

## Renaissance College Scholarship Programme 2024-25

# Policies and Procedures

***“What we want to see is the child in pursuit of knowledge, not knowledge in pursuit of the child.”***

George Bernard Shaw

Renaissance College Hong Kong (RCHK) is a world-class coeducational independent school and an IB World School. Located in the heart of Hong Kong's New Territories, the College was established as the flagship of the English Schools Foundation (ESF) in 2006 to serve the needs of the local and international expatriate community in Hong Kong.

Students are educated from Year one to university entrance on one campus, guided by an experienced international faculty. Our student body comprises 41 nationalities, with 21 languages represented on campus. English is the medium of instruction.

Apple Asia describes Renaissance College as a leading school in the region and technology is integrated college-wide throughout the curriculum. Renaissance College encourages students to pursue knowledge, learn through service, and strive to build a better world through action.

Our Creativity, Action and Service (CAS) programme is integral to college life. Students participate in a myriad of artistic, musical, sporting, and service activities conducted on and off-campus.

The Renaissance College Scholarships Programme provides pathways for motivated and talented secondary students who strive for excellence and are empowered to take progressive action.

Full scholarships are available for students from Year 7 to Year 13. Scholarship criteria are based on demonstrated academic ability, artistic and creative aptitude, sporting prowess and a commitment to service and leadership. Applicants should choose from one of five scholarships: academic, music, drama, visual arts and sports. Candidates are advised that the process is detailed and rigorous.

The deadline for receipt of applications is **1 March 2024** and the full timeline of the application process can be found on our webpage [Scholarship Application](#).

## Types of Scholarships

- Academic Scholarships
- Music Scholarships
- Theatre Scholarships
- Visual Art Scholarships
- Sports Scholarships

### 1. Academic Scholarships Description

Academically talented students often show high levels of abstract thinking, verbal and numerical reasoning, spatial relations, rapid information processing, memory and word fluency. They have the ability to be flexible and cooperative, a commitment to performance and high academic standards.

Students applying for academic scholarships should show a demonstrated ability to foster advanced analytical, critical and creative thinking skills essential to achieving success in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP) and Diploma Programme (DP).

A key feature of Renaissance College MYP and DP/CP Programmes is student involvement in the Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS) Programme. Renaissance College students have the opportunity to become involved in public speaking and debating, sporting and arts competitions and events, student leadership programs, and service to community. Renaissance College scholarship students should strive to engage in rigorous and stimulating learning and enrichment experiences both within and beyond the classroom.

## 2. Music Scholarships Description

Renaissance College invites talented music students to apply for Music Scholarships. Students can apply for a performance-based Music scholarship or a technical Music scholarship with a focus on creation and compositional work of music.

Students will be expected to act as role models for the Music curriculum and after-school activities, both assisting teacher-led activities and running their own ensembles. As mentors to younger students, Music Scholars will have opportunities to work with primary students, as well as enjoy enhanced performance opportunities. Music Scholars are expected to study DP Music in Years 12 and 13.

Students applying for Music Scholarships should strive to develop their ability and love for music through music creation, analysis, performance and reflection, and by attending a range of music activities both inside and outside school. Music is timetabled within the regular curriculum but students also have the opportunity to participate in various musical activities and demonstrate their leadership potential. In recent years Music Scholars have been awarded places for further education at Berklee College of Music, Eastman School of Music, Imperial College London and Manhattan School of Music.

## 3. Theatre Scholarships Description

Theatre Scholarships are offered to students who demonstrate a commitment to, passion for, and who have outstanding achievement in Drama and Theatre Arts. Students are expected to excel in one or more of the following focus areas in Drama and Theatre Arts: Performer, Creator, and Leader. Students can apply for a performance-based Theatre scholarship, with a focus on performing, directing, and/or creating, or a technical Theatre scholarship, with a focus on design, stagecraft, and/or technical theatre.

It is expected that candidates will make a significant contribution to Drama and Theatre Arts at the college and that they have relevant experiences contributing either at Renaissance College, or their present school community, or within the wider community. Theatre Scholars will be active contributors to Drama and Theatre Arts activities at the Renaissance College, as well as helping to engage other members of the school community in Drama and Theatre. Theatre scholars

are expected to study Theatre in Year 10 and 11 and Theatre as a subject in Years 12 and 13.

