

Application Notes
(AN-OBB 2.0 (00))



Operation Building Bright 2.0

(First Round Application)
(Applicable to Owner-Occupier)

Enquiry

3188 1188



發展局
Development Bureau



AN-OBB2.0(00)

Introduction

With a view to safeguarding public safety, the Chief Executive announced in the “2017 Policy Address” to earmark HK\$3 billion for the implementation of the “Operation Building Bright 2.0” (“**OBB 2.0**”). This one-off measure aims at providing technical and financial support for owner-occupiers of private residential or composite buildings aged 50 or above with a relatively low average annual rateable value. The Government has partnered with the Urban Renewal Authority (“**URA**”) to implement OBB 2.0, to assist owner-occupiers to act in compliance with the requirements under the Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme (“**MBIS**”).

Target Buildings

There are two categories of target buildings under OBB 2.0:

Category 1

Category 1 covers buildings whose owners or owners' organisations are prepared to carry out at least the prescribed inspection and repair works for the common parts of their buildings on a voluntary basis with a view to complying with the outstanding MBIS Statutory Notices;

Category 2

Category 2 covers buildings which have not complied with the outstanding MBIS Statutory Notices, but the owners or owners' organisations concerned have difficulties in coordinating the prescribed inspection and repair works for commons parts of the buildings and are selected by Buildings Department (BD) based on risk assessment. For Category 2 buildings, BD will exercise its statutory power to arrange consultants and contractors to carry out the necessary works on behalf of the owners.

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1. Eligibility Criteria

1.1 Owner-occupiers

- 1.1.1 **The Applicant must be** a holder of valid Hong Kong identity card;
- 1.1.2 The Applicant must be the owner of a residential unit in a Category 1 or Category 2 building under OBB 2.0^{Note 1} and the unit is solely for the purpose of self-occupation by him/her or his/her immediate family members^{Note 2}; and

Note 1: For a building owned by a Civil Servants' Co-operative Building Society, members of the society may apply for subsidy for owner-occupiers/elderly owner-occupiers under OBB 2.0.

Note 2: "Immediate family members" means spouse (i.e. lawful opposite-sex husband or wife), parents, children, stepchildren, dependent siblings, paternal or maternal grandparents, paternal or maternal grandchildren, stepparents, and the parents or stepparents of spouse.

- 1.1.3 The target building has been granted the Approval-in-Principle Letter for OBB 2.0 as a Category 1 building, or has been notified of being selected as a Category 2 building; and
- 1.1.4 The Applicant must not at the same time be a recipient of any public housing benefits, subsidies or allowances (e.g. holding public housing tenancy or public housing ownership with alienation restrictions (except building owned by Civil Servants' Co-operative Building Society)).
- 1.1.5 The Steering Committee of OBB 2.0 shall review the particular circumstances of each special case to determine the eligibility and subsidy level.
- 1.1.6 If the Applicant is the owner of more than one residential unit in Category 1 or Category 2 building(s) under OBB 2.0, he/she may only receive subsidy for the one unit occupied by him/her. Where an Applicant has received subsidy under OBB 2.0 for a certain unit, he/she shall not be entitled to any subsidy under OBB 2.0 again if he/she subsequently moves to another unit in a Category 1 or Category 2 building under OBB 2.0 owned by him/her.

1.2 Elderly Owner-Occupiers

- 1.2.1 **The Applicant must meet** the requirements as stipulated in Paragraph 1.1 of this Application Notes; and
- 1.2.2 The Applicant must be **aged 60** or above (as indicated on Hong Kong identity card) on or before the application deadline as specified in Paragraph 6.7 of this Application Notes.

2. Definition of Residential Unit

"Residential Unit" means an independent unit as registered in the Land Registry records or shown on the approved building plans, and the unit is used for residential purpose. If the Applicant lives in a unit in a composite building the use of which has been changed from non-residential to residential purpose, he/she shall make a statutory declaration in accordance with the Oaths and Declarations Ordinance declaring that the unit is entirely for residential use (excluding shophouses and any forms of commercial use)^{Note 3}.

Note 3: Such statutory declaration shall only be used for the purpose of the application for OBB 2.0 subsidy and the owners or occupiers shall not be regarded the same as any formal application for change of uses of the unit concerned to the relevant government departments. The approved uses of such unit as indicated on the relevant Occupation Permit shall not be changed because of such statutory declaration.

