Launch of Flywire, A New Cross-border Payment Channel, and Scheduled Termination of WeChat Pay Bill Payment Channel

The University is pleased to introduce Flywire as a new payment channel for cross-border collection of tuition fee, hostel fee, locker fee and miscellaneous fees. Flywire is a multi-lingual electronic payment channel that allows payers to make payments from almost any bank in any country anytime, anywhere. It allows international payments from abroad (including China) in home currency via various payment options, such as ebanking, Visa Card, MasterCard, UnionPay, American Express, Alipay and PayPal.

With Flywire, payers can pay the exact billing amount of the University and settle such payment in their home currency without worrying about fluctuating exchange rates. Payers can also track their payment status via Flywire's online dashboard, with instant notification via mobile app and/or SMS.

Although the University and Flywire do not charge a fee for this service, payers are reminded to note the cost differences for their payments in their home currency under different payment channels before confirming a payment.

The new Flywire portal will be rolled out in two phases as follows:

Phases	Scheduled launch date	Payment coverage
Phase 1	2 August 2021	Tuition fee, hostel fee and locker fee
Phase 2	First quarter of 2022	Application fee, conference fee and other miscellaneous fees

For more information about Flywire, please refer to (i) Flywire Payer Guide (click *here*); and (ii) Introductory Video for Flywire (click *here*). The useful information mentioned above can be found on the website of the Finance Office.

On the other hand, the University was recently informed that the service fee for WeChat Pay bill payment service would increase significantly starting from 1 November 2021 due to a change of its fee-charging scheme from a flat nominal fee per transaction to a flat percentage fee on the transaction amount.

After due assessment, the University Administration believes that Flywire can replace WeChat Pay bill payment service by providing an even more comprehensive payment solution to overseas payers. Therefore, the University Administration has decided to terminate the use of

WeChat Pay bill payment service with effect from <u>1 November 2021</u> (Termination Date). The cessation of WeChat Pay bill payment service will have minimal impact to students' fee payments for Semester 1, 2021 as most overseas students, if not all, should have settled their fees before the Termination Date.

If you have any questions on the above, please feel free to contact the Finance Office hotline at 3411-2266 or fostudent@hkbu.edu.hk.

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