



Immigration Department

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Quality Migrant Admission Scheme

Guidance Notes

QUALITY MIGRANT ADMISSION SCHEME GUIDANCE NOTES

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PART I

OVERVIEW

These Guidance Notes provide information to individuals who wish to come to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (hereafter “HKSAR”) of the People’s Republic of China (hereafter “PRC”) under the Quality Migrant Admission Scheme (hereafter “the Scheme”). The information set out below serves as reference only. The Immigration Department (hereafter “ImmD”) of the Government of the HKSAR may change the rules and criteria listed below from time to time without prior notice. The updated version of criteria under the Scheme and relevant changes will be published on the ImmD website www.immd.gov.hk.

SCHEME OBJECTIVE

2. The Scheme seeks to attract highly skilled or talented persons to settle in Hong Kong in order to enhance Hong Kong’s economic competitiveness. Applicants are not required to have secured an offer of local employment before applying for entry or being admitted to Hong Kong for settlement under the Scheme¹. Successful applicants under the Scheme may bring their spouse or the other party to a same-sex civil partnership, same-sex civil union, “same-sex marriage”, opposite-sex civil partnership or opposite-sex civil union entered into by them in accordance with the local law in force of the place of celebration and with such status being legally and officially recognised by the local authorities of the place of celebration², and unmarried dependent children under the age of 18 to Hong Kong, provided that they are capable of supporting and accommodating their dependants on their own financial resources without relying on public assistance in Hong Kong.

SCOPE OF THE SCHEME

3. The Scheme is not applicable to nationals of Afghanistan, Cuba, and Korea (Democratic People's Republic of).

SELECTION MECHANISM

Stage 1: Prerequisites

4. Applicants under the Scheme are required to fulfil a set of prerequisites before they can be further assessed via one of the two assessment routes under the Scheme. Details of the prerequisites are listed in paragraphs 10-21.

¹ If applicants under the General Points Test of the Scheme are persons who are permitted to remain in the HKSAR under any of the talent admission schemes (whether as principal or dependant applicants) at the time of or within six months prior to submission of application, they are required to meet the eligibility criteria for both entry application (paragraphs 10-52) and extension of stay application (paragraph 73) (including having taken up employment in the HKSAR with a stable income, or having established or joined in a business in the HKSAR) under the Scheme. Please refer to paragraph 62 for details.

² For the avoidance of doubt, the terms “civil partnership” and “civil union” above mean a legal institution of a nature which is akin to spousal relationship in a marriage. The same-sex civil partnership, same-sex civil union, “same-sex marriage”, opposite-sex civil partnership and opposite-sex civil union entered into in accordance with laws outside Hong Kong are limited to only relationships which are legally and officially recognised in the places of celebration. Such relationships normally have the following features: (a) the entering into and dissolution of the relationship are governed by legislation of the place where it is entered into; (b) the relationship requires registration by the competent authority specified by the legislation of the place where it is entered into; (c) the registration is evidenced in a written instrument issued by the competent authority; and (d) parties to the relationship have a mutual commitment to a shared life akin to spouses to the exclusion of others on a permanent basis. Such relationships do not include de facto spouse, partners in cohabitation, fiancé/fiancée, etc.

Stage 2: Assessment Routes

5. Applicants who have met all the prerequisites may choose to be assessed either under the General Points Test or the Achievement-based Points Test. There are 12 assessment criteria under the General Points Test and two assessment criteria under the Achievement-based Points Test. Please refer to paragraphs 23-52 and 53-55 respectively for details of the assessment routes.

6. A passing threshold is set under the General Points Test. Persons who choose the General Points Test are advised to assess whether their credentials are adequate to meet the passing threshold before submitting an application.

Stage 3: Selection Exercise

7. Selection exercises will be conducted on a regular basis. During each selection exercise, applicants who meet both the prerequisites and the passing threshold (under the General Points Test) or one of the assessment criteria (under the Achievement-based Points Test) will be considered. In general, not all applications meeting both the prerequisites and the passing threshold will necessarily be approved and applications meeting more assessment criteria will be considered more favourably. The Director of Immigration may seek advice on the applicants from a high-level Assessment Panel chaired by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare. The Assessment Panel will take a holistic view of the manpower requirements in different sectors and industries, socio-economic needs of Hong Kong, the background and credentials of applicants, and other relevant factors and advise the Director of Immigration on the applicants' suitability. The selection is on a merit basis according to the circumstances of each case and the above-mentioned factors. As it takes time to process applications, applicants may regard their applications as being under processing unless they receive a notification of application result from the ImmD.

Stage 4: Issuance of Visa/Entry Permit

8. Successful applicants will be issued with a visa/entry permit (in the form of "e-Visa") under the Scheme for staying in the HKSAR.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

9. Applicants and their accompanying dependant(s) (if any) shall submit the applications and upload all supporting documents online with the relevant application fee paid through the designated GovHK website at the following link: www.gov.hk/en/nonresidents/visarequire/visasentrypermits/applyqmas.htm.

The application fee paid is non-refundable in any circumstance irrespective of the application result. For individual dependant who wishes to join the applicant later and submit the application separately, please refer to the ImmD's website at www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/visas/residence_as_dependant.html for the application procedures. For a dependant under the age of 16, the application form must be signed by his/her parent or legal guardian.



Online Application
under the Scheme

PREREQUISITES

10. Applicants must meet all of the prerequisites listed in paragraphs 11-21 below.

Age

11. The applicant must be aged 18 or above when submitting an application under the Scheme.

12. To support the claim, the applicant should submit his/her proof of identity, such as a valid travel document.

Financial Requirement

13. The applicant must be able to demonstrate that he/she is capable of supporting and accommodating himself/herself and his/her dependant(s), if any, on his/her own financial resources without relying on public assistance during his/her stay in Hong Kong.

