	0%	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	62.5%	75%

Actual co-payment amount for voucher holders under different co-payment levels will be calculated according to the voucher value in the year

- Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients when opting to become voucher holders should withdraw from CSSA. They will be classified as under Co-payment Level 0 if they still meet the eligibility criteria for CSSA.
- Voucher holders with Co-payment Level 0 will be granted:
 - Medical fee waiving for public healthcare expenses;
 - Full assistance under the Samaritan Fund and the Community Care Fund Medical Assistance Programme (if fulfill the application requirements);
 - Government subsidy to RSPs to cover the items, including diapers, special diet and medical consumables, for voucher holders with proven needs as assessed by public doctors.

Top-up Payment

Voucher holders and/or their families may make top-up payments to purchase enhanced or value-added services, e.g. single-room/double-room dormitory, acupuncture, etc, from RSPs, up to an amount of 150% of the full voucher value.

Trial Period and Application Status in CWL

- **6-month** trial period for each voucher holder under the Pilot Scheme;
- Change as **“inactive”** on CWL status during the trial period; and

If a voucher holder chooses to opt out of the Pilot Scheme during/upon expiry of the trial period	His/her original status in CWL will be resumed
If a voucher holder opts to stay in the Pilot Scheme upon expiry of the trial period	His/her application in CWL will be closed

Casework Service

Residential Care Service Voucher Office of SWD will provide casework support service for voucher holders, e.g. selecting/switching RSPs and providing follow-up support after their admission to RSPs.



How to Apply

- A total of **3000 vouchers** will be issued to eligible elderly persons through rounds of invitation with a specified quota of vouchers for each round.
- SWD will announce each round of invitation for applications through SWD website and send invitations to a specified number of eligible elderly persons.
- If the number of applications received exceeds the voucher quota in a particular round, allocation will be prioritised according to applicants’ position on CWL with specific quota also set for CSSA recipients. SWD will inform the applicants about the result by letters.

Enquiry

- **Residential Care Service Voucher Office of SWD (Telephone: 3107 3280 / 3107 3290)**
- Responsible workers of the elderly persons
- Visit SWD website at **www.swd.gov.hk** for the details of the Pilot Scheme and the list of RSPs



Social Welfare Department
Published in November 2019



**長者院舍住宿照顧
服務券試驗計劃**
Pilot Scheme on Residential Care
Service Voucher for the Elderly