



## **Guidance Notes Application for Working Holiday Visa for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR)**

### **I – Purpose of the Working Holiday Scheme**

1. The purpose of the Working Holiday Scheme (hereafter “the Scheme”) is to facilitate cultural and educational exchange between Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (hereafter “the HKSAR”) and the participating country <sup>(Note 1, Annex)</sup> with a view to strengthening the bilateral relationship.
2. National passport holders aged between 18 and 30 of the participating country, who are ordinarily residing in their home country and whose main intention to Hong Kong is to holiday, are welcome to join the Scheme.

### **II – Submission of Application**

3. An applicant shall submit the application and upload all supporting documents online through the designated GovHK website at the following link:  
[www.gov.hk/en/nonresidents/visarequire/visasentrypermits/apply/workingholiday.htm](http://www.gov.hk/en/nonresidents/visarequire/visasentrypermits/apply/workingholiday.htm)



Online Application for  
the Scheme

### **III – Supporting Documents**

4. To facilitate the Immigration Department (hereafter “ImmD”) to process application under the Scheme, the applicant should upload the following documents when submitting the online application:
  - (a) the applicant’s valid travel document, showing the applicant’s personal particulars, nationality, date of issue and expiry of the travel document;
  - (b) the applicant’s financial proof of having an amount <sup>(Note 2, Annex)</sup> sufficient for maintenance during the proposed stay in the HKSAR, e.g. bank statement, saving accounts passbooks, etc.;
  - (c) the applicant’s air ticket for returning to the home country or the applicant’s financial proof of having an amount equivalent to the return air fare; and
  - (d) the applicant’s proof of acceptance to hold medical, healthcare (including hospitalisation), repatriation and liability insurance to remain in force throughout the stay in the HKSAR <sup>(Note 3, Annex)</sup>.

## **IV – Conditions and Restrictions**

5. Successful applicant will be issued with a “Working Holiday” visa. Holder of such visa will be allowed to enter the HKSAR for a period of not more than 12 months and shall be subject to the following conditions of stay:

- (a) he/she is not permitted to engage in permanent employment, but may take up temporary employment as an incidental aspect of his/her holiday<sup>(Note 4, Annex)</sup>;
- (b) he/she may enrol in study or training course(s)<sup>(Note 5, Annex)</sup>; and
- (c) extension of stay applications will not normally be considered.

6. Applicant who has come to Hong Kong before under the Scheme will not be eligible to come again under the same Scheme.

7. Applications for entry as dependants of the participants of the Scheme will not be considered.

8. It is an offence to make false statements or representations to an immigration officer. A person who knowingly and willfully makes a statement or gives information which he/she knows to be false or does not believe to be true shall be guilty of an offence under the Laws of Hong Kong and any such visa issued or permission to enter or remain in the HKSAR granted shall have no effect.

## **V – Payment of Fees**

9. Upon approval of the applications, the notification of the application result issued by the ImmD will include a webpage link for payment. Payment of relevant fees<sup>(Note 6, Annex)</sup> could be made through the said webpage link or the GovHK website or the ImmD Mobile Application by credit card (VISA, Mastercard, UnionPay and JCB only), Payment by Phone Service (PPS), Faster Payment System (FPS) or Mainland China’s Licensed Digital Wallets (Alipay, WeChat Pay and UnionPay App only). After payment, applicants could instantly download or print the “e-Visa” by themselves.

## **VI – Processing Time**

10. It normally takes 2 weeks to process a visa application under the Scheme upon receipt of all the required documents. The ImmD will not be able to start processing the application unless all the required documents and information have been received. Please refrain from making enquiries about the progress of the application unless it is absolutely necessary, as it may delay the processing of the application.

## **VII – Enquiries**

11. For more information about the Scheme, please contact the ImmD by enquiry hotline at (852) 2824 6111, by fax at (852) 2877 7711, by email to [enquiry@immd.gov.hk](mailto:enquiry@immd.gov.hk) or visit the ImmD's website at [www.immd.gov.hk](http://www.immd.gov.hk).

## **VIII – Purpose of Personal Data Collection**

### ***Purpose of Collection***

12. The personal data provided by the applicant in the application form will be used by the ImmD for one or more of the following purposes :

- (a) to process the relevant application;
- (b) to administer/enforce relevant provisions of the Immigration Ordinance (Chapter 115); Immigration Service Ordinance (Chapter 331), and to assist in the enforcement of any other Ordinances and Regulations by other government bureaux and departments through carrying out immigration control duties;
- (c) to process other person's application for immigration facilities in which the applicant is named as a sponsor or referee;
- (d) for statistics and research purposes on the condition that the resulting statistics or results of the research will not be made available in a form which will identify the data subjects or any of them; and
- (e) any other legitimate purposes as may be required, authorised or permitted by law.

The provision of personal data by means of the application form is voluntary. If the applicant does not provide sufficient information, the ImmD may not be able to process the relevant application or to conduct the record search or positively identify the record.