14. The applicant must demonstrate that his/her personal net worth is sufficient to support and accommodate himself/herself and his/her dependant(s), if any, throughout his/her initial 12-month stay in Hong Kong.

15. Four major types of assets are generally acceptable as proofs of assets under the Scheme, namely bank deposits, real estate, securities and interests in privately-owned businesses.

16. The following are examples of acceptable supporting documents of an applicant's personal net worth under the Scheme:

- (a) a bank certificate of the account balance/ a bank statement showing the latest bank deposit balance;
- (b) a passbook showing the name of the bank, the name of the account holder, the account number and the latest account balance;
- (c) the current market value of real estate less the amount of outstanding mortgage, if any. Ownership of real estate must be supported by a sales and purchase agreement and a deed, or a statutory document issued by a relevant authority within one month from the date of application. The current market value of real estate must be supported by a valuation report issued within two years from the date of application by a qualified valuer. The latest amount of outstanding mortgage, if any, must be supported by a mortgage repayment schedule issued by a financial institution;
- (d) a statement issued by a registered financial intermediary showing the latest position on the types, quantities held and current market value of investment items such as publicly traded shares, debt securities and investment funds;
- (e) the latest audited financial statements of a business and relevant legal documents showing the business registration status and the percentage of shareholding of the applicant; or
- (f) a statement issued by a financial institution or a creditor showing the latest outstanding amount of personal debt.

Good Character

17. The applicant must not have any criminal record or adverse immigration record in Hong Kong or elsewhere.

18. The applicant must make declarations and provide details of the above (if any) when submitting the application through the ImmD online application system.

Basic Academic Qualifications

19. The applicant must have a good educational background, normally a first degree from a recognised university or tertiary education institution. Under special circumstances, good technical qualifications, proven professional abilities, and/or experience and achievements supported by documentary evidence may be considered.

20. Please refer to paragraphs 29-31 for documentary proof in respect of applicants who are degree holders or holders of professional qualifications. Applicants who are non-degree holders or without professional qualifications should submit documentary proof on professional abilities and/or experience and achievements claimed.

21. If the applicant fails to provide satisfactory supporting documents showing that he/she has met all the above prerequisites, his/her application will not be further processed and will be refused immediately.

ASSESSMENT ROUTES

22. Applicants who have met all the prerequisites may choose to be further assessed either under the General Points Test or the Achievement-based Points Test. Each applicant may only submit one application and be assessed under one assessment route at a time.

General Points Test

23. The General Points Test consists of 12 assessment criteria under six aspects, the details of which are listed below:

A: Age

Criterion (1) Whether the applicant is aged 50 or below

B: Academic Qualifications

Criterion (2) Whether the applicant has a master's or doctoral degree awarded by an eligible university

Criterion (3) Whether the applicant's master's or doctoral degree awarded by an eligible university is pertinent to "STEM", i.e. science, technology, engineering or mathematics

24. The level of academic qualifications claimed must be equivalent to the recognised Hong Kong standard of master's or doctoral degrees. The ImmD may request an applicant to have his/her academic qualifications assessed by the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications at the applicant's own expense where necessary. For the avoidance of doubt, any honorary master's/honorary doctoral degrees or degrees not awarded by nationally accredited/licensed institutions will not be accepted.

25. The eligible universities refer to those universities/institutions on the aggregate list of eligible universities (hereafter "the aggregate list"), which is compiled by the Labour and Welfare Bureau for the Scheme. The aggregate list is based on:

- (a) the eligible universities under the Top Talent Pass Scheme³; and
- (b) the top 10 universities/institutions in the QS Global MBA Rankings⁴ and the Financial Times Business School Rankings in MBA⁵ providing only postgraduate programmes in the past five years.

26. For the avoidance of doubt, academic qualifications awarded by the continuing and professional education arms, the branch schools, the extension schools or the subsidiary schools, etc., established by the eligible universities will not be accepted.

27. For the latest aggregate list, please refer to the ImmD's website at https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/visas/quality_migrant_admission_scheme.html.

³ <https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/visas/TTPS.html>

⁴ www.topmba.com/mba-rankings/global

⁵ <https://rankings.ft.com/business-education/masters-in-business-administration>

28. For the reference list of STEM subjects, please refer to the ImmD's website at https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/visas/quality_migrant_admission_scheme.html. The list is for reference only. Academic qualifications in a subject not included in the reference list may also be considered subject to the supporting document(s) furnished by the applicant.

29. For each academic qualification awarded by a higher education institution, the applicant should submit:

- (a) a graduation certificate from the higher education institution concerned;
- (b) a copy of the transcript of academic record; and
- (c) verification proof issued by a third-party credential verification organisation or the awarding institution regarding their academic qualifications, and necessary information for the ImmD to conduct online authentication on respective platforms.

30. For the list of third-party credential verification organisations, please refer to the ImmD's website at https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/visas/quality_migrant_admission_scheme.html.

31. For each professional qualification, the applicant should submit:

- (a) a qualification certificate issued by the relevant authority/institution; and
- (b) information on the qualification, including the name and contact details [the full address (P.O. box is not acceptable), the telephone number, the fax number, the email address and the website (if any)] of the awarding authority/institution, whether the qualification is a statutory requirement for practising, the degree of recognition, and the entry, examination and training requirements of the qualification.

C: Language Proficiency

Criterion (4) Whether the applicant is proficient in two languages, both written and spoken
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Criterion (5) Whether the applicant is proficient in written and spoken English
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32. For the purpose of the Scheme, a foreign language is a language other than Chinese or English. The language should be recognised by a country/territory as its official language or the equivalent.

