

Basic Law and National Security Law Test (BLNST) (degree level)
organised by the Education Bureau in December 2024

Guidance Notes for Candidates

Important Points

- (1) In case unforeseeable changes to the test arrangements are required, announcement will be made on the Education Bureau (EDB) webpage at www.edb.gov.hk/en/blnst.
- (2) Starting and finishing times of test: please refer to the e-mail issued by EDB to individual candidates about the test details (the notification e-mail).
- (3) An e-mail will be sent to all applicants notifying them of the results of their application and relevant test details if the application is successful. To avoid missing any notification, applicants are responsible for providing an accurate email address in their application and ensuring that their email accounts can receive emails from the EDB, and checking each incoming mailbox (including the folders for spam, bulk and junk mails) regularly. If you do not receive the notification e-mail by **5 December 2024**, you should immediately contact the Teacher Professional Development Special Duty Team by phone at 2892 5709 or by e-mail to tpdsdt@edb.gov.hk.
- (4) You **MUST** take the test on **the date, and at the time and place specified in the notification e-mail**. Any requests for change of test date / time / venue will **NOT** be considered.
- (5) The content and format of the BLNST organised by EDB would draw reference to the arrangements of the BLNST conducted by the Civil Service Bureau (CSB). The written test is a bilingual paper (in both English and Chinese) assessing candidates' knowledge of the Basic Law (including its annexes, instruments, attachments and appendices) as well as the National Security Law. Candidates have to answer 20 multiple-choice questions within 30 minutes. Candidates who get at least 10 out of 20 questions correct will be deemed to have a pass result. More details about the BLNST can be found on EDB webpage.
- (6) Candidates should study carefully the information in these Guidance Notes. Candidates who violate the rules set out in these Guidance Notes are **LIABLE TO A PENALTY**, e.g. written warning, mark penalty, disqualification, etc.

Before the Test

- (7) You should check your body temperature before leaving for the test centre. If you have a fever or respiratory tract infection symptoms, such as coughing, shortness of breath, or sneezing, you are strongly advised **NOT** to attend the test.
- (8) You could wear mask(s) at the test centre as needed. If you have respiratory tract infection symptoms, you should wear a surgical mask to prevent the spread of infection. Invigilators will ask you to remove your mask temporarily for verification of your identity.
- (9) You should familiarise yourself with the transport route to be taken to the test centre and arrive at the test centre punctually according to the arrival time stated in the notification e-mail. You should allow more time for your trip to the test centre and pay attention to the latest traffic news on radio and television before departing for the test centre.
- (10) You **MUST** bring to the test centre :
 - (a) your identity document (original copy) i.e. Hong Kong Identity Card (HKID) (or Passport if Passport Number is reported in the application form) for identity verification. Candidates who fail to produce such proof of identity may not be allowed to take the test. The British National

(Overseas) passport cannot be used as any form of proof of identity in Hong Kong; and

- (b) your own stationery, i.e. HB pencils and erasers. Stationery will not be provided at the centre.
- (11) A **seat number** is assigned to you. To facilitate your locating the seat arranged for you, you **MUST** bring this seat number with you to the test centre and should check against the seating plan which will be posted at the centre. Failure to bring your seat number may lead to delay in your admission to the centre. The time lost in the test will **NOT** be compensated.
- (12) You **MUST bring your own watch** to time the test as not all test centres will have a clock. Complaints about having no clock or not being able to view the clock in the test centre will **NOT** be entertained. Watches with functions / applications other than those of timekeeping (e.g. smart watch) are **NOT** permitted. Please note that you are **NOT** allowed to use your mobile phones throughout the test for any purposes, including timekeeping.
- (13) You may bring an overcoat to the test centre if necessary.

Attending the Test in the Test Centre

- (14) **NO** photograph taking, audio recording or video recording before / during / after the test in the test centre and / or display of the photographs / videos / records electronically or publicly is allowed. Otherwise, you will be given a penalty, e.g. written warning, mark penalty, disqualification, etc.
- (15) Smoking, eating or drinking is **NOT** allowed in the test centre. If you need to drink water during the test, you should seek permission from an invigilator.
- (16) After the start of the test, you are **NOT** allowed to leave the test centre until the end of the test. If you need to leave early for special reasons, you are required to seek permission from the Presiding Invigilator and provide a written explanation. You are not allowed to return to the test centre for the test after you have left.
- (17) Only necessary and permitted stationery can be put on the desk. All other personal belongings, including mobile phones and other electronic devices* **MUST** be put under your chair. Mobile phones must **NOT** be covered by anything and can be clearly seen by the invigilators. You must **NOT** put any unauthorised articles (including mobile phones and other electronic devices*) on / in your desk, on your body or in your pockets throughout the test. You are therefore advised to bring only the necessary and permitted stationery to the test centre. You are also advised to bring with you a small bag to store your personal belongings. EDB assumes no responsibility for any loss of or damage to your personal belongings.
- (18) Mobile phones, other electronic devices*, and articles that can emit sound **MUST** be switched off throughout the test. You are solely responsible for ensuring that no sound (including alarm) is emitted from your mobile phone even though your phone is power off.
- (19) If you need to go to the toilet during the test, you should seek permission from an invigilator. An invigilator will accompany you and you must **NOT** carry any mobile phones, other electronic devices*, question book, answer sheet or paper to the toilet. The invigilator will record your seat number and the time taken for going to the toilet. You will **NOT** be given any extra time to make up for the time lost.
- (20) You must **NOT** turn over the pages of the question book (including after the test) or start working until you are instructed to do so.

