



Guideline for Company Applicants

5th Hong Kong Digital Advertising Industry Fresh Graduate Support Scheme

Background

In the past few years, digital advertising has been developing at a rapid pace and has gained wide popularity among business users. As digital advertising requires a wide range of specialized techniques, it is often difficult to recruit new blood for the industry. At present, while a lot of digital advertising companies express the difficulty in finding the right person to conduct industry campaigns, fresh graduates who intend to join the industry face many hurdles as they lack the relevant training and experience demanded by most digital advertising companies.

With the funding support from the CreateSmart Initiative (“CSI”) of Create Hong Kong (“CreateHK”) of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Hong Kong Digital Advertising Industry Fresh Graduate Support Scheme (the “Support Scheme”) is organized for the fifth time from 2020 to 2023. The purpose of the Support Scheme is to encourage digital advertising companies to employ and offer training to fresh graduates from the related disciplines, with the hope that more well-equipped talents will be recruited for the industry who in long turn will propel the development of the profession on a general scale.

Objectives

- ◆ To encourage digital advertising companies to employ and train fresh graduates who aspire to develop their career in the industry; and
- ◆ To foster the development of the digital advertising industry by nurturing more well-equipped digital advertising talents.

Scheme Outline

The Support Scheme aims to match up digital advertising companies with graduates from the related disciplines for the latter to receive full-time employment. During the employment period covered by the Support Scheme, the Employing Companies will provide their graduate employees with on-the-job training.

A monthly subsidy of *HK\$7,000 (the amount may vary pending on final approval of CreateHK) for a maximum of 12 months per graduate employee will be provided by the Support Scheme under government funding to the successful company applicant (“Employing Company”) to support the salary of its graduate employee. Up to *80 graduate employees will be subsidized in the two program years of the Support Scheme.

The Support Scheme offers an online CV and e-portfolio platform which is opened to all Employing



Companies for recruitment purpose. Career talks, CPD training, a portfolio presentation event and a program graduation ceremony cum sharing seminar will also be organized to help Employing Companies recruit graduate employees and to train digital advertising talents.

Application Procedure

- ◆ Interested digital advertising companies should download the application form from the eDM and submit the completed form to gss5@hkaim.org by **17:00, 8 May 2020**.
- ◆ A Vetting Committee will review the company applications based on the relevance of business nature to the Support Scheme and track record of the company applicant, as well as the effectiveness of the training program to be provided by the company applicant to the graduate employee(s) under the Support Scheme as outlined in the application form.
- ◆ Employing Companies will be notified of the application result and will be provided with a user password to access the online platform at the Support Scheme website for posting their job offerings and to review the CV and e-portfolio submitted by applying graduates under the Support Scheme.
- ◆ If pre-employment interview with applying graduates is needed, it should be arranged by the Employing Company with the applying graduates directly.
- ◆ Employing Company should inform the organizer within two weeks after they have successfully recruited the graduate employee(s) for the organizer to arrange release of salary subsidy after the graduate employee(s) reported duty.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the Support Scheme, a company applicant:

- ◆ should be a local business holding valid business registration certificate;
- ◆ should have substantial business connection and ongoing development in Hong Kong;
- ◆ should have digital advertising as its business focus;
- ◆ should provide a 12-month on-the-job training for the graduate employee(s) under the Support Scheme; and
- ◆ **Should comply with the Statutory Minimum Wage and offer a competitive market rate that the subsidy will not constitute more than 50% of the monthly basic salary (i.e. at least *HK\$14,000/month) of each graduate employee employed by Employing Company under the Support Scheme**

Other Requirements to Employing Company:

1. The monthly subsidy should be used solely and directly on the salary of the graduate employee only, any disbursement of subsidy to cover other cost incurred in the employment is not allowed.



-
2. Employing Company could apply to employ a maximum of 2 graduate employees under the Support Scheme in each program year, and the total number of subsidized graduate employee(s) to be covered by the Support Scheme for each Employing Company should not exceed 3 at any time in which the 3 quotas shall include graduate(s) employed under previous edition that are still yet to complete the 12 month placement.
 3. Employing Company should ensure that the recruitment process is conducted in a fair and impartial manner without any conflict of interests.
 4. Appraisal reviews should be conducted by the Employing Company with its graduate employee(s) on a half-yearly basis during the subsidized period and reports of the appraisal reviews must be submitted to the organizer for record.
 5. Employing Company agrees to encourage graduate employee(s) to attend the CPD training organized by the organizer under the Support Scheme as part of their continuous training. Employing Company will ensure that each graduate employee must attend at least 1 CPD training.
 6. Employing Company should hire the graduate employee(s) within 4 months after the place is offered by the organizer, or the organizer has the right to release the quota and allocate it to another company.
 7. In case of termination of employment by either the Employing Company or the graduate employee, reasons for the termination and the effective date should be provided by the Employing Company to the organizer in writing within 1 month after the employment is terminated.
 8. One time replacement is allowed for each quota of graduate employee if the remaining subsidized period of that quota is 8 months or above. The Employing Company should hire the replacing graduate within 3 months after the employment of the leaving graduate employee was terminated. The subsidized period of the replacing graduate employee should only be the remaining subsidized period not completed by the leaving graduate employee.
 9. Employing Company should comply with **Hong Kong Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance** and ensure that all personal information of applying graduates received from the organizer or accessed by the Employing Company from the Support Scheme website is strictly used for recruitment purpose under the Support Scheme. If its application to the Support Scheme is successful, the Employing Company agrees to publicize its company information (including company name, company profile and contact information) and details of the job to be offered under the Support Scheme on the Support Scheme website.
 10. Upon acceptance of the offer under the Support Scheme, Employing Company agrees to



provide information on its employment of graduate employee(s) under the Support Scheme to the organizer. The required information includes but is not limited to the respective position and salary of the graduate employee(s) at the beginning and completion of the subsidized period for project implementation and evaluation.

11. The general guideline of government funding program is to avoid “double funding” that applies also to 5th GSS. In light of this, participating companies of 5th GSS should NOT apply the Employment Support Scheme (ESS) with the hired graduate under the scheme. However, participating company can apply the ESS with other staff members whose present salary is NOT subsidized by government fund directly.

Application Deadline

Completed application form must be submitted to gss5@hkaim.org by **17:00, 8 May 2020**

Important dates to note (Tentative):

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Application deadline for interested digital advertising companies | 8 May 2020 |
| Review of company applications by the Vetting Committee and announcement of application results | Late May 2020 |
| Online platform opens to eligible graduates for registering and submitting CV and e-portfolio of digital creative works | Jun 2020 |
| Posting of jobs offered by Employing Companies on online platform <i>Note: Registered graduates may apply for the posted jobs by logging in the Support Scheme website for application</i> | Jun 2020 |
| Offer of jobs to graduates by Employing Companies <i>Note: Employing companies may require applying graduates to attend job interviews. Interviewees will receive notifications from Employing Companies directly</i> | Jun - Oct 2020 |
| 1 st Career Talk | Sep 2020 |
| 1 st CPD Training | Oct - Dec 2020 |
| 2 nd CPD Training | Mar - May 2021 |

***Note: AIM is seeking funding support from CreateHK on this project. The project scope and the monthly subsidy amount may vary pending on government approval.**