33. For the assessment of language proficiency in Chinese or English, the applicant will be required to provide documentary proof(s) listed in paragraphs 35 and 36(a) unless his/her first language is Chinese (Putonghua/Cantonese) or English and he/she is a national/citizen from a country/territory where Chinese (Putonghua/Cantonese) or English is an official language or the equivalent.

34. For the assessment of language proficiency in a foreign language, the applicant will be required to provide documentary proof(s) listed in paragraphs 35 and 36(b) unless his/her first language is that foreign language and he/she is a national/citizen from a country/territory where that foreign language is an official language or the equivalent.

35. In general, an applicant with academic qualifications at the level of bachelor's degree or above in a discipline/subject related to language studies as explicitly indicated on his/her graduation certificate will be recognised as being proficient in the language concerned. This recognition is based on the premise that his/her academic study has provided him/her with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively communicate in the language concerned within professional or academic contexts. If the applicant intends to claim to have fulfilled the criterion of language proficiency by virtue of his/her academic qualifications in language studies, he/she must submit the supporting documents stipulated in paragraph 29.

36. Supporting documents in respect of language proficiency include the following:

(a) Documentary proof(s) of proficiency in Chinese and/or English:

- (i) Results of a recognised Chinese language test:
The applicant is required to have passed the “Putonghua Shuiping Ceshi” (PSC) supervised by the Institute of Applied Linguistics of the Ministry of Education of the PRC; or to have achieved a minimum score of Level 3 in the Chinese Proficiency Test [also known as “Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi” (HSK)] supervised by the State Committee for the Chinese Proficiency Test of the Ministry of Education of the PRC.
- (ii) Results of a recognised English language test:
The applicant is required to provide a results certificate of a recognised English language proficiency test to demonstrate his/her English proficiency. Acceptable test results include:
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a minimum overall band score of 7.0;
 - Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a minimum score of 94 for the internet-based test; or
 - College English Test Band 6 (CET-6) supervised by the Ministry of Education of the PRC with a minimum score of 520.
- (iii) A written explanation supported by evidence:
The applicant is required to submit a written explanation detailing his/her training in, and use of, Chinese and/or English. Any statements made in his/her written explanation should be properly supported by documents such as a certified university transcript of academic record, a letter issued by a university showing the medium of instruction as Chinese or English, or any other document which can satisfy the ImmD that the applicant is proficient in Chinese and/or English.

(b) Documentary proof(s) of proficiency in a foreign language:

In general, an applicant will be considered as being proficient in a foreign language if he/she could provide supporting documents demonstrating that he/she could meet the language requirement for entry to an undergraduate programme of a recognised university with that foreign language as the medium of instruction. Evidence of proficiency in a foreign language includes a written explanation from the applicant detailing his/her training in, and use of, that foreign language. Any statements made in his/her written explanation should be properly supported by documents such as a certificate of results of a language test, or any other document which can satisfy the ImmD that the applicant is proficient in that foreign language.

37. In any case, notwithstanding the provision of documentary proof(s) described in paragraphs 35-36, the ImmD may require the applicant to take a recognised language test or other language test designated by the ImmD at the applicant’s own expense if the proof(s) provided by the applicant cannot satisfy the ImmD that he/she is proficient in Chinese/English/a foreign language.

D: Work Experience

Criterion (6) Whether the applicant has no less than five years' graduate or specialist level work experience
Criterion (7) Whether the applicant has no less than three years' graduate or specialist level work experience in multi-national companies (MNCs) or reputable enterprises, such as listed companies or companies on the lists of The Global 2000 by Forbes, the Fortune Global 500 and the Hurun China 500
Criterion (8) Whether the applicant has no less than three years' graduate or specialist level work experience in one of the specific fields/industries, including "innovation and technology", "finance" and "international trade" (including cross-boundary marine and aviation transportation, and supply chain management)
Criterion (9) Whether the applicant has no less than two years' graduate or specialist level work experience with international exposure

38. Graduate level work experience normally refers to a role within an organisation which requires the job holder to possess at least a bachelor's degree.

39. Specialist level work experience normally refers to a role that requires a high level of technical expertise or skill.

40. In general, MNCs are companies/corporations that have operations and assets in multiple countries, typically with a centralised headquarters in one country while establishing subsidiaries or branches in other countries, which engage in a wide range of business activities including production, marketing and distribution across international markets to capitalise on global resources and opportunities.

41. Whether an applicant's work experience is regarded as being in a specific field/industry primarily depends on the nature of the applicant's role, position or designation, rather than solely on the industry classification of his/her employing company. Conversely, for those who hold positions with broader operational responsibilities, such as "Chief Executive Officer", "General Manager" or "President", etc., the nature of the company's business would be taken into consideration.

42. In respect of work experience with international exposure, it refers to graduate or specialist level work experience outside the applicant's home country/territory.

43. The applicant will be regarded as having fulfilled the criterion concerned if he/she can provide supporting documents to satisfy the ImmD that the position(s), including self-employment positions, was/were at the appropriate level. Moreover, the supporting documents should demonstrate that the applicant has worked in the position(s) on a full-time basis for the length of time required.

44. Supporting documents in respect of relevant work experience may include:

For employment with each employer

A reference letter from the employer on company letterhead paper, signed by an authorised person and endorsed with a company stamp, showing:

- (a) the name and contact details of the employer;
- (b) the start and end dates of each position the applicant held during his/her employment with the company;
- (c) the job titles; and
- (d) detailed description of duties and responsibilities for each position held.