#### **4. Visual Art Scholarships Description**

Visual Art scholarships honour students who demonstrate outstanding artwork with clear evidence of technical proficiency and a distinctive personal aesthetic. Students are expected to excel in the practice of making art, alongside becoming informed and critical observers of visual culture and media. Students will need to become informed, reflective and critical practitioners within the school and local community and must be willing to take part in the co-curricular activities within the art department.

Talented art students at the College will be exposed to a stimulating environment, a multi-disciplinary approach, a wider and deeper understanding of art within its historical and cultural context, and a broader sense of career perspectives and opportunities. Visual Art scholars are expected to study Visual Art subject in Years 12 and 13.

#### **5. Sports Scholarships Description**

Sports Scholarships are awarded to students in recognition of outstanding achievement in Sports. Students applying for this scholarship must be achieving at a very high level in their chosen sport, which needs to be a sport in which RCHK competes in our seasonal sports programme (<http://www.rchk.edu.hk/content/sports>). Prospective candidates must demonstrate high achievement and effort in Physical and Health Education and athletic programmes and have a commitment to leading and developing the sports culture at the college.

Sports Scholars are expected to attend and assist in sports and promotional events at the college such as tournaments, scholarship evenings and the School Fair. It is an expectation that a sports scholar be committed to representing the school team in their chosen sport in both the ISSFHK and HKSSF leagues, whilst also taking part in the school team in any overseas competitions such as ACAMIS tournaments, which are hosted by international schools, often in neighbouring countries. It would be advantageous for prospective candidates if they have previously participated in a second RCHK Black Kites sports team.

Under the Sports Scholarship programme, students must maintain a very high standard in Physical and Health Education classes and co-curricular commitments

whilst meeting overall academic standards. They are also expected to continue developing their sporting skills and knowledge beyond school commitments.

## Eligibility

Below are the entry-year levels:

Academic Scholarships	for Years 7 – 13
Music Scholarships	for Years 9 – 13
Theatre Scholarships	for Years 10 – 13
Visual Art Scholarships	for Years 10 – 13
Sports Scholarships	for Years 10 – 13

Both new applicants to the college and current students at the college are welcome to apply. To be eligible to apply for a Renaissance College Scholarship, age appropriate students must be able to undertake full time study at the college commencing August 2024. All applicants are strongly advised to consider the following general admissions criteria before deciding to proceed with an application:

- Applicants must be able to cope with an English-medium curriculum
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate self-discipline and responsibility

## Conditions

### Application

The complete Scholarship Programme, Folio (including applicant and referee forms) is downloadable from the school's website:

<https://www.rchk.edu.hk/scholarship-application/>

Alternatively, you may request a folio from:

Scholarships Manager  
Renaissance College  
5 Hang Ming Street  
Ma On Shan, New Territories  
Hong Kong  
Telephone: (852) 3556 3536

Completed and signed application forms and referee statements must be sent to the Completed and signed application forms and referee statements must be sent to the **Admissions Office no later than 4pm, Friday, 1 March 2024.**

Applications must be completed in ink and cannot be sent by email. Applicants must attach all supporting documentation to their application.

Applications will not be considered if they are:

- Submitted late
- Not signed
- Incomplete
- Not accompanied by required supporting documentation
- Completed in pencil

Students who applied for a Renaissance College Scholarship in previous years and were unsuccessful may apply again for August 2024 entry.

### Application Timeline

<b>1 Mar 2024</b>	Applications close at 4:00 pm
<b>by 8 March 2024</b>	Notification of testing arrangements posted to all Academic scholarships applicants
<b>16 Mar 2024</b>	Academic Scholarship Selection Test conducted at Renaissance College
<b>April to May 2024</b>	Music, Theatre, Visual Art and Sports Scholarship applicants attend workshop and audition at Renaissance College
<b>May to June 2024</b>	Interviews for Academic and Other Scholarships conducted at Renaissance College
<b>June 2024</b>	Posting of all performance reports: All applicants advised of outcome

## Selection Process

All complete applications received by the due date will be screened to ensure

applicants satisfy the basic eligibility criteria. Following general testing and specialist auditions, short-listed candidates will attend a guided interview with a Scholarship Programme Panel. The final scholarship selection will be made by the Renaissance College Scholarship Programme Committee.

