

14 April 2022

HSBC CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE 100% PERSONAL LOAN GUARANTEE SCHEME

Starting from Tuesday, 19 April 2022, HSBC customers can apply for the enhanced version of the 100% Personal Loan Guarantee Scheme (PLGS) initiated by the Hong Kong Government through the Bank's website and hotline 24/7.

As the pandemic has hit hard on the local economy, HSBC is supportive of measures which help alleviate financial burden on customers. In addition to manpower, the Bank is drawing on its digital resources to speed up the loan process in order to provide timely assistance to customers.

Maggie Ng, Head of Wealth and Personal Banking, Hong Kong, HSBC, said: "At HSBC, we live up the name of a digitized bank and embrace technology in everything we do. Therefore, we have adopted robotics to facilitate the PLGS applications, helping to shorten the handling time by up to 20 percent and reduce human errors in manual processing."

Eligible customers¹ can apply for the PLGS via HSBC website or hotline 2996 7288. The maximum loan amount per applicant is set at nine times their average monthly income during their latest employment, subject to a cap of HKD100,000². Existing PLGS customers can apply for a top-up loan, which will be capped at the difference between the maximum loan size available under the enhanced scheme and the previous loan drawdown. The loan tenor can last for a maximum of 120 months with an annualised interest rate fixed at 1 per cent, as well as an optional principal moratorium for the first 18 months. Applicants will get full reimbursement of interest paid upon paying off the loan³.

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Note to editors:

1. Hong Kong permanent resident holding a valid Hong Kong identity card who is aged 18 or above, and has been unemployed for at least two consecutive months at the time of loan application and can produce a written declaration of unemployment and proof of a loss of main recurrent incomes from employment in Hong Kong; or self-employed individual (only for those who currently do not have any loan or credit facilities guaranteed under the SME Financing Guarantee Scheme) whose business has been ceased for at least two consecutive months at the time of loan application and can produce a written declaration of cessation of business and proof of a loss of main recurrent incomes from his business in Hong Kong. Freelancers, gig or casual workers are eligible upon the production of a written declaration of unemployment or cessation of business (as the case may be) and proof of a loss of main recurrent incomes from employment or business in Hong Kong.

2. Maximum loan is nine times the average monthly income for any three months from January 2020 to February 2022, or nine times the average monthly assessable income as calculated with reference to the tax demand note for the financial year 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 or 2021-2022, or HKD100,000, whichever is lower.

3. No handling fee, early repayment penalty, overdue interest will be charged, while late payment fee will be applied. Please refer to the T&C for details.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

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