For each business wholly/partly owned by the applicant

- (a) official company registration documents showing the length of time the applicant was involved in the business and his/her capacity in the business, which may include two sets of company registration documents, with one set showing the ownership condition at the time the applicant established or joined the business and the other showing the latest ownership condition or the ownership condition at the time the applicant left or terminated the business;
- (b) audited financial statements showing the financial position, or tax returns and tax demand notes of the business showing the latest financial condition or the financial condition at the time the applicant left or terminated the business;
- (c) an organisation chart, company publications or payroll details showing the latest number of staff employed or the number of staff employed at the time the applicant left or terminated the business; and
- (d) proof of the applicant's role in the business, such as agreements signed by the applicant on behalf of the business.

For each self-employment experience

- (a) a contract signed with the client showing the start and end dates of services provided and details of the services; and
- (b) a reference letter from the client on company letterhead paper, signed by an authorised person and endorsed with a company stamp. The reference letter should include information such as contact details of the client, the length of time the applicant had worked for the client and the nature and duties of the work.

E: Annual Income

Criterion (10) Whether the applicant has an annual income reaching HK\$1 million or above, or its equivalent in foreign currency, in the year immediately preceding the date of application

45. Annual income refers to taxable employment or business income including salary, allowances, stock options and profits from self-owned companies. Income generated from personal investment will not be taken into consideration.

46. For “profit from a self-owned company”, as a general principle, a holding of 50% or more ownership interests absolutely beneficially entitled to the applicant in a company will be considered as fulfilling the requirement of “self-owned company”, and the profit attributable to the applicant's ownership interests in a self-owned company will be considered as the annual income of the applicant under the Scheme.

47. Supporting documents in respect of the applicant’s annual income may include:
- (a) notice of salaries tax assessment of the previous assessment year issued by a local competent authority (e.g. taxation office or revenue department, etc.);
 - (b) documentary proof issued by the applicant’s employing company specifying the value of the stock options granted to the applicant; or
 - (c) documentary proof of financial standing of the applicant’s self-owned companies (e.g. the latest audited financial report, trading profit and loss account, or profits tax return, etc.) (if applicable).

F: Business Ownership

<p>Criterion (11) Whether the applicant currently owns a business entity with an annual profit reaching HK\$5 million or above, or its equivalent in foreign currency, in the year immediately preceding the date of application</p>
<p>Criterion (12) Whether the applicant currently owns a listed company</p>

48. A business entity refers to a legally recognised company/corporation over which the applicant has the right to exercise legal and financial control. Ownership status can generally be established in the following ways:

- (a) the applicant holds 50% or more of the ownership interests in a non-listed company to which he/she is absolutely beneficially entitled, thereby having a controlling stake and influence over the business; or
- (b) the applicant holds a significant percentage of a listed company’s shares, normally 10% or more of the ownership interests to which he/she is absolutely beneficially entitled, demonstrating the applicant’s substantial level of ownership, control and influence over the company’s strategic directions, operational decisions and overall governance.

49. For the purpose of the Scheme, “annual profit” refers to taxable business profit. It represents the total earnings of a company after all expenses and costs have been deducted from the total revenue, upon which taxes are payable, over a specific fiscal year. Key components of the “annual profit” include:

- (a) total revenue, i.e. the total income generated from the sales of goods or services before any expenses are deducted;
- (b) operating expenses, i.e. costs associated with running the business, including rent, utilities, salaries, and cost of goods sold, etc.; and
- (c) non-operating income and expenses, i.e. income or expenses not directly related to core business operations, such as interest income or expenses, and gains or losses from asset sales, etc.

50. Supporting documents in respect of the applicant’s ownership condition in his/her business entity may include, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) official company registration documents showing the length of time the applicant was involved in the business and his/her capacity in the business, as well as showing the ownership condition in the year immediately preceding the date of application; or
- (b) the latest audited financial report of the business and relevant legal documents showing the percentage of shareholding of the applicant.

51. Supporting documents in respect of the annual profit of the applicant's business entity may include the latest audited financial report, trading profit and loss account, or profits tax return, etc. of the business entity concerned.

Passing Threshold

52. A passing threshold is set under the General Points Test. Only applicants meeting the passing threshold could submit their applications via the online application system. Interested applicants are advised to assess whether their credentials are adequate to meet the passing threshold before submitting an application. The passing threshold is subject to change from time to time without prior notice. Please visit the ImmD website http://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/visas/quality_migrant_admission_scheme.html for the prevailing passing threshold.

Achievement-based Points Test

53. The Scheme also caters for the entry of individuals with exceptional talents or skills who have outstanding achievements. They may choose to be assessed under a separate Achievement-based Points Test. Requirements under this assessment route are very high. Those who are considered to have met one of the assessment criteria under this assessment route listed in paragraph 54 will pass the assessment route and be selected for further assessment by the Assessment Panel. Those who could not meet any of the criteria will fail the assessment route, and their applications will be refused immediately.

54. The assessment criteria under this assessment route include the following:

- (a) the applicant has received an award of exceptional achievement (e.g. Olympic medal, Nobel prize, national/international award); and
- (b) the applicant can show that his/her work has been acknowledged by his/her peers or has contributed significantly to the development of his/her field (e.g. lifetime achievement award from industry).