### **Academic Scholarships Selection**

Selection of academic scholars is based on the results of screening, testing, and interviews coordinated by the Renaissance College Scholarships Committee. The scholarship test includes individual assessments in the areas of mathematics, science (Year 8 and above), language, writing and academic potential.

Applicants will be notified of the testing date, time, venue and assessment procedures by 8 March 2024. All students who sit for the scholarships test will receive notification on whether or not they have been successful in proceeding to the next interview stage by May 2024. After attending the subsequent group and individual interviews, successful students will be offered a scholarship place to enter Renaissance College, commencing August 2024.

### **Music Scholarships Selection**

The two-stage selection process is based on musical talent and aptitude, and academic ability. At the first stage all applicants are requested to submit a recording of a recent performance on an USB thumb driver together with the application.

The second stage involves an audition performance session on shortlisted candidates conducted at Renaissance College. Students will be asked to perform an individual audition using their chosen instruments. Students are advised to present pieces appropriate to their level and to not attempt works that are below or above their present capabilities. In choosing audition pieces students should strive to select works that allow them to demonstrate technical skill, clarity, and range on their chosen instrument. Students can also opt to submit a portfolio of creation and compositional work to demonstrate their versatility within the subject area.

This second stage will take place in May 2024, at the Performing Arts Centre, Renaissance College. After subsequent individual interviews, successful students will be offered a Music scholarship place for entry to Renaissance College by June 2024.

### **Theatre Scholarships Selection**

There are three key components to the Theatre Scholarship interview and audition process - The Interview, The Audition/Showcase and The Reflection.

For the interview session, applicants are asked to present a Theatre Portfolio that showcases their interest, experience, and skills in Theatre/Technical Theatre. The Theatre Portfolio, while it can be presented in any way that the candidates prefer, should also be printed as a document for the panel to keep and refer to. Students will be asked questions with regard to how they view their future as a scholar, and there will also be questions that relate directly to the work they will have presented in their Theatre Portfolio.

For the audition (performance-based), candidates will perform two monologues, one contemporary and one Shakespearean from a prescribed list. The list will be made available to students once they have submitted their applications. Applicants will also be asked to perform an improvisation solo. As for the showcase (technical theatre), students will prepare and create, in the black box theatre space, two contrasting technical moments in theatre from a prescribed list of plays. Candidates are allowed to use actors if they wish, and if they need more than one technician to bring their showcase to fruition, they can bring along assistants they will need to help operate the equipment as they wish. The reflection is an opportunity to talk through the creative process they experienced when preparing for the audition/showcase, and what they intend their audience to feel during their performances/showcases.

Theatre auditions will take place in May 2024, at the Black Box Theatre of Renaissance College. Following subsequent individual interviews, successful students will be offered a scholarship place for entry to Renaissance College by June 2024.

### **Visual Art Scholarships Selection**

Selection, in two stages, is based on Visual Arts proficiency and aptitude, and academic ability. At the first stage, all applicants will be invited to submit an Art Digital Portfolio, which should include a maximum of 10 slides that reflect the “process of making” as well as the finished outcomes. The “process of making” could include the development of ideas, progress, designs, and artist influences as well as displaying a variety of media such as watercolour, acrylic and printmaking. Within the Digital Art Portfolio, students should include a minimum of 6 artworks with 2 produced specifically for the scholarship application, 2 produced outside the school curriculum, and \*2 produced at school/within the school curriculum.

The second stage involves an exhibition/interview session conducted at Renaissance College. Shortlisted students will be invited to present their portfolio of work. Candidates are advised to choose their work carefully so that they demonstrate a range of Visual Arts skills and techniques. Students will exhibit their work and provide an oral presentation to an interview/selection panel. Evidence



of prior achievements and references will also be taken into consideration.

This second stage will take place around May 2024 at Renaissance College.

Successful students, should they pass the following interview session, will be offered a scholarship place to enter Renaissance College by June 2024.

*\* Internal Year 9 second and third trimester students will not have as yet produced artwork in school. These students can select 2 other artworks of their choice.*

### **Sports Scholarships Selection**

Applicants should ensure they provide relevant and informative references from their chosen referees with their application.

