

Community Care Fund
Relocation Allowance for Residents of Illegal Domestic Premises in
Industrial Buildings who Have to Move out as a result of the
Buildings Department's Enforcement Action

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: Are all residents residing in illegal domestic premises in industrial buildings (IBs) eligible for the relocation allowance?

A: For the time being, the relocation allowance will be available for application only by residents required to move out of illegal domestic premises in IBs due to enforcement action by the Buildings Department (BD).

Q2: Why aren't residents of illegal domestic premises in other non-IBs granted the relocation allowance concurrently?

A: As IBs are neither designed nor suitable for domestic use, the lives of the people residing in these illegal domestic premises including sub-divided units are at very high risk. Therefore, the BD tackles illegal domestic premises in IBs by requiring the residents affected to move out. However, residents of sub-divided units in domestic or composite buildings are not necessarily required to move out. These buildings may still be used for domestic purposes after the sub-divided units have been removed or altered.

Q3: Will relocation be arranged for residents of illegal domestic premises in IBs?

A: It is the Government's policy that none will be rendered homeless by its enforcement action. When taking enforcement action, particularly where relocation arrangement is involved, the BD will liaise with other departments concerned, such as the Housing Department and the Social Welfare Department. These two departments will provide the residents with assistance as far as practicable having regard to their actual needs.

Q4: What criteria does the applicant/family have to meet?

- A:
1. The applicant and his/her family members listed in the application form must be holder(s) of a Hong Kong Identity Card/ Hong Kong Birth Certificate. If only minor child in the family is Hong Kong resident but his/ her parent is not Hong Kong resident, adult father/ mother/ legal guardian residing with the applicant should act on behalf of the applicant in the application. In calculating the household income and the amount of allowance, the adult father/ mother/ legal guardian who is a non-Hong Kong resident will be excluded from the number of resident(s).
 2. The applicant and his/her family members should be residing together in illegal domestic premises served with statutory orders by the BD, and no residents of such illegal domestic premises in the IB have been granted an allowance under the Programme before. (If allowance under the programme has been granted to the resident(s) in an illegal domestic premises in IBs, the residents newly moved in such premises are not eligible for application of the relocation allowance under the Programme.)
 3. The applicant and his/her family members should be residing in the illegal domestic premises concerned on or before the date of the BD issuing the statutory orders and is/are still residing in that illegal domestic premises when applying for this relocation allowance.
 4. The applicant and his/her family members have/has never been granted a relocation allowance under the Programme.
 5. For one-person household, the average total monthly household income in the past 3 months should not exceed 100% of the monthly median household income of the people in Hong Kong (excluding foreign domestic helpers) as stated in the Census and Statistics Department's latest Report on General Household Survey. For two-or-more-person household, the average total monthly household income in the past 3

months should not exceed 75% of the above-mentioned monthly median household income (comparing to families of the same size). The income limits would be based on the latest figures available as at the date of submission of application form. The current income limits are shown at Appendix C of the Notes to Applicants.

6. Applicant/ family members passed the family-/ household-based means test of one of the following specified assistance schemes is/are still eligible for such assistance and no documentary proof of income is required:
 - (a) Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme;
 - (b) Hospital Authority Medical Fee Waiving Mechanism (excluding one-off waiver);
 - (c) Student Financial Assistance Schemes under the Student Financial Assistance Agency; or
 - (d) Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme.

7. The applicant and his/her family members should duly complete the application form for the Programme and submit documents required in the Part A of Notes to Applicants.

Q5: How can applicants prove their identity as an occupant?

A: When enforcement action is taken, staff of the BD will be deployed to the scene to register for the households affected and record the basic information of the residents. For some residents who are not available for an interview with the relevant officers at the specified time, they can approach the BD and provide documentary proof that they have been living in the illegal domestic premises concerned when the BD issued the statutory orders.

Q6: How long does it take to process the applications of these residents of illegal domestic premises in IBs?

A: Subject to the actual manpower deployment by the BD, it is expected that all

the procedures will be completed and the allowance issued within 4 to 5 weeks.

Q7: In what form will the allowance be issued?

A: It will be issued in the form of a crossed cheque. Justifications are required for consideration by the BD if an order cheque payable to the applicant/family is preferred.

Remarks: For further enquiries on the Programme, please contact the Buildings Department:

Postal address: G/F, Buildings Department Headquarters, North Tower,
West Kowloon Government Offices, 11 Hoi Ting Road,
Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon

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Hotline: 2626 1616 (answered by the 1823 Call Centre)

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