55. Proof(s) of achievement may include the following:

- (a) published work;
- (b) press article;
- (c) scholarship/research award certificate. Please also provide details of the award, including the selection criteria of the award, and the profile and contact details of the awarding authority;
- (d) international award/honour certificate. Please also provide details of the award/honour, including the selection criteria of the award/honour, and the profile and contact details of the awarding authority;
- (e) proof of ownership of intellectual property rights, e.g. copyright, trademark or patent, etc. (if applicable); or
- (f) reference letter from peers in the relevant industry or sector on company letterhead paper, signed by an authorised person and endorsed with a company stamp (with contact details), stating the applicant's achievement in the relevant industry or sector.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND EVIDENCE

56. Assessment under the Scheme is based on the information and documentary proofs provided by the applicant when submitting the online application. Should there be changes in his/her circumstances after submission of the application and should he/she wish to be assessed on the basis of fresh materials/information, he/she is required to submit a fresh application. His/her previous/pending application will then be considered as being withdrawn.

57. All applicants should read through the paragraphs concerning the documentary requirements in support of an application as set out in these Guidance Notes. A checklist of documents is available in Part III. Notwithstanding the applicant's provision of all necessary documents and information specified in these Guidance Notes in connection with the application, the ImmD may still require the applicant to submit further supporting documents and information in support of the application. Submitting insufficient, irrelevant or unsatisfactory proofs would delay the processing of an application. Unless otherwise specified, applicants are only required to submit copies of the required documents when submitting an application. Notwithstanding that applicants have already furnished all necessary copies of documents and information stated in these Guidance Notes, they may still be required to submit originals of the documents in connection with their applications upon request.

58. Where a document is not in Chinese or English, it must be accompanied by a Chinese or English translation certified as a true translation by a sworn translator, court translator, authorised public translator, certified translator, expert translator or official translator.

ENTRY ARRANGEMENT

59. Applicants who are selected in the selection exercise will be informed in writing. Applicants who are Chinese residents of the Mainland, including those currently residing in the HKSAR or the Macao Special Administrative Region (hereafter "Macao SAR") on a temporary basis, must submit a letter of consent from their present working unit or relevant Mainland authorities where their records are kept, agreeing to release them to reside in Hong Kong.

60. An applicant must fully satisfy the ImmD that all statements made and information provided during the application process are true and complete before approval could be granted.

61. After approval is granted, the applicant and his/her dependants, if any, will be issued with a visa/entry permit (in the form of "e-Visa") for staying in the HKSAR under the Scheme.

62. A Hong Kong resident who has previously entered Hong Kong pursuant to any immigration policy or scheme (including, but not limited to, the General Employment Policy and the Admission Scheme for Mainland Talents and Professionals) and is subject to a condition/conditions of stay in Hong Kong may only apply under the Scheme on the condition that his/her application will be assessed on the basis that the applicant, his/her spouse or the other party to a same-sex civil partnership, same-sex civil union, "same-sex marriage", opposite-sex civil partnership or opposite-sex civil union entered into by him/her in accordance with the local law in force of the place of celebration and with such status being legally and officially recognised by the local authorities of the place of celebration (see Footnote 2), and dependent children, if any, are regarded as fresh entrants not having the right to enter and remain in the HKSAR. After approval is granted, the applicant will be issued with a visa/entry permit (in the form of "e-Visa") under the Scheme. Besides, if applicants under the General Points Test of the Scheme are persons who are permitted to remain in the HKSAR under any of the talent admission schemes (whether as principal or dependant applicants) at the time of or within six months prior to submission of application, they are required to meet the eligibility criteria for both entry application (paragraphs 10-52) and extension of stay application (paragraph 73) (including having taken up employment in the HKSAR with a stable income, or having established or joined in a business in the HKSAR) under the Scheme. For the requirements of supporting documents, please refer to paragraphs 74-75. Persons admitted through the General Points Test under the Scheme will normally be granted an initial stay of 36 months on time limitation only without other conditions of stay upon entry. Such initial stay does not apply to persons as mentioned in Footnote 1 above (whether as principal or dependant applicants).

63. A Chinese resident of the Mainland, including those who are currently residing in the HKSAR or the Macao SAR on a temporary basis, is required to obtain an Exit-Entry Permit for Travelling to and from Hong Kong and Macao (hereafter “EEP”) and a relevant exit endorsement from the relevant Mainland authorities before coming to Hong Kong for residence under the Scheme if his/her application is approved.

64. An overseas Chinese national holding a PRC passport who submits an application from overseas and who has permanent residence overseas or who has been residing overseas for at least one year immediately before submission of the application (“overseas” means countries or territories outside the Mainland, the HKSAR, the Macao SAR and Taiwan) may apply to come to Hong Kong for residence under the Scheme on strength of his/her valid PRC passport. The EEP and relevant exit endorsement mentioned in paragraph 63 above are not required for the purpose of entering Hong Kong under the Scheme in respect of the above mentioned overseas Chinese national.

65. Upon immigration arrival clearance in Hong Kong, an “e-Visa” holder should present his/her valid travel document and the “e-Visa” saved on a personal mobile device or printed on a sheet of A4 white paper, and scan the encrypted QR code on the “e-Visa” with the optical reader at an immigration counter.

PAYMENT OF FEES

66. For the purpose of Schedule 2 of the Immigration Regulations (Cap.115A), the Scheme is a “specified scheme”. For entry visa/permit applications or change of condition of stay (including extension of limit of stay) applications made under a “specified scheme”, the principal applicant and each of his/her dependant(s) (if any) are required to pay a non-refundable application fee and the corresponding visa issuance fee. For more details on the fee structure, please visit the Immigration Department’s website at www.immd.gov.hk/eng/specifiedschemes.html.

67. Upon approval, the notification of the application result issued by the Immigration Department will include a webpage link for payment of the visa issuance fee. Payment of relevant fees could be made through the said webpage link or the [GovHK website](http://www.gov.hk) or the ImmD Mobile Application by credit card (VISA, Mastercard, UnionPay and JCB only), Payment by Phone Service (PPS), Faster Payment System (FPS) or the Mainland e-wallets (Alipay, WeChat Pay and UnionPay App only). After payment, applicants can instantly download or print the “e-Visa” by themselves.

