

\$2 Scheme

The “\$2 Scheme” enables all 1.07 million senior citizens aged 65 or above to travel on general Mass Transit Railway (MTR) lines, franchised buses, ferries and most green minibus routes anytime for a concessionary fare of \$2 per trip.



Senior Citizen Card

The Senior Citizen Card allows those aged 65 or above to enjoy certain concessions, discounts or priority services offered by government departments, public organisations and over 2 600 private enterprises.

Elder Academy Scheme

The Elder Academy Scheme encourages senior citizens to engage in continuous learning and acquire new knowledge to promote active ageing and help them lead a fulfilling life.



Elderly Centres

The 210 subvented elderly centres provide wide-ranging community support services to senior citizens and their carers. Since 2012-13, a total of \$900 million has been allocated for the Improvement Programme of Elderly Centres to enhance physical settings and facilities and encourage a more active participation of the elderly in community activities and volunteer services.



Social Security

Senior citizens aged 70 or above may apply for the non-means-tested Old Age Allowance (currently benefitting around 220 000 people). Those in need of financial support may, having regard to their financial conditions (assets and income), apply through declaration for the Old Age Living Allowance (for those aged 65 or above and currently benefitting 420 000 people) or the means-tested Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (for all ages and currently benefitting 170 000 elderly recipients aged 60 or above).

Subsidised Long-term Care Services

The Government provides subsidised community care services and residential care places to meet the long-term care needs of frail senior citizens.

Retirement on the Mainland

Senior citizens who choose to retire on the Mainland may receive help under various initiatives. These include:

- The Guangdong Scheme, which provides Old Age Allowance for eligible Hong Kong senior citizens who choose to live in Guangdong
- The Portable Comprehensive Social Security Allowance (CSSA) Scheme which enables eligible elderly CSSA recipients to continue to receive cash assistance under the CSSA Scheme if they choose to retire in Guangdong or Fujian

- The Pilot Residential Care Services Scheme in Guangdong provides senior citizens waiting for subsidised residential care places in Hong Kong with an option to choose a subsidised residential place in the two elderly homes in Shenzhen and Zhaoqing run by Hong Kong non-governmental organisations

Community Care Fund Elderly Dental Assistance Programme

Since September 2015, Old Age Living Allowance (OALA) recipients aged 80 or above are eligible for free removable dentures and related dental services. The first phase covers 130 000 elders. The Programme will be expanded in phases to cover other OALA recipient age groups.



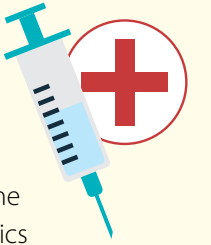
Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme

Annual \$2,000 voucher for those aged 70 or above. Vouchers can be used for primary healthcare services provided by medical practitioners, Chinese medicine practitioners, dentists, chiropractors, nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, radiographers, medical laboratory technologists and optometrists. Eligible recipients can also use vouchers to help meet the cost of outpatient services provided by designated clinics at the University of Hong Kong – Shenzhen Hospital.



Government Vaccination Programme

Free seasonal flu (SI) vaccination to all those aged 65 or above. Recipients can choose to receive free SI vaccination under the Government Vaccination Programme from all 73 General Out-patient Clinics under the Hospital Authority and 10 designated Elderly Health Centres of the Department of Health, subsidised SI vaccination from private doctors through the Elderly Vaccination Subsidy Scheme, or free SI vaccination at residential care homes for the elderly through the Residential Care Home Vaccination Programme.



ICT Outreach Programmes

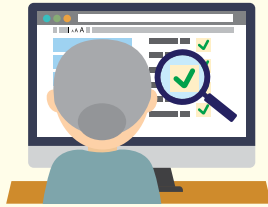
The ICT Outreach Programmes for Elderly (organised by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer) in 2014 and 2015 can help some 2 900 elderly people appreciate how ICT can enhance their quality of life. Groups include institutionalised elderly, “hidden” elderly, as well as elderly receiving day care centre or home care services. Social workers and volunteers provide one-on-one coaching on the use of tablet computers to help elderly people broaden social circles, connect with the community and lead an active, healthy life.

Government funding is also provided to social service organisations to develop mobile apps that cater for the needs of socially vulnerable groups, including the elderly.



Web Accessibility Campaign

A multi-pronged strategy to make websites more accessible for groups in need, including the elderly with age-related impairments that affect how they use online services.



Support for Building Rehabilitation

A number of schemes by different organisations provide financial and technical assistance to property owners for building rehabilitation works. The Building Maintenance Grant Scheme for Elderly Owners, administered by the Hong Kong Housing Society, provides a subsidy up to \$40,000 to elderly owner-occupiers with financial difficulties for repair and maintenance works in their buildings.



Housing

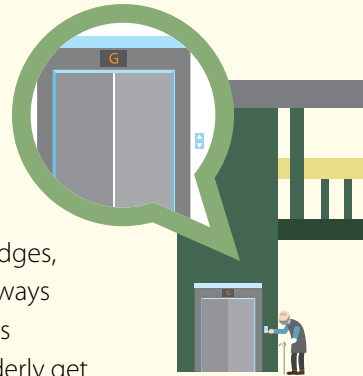
The Government will continue to apply the Universal Design concept in public housing development to provide a safe, user-friendly living environment for the elderly.

It will also:

- Continue to implement initiatives that foster mutual support among family members and care for the elderly
- Improve facilities such as elderly recreation and barrier-free access in public housing estates
- Collaborate with non-government organisations to arrange activities such as “Volunteer for Seniors Day” and “Elderly Fall Prevention Roadshows” to encourage care for the elderly and promote healthy living

Universal Accessibility

The “Universal Accessibility (UA) Programme” launched in August 2012 further enhances barrier-free access facilities at existing public walkways (i.e. footbridges, elevated walkways and subways maintained by the Highways Department) to help the elderly get around more easily. So far, 16 items to retrofit barrier-free facilities have been completed. A further 190 items in 18 districts will be implemented, with each District Council nominating three priority items. Most items are expected to be completed in phases from end-2015 to 2018.



“Age-Friendly Hong Kong” Project

The “Age-Friendly Hong Kong” project aims to raise public awareness of the importance of an age-friendly Hong Kong, and to promote innovative ways of creating a more inclusive environment for the elderly.

The 3-year project, co-organised by RTHK Radio 5 and the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, will commence in March 2016 and includes:

- Special training session for the elderly as guides promoting heritage conservation: Elderly will lead tours for their family members to heritage sites in the 18 districts
- Life story telling: Let the elderly share their memories and talk about their life experience
- Elderly Academy: Six areas of life-long learning classes will be organised



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Labour and Welfare Bureau
Food and Health Bureau
Commerce and Economic Development Bureau
Transport and Housing Bureau
Development Bureau

Caring for Our Senior Citizens