* Electronic devices include tablets, PDAs, multimedia players, electronic dictionaries, databank watches, smart watches, wireless earphones or other wearable technologies with communication or data storage function, etc.

- (21) You must **NOT** leave your answer sheet in such a position that other candidates can see your answers.
- (22) You must **NOT** copy any questions on any paper, personal belongings or parts of your body.
- (23) You **MUST** mark the answers with HB pencils on the multiple-choice answer sheets provided. Answers written in the question book will **NOT** be marked.
- (24) You must **NOT** disturb, speak or give signals to other candidates during the test. Otherwise, you will be given **a penalty**, e.g. written warning, mark penalty, disqualification, etc.
- (25) When the announcement: **“Time is up”** is made, you **MUST** stop working and put down all your stationery immediately. You are not allowed to work on your answer sheet including using an eraser after the “Time is up” announcement. If you are still working on your answer sheet, or holding your stationery, you will be given **a penalty**, e.g. written warning, mark penalty, disqualification, etc. If you discover after the “Time is up” announcement that you have not filled in your seat number or the number of your identity document, you should wait until an invigilator comes near and **ask for permission** to fill in the relevant information.
- (26) You should listen very carefully and follow the instructions given by the Presiding Invigilator. Candidates who violate the instructions given by the Presiding Invigilator or the rules set out in these Guidance Notes, or act dishonestly in any way during the test, are **LIABLE TO A PENALTY**, e.g. written warning, mark penalty, disqualification, etc. They will also be required to provide explanations on a form after the test.
- (27) Candidates with serious sneezing or persistent coughing may be arranged to sit at the reserved seats of the test hall in order to minimise disturbance to other candidates. Candidates are required to follow the instructions of the invigilators. The time lost in the test will **NOT** be compensated.
- (28) At the end of the test, invigilators will collect candidates’ question books and answer sheets. You **MUST** remain seated until you are asked to pack your personal belongings and leave by the Presiding Invigilator.
- (29) You are **strictly forbidden** to take away any question book, answer sheet or paper, whether used or unused, out of the test centre.

Proper Ways of Filling in Multiple-choice Answer Sheets

- (30) The answer sheets will be processed by a computer. Failure to follow the instructions below may result in your answer sheet being rejected by the computer with **NO MARK** given to you.
- (31) Before going to the questions, you have to write down the following particulars on the answer sheet as instructed by the Presiding Invigilator:
- (a) Passport No. : Put down your HKID Number (or Passport Number if it is reported in the application form). Please also fill in the appropriate frame under each digit of the HKID Number.
OR HKID No.
護照號碼或
香港身分證號碼
- (b) Seat No. : Enter your 7-digit seat number and fill in the appropriate frame under each digit. Your seat number for the test is shown in the notification e-mail.
座位編號

An example of the instructions in paragraphs 31 (a) to (b) is given below:

GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION
香港特別行政區政府

ANSWER SHEET 答題紙

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- (32) You **MUST** use an **H.B. pencil to mark your answers**. Fill in the answer boxes in the same way as the example shown above. Erase wrong answers thoroughly with a clean eraser and do not fold the answer sheet.
- (33) You will score **NO** mark for marking two or more answers to the same question.
- (34) As you fill in an answer, check to see that you are answering the right question. Any requests for amending the answers after the “Time is up” announcement will **NOT** be entertained.

Test Results

- (35) The results of the test will be issued **by post** within one month after the test. Any request for a review on the BLNST result should be made by e-mail to Teacher Professional Development Special Duty Team (tpdsdt@edb.gov.hk) **by the deadline shown on the result notification**. Late submissions will **NOT** be considered.
- (36) Teachers who have passed the BLNST (degree level) will not be required to take any BLNST at / below an equivalent level again.

Tropical Cyclone / Rainstorm Warning Signal

- (37) As a general rule, the test will be held as scheduled when Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 3 or lower, and / or “Amber” or “Red” Rainstorm Warning Signal is issued. It may be postponed when Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 8 or above, or “Black” Rainstorm Warning Signal is issued.
- (38) In the event of bad weather on the test day, before you leave for the test centre, you should visit EDB webpage at www.edb.gov.hk/en/blnst for the latest test arrangements.

Others

- (39) Parking facilities will not be provided for candidates at the test venues.
- (40) Candidates should **NOT** gather in crowds. They should keep the test venue clean, particularly when using the toilets. Candidates should not, without permission, enter the offices, classrooms or any area in the test venue not open to candidates.

- (41) The acquisition of the BLNST pass results does not imply that a candidate has fully met the entry requirements of any teaching post. Persons who wish to apply for teaching posts should follow the job application procedures as stipulated by the respective recruiting schools. Verification of academic and / or professional qualifications will be carried out by the schools which will handle according to their school-based mechanism. Persons who wish to apply for teaching posts appointed on civil service terms in government schools shall pay attention to the requirement and relevant regulations set out by CSB for civil service recruitment.
- (42) If you do not meet the eligibility requirements as stipulated in the Application Form / Notes for Applicants for the BLNST (degree level) (December 2024), you will be liable to disqualification from test and / or voiding of test results.

Education Bureau

December 2024