APPLICATION PROCESSING

68. Please refer to the table below for the procedures involved in processing an application:

Acknowledgement of Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An acknowledgement will be sent to the applicant after receipt of the application.
Selection Exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selection Exercises will be conducted on a regular basis.
Result Notification and Issuance of Visa/Entry permit (in the form of “e-Visa”)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants will be notified of the result in writing. For successful applicants, the notification of the application result issued by the ImmD will include a webpage link for payment of the visa issuance fee. After payment, applicants can instantly download or print the “e-Visa” by themselves.

ENTRY OF DEPENDANTS

69. Applicants under the Scheme may apply to bring in their spouse or the other party to a same-sex civil partnership, same-sex civil union, “same-sex marriage”, opposite-sex civil partnership or opposite-sex civil union entered into by them in accordance with the local law in force of the place of celebration and with such status being legally and officially recognised by the local authorities of the place of celebration (see Footnote 2), and unmarried dependent children under the age of 18 to Hong Kong under the prevailing dependant policy. Persons admitted or applying for admission under the Scheme will be the sponsor of his/her accompanying dependants to Hong Kong. The limit of stay of such dependants will normally be linked to that of their sponsors.

70. Applicants under the Scheme are advised to fill in the part of accompanying dependant for all accompanying family members during the online application process.

71. For individual dependant who wishes to join the applicant later, please refer to the “Guidebook for Entry for Residence as Dependants in Hong Kong” [ID(C) 998 (Chinese version) or ID(E) 998 (English version)] for application procedures and other details of dependant visa/entry permit applications.

EXTENSION OF STAY APPLICATIONS

72. Persons and their dependants admitted under the Scheme are subject to a limit of stay during their stay in Hong Kong until they acquire permanent resident status under Hong Kong laws. They are required to apply for extension of stay within three months before their limit of stay expires if they intend to continue their residence in the HKSAR. Applications for extension of stay and relevant supporting documents shall be submitted through the ImmD website (<http://www.immd.gov.hk>) with the relevant application fee paid. **The application fee paid is non-refundable in any circumstance irrespective of the application result.** For a dependant under the age of 16, the application form must be signed by his/her parent or legal guardian.

For persons admitted through the General Points Test under the Scheme

73. Persons admitted through the General Points Test under the Scheme will normally be granted an initial stay of 36 months on time limitation only without other conditions of stay upon entry. To obtain an extension of stay at the end of the 36-month period, applicants are required to provide proofs demonstrating to the satisfaction of the ImmD that they have taken steps to settle in Hong Kong by taking up residence here, e.g. by securing gainful employment or establishing a business. To be eligible for further extension of stay, the applicants are required to provide proofs demonstrating to the satisfaction of the ImmD that:

- (a) they have settled in Hong Kong; and
- (b) they have made contribution to Hong Kong, such as engaging in graduate, specialist or senior level gainful employment with a stable income; or establishing or joining in a business of a reasonable size in Hong Kong.

Extensions of stay, if approved, will normally follow the pattern of “3+2” years on time limitation only without other conditions of stay.

74. For those in gainful employment, supporting documents of applications for extension of stay may include:

- (a) an employment contract;
- (b) the most recent payroll advice;
- (c) the most recent bank credit advice or bank statement showing the latest payroll transaction; and
- (d) a detailed job description issued by the employer on company letterhead paper, signed by an authorised person and endorsed with a company stamp.

75. For those who have established a business in Hong Kong, proofs of the company's information and operating conditions should include the following, where applicable:

- (a) Business Registration Certificate;
- (b) for local limited companies, the Certificate of Incorporation and relevant returns to the Companies Registry showing the latest shareholding condition and particulars of directors and shareholders;
- (c) for overseas companies registered in Hong Kong, the Certificate of Registration and relevant registers showing the latest shareholding condition and particulars of directors and shareholders;
- (d) for sole proprietorships or partnerships, Certified Extracts of Information on the Business Register;
- (e) the latest audited financial statements;
- (f) if (e) above is not available, the latest management accounts supported by bank statements and other business transaction proofs such as customer agreements and shipping documents;
- (g) office tenancy agreement;
- (h) the latest staff list supported by Mandatory Provident Fund contribution proof;
- (i) company profile, stating the date of commencement of business, details of business activities, mode of operation, major suppliers and markets, etc.;
- (j) job description of the applicant;
- (k) remuneration package of the applicant with proof, such as bank statements showing the latest payroll transaction;
- (l) actual monetary investment of the applicant in the company with proof; and
- (m) a business plan for future expansion.

76. If a person admitted through the General Points Test under the Scheme has been permitted to remain in Hong Kong for not less than two years and he/she has an assessable income for salaries tax of not less than HK\$2 million in the previous year of assessment, he/she will normally be granted an extension of stay on time limitation only without other conditions of stay for a period of five years. The applicant is required to provide documentary proof of his/her income level, e.g. notice of salaries tax assessment of the previous assessment year issued by the Inland Revenue Department or relevant tax documents.

For persons admitted through the Achievement-based Points Test under the Scheme

77. Persons admitted through the Achievement-based Points Test under the Scheme will normally be granted a stay of eight years on time limitation only without other conditions of stay upon entry. Should an extension of stay be required, the applicant shall demonstrate that he/she is capable of supporting and accommodating himself/herself and his/her dependants, if any, on his/her own financial resources during his/her stay in Hong Kong.

