

Application for Deferral of Rates and/or Government Rent Payment Due Date for Specified Commercial Premises

1. Who can apply to defer payment of rates and/or Government rent for Specified Commercial Premises?

The registered rates and/or Government rent payer or its authorised agent may apply for the tenement which is:

- (a) wholly or primarily used as a Specified Commercial Premises (see “What are the Specified Commercial Premises” as set out below); and
- (b) subject to an existing tenancy as at the date of application.

2. What are the Specified Commercial Premises?

The Specified Commercial Premises refer to:

- (a) Scheduled premises under section 2 of Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F), include the following types of premises but excludes a cruise ship, and a self-service shop (commonly known as supermarket) where fresh produce, food other than fresh produce, beverages and household goods are sold:
 - i. Amusement game centre
 - ii. Bathhouse
 - iii. Fitness centre
 - iv. Place of amusement
 - v. Place of public entertainment
 - vi. Premises (commonly known as party room) that are maintained or intended to be maintained for hire for holding social gatherings
 - vii. Beauty parlour
 - viii. Club-house
 - ix. Establishment (commonly known as club or nightclub) that is open late into the night, usually for drinking, and dancing or other entertainment
 - x. Karaoke establishment
 - xi. Mahjong-tin kau premises
 - xii. Massage establishment
 - xiii. Sports premises
 - xiv. Swimming pool
 - xv. Hotel or guesthouse (except the premises specified in the Schedule to the Hotel and Guesthouse Accommodation (Exclusion) Order (Cap. 349 sub. leg. C))
 - xvi. Premises that-
 - a. are not
 - (i) private premises; or
 - (ii) a place of public entertainment; and
 - b. are for the time being used, with the consent of the owner, manager or tenant of the premises, for holding a specified event (including a meeting, forum,

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symposium, exhibition, ceremonial event and celebratory event)

- xvii. Premises other than a beauty parlour (commonly known as barber shop or hair salon) where a person may have his or her hair on the face or on the head shaved, trimmed, cut or washed, or have other treatments done to the hair
- xviii. Religious premises
- xix. Shopping mall
- xx. Premises (commonly known as department store) where a wide variety of goods (for example, men's and women's clothing, furniture, electrical appliances and hardware) are sold in separate departments
- xxi. Market
- (b) Catering and food business premises
- (c) Child care centre (as referred to under the Child Care Services Ordinance (Cap. 243))
- (d) Kindergarten
- (e) Private primary day school and private secondary day school, including international school, private independent school, and other private primary day school and private secondary day school offering formal curriculum
- (f) Retail shop, but excluding self-service shop (commonly known as supermarket) where fresh produce, food other than fresh produce, beverages and household goods are sold
- (g) Tutorial school (tutorial school means an exempted school as defined by section 2 of the Education (Exemption) (Private Schools Offering Non-Formal Curriculum Order (Cap. 279 sub. Leg. F)))
- (h) Premises where hobby classes are provided
- (i) Premises where the business of travel agents (as referred to under the Travel Agents Ordinance (Cap. 218)) is carried on
- (j) Premises where the business of cruise ships (as referred to under section 1 of Part 2 of Schedule 2 to Cap. 599F) is carried on (excluding cruise ships)
- (k) Premises where the business of employment agencies (as referred to under section 50(1) of the Employment Ordinance (Cap. 57)) is carried on
- (l) Premises where the business of organizing pop concerts is carried on
- (m) Premises where the business of providing catering services for schools and post secondary education institutions is carried on
- (n) Premises where the laundry trade is carried on
- (o) Premises where the dishware washing trade is carried on
- (p) Premises where a performing arts group in the arts and culture sector operates the business of the group
- (q) Premises where the fresh food wholesale business is carried on

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3. How to apply for the deferral of rates and/or Government rent payment for Specified Commercial Premises?

To enable expeditious processing of applications, applicants are strongly advised to apply online by submitting an electronic form (e-RVD 1070) at RVD's website (www.rvd.gov.hk). Alternatively, they may submit a completed application form (RVD 1070) in person or by post to the RVD at 15/F, Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices, 303 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon. Applicant may download the form RVD 1070 from the RVD's website or call its hotline 2152 0111 or the automated telephone enquiry service on 2152 2152.

4. Can I apply for the deferral of rates and/or Government rent payment for Specified Commercial Premises at any time?

All applications for the deferral of rates and/or Government rent payment of Specified Commercial Premises must reach the RVD *on or before* the following dates:

- (a) 20 April 2022 - for accounts with autopay instruction; or
- (b) 6 May 2022 - for other accounts

Any application received by the RVD after the respective deadlines above will not be processed.

(Application already closed on 6 May 2022)

5. Which quarterly payment of rates and/or Government rent can we apply for deferral of the due date?

The Deferral of Payment of Rates and/or Government Rent for "Specified Commercial Premises" scheme is only applicable to the outstanding amounts of rates and/or Government rent for the quarter of April to June 2022 and January to March 2022 (if still outstanding). Paid amount will not be refunded.

6. If the application for deferred payment is successful, when will the registered payer be required to settle the rates and/or Government rent concerned?

If application is approved, the original due date of 29 April 2022 for the quarterly demand for April to June 2022 (and January to March 2022 if applicable) will be extended to 12 August 2022 with no surcharge imposed until the extended due date. RVD will issue a demand to successful applications in July 2022 showing the deferred amount of rates and/or Government rent and the extended due date.

7. Do I need to provide any supporting documents for the application?

Applicant is initially required to provide the information and make a declaration as required on the application form of RVD 1070/e-RVD 1070. However, the applicants may be required to provide relevant supporting document(s) in relation to the information provided on the application form as and when requested by the RVD. No financial proof is required for the application.

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8. What will happen if the approved deferral of Rates and/or Government rent payment is not settled after the extended due date of 12 August 2022?

If the deferred rates and/or Government rent is not paid on or before the extended due date of 12 August 2022, a surcharge will be imposed on the whole outstanding amount.

9. Should the relevant outstanding rates and /or Government rent applied for deferral be paid first pending the result of the application?

If you have already submitted an application for deferral of payment, you do not need to settle the outstanding payment first. Normally, you will be informed of the result in around 3 weeks. If your application is unsuccessful, another due date will be provided for you to make payment. No refund will be made for all paid rates and/or Government rent.

10. When will I receive the result of application for deferral of rates and/or Government rent payment?

RVD will normally inform the applicant of the result by e-mail or by post within 3 weeks after receiving the application.

11. Can I apply for the deferral of payment for accounts under the consolidated demand?

Yes, you may apply. To enable expeditious processing of applications, applicants are strongly advised to apply online by submitting an electronic form (e-RVD 1070) at RVD's website www.rvd.gov.hk. Alternatively, they may submit a completed application form (RVD 1070) in person or by post to the RVD at 15/F, Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices, 303 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon. Applicant may download the form RVD 1070 from the RVD's website or call its hotline 2152 0111 or the automated telephone enquiry service on 2152 2152.

12. For accounts with autopay instruction, are the applicants required to contact the bank to suppress payment if the due date is deferred?

No. RVD will not initiate payment instruction if the registered payer has submitted application on or before the deadline of 20 April 2022.