### ***Classes of Transferees***

13. The personal data that the applicant provides may be disclosed to government bureaux, departments and other organisations for the purposes mentioned above.

### ***Access to Personal Data***

14. The applicant has a right to request access to and correction of the personal data as provided for in sections 18 and 22 and Principle 6 of Schedule 1 of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Chapter 486). The applicant's right of access includes the right to obtain a copy of the personal data provided in the application form subject to payment of a fee.

*Enquiries about Personal Data*

15. Enquiries concerning the personal data collected by means of the application form, including making of access and corrections, should be addressed to:

Chief Immigration Officer  
Employment and Visit Visas Section  
7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Administration Tower  
Immigration Headquarters, 61 Po Yap Road  
Tseung Kwan O, New Territories  
Tel: (852) 2294 2299

**Immigration Department  
The Government of the Hong Kong  
Special Administrative Region**

**Note 1**    **Countries that have bilateral Working Holiday Scheme agreement with the HKSAR (as at 1 January 2019)**

Australia	(annual quota = 5,000)
Austria	(annual quota = 100)
Canada	(annual quota = 200)
France	(annual quota = 750)
Germany	(annual quota = 300)
Hungary	(annual quota = 200)
Ireland	(annual quota = 200)
Japan	(annual quota = 1,500)
Korea (Republic of)	(annual quota = 1,000)
Netherlands	(annual quota = 100)
New Zealand	(annual quota = 400)
Sweden	(annual quota = 500)
United Kingdom	(annual quota = 1,000)

**Note 2**    **Financial proof for maintenance in Hong Kong**

Australian citizens	- financial proof of having not less than HK\$20,000
Austrian citizens	- financial proof of having not less than HK\$20,000
British citizens	- financial proof of having not less than HK\$22,000
Canadian citizens	- financial proof of having not less than HK\$15,000
Dutch citizens	- financial proof of having not less than HK\$20,000
French citizens	- financial proof of having not less than HK\$25,000
German citizens	- financial proof of having not less than HK\$20,000
Hungarian citizens	- financial proof of having not less than HK\$25,000
Irish citizens	- financial proof of having not less than HK\$20,000
Japanese citizens	- financial proof of having not less than HK\$20,000
Korean citizens	- financial proof of having not less than HK\$20,000
New Zealand citizens	- financial proof of having not less than HK\$14,000
Swedish citizens	- financial proof of having not less than HK\$20,000

**Note 3**    **Medical, healthcare (including hospitalisation), repatriation and liability insurance**

This item applies to participants from Canada, Hungary, Ireland, the Republic of Korea, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

For participants from France, they should produce proof of comprehensive liability and medical insurance covering hospitalisation, pregnancy, disability and repatriation.

For participants from Austria and Germany, they should have comprehensive liability and medical insurance covering hospitalisation and repatriation.

For participants from Japan, they should have sufficient medical insurance

**Note 4**    **Temporary employment**

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Australian citizens  | - not allowed to work for the same employer for more than three months |
| Austrian citizens    | - not allowed to work for more than six months                         |
| British citizens     | - not allowed to work for more than 12 months                          |
| Canadian citizens    | - not allowed to work for the same employer for more than three months |
| Dutch citizens       | - not allowed to work for the same employer for more than six months   |
| French citizens      | - not allowed to work for the same employer for more than six months   |
| German citizens      | - not allowed to work for the same employer for more than three months |
| Hungarian citizens   | - not allowed to work for the same employer for more than six months   |
| Irish citizens       | - not allowed to work for the same employer for more than three months |
| Japanese citizens    | - not allowed to work for the same employer for more than six months   |
| Korean citizens      | - not allowed to work for the same employer for more than six months   |
| New Zealand citizens | - not allowed to work for the same employer for more than three months |
| Swedish citizens     | - not allowed to work for the same employer for more than six months   |

**Note 5**    **Number of study or training courses allowed**

- Australian citizens    -    any number (course duration of not more than three months)
- Austrian citizens        -    any number (cumulative duration of courses not more than six months)
- British citizens         -    any number (cumulative duration of courses not more than 12 months)
- Canadian citizens       -    any number (cumulative duration of courses not more than six months)
- Dutch citizens           -    any number (cumulative duration of courses not more than six months)
- French citizens          -    one only (course duration of not more than six months)
- German citizens         -    one only (course duration of not more than six months)
- Hungarian citizens      -    one only (course duration of not more than six months)
- Irish citizens            -    not allowed
- Japanese citizens       -    any number (cumulative duration of courses not more than six months)
- Korean citizens         -    one only (course duration of not more than six months)
- New Zealand citizens   -    one only (course duration of not more than three months)
- Swedish citizens        -    any number (cumulative duration of courses not more than six months)

**Note 6**    **Special fee arrangement for Irish, Japanese and Korean citizens**

The working holiday visas issued to Irish, Japanese and Korean citizens are free of charge.