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1,900 apply for grants to study

MORE than 1,900 people have applied for financial help to pursue tertiary education in Britain this year.

By yesterday's deadline, the Government Secretariat had received about 830 applications from new students hoping to head for the UK.

The rest, received before August, were from students already studying in Britain.

Applicants will be screened by a means test and a list of those approved issued by the end of the year.

The scheme, funded by the Hongkong and British governments, was started five years ago to help needy students cover the higher tuition fees Britain charges overseas students.

It is open to Hongkong students pursuing full-time first degrees or other national diploma courses at universities, polytechnics and colleges.

Each government contributes £2 million (about HK\$26.4 million) to the plan.

Last year, 1,460 students, or 75 percent of applicants, received help.