



Mapa 2 O número dos alunos beneficiados do regime do subsídio de escolaridade gratuita e as despesas nos últimos dez anos

Ano lectivo	No. dos alunos beneficiados	Despesas	Subsídio médio para cada aluno (mais ou menos)
1999/2000	57,409	369,413,840	6,430
2000/2001	59,003	384,118,255	6,510
2001/2002	58,726	391,683,307	6,670
2002/2003	56,198	414,663,361	7,380
2003/2004	56,058	415,956,758	7,420
2004/2005	55,821	422,744,041	7,570
2005/2006	57,444	478,713,681	8,330
2006/2007	54,171	588,925,425	10,870
2007/2008	65,461	875,608,328	13,380
2008/2009	62,275	1,020,369,212	16,380

A significação do Regime do Subsídio de Escolaridade Gratuita

A implementação do Regime do Subsídio de Escolaridade Gratuita demonstra a alta importância dada pelo governo à educação. Nos últimos 10 anos, o governo utilizou muitos recursos na área da escolaridade gratuita. Conforme as estatísticas, no ano lectivo de 1999/2000, o governo gastou com as escolas particulares trezentos e setenta milhões patacas para escolaridade gratuita. Depois de 10 anos, no ano lectivo de 2008/2009, as despesas para escolaridade gratuita já eram de três mil e vinte milhões patacas, sendo 2.75 vezes mais em comparação com o ano lectivo de 1999/2000. O subsídio para cada aluno também aumentou de 6,500 patacas para mais de 16,000 patacas, 2.46 vezes em comparação com o ano lectivo de 1999/2000. Estes dados mostram plenamente a determinação do governo em reforçar a área de formação de recursos humanos de Macau.

A realização do Regime do Subsídio de Escolaridade Gratuita ainda pode garantir a oportunidade de escolaridade das crianças em idade escolar, especialmente aquelas que são de famílias com dificuldades económicas que, também, passam a ter oportunidades iguais de escolaridade, dando verdadeiras oportunidades iguais de

educação a todas as crianças. No entanto, o Regime do Subsídio de Escolaridade Gratuita além de dispensar o pagamento pelos pais das propinas para os filhos, e de não ser necessário pagar as taxas de serviço complementar (taxas diversas), os pais já não precisam de preocupar-se com a perda de oportunidades de estudos por motivos económicos. Com este Regime, os pais e os filhos podem escolher escolas apropriadas à vontade, o seu futuro desenvolvimento não vai ser condicionado por problemas económicos.

A implementação do Regime do Subsídio de Escolaridade Gratuita também produz efeitos positivos no âmbito da melhoria do ambiente pedagógico e de elevação da qualidade do ensino. Quando o Regime do Subsídio de Escolaridade Gratuita começou a ser aplicado no ano lectivo de 1995/1996, o governo já tinha planos de reduzir gradualmente o número de alunos de cada turma, criando condições para o ensino em turmas pequenas. No primeiro ano da realização do regime, o governo definiu o limite máximo do número de alunos de cada turma, a partir do primeiro ano do ensino infantil, em 45. No ano lectivo de 2007/2008, o limite máximo do número de alunos de cada turma foi reduzido para 35 e criou-se legislação para garantir o seu âmbito de aplicação de modo a estender-se mais uma classe anualmente, a fim de baixar ainda mais o número dos alunos de cada turma. Neste caso, os professores podem ter mais tempo para acompanhar com atenção o desenvolvimento individual e profissional dos alunos na turma, melhorar a técnica pedagógica e o interesse de estudo dos alunos, garantindo a realização desenvolvimento adequado do ensino.

Por outro lado, o Regime do Subsídio de Escolaridade Gratuita ainda pode estimular a competição positiva entre escolas e o desenvolvimento de educação diversificada. Se não existe diferença de propinas entre escolas, as escolas devem aperfeiçoar continuamente na área de docentes, resultado pedagógico e o ambiente de aprendizagem, etc, criar com esforço mais características da própria escola, com vista a atrair alunos. Neste caso, o governo pode ter um impacto profundo na qualidade da educação global de Macau através do aumento contínuo do gasto dos recursos para a escolaridade gratuita.

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02 Macao Free Education Subsidy System

Free Education Subsidy System in Macao started from infant education 3rd level (preparatory years for primary education) and the primary education stages in the academic year 1995/1996. The free education for 15 years (extended to secondary schools) was implemented comprehensively in the academic year 2007/2008. It reflected Macao Special Administrative Region's high regards on the implementation of Free Education Subsidy System. Besides reducing parents' economic burden in children's education, it brought positive effects on school management and the enhancement of educational quality.

The Development of Macao Free Education Subsidy System

In Macao, free education was first implemented in public schools and government-rule private schools. The purpose was to create equal learning opportunity for all. Starting from academic year 1995/1996, Macao Government implemented a tilted seven-year free education subsidy system in non-profit making private schools. The scope covered infant education 3rd level and the primary education stages. Schools joining this system were prohibited to collect school fees from students and parents. But schools could impose supplementary services charges according to Government's suggestions. In the early day of implementation, the calculation of subsidy was based on each student and the number of students was limited in each class of school. If the number of students in each class of school was over the ceiling number, the subsidy amount would be reduced in line with the excess number of students.

