Traffic Accident Victims Assistance (TAVA) Scheme

Important Information in Brief for Applicants

The scheme offers early financial assistance for people injured or for dependants of those killed in traffic accidents

The accident must be a traffic accident as defined under the scheme, and has been reported to Police

Application must be made within 6 months after the date of the accident

The victim was legally permitted to remain in Hong Kong at the time of the accident

The victim died from the accident, or the injury sustained by the victim gave rise to at least 3 days' hospitalization/sick leave as certified by a registered medical practitioner/registered Chinese medicine practitioner

Unless prevented by special circumstances, the applicant is required to attend an interview at the TAVA Section of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) to provide relevant information and documentary proof (e.g. death certificate, sick leave certificate)

SWD will verify the information provided by an applicant with the Police, the victim’s family members/employer, etc.

Payments are made for personal injuries; loss of or damage to property is not included

If the applicant makes any claim for other compensation in respect of the same accident, he must notify within the specified dates the Director of Social Welfare of the details of the claim, and the person against whom he has made a claim of the date and amount of TAVA payments he has received

Those who receive other compensation in respect of the same accident are required to repay the amount of TAVA payments or compensation, whichever is the less

(Note: To obtain TAVA by deception is a criminal offence. In addition to the consequence of being ineligible for assistance, the person is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a maximum of 14 years under the Theft Ordinance, Cap. 210 of the Laws of Hong Kong.)

This leaflet only provides in brief the key features of the TAVA Scheme. For more details, please read the information pamphlet on the scheme or call 2834 7472.

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