OTHER INFORMATION

78. In general, unless a person has the right of abode or right to land in the HKSAR, he/she requires a visa/entry permit to work or reside in the HKSAR. While each application is determined on its individual merits, an applicant should meet normal immigration requirements (such as holding a valid travel document with adequate returnability to his/her country of residence or citizenship; being of clear criminal record and raising no security or criminal concerns to the HKSAR; having no likelihood of becoming a burden on the HKSAR, etc.) as well as the relevant specific eligibility/assessment criteria detailed above before he/she may be considered for the grant of a visa/entry permit and subsequent extension of stay. It should be noted that the eligibility/assessment criteria may be subject to change from time to time without prior notice.

79. Non-permanent residents of the HKSAR (including persons admitted under the Scheme and their dependants), irrespective of their nationality and type of travel document held, do not require a re-entry visa/entry permit to enter the HKSAR provided that they return within the currency of their permitted limit of stay and that the circumstances upon which they have acquired their residential status remain unchanged.

80. Persons admitted under the Scheme who have ordinarily resided in the HKSAR for a continuous period of not less than seven years may apply for the right of abode in the HKSAR in accordance with the law.

WARNING

81. Any 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 under or for the purpose of the Scheme shall be guilty of an offence under the Laws of Hong Kong and is liable to prosecution and subsequent removal from Hong Kong. His/her application may be refused, and any visa/entry permit/extension of stay so granted or issued to him/her and his/her dependants and any conditions of stay so imposed on him/her and his/her dependants may become null and void.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

82. The information in these Guidance Notes serves as reference only. The ImmD is not responsible for any loss or damage whatsoever arising out of or in connection with any information in these Guidance Notes. The ImmD reserves the right to omit, suspend or edit any information in these Guidance Notes at any time in its absolute discretion without giving any reason or prior notice.

83. The Director of Immigration has absolute discretion to determine whether applicants have fulfilled any assessment criterion under the two assessment routes of the Scheme as the Director thinks fit and to approve or refuse any application without giving any reason. The Scheme or details of the Scheme may also be subject to change as the Director thinks fit without prior notice. Please refer to the ImmD website www.immd.gov.hk for up-to-date information.

PERSONAL DATA PRIVACY

Purpose of Collection

84. The personal data provided throughout the application procedure 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) and 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 applications 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;
- (e) if the application is successful, for follow-up by the Labour and Welfare Bureau (including Hong Kong Talent Engage), other government bureaux/departments/other organisations on the applicant's stay, employment status and other relevant updates about the applicant's development in the HKSAR during the validity of the applicant's visa/entry permit; and
- (f) any other legitimate purposes as may be required, authorised or permitted by law.

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

Classes of Transferees

86. The personal data an applicant provides may be disclosed to the Labour and Welfare Bureau (including Hong Kong Talent Engage), other government bureaux, departments and other organisations for the purposes mentioned in paragraph 84.

Access to Personal Data

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

88. Enquiries concerning personal data collected during the application, including requesting access and making corrections, should be addressed to:

Chief Immigration Officer
Quality Migrants and Mainland Residents Section
Immigration Department
6th Floor, Administration Tower
Immigration Headquarters, 61 Po Yap Road
Tseung Kwan O, New Territories
Tel.: (852) 2294 2050

ENQUIRIES

89. For more information about the Scheme, please contact the Quality Migrants and Mainland Residents Section of the ImmD by phone at (852) 2829 3383 or the ImmD by enquiry hotline at (852) 2824 6111, by fax at (852) 2877 7711, by email to enquiry@immd.gov.hk, or visit the ImmD website www.immd.gov.hk.

PART II

COMPLETING THE ONLINE APPLICATION FORM

90. **Important Points to Note**

- (a) Before completing the online application form, as the applicant, you must read all parts of these Guidance Notes carefully.
- (b) Applications will be considered on the basis of the information furnished in the online application form and the documentary proof provided.
- (c) After completing all parts of the application form, you must sign electronically on the designated space(s) to confirm and submit your application.

91. **Assessment Routes**

91.1 **General Points Test (For General Points Test Applicants Only)**

91.1.1 General Points Test

You are required to complete this part on the basis of your own circumstances. Your assessment under the General Points Test should correspond to the details of your age, academic qualifications, language proficiency, work experience, annual income and business ownership stated in the online application form.

91.2 **Achievement-based Points Test (For Achievement-based Points Test Applicants Only)**

91.2.1 Achievement-based Points Test

You are required to meet at least one of the assessment criteria under this assessment route in order to be selected for further assessment by the Assessment Panel. Your assessment under the Achievement-based Points Test should correspond to your award of exceptional achievement (e.g. Olympic medal, Nobel prize, national/international award) and/or recognition from your peers for your contribution to the development of your field (e.g. lifetime achievement award from industry) stated in the online application form.

92. **Prerequisites**

92.1 Your personal net worth

92.1.1 You are not required to fill in details of all of your personal net worth. Instead, you may only fill in an amount of personal net worth which is sufficient to support and accommodate yourself and your accompanying dependant(s) during your initial 12-month stay in Hong Kong, and upload relevant proof of your personal net worth. In the online application form, you will need to declare that your personal net worth is not less than the amount stated.

92.1.2 For the sake of simplicity, any foreign currency exchange rates to be used in relation to “Your personal net worth (HK\$)” are the exchange rates on the day when you fill in the application form. Please state in the supporting documents the exchange rates applied when converting the value of asset items into Hong Kong dollars.

92.1.3 The amount to be entered in the “Your personal net worth (HK\$)” column is the latest available balance printed on statements/passbooks, and should be denominated in Hong Kong dollars.