After the return of Macao to China, Free Education Subsidy System was processed with basis on each class of school. It encouraged schools to arrange small-sized class. The release of free education subsidy to small-sized class was implemented from the second half of academic year 2000/2001, starting from infant education 3rd level and was extended within applicable scope in each subsequent year to junior secondary education 3rd level. In the meantime, in order to broaden the area of free education and allow more students and families to enjoy this benefit, the Government extended free education for infant education 1st and 2nd levels in the academic year 2005/2006. From the academic year 2006/2007, schools which enjoyed free education subsidy were prohibited to collect school fees and supplementary service fees from students. In the academic year 2007/2008, the Government offered free education for 15 years (extended to senior secondary education levels). Thus, free education was implemented comprehensively.



**Table one: The Development History of Macao Free Education Subsidy System**

Date	Contents
26th June 1995	Promulgated the Decree Law No.29/95M: Starting the implementation of tilted Free Education Subsidy System. The first stage included infant education 3rd level (preparatory year for primary education) and the primary educational stage, totaling 7 years of classes. Schools which joined the system were prohibited to collect school fees from students or parents.
18th August 1997	Through the promulgation of Decree Law No.34/97/M, the related system was extended to junior secondary education 3rd level, giving a free educational period for 10 years.
11th April 2001	After a revision of Administrative Regulation No.9/2001, and backdated to the second half academic year 2000/2001, the subsidy amount for infant education 3rd level was calculated according to each class of school. The number of students in each class should be equal to or not be less than 35 but not more than 45. The subsidy amount for each class was \$261,000.
23rd August 2002	Through Administrative Regulation No.20/2002, the subsidy amount for each class was raised to \$274,500 from the academic year 2002/2003. The appropriate scope was extended to classes primary one to primary three and extended in each subsequent year to each upper class in primary educational level.
23rd June 2005	Through Chief Executive Dispatch No.229/2005, the subsidy amount for each class was raised to \$295,000 in the academic year 2005/2006.
11th August 2006	Through Administrative Regulation No.11/2006, subsidy amount for each class was \$318,000 for infant education 3rd level and primary education stage. Then subsidy system for each class was extended to junior secondary education 1st level and the subsidy amount for each class was \$479,250. The related system was extended in each subsequent year to each upper class in junior secondary education level.
18th December 2006	As set up in Administrative Regulation No.19/2006 Free Education Subsidy System was extended to infant education 1st and 2nd levels and backdated to the academic year 2005/2006. Also starting from academic year 2006/2007, free education included free charge of school fee and cancelling of supplementary service fees. The subsidy amount for each class was \$370,000 for infant education, primary education stages and \$558,450 for junior secondary level. For infant education 1st level, the number of students in each class was reduced to 25 and extended subsequently in each year to other levels of infant education stage and primary education stage.
27th August 2007	Through Administrative Regulation No.17/2007, Free Education Subsidy System was extended to senior secondary education stage from the academic year 2007/2008. Thus free education for 15 years was implemented comprehensively. The subsidy amount for each class would be \$400,000, \$600,000 and \$700,000 for infant and primary educational stage, junior secondary educational stage and senior secondary educational stage respectively.

Remarks: Free education was implemented in public schools and government-rule private school before 1995.

Resources on Free education subsidy system invested by Government had been enhanced continually. According to the new public announcement, in the academic year 2009/2010, the subsidy amount for each class was: \$510,000 for infant education and primary education; \$690,000 for junior secondary stage and \$800,000 for senior secondary stage. Table two showed in details the resources of Free Education Subsidy System invested by Government from the academic year 1995/1996 up to now. It revealed that besides the enhancement of comprehensive subsidy amount, the average subsidy amount for each student increased in each year.

Table two: Number of subsidized students and total expenses for Free Education Subsidy System in recent 10 years

Academic Year	Number of Subsidized Students	Expenses in dollar	Average subsidy amount for each student
1999/2000	57,409	369,413,840	Around 6,430
2000/2001	59,003	384,118,255	Around 6,510
2001/2002	58,726	391,683,307	Around 6,670
2002/2003	56,198	414,663,361	Around 7,380
2003/2004	56,058	415,956,758	Around 7,420
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The meaning of Free Education Subsidy System

The implementation of Free Education Subsidy System reflected Government's high regards on education. In the past 10 years, the Government invested aggressively in the implementation of free education. According to revealed data, the Government had invested \$370,000,000 in private schools in the academic year 1999/2000; 10 years later, the Government invested \$1,020,000,000 in free education in the academic year 2008/2009 which was 2.75 times compared to the academic year 1999/2000. The investment in each student was increased from \$6,500 to not less than \$16,000 which was 2.46 times compared to the academic year 1999/2000. Thus it fully reflected that the Government had reinforced the decision to cultivate Macao talents.