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3. Target Beneficiaries and Level of Subsidy

3.1 The owner-occupiers of residential units in those buildings approved for participating in OBB 2.0 may apply for the following subsidies:

- (a) For prescribed inspection and repair works for common parts of the building (which meet the requirements set out in Paragraph 4.1 of “AN-OBB2.0(Bldg)”)

| Owner-occupation unit | Level of Subsidy |
|---|---|
| Owner-occupiers | 80% of the cost of the relevant works, subject to a cap of HK\$40,000 per unit |
| Elderly owner-occupiers [See Paragraph 1.2] | 100% of the cost of the relevant works, subject to a cap of HK\$50,000 per unit |

- (b) For prescribed inspection and repair works for private projecting structures (which meet the requirements set out in Paragraph 4.2 of “AN-OBB2.0(Bldg)”)

For owner-occupiers of the buildings approved for carrying out prescribed inspection and repair works for common parts of the buildings under OBB 2.0, they may apply for the following subsidy if required:

| Owner-occupation unit | Level of Subsidy |
|-----------------------|---|
| All owner-occupiers | 50% of the cost of the relevant works, subject to a cap of HK\$6,000 per unit |

Eligible owner-occupiers **should fill in the “Integrated Building Rehabilitation Assistance Scheme (IBRAS) Application Form for Owners of Individual Units” (“Application Form”)** by themselves and submit the Application Form to URA within the application period specified in Paragraph 6.7 of this Application Notes.

- 3.2 For the avoidance of doubt, an eligible owner-occupier may only apply for the subsidy for inspection and repair works for private projecting structures of his/her residential unit after the approval for his/her building to participate in OBB 2.0 is granted.
- 3.3 If the unit is co-owned by elderly owner-occupier(s) and non-elderly person(s), the eligible elderly Applicant may apply for subsidy for 100% of the cost of the inspection and repair works for common areas of such unit, subject to a cap of HK\$50,000 per unit, on condition that he/she is an elderly owner-occupier.

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4. Other Terms

- 4.1 If the Applicant is only one of the co-owners of the unit, he/she may also apply for full subsidy for owner-occupiers/elderly owner-occupiers.
- 4.2 The Applicant shall not use the subsidies received under OBB 2.0 for any items of works which have already been subsidised by other building rehabilitation assistance schemes provided by Hong Kong Housing Society or URA (including “Common Area Repair Works Subsidy” and “Operation Building Bright 1.0”).
- 4.3 The total amount of subsidy/loan received by the Applicant under OBB 2.0, “Building Maintenance Grant Scheme” for elderly owners provided by the Hong Kong Housing Society, and the “Building Safety Loan Scheme” provided by the BD shall not exceed the actual costs paid by the Applicant for the relevant works.
- 4.4 If the Applicant has received subsidy for his/her self-occupied unit under OBB 2.0, such Applicant shall not receive any subsidies under “Common Area Repair Works Subsidy” and “Mandatory Building Inspection Subsidy Scheme” of URA for the repair works concerned.
- 4.5 Under no circumstances shall any unauthorised building works or structures on or in a building approved to participate in OBB 2.0 be regarded as a residential unit or be entitled to the subsidies under OBB 2.0.

5. Release of Subsidy

- 5.1 As regards the release of subsidy for common parts of the building, the subsidy will be released by phases (up to 4 phases) to the owners’ organisation of the building according to the progress of works for payment of the costs of inspection and repair works for common areas of the building covered by OBB 2.0. The amount of subsidy to be released by URA in each phase will be calculated according to the percentage of the completed eligible works items covered by OBB 2.0. Consultancy fee can be included in the above subsidy release application during the contracting period. The owners’ organisation shall distribute the subsidies to owner-occupiers approved to participate in OBB 2.0 in accordance with the funding allocation form provided by URA.
- 5.2 If the Applicant can submit evidence verified by the owners’ organisation of the building (e.g. payment receipts) to show that the Applicant has paid the cost of inspection and repair works for common areas of the building, URA may depend on the circumstances of each case to release the subsidy to the Applicant directly.
- 5.3 After completion of prescribed inspection and repair works for private projecting structures and submission of sufficient documentary proofs by individual Applicant, the full subsidy will be directly released to the Applicant by URA.
- 5.4 In general, URA will arrange for release of the subsidy within 30 days after receiving all required documents.

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6. Submission of Application Form and Vetting Procedures

