



**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 Scheme is to facilitate cultural and educational exchange between Hong Kong 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. To apply for such a visa under the Scheme, you should complete the relevant parts of the application form IN BLOCK LETTERS with your photograph affixed on it. The photograph must be taken full face and without a hat. The size must not be larger than 55mm x 45mm and not smaller than 50mm x 40mm. The photograph should have a plain background in mid-range colours (i.e. not too light and not too dark). Please do not use black for the background.
4. Completed application form together with the required documents may be sent to the Hong Kong Immigration Department in the following ways :
  - (a) by post directly or through a local reference in Hong Kong (by post or in person) to:

Employment and Visit Visas Section  
Hong Kong Immigration Department  
24/F, Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road  
Wan Chai, Hong Kong
  - (b) by post or in person to any of the Chinese diplomatic and consular missions <sup>(Note 2, Annex)</sup> in the participating country.
5. If your application is successful, an entry visa will be mailed to you direct or be issued to you through your reference or the relevant Chinese diplomatic and consular missions as appropriate. You must present the visa together with your passport or travel document to the immigration officer upon your arrival in Hong Kong.

### III – Supporting documents

6. To facilitate your application for the working holiday visa, you should provide the following in your application :

- (a) a photocopy of your travel document, showing your personal particulars, nationality, date of issue and expiry of the travel document;
- (b) financial proof of having an amount <sup>(Note 3, Annex)</sup> sufficient for maintenance during the proposed stay in the HKSAR, e.g. bank statement, saving accounts passbooks, etc.;
- (c) a photocopy of your air ticket for returning to your home country or financial proof of having an amount equivalent to the return air fare; and
- (d) proof of acceptance to hold medical, healthcare (including hospitalisation), repatriation and liability insurance to remain in force throughout your stay in the HKSAR <sup>(Note 4, Annex)</sup>, and
- (e) a cashier order / bank draft for payment of visa fee (please refer to Part V below).

### IV – Conditions and Restrictions

7. 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 six months (for participants from Austria) or 12 months (for participants from Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand and the United Kingdom) 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 5, Annex)</sup>;
- (b) he/she may enrol in study or training course(s) <sup>(Note 6, Annex)</sup>; and
- (c) extension of stay applications will not normally be considered.

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

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

10. It is an offence to make false statements or representations to an immigration officer. A person who knowingly and wilfully 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 shall have no effect.

## **V – Fees**

11. If the application is submitted to the Hong Kong Immigration Department direct, you should send in with your application a cashier order or bank draft in Hong Kong Currency in the amount of HK\$190 for payment of visa fee <sup>(Note 7, Annex)</sup>. The cashier order or bank draft should be one from a bank which has a connected bank in the HKSAR and made payable to “The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region”. It will be returned to you if your application is unsuccessful. No cash should be sent along with the application.

12. If the application is submitted to an overseas Chinese diplomatic and consular mission, the visa fee <sup>(Note 7, Annex)</sup> should be paid direct to the Chinese diplomatic and consular mission.

## **VI – Processing time**

13. It will normally take 2 weeks to process a visa application upon receipt of necessary documents. We would not be able to start processing your application unless all the required documents and information are 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**

14. For enquiries, please telephone the Hong Kong Immigration Department on (852) 2824 6111, by fax (852) 2877 7711 or by e-mail enquiry@immd.gov.hk.

## **VIII – Personal Data Privacy**

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

15. The personal data provided in the application form will be used by the Immigration Department for one or more of the following purposes :

- (a) to process your application;
- (b) to administer 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 departments through carrying out immigration control duties;
- (c) in connection with any other person’s applications for immigration facilities in which you are named as a sponsor or referee;
- (d) for research and statistical purposes; and
- (e) any other legitimate purposes.

The provision of personal data in the process of your application is voluntary. If you do not provide sufficient information, we may not be able to process your application.

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

16. The personal data you provide may be disclosed to government bureaux, departments and other organizations for the purposes mentioned above.

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

17. You have a right to request access to and correction of your personal data as provided for in sections 18 and 22 and Principle 6 of Schedule 1 of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Chapter 486). Your right of access includes the right to obtain a copy of your personal data provided in the application form subject to payment of a fee.

### ***Enquiries about Personal Data***

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

Chief Immigration Officer  
Employment and Visit Visas Section  
Hong Kong Immigration Department  
24/F, Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road,  
Wan Chai, Hong Kong  
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 2017)**

|                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Australia           | (annual quota = 5000) |
| Austria             | (annual quota = 100)  |
| Canada              | (annual quota = 200)  |
| France              | (annual quota = 500)  |
| Germany             | (annual quota = 300)  |
| Ireland             | (annual quota = 200)  |
| Japan               | (annual quota = 1500) |
| Korea (Republic of) | (annual quota = 1000) |
| New Zealand         | (annual quota = 400)  |
| United Kingdom      | (annual quota = 1000) |

**Note 2**     **Addresses of overseas Chinese diplomatic and consular missions in the participating countries**

**Australia**

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Australia

- 15 Coronation Drive, Yarralumla, ACT 2600, Canberra, Australia

Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in Australia

- 75-77 Irving Road, Toorak, Melbourne, Victoria 3142, Australia
- 45 Brown Street, East Perth WA 6004, Australia
- 39 Dunblane Street, Camperdown, NSW 2050, Australia
- Level 9, 79 Adelaide Street, Brisbane QLD 4000, Australia

**Austria**

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Austria

- Metternichgasse 4, 1030 Vienna, Austria

**Canada**

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Canada

- 515 St. Patrick Street, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1N 5H3

Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in Canada

- 240 St. George Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5R 2P4
- 3380 Granville Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, V6H 3K3
- Suite 100, 1011-6th Ave., S.W., Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 0W1
- 2100 Ste-Catherine West, 8th floor Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H3H 2T3

**France**

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in France

- 11 Avenue George V, 75008 Paris, France

Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in France

- 50 Rue Du General De Gaulle Saint-Denis, Ile De La Reunion, France
- 26 Rue Louis Blanc, 69006 Lyon, France
- 20 Boulevard Carmagnole, 13008 Marseille, France
- 35 Rue Bautain, 67000 Strasbourg, France

## **Germany**

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Germany

- Markisches Ufer 54, 10179 Berlin, Germany

Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in Germany

- Stesemannallee 19-23, 60596 Frankfurt Am Main, Germany
- Elbchaussee 268, 22605 Hamburg, Germany
- Romanstr. 107 80639 Muenchen, Germany

## **Ireland**

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Ireland

- 40 Ailesbury Road, Dublin 4, Ireland

## **Japan**

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Japan

- 3-4-33 Moto-Azabu, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 106-0046 Japan

Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in Japan

- 10-35 Hashiguchi Machi Nagasaki City, 852-8114 Japan
- 3-9-2 Utsubohonmachi Nishiku Osaka, 550-0004 Japan
- Fukuoka-Shi Chiyo-Ku Jigyohama 1-3-3, 810-0065 Japan
- 2-8-37 Higashisakura, Higashi-ku, Nagoya, Aichi, 461-0005 Japan
- 5-1, Nishi 23-Chome, Minami 13-Jo, Chuo-Ku, Sapporo, 064-0913 Japan
- 5220-18, Nishiohata-cho, Chuo-ku, Niigata, 951-8104 Japan

## **Korea (Republic of)**

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Republic of Korea

- 54 Hyoja-Dong, Jongno-gu, Seoul, the Republic of Korea

Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in the Republic of Korea

- 1418, U-2 Dong, Haeundae, Busan, the Republic of Korea
- 919-6, Wolsan-dong, Nam-gu, Gwangju, the Republic of Korea
- 568-1, Donam-dong, Jeju-si, Jeju-do, the Republic of Korea

## **New Zealand**

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in New Zealand

- 2-6 Glenmore Street, Wellington, New Zealand

Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in New Zealand

- 588 Great South Road, Greenlane, Auckland, New Zealand
- 106 Hansons Lane, Upper Riccarton, Christchurch, New Zealand

## **United Kingdom**

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the United Kingdom

- 49-51 Portland Place London W1B 1JL, the United Kingdom

Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in the United Kingdom

- 55 Corstorphine Road, Edinburgh, EH12 EQG Scotland, the United Kingdom
- Denison House, 71 Denison Road, Rusholme, Manchester M14 5RX, the United Kingdom

**Note 3**     **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 |
| French citizens      | - | financial proof of having not less than HK\$25,000 |
| German citizens      | - | financial proof of having not less than HK\$20,000 |
| 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 |

**Note 4**     **Medical, healthcare (including hospitalisation), repatriation and liability insurance**

This item applies to participants from Canada, Ireland, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand 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 5**     **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 |
| 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 |
| 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 three 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 |

**Note 6**     **Number of study or training courses allowed**

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

**Note 7**     **Special fee arrangement for Irish, Japanese and Korean citizens**

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





**Notice of Amendment to “Guidance Notes: Application for Working Holiday Visa for  
the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR)” ID(E) 940A**

**Paragraph 7 and Annex are amended to read as:**

7. 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 5, Annex)</sup>;
- (b) he/she may enrol in study or training course(s)<sup>(Note 6, Annex)</sup>; and
- (c) extension of stay applications will not normally be considered.

**Annex**

**Note 1**

**Countries that have bilateral Working Holiday Scheme agreement with the HKSAR  
(as at 1 September 2018)**

|                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 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) |
| New Zealand         | (annual quota = 400)   |
| Sweden              | (annual quota = 500)   |
| United Kingdom      | (annual quota = 1,000) |

**Note 2**

**Addresses of overseas Chinese diplomatic and consular missions in the participating  
countries**

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- Elbchaussee 268, 22605 Hamburg, Germany
- Romanstr, 107 80639 Muenchen, Germany

## **Hungary**

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Hungary

- 1068 Budapest, Varosligeti fasor 20-22, Hungary

## **Ireland**

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Ireland

- 40 Ailesbury Road, Dublin 4, Ireland

## **Japan**

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- 2-8-37 Higashisakura, Higashi-ku, Nagoya, Aichi, 461-0005 Japan
- 5-1, Nishi 23-Chome, Minam 13-Jo, Chuo-Ku, Sapporo, 064-0913 Japan
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- 106 Hansons Lane, Upper Riccarton, Christchurch, New Zealand

## **Sweden**

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Sweden

- Lidovagen 8, 11525 Stockholm, Sweden

Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in Sweden

- Grönsakstorget 3 Gothenburg, Sweden

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### **Note 3 Financial proof for maintenance in Hong Kong**

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| Hungarian citizens   | - | financial proof of having not less than HK\$25,000 |
| Irish citizens       | - | financial proof of having not less than HK\$20,000 |
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### **Note 4 Medical, healthcare (including hospitalisation), repatriation and liability insurance**

This item applies to participants from Canada, Hungary, Ireland, the Republic of Korea, 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.

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### **Note 5 Temporary employment**

|                     |   |  |
|---------------------|---|--|
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| 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 |
| 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 6** **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)
- 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 7** **Special fee arrangement for Irish, Japanese and Korean citizens**

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Immigration Department  
The Government of the Hong Kong  
Special Administrative Region  
August 2018