The selection process for Sports Scholarships will also be two parts and assessed against qualitative criteria. Firstly, the selection panel may request that the applicant provide further evidence of achievement in their sport by way of video evidence or participate in sports-specific skills and fitness tests on a given date during the selection process. For qualifying candidates, the second stage is a face-to-face interview with the Sports Scholarship Selection panel around May 2024.

Successful candidates, after completing the final interview, will be notified of their final results by June 2024.

## **Selection Criteria**

The Renaissance College Scholarship Programme Committee will select students for a Renaissance College Scholarship. General selection criteria will inform and guide all selection decisions. The general Scholarship Selection Criteria include Personal Qualities, Application Requirements, and Knowledge of International Baccalaureate Programmes.

### **Personal Qualities**

Renaissance College seeks applications from globally minded young people who:

- Possess skills necessary to conduct purposeful, constructive research
- Are able to make sound decisions and to solve complex problems
- Can receive and express ideas confidently in English
- Demonstrate a commitment to learning languages other than English

- Approach unfamiliar situations without anxiety
- Have acquired a critical mass of significant knowledge
- Have integrity, honesty, and a sense of fairness and justice
- Show sensitivity towards the needs of others through service to the community
- Respect the views, values and traditions of other individuals and cultures
- Give thoughtful consideration to their own learning

### **Application Requirements**

- Are full-time students
- Demonstrate evidence of an outstanding academic record
- Are committed to extra-curricular and community service activities: participation in school and or community clubs and projects
- Demonstrate leadership either in their academic, extra-curricular activities, or community activities

### **Knowledge of International Baccalaureate Programmes**

Students should inform themselves about the International Baccalaureate Programmes and its expectations ([www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)).

In addition to satisfying general Scholarship Selection Criteria, the Committee will select students in accordance with the specific selection criteria for the Scholarship Types that the candidate has applied for.

### **Special Consideration**

Applicants and their families who believe that special consideration be given to an application due to specific circumstances or events not able to be communicated in other parts of the application should submit a letter marked CONFIDENTIAL and headed: "Special Consideration for (insert full name of applicant)." All requests for special consideration must be able to be supported and verified if necessary.

### **Other Scholarships**

Receipt of other scholarships will not necessarily preclude students from consideration, but applicants are required to inform Renaissance College of any other scholarship or award that they hold.

### **Ranking**

Academic Scholarship applicants will initially be ranked according to academic merit on the outcome of the scholarship selection test, effort and achievement results within the immediate twelve to eighteen-month reporting period. In addition, supporting documents, referee reports, portfolios, and evidence of a case for special consideration will be taken into careful account in determining

whether the applicant will be short-listed for an interview.

Students with a strong commitment to academics and a demonstrated talent, ability, or pursuit that brings honour to the college will be viewed highly. Most students successful in attaining an Academic Scholarship are highly accomplished in one or more creative, active or service pursuits.

In the case of other scholarship types, applicants will initially be ranked according to a combination of audition/interview performance, academic merit, along with effort and achievement results within the immediate eighteen-month reporting period. In addition, supporting documents, referee reports, portfolios, and evidence of a case for special consideration will be taken into careful account in determining whether the applicant will be short-listed for an interview.

Applicants are responsible for providing sufficient supporting documentation to support any claim for special consideration.

## Offer Process and Notification

Students and their families will be advised in writing of the outcome of their applications. For students who are unsuccessful, this will include an individual report on each applicant's testing and interview outcomes. Successful applicants will be advised in writing of the terms and conditions of the scholarship. At the time of accepting the offer, they must accept the conditions of the scholarship and agree to provide relevant personal information to enable the college to assess eligibility (if necessary).

### Award Disbursement

The value of a Renaissance College Academic Scholarship or other Scholarship types covers 100% of tuition fees for an entire academic year, subject to a student's continuing eligibility to hold the scholarship.

### Extraneous Expenses

The Renaissance College Scholarship Programme does not provide financial assistance to students and their families for expenses extraneous to tuition fees. These include expenses such as:

- Textbooks
- Stationery items
- School uniforms
- Field trips

- Lunch programme
- Miscellaneous Levy

## Scholarship Offer

Students and their families will be advised in writing of the scholarship offer and the terms of the scholarship. Students must agree to accept the conditions of the scholarship and agree to provide personal information relevant to assessing their ongoing eligibility to the college on reasonable request. This information will remain confidential between the college scholarship administrator, the Head of the College, and the applicant and their family.