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The implementation of free education subsidy system ensured the schooling opportunity for school aged children, especially for students who came from families with financial problems, realizing the true idea of equal educational opportunity. In the meantime, free education system exempted school fees for parents and cancelled supplementary services charges (known as miscellaneous fee). It allowed parents not to worry about their children's losing the learning opportunity because of family financial problem. Despite their family financial problems, parents and students could choose appropriate schools freely to pursue study for their future developments.

The implementation of Free Education Subsidy System improved the teaching environment of schools and had an aggressive effect on the enhancement of educational quality. Since the implementation of Free Education Subsidy System in the academic year 1995/1996, the Government had plans to reduce the number of students in each class subsequently and created small-sized class for teaching. In the first year of implementation, the Government limited the number of students in each class to not more than 45 for infant education 1st level. From the academic year 2007/2008, the maximum number of students in each class was reduced from

45 to 35 and subsequently extended in each year to the upper level through legislation, so as to reduce the number of students in each class gradually. In this way, it allowed the teachers to have more time to pay attention to the individual and specialized development of each student in the class. It enhanced continually the teaching skills of teachers and learning motivation of students and ensured the smooth progress and development of teaching.

Besides these, Free Education Subsidy System also promoted healthy competition and diversified development between schools. When miscellaneous fees were the same for all schools, the schools needed to enhance continually in their teachers' quality, teaching effects, study environment and build up a characteristic schooling in order to attract students to study there. From that we could see that the Government's continual and increasing investment in free education had profound effect on the educational quality of Macao as a whole.

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03

全力协助孩子度过“中一”关键期

经过一个漫长的暑假，家中原来是小学生的孩子，要踏上人生学习的另一阶段。升上“中一”后，孩子好像忽然长大，因步入青春期而感到要独立自主，但面对学习却往往没有自主能力。家长的担心便油然而生：怕孩子“反叛”而学坏，怕孩子的学业追不上，怕……真的，孩子升上“中一”，家长与孩子都须重视并勇于面对一些问题。

一、重视孩子生理与心理的变化

踏入中一的孩子大多开始进入青春期，所以，父母有必要关注他们生理与心理上的常见变化，这些变化包括：

- 身高增长迅速，第二性征出现；
- 生理上的渐变使情绪不稳定，有时会不知怎样便不开心，情绪低落，又或会很容易激动，发脾气；
- 认为自己已长大了，很希望可以自己决定自己的事情，例如衣着、时间安排、金钱花费等；
- 常觉得父母不了解自己，只会烦自己，而感到孤独、无助；
- 因父母忙于工作，觉得无人陪伴或倾听自己，又或以为“无王管”，可以尽情放肆；
- 觉得朋友才是知己，是唯一可信的及可以帮助解决问题的人。

二、挫折起于“中一”的掉以轻心

部分家长最担心孩子的学业，把孩子自小便送到补习社。这些在小学一向依赖补习的孩子，小学毕业后多会跟家长说：“我不想去补习，让我试试自己温习啦！”家长以为孩子升上“中一”，开始独立了，掉以轻心而没有抓紧“中一”这个关键期，孩子的挫折由此而起。

事实上，“中一”是孩子学习管理自己的重要时期。中学的学习方法跟小学有很大的分别，中学较着重思考，要求学生将学到东西用于解决问题，不习惯动脑筋的孩子会感到吃力。加上中学老师给学生的指导，也不会像教小学生那般详细，学生在一定程度上要自己安排自己的学习。本来孩子经过小学阶段的训练，应该懂得温习方法并安排好自己温习的份量、时间与先后次序，但孩子在似懂非懂的时候，往往是接不上的。

让孩子完全独立自主，很容易导致孩子玩乐时间多于一切的情况发生，如果父母皆是上班一族，孩子便变得“无王管”了。结果，温习时间少少，而娱乐时间多多；书本打开“看”一次便“懂”了，因老师说过不要死记，测验时写到重点便可。然而，谁都知道，不明不白又怎样写到重点呢？中学课程科目多了，上课时间加长，每次测验的内容加多，没有充足时间温习，怎能应付各科的测验和考试？学习的压力增加了，孩子没有因此而勤加努力，反而借此要求“减压”、放松心情，久而久之必然成绩大退，对学业变得有心无力。既然学业无希望，挫折得多，便采取放弃的态度，继续沉迷玩乐，最后只能“留班”重读。不仅白白浪费了一年的时间，更可能令学生对自己的学习能力失去信心！

因此，孩子踏入“中一”后，家长在这阶段仍要对他们作出适当的辅导，在陪伴孩子学习独立之余，更要教导他们学会控制自己的情绪、管理自己的学习及调节娱乐的时间等等，让孩子在理解到独立自主的同时，更要对父母和自己负责，明白自己的价值，努力站稳“中一”这个关键期。

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