EDUCATION BUREAU CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM NO. 25/2015

From	: Secretary for Education	To	: Heads of all Aided, Government and Caput secondary schools, local secondary schools under the Direct Subsidy Scheme

Ref.   : EDB/CDI/TE/08-35-03

Tel.   : 3698 3133

Date   : 10 February 2015

Enriched IT Programme in Secondary Schools
Request For Proposals

Purpose

This circular memorandum invites schools to apply for participation in developing and implementing an enriched information technology (IT) programme to provide intensive IT enrichment training to Secondary 2 to 6 students for four cohorts from the 2015/16 school year to 2022/23 school year with an aim to identify and cultivate young IT talents early to meet the development needs of a digital society in Hong Kong.

Background

2. Schools are the best ground to scout and develop IT talents. Early exposure in IT coupled with intensive training on logical thinking and creative problem solving in students' formative years is conducive to nurturing their computational thinking ability to innovate at a young age. The Financial Secretary announced in the 2014-15 Budget[1] that the Government planned to incorporate IT enrichment programmes in secondary schools which are outstanding in IT education hoping to cultivate young IT professionals and even entrepreneurs to meet the development needs of a digital society. The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO), with the support of the Education Bureau, will be responsible to launch the Enriched IT Programme in Secondary Schools.

Enriched IT Programme

3. The Government will select up to eight schools to be partner schools which will set aside one class at each level from Secondary 2 to 6 to provide more intensive IT training (the IT Class). In each partner school, students in the IT Class will study the same school curriculum alongside their peers in other classes. In addition, students will need to devote on average three extra class hours a week to attend a structured and enriched IT curriculum, seasoned with professional exposures and project-based learning activities to develop their IT talents. Each partner school is also required to organise three IT activities for students from other schools to take part each year.

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[1] Funding for the Enriched IT Programme has been included for consideration by the Legislative Council in the context of the Appropriation Bill 2015.

4.   A Steering Committee was formed in August 2014 to steer and oversee the implementation of the programme.   The Steering Committee has already formulated a curriculum framework for the IT Class, which aims at guiding partners schools in providing an environment and modes of learning conducive to unleash IT class students' talents and potential.   With reference to the curriculum framework, each partner school should develop and customise its school-based IT enrichment curriculum and teaching modules with modes and styles of learning most appropriate to their IT Class students.

5.   An annual "Class Grant for Enriched IT Programme" of $250,000 per IT Class will be provided to each partner school in supporting running of the IT Class, such as engagement of teaching personnel / teaching service for conducting some topics of teaching modules.   Financial support in the form of an "One-off Grant for IT Facility for Enriched IT Programme" with maximum provision of $1 million will also be provided to each partner school for acquiring and maintaining IT facilities and IT teaching materials/equipment.

Application

6.   Schools who wish to join the Enriched IT Programme should download the **Request For Proposal (RFP) document** from the Enriched IT Programme Portal at http://www.eitp.gov.hk and completed proposal should be submitted by hand in a sealed envelope marked "RESTRICTED" to the following address **by 12:00 noon on 31 March 2015**.   *Late Proposal will not be entertained*.

　　　　Office of the Government Chief Information Officer
　　　　(Attn: Secretariat of Enriched IT Programme in Secondary Schools)
　　　　15/F, Wanchai Tower, 12 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong

7.   Applicant schools will be selected based on their submitted proposals and their existing capabilities in teaching IT and cultivating talents, as well as experience in participation in IT activities/competitions.

Briefing Sessions

8.   Three identical briefing sessions will be conducted to facilitate schools' understanding of the Enriched IT Programme and the RFP.

Date	Time	Venue
11 March 2015	3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Auditorium, North District Town Hall, 2 Lung Wan Street, Sheung Shui, New Territories
12 March 2015	3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Lecture Theatre, 4/F, West Block, Education Bureau Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong.
13 March 2015	3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	G/F, Auditorium, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong.

9.   Schools are encouraged to nominate up to two representatives to attend the briefing. Registration can be made online via the Enriched IT Programme in Secondary Schools Portal or email to scitp_secretariat@ogcio.gov.hk with the name of the school, names and titles, email addresses, telephone numbers of the attendants, and choices of briefing session **on or before 26 February 2015**. Successful enrolment will be notified via email.

Enquiry

10.   For enquiries, please send email to scitp_secretariat@ogcio.gov.hk or by fax on 2573 7113 to **Secretariat of Enriched IT Programme in Secondary Schools**.

Stephen YW YIP
for Secretary for Education

c.c.   Government Chief Information Officer
       Heads of Sections – for information