- 6.1 The Applicant must fill in and submit the **Application Form** to URA before the application deadline as specified in Paragraph 6.7 of this Application Notes.
- 6.2 The Application Form must be submitted together with the following supporting documents:
- 6.2.1 Photocopy of Hong Kong identity card of the Applicant;
 - 6.2.2 Photocopy of the latest demand note for rates of the self-occupied unit;
 - 6.2.3 Documentary proof of self-occupation in the unit covered in the application (e.g. photocopy of public utility bills); and
 - 6.2.4 Photocopies of demand notes for the contribution to costs of works for the common areas of the building (applicable to Category 1 Buildings only).
- 6.3 The completed Application Form must be submitted by the Applicant to URA within the application period by any of the following methods:
- (a) **On-line application:**
Website: <https://www.brplatform.org.hk/e-application>
(The time of receipt of an on-line application will be adopted as the submission time of that application)
 - (b) **Submit in person or by post** to the following address:
Unit 1001, 10/F, Tower 2, Cheung Sha Wan Plaza, 833 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon
(Submission date is determined by the date of the receipt of the form signed by URA of the date of the stamp chop)
- 6.4 If there are more than one eligible Applicant for the same unit, all such eligible Applicants shall make a joint application by submitting one Application Form.
- 6.5 URA will review all information submitted by the Applicant. In case of insufficient information, URA may request the Applicant to submit additional information to avoid any delay in the approval process.
- 6.6 Once the application is approved, URA shall require the Applicant to sign a subsidy agreement.
- 6.7 Application Period
- 6.7.1 Category 1 Buildings
The Application Form must be submitted by the Applicant within two months from the date of issue of the OBB 2.0 “Approval-in-Principle Letter” by URA to the building concerned, or within two months from the date of issue of the first “Contribution Schedule for Works for the Common Areas of the Building” issued by the owners’ organisation to the Applicant, **the later of which shall be regarded as the application deadline**. URA reserves the right to reject any application not submitted within the application period.

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6.7.2 Category 2 Buildings

The Application Form must be submitted by the Applicant within six months from the date of issue of the letter by the BD notifying the Applicant of the engagement of consultants for inspection and supervision of repair works for the building concerned, or within two months from issue date of the notification letter regarding the engagement of contractors for repair works at the building concerned, the later of which shall be regarded as the application deadline. URA reserves the right to reject any application not submitted within the application period.

6.8 In case of any dispute relating to the eligibility for application or release of subsidy, the decision of URA shall be final and conclusive.

6.9 Notwithstanding any contrary provision contained in this Application Notes, URA reserves the right to reject the application, to stop release of subsidy, to recover any released subsidy or to adjust the amount of subsidy at any stage on reasonable grounds or in reasonable circumstances and the Applicant shall raise no objection.

Notes:

- (1) URA is a public body under the regulation of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) and Office of The Ombudsman, Hong Kong. All incident suspected to be related to corruption shall be reported to the ICAC immediately.
- (2) URA is a public body as defined in the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance and all staff members of URA are subject to the said Ordinance and are not allowed to solicit and accept any other forms of advantages (monetary or otherwise) from customers, contractors, suppliers, registered inspectors or any other person. For the appointment of registered inspectors, project consultants and contractors for building repair works, staff of URA shall only provide general guidance and are prohibited from taking part in any form of actions leading and influencing the Applicant in the selection of registered inspectors, project consultants and contractors (excluding the services arranged by URA under the “Smart Tender” scheme).
- (3) The Application Form and this Application Notes are not legally binding on URA. URA is not liable to any person for any loss or damages which may be incurred or sustained by relying on any information contained in the Application Form and this Application Notes.
- (4) URA reserves the right to modify the above contents at any time without prior notice. The web version shall prevail should there be any changes. Please refer to “Building Rehabilitation Platform” (www.brplatform.org.hk) for the latest version.
- (5) Any wilful misrepresentation or omission may lead to disqualification and court proceeding. The Applicant is reminded that it is a criminal offence to obtain any pecuniary advantage by deception.

Enquiry Hotline: 3188 1188

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List of Abbreviations

Application Notes for Building (Applicable to Owners' Corporation / Owners' Organisation / Representatives of all owners)

| Abbreviation | Application Notes |
|-----------------|--|
| AN-CAS | Application Notes for Common Area Repair Works Subsidy |
| AN-LIMSS | Application Notes for Lift Modernisation Subsidy Scheme |
| AN-OBB2.0(Bldg) | Application Notes for Operation Building Bright 2.0 (Applicable to Owners' Organisation of Category 1 Building) |
| AN-FSWS | Application Notes for Fire Safety Improvement Works Subsidy Scheme |
| AN-ST | Application Notes for Smart Tender Building Rehabilitation Facilitating Services |
| AN-MBISS | Application Notes for Mandatory Building Inspection Subsidy Scheme |

Application Notes for Individual Flat Owner

| Abbreviation | Application Notes |
|----------------|--|
| AN- OBB2.0(00) | Application Notes for Operation Building Bright 2.0 (Applicable to Owner- Occupier) |
| AN-LIMSS (E00) | Application Notes for Lift Modernisation Subsidy Scheme (Applicable to Elderly Owner- Occupier) |
| AN-HRIL | Application Notes for Home Renovation Interest-free Loan |
| AN-HLHG | Application Notes for Home Renovation Hardship Grant |
| AN-CASHG | Application Notes for Common Area Repair Works Hardship Grant |
| AN-BSLS | Application Notes for Building Safety Loan Scheme |
| AN-BMGS | Application Notes for Building Maintenance Grant Scheme for Elderly Owners |