



**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 services 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) for Subsidised Long Term Care Services.

Recognised Service Providers (RSPs)

- RCHes joining the Pilot Scheme as RSPs should meet the space standard, staffing requirements and specified requirements in track record as determined by SWD.
- Currently different types of RCHes can join as RSPs, including subvented homes, contract homes, NGO-run self-financing homes, Category EA1 homes under Enhanced Bought Place Scheme and other private RCHes meeting the 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 | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----|
| Level | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Ratio | 0% | 10% | 20% | 30% | 40% | 50% | 62.5% | 75% |

Co-payment amount for voucher holders under different co-payment levels will be calculated according to the voucher value in the year or individual homes’ actual monthly home fee (current voucher value as a ceiling price) and ratio of user co-payment.

- Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients will be generally classified as under Co-payment Level 0 when applying for the voucher. When opting to become voucher holders after the trial period, they should withdraw from CSSA. Voucher holders (including those at Co-payment Level 0) may still receive Social Security Allowance subject to their eligibility under the respective scheme.
- 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);
 - Public Private Partnership Programmes (similar benefits as CSSA recipients);
 - 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 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 voucher value in force.

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

- SWD will send invitation letters to eligible elderly persons in batches according to their application dates for Long Term Care Services on the CWL, inviting them to apply for RCSVs.
- SWD will prioritise the applications with consideration to the applicants’ position on CWL. SWD will inform the applicants about the result by letters.
- Eligible elderly persons not receiving invitation letters are welcome to contact the Residential Care Service Voucher Office.

Enquiry

- **Residential Care Service Voucher Office of SWD**
(Telephone: 3107 3280 / 3107 3290)
- Responsible workers of the elderly persons
- For the details of the Pilot Scheme and information of RSPs, please visit



SWD website at
www.swd.gov.hk

and



SWD Elderly information
website at
www.elderlyinfo.swd.gov.hk

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