92.1.4 If real estate is stated in the “Your personal net worth (HK\$)” column, you should enter the current market value of your share of the property denominated in Hong Kong dollars.

- 92.1.5 If securities are stated as proof of your personal net worth, you should enter their total current market value denominated in Hong Kong dollars in the “Your personal net worth (HK\$)” column. The current market value should be based on the prices of the securities shown in the latest statements issued by a registered financial intermediary.
- 92.1.6 If you are the owner of a privately-owned business, you should fill in the net assets value of your share in that business denominated in Hong Kong dollars in the “Your personal net worth (HK\$)” column. The amount of net assets value should be based on the latest audited financial statements of the business.
- 92.1.7 If you have outstanding mortgages or other liabilities, which may substantially reduce the value of your personal assets, you should deduct the latest outstanding amount denominated in Hong Kong dollars from the amount stated in the “Your personal net worth (HK\$)” column.
- 92.2 Criminal record/adverse immigration record
You must declare your past criminal record and adverse immigration record (if any), and upload relevant proof.
93. **Application Assessment**
- 93.1 **General Points Test (For General Points Test Applicants Only)**
- 93.1.1 Credentials
This part consists of 12 assessment criteria across six aspects. Please answer all 12 questions. Your answers should correspond to the information furnished in the subsequent parts of the online application form and the documentary proof provided.
- 93.2 **Achievement-based Points Test (For Achievement-based Points Test Applicants Only)**
- 93.2.1 Summary of achievements
For assessment under the Achievement-based Points Test, you are required to summarise in 250 to 500 words your achievements in or contributions to your field in the online application form. Your summary may include the following information:
- (i) the field you belong to;
 - (ii) the nature of your achievements in or contributions to your field, e.g. a recognised artistic/technical achievement, a project that led to a breakthrough in your field or a commercially successful invention;
 - (iii) detailed proof of your achievements or contributions. If it is an award, it should include the name of the awarding body, the degree of recognition of the awarding body (e.g. whether the award was an industrial, national or international award), the number of awardees of the award, etc. If it is a patent, it should include the patent registration details and information on how commercially successful your invention was; and
 - (iv) the impact of your achievements or contributions to your field.
- 93.2.2 Proof(s) of achievement
Please upload your proof(s) of achievement and tick the relevant box(es). If you tick “Others”, please specify the nature of your proof(s). Please refer to paragraph 55 for detailed requirements regarding the proof(s) of achievement.

94. **Academic/Professional Attainment**
- 94.1 Please list all of your higher academic/professional attainment or membership in chronological order in this part, which may include all of your education, professional training or membership at the college and university level.
- 94.2 Degree level/professional qualifications
Please select your degree level/professional qualifications from the pull-down list. Do not include academic or professional attainment that is not at the college or university level. A professional training or membership can be recognised as being at the college or university level if its entry requirement is college completion/a bachelor’s degree. If you hold professional qualifications awarded by a nationally or internationally recognised/acclaimed professional body which demonstrate that you have a very high level of technical expertise or skill, you may also state the qualifications here.
- 94.3 Degree awarded by an eligible university
Please tick the box labelled “Please tick if it is a degree awarded by an eligible university of the Scheme” if your degree is awarded by one of the eligible universities on the aggregate list.
- 94.4 Upon ticking the box mentioned in paragraph 94.3, the pull-down lists for “Country/territory of the Eligible University” and “Eligible University” will appear for selection.
- 94.4.1 Country/territory of the eligible university
Please select the location of the eligible university/institution from the pull-down list.
- 94.4.2 Eligible university
Please select the name of the eligible university/institution from the pull-down list.
- 94.5 Country/territory
If you have selected from the pull-down list mentioned in paragraph 94.4.1, you are not required to provide information in this field as you have already done so. Otherwise, please select the location of the awarding institution/university from the pull-down list for “Country/territory”.
- 94.6 Awarding institution/university
If you have selected from the pull-down list mentioned in paragraph 94.4.2, you are not required to provide information in this field as you have already done so. Otherwise, please state the full name of the institution/university awarding the academic/professional qualifications in the “Awarding institution/university” input field.
- 94.7 Major subject/discipline/professional qualification
Please state the major subject/discipline/professional qualification of your degree/qualification.
- 94.8 Degree awarded pertinent to “STEM”
Please tick the box labelled “Please tick if the degree awarded is pertinent to “STEM” ” if the major subject/discipline of your master’s or doctoral degree is pertinent to “STEM”, i.e. science, technology, engineering or mathematics.
- 94.9 Year obtained
Please select the year in which the degree/qualification was obtained from the pull-down list, such as “2024”.

94.10 You must provide documentary proof(s) of any higher academic/professional attainment listed. For details of the proof requirements for academic/professional qualifications, please refer to paragraphs 29-31 of these Guidance Notes.

94.10.1 Proof(s) of professional training/membership should include training/membership certificates and details concerning the training/membership. The documentation may include the name and contact details of the organiser/awarding institution, whether the training/membership is a statutory requirement for practising, the degree of recognition, and the entry, examination and training requirements of the training/membership, where applicable.

94.11 If you have more than one academic/professional attainment, please select “Add an academic/professional attainment record” for additional entry of degree/qualifications.

95. **Work Experience and Business Ownership**

95.1 Graduate/specialist level work experience

Please list only your full-time graduate/specialist level work experience in chronological order. Each continuous employment with the same employer should be included in the same input field under “Work Experience”. Please include only the duration of employment that qualifies as full-time graduate/specialist level work, excluding any non-full-time or non-specialist level periods.

95.2 Current ownership of a company

Please tick the box labelled “Please tick if you currently own this company” if you currently own the company.

95.3 Ownership of a listed company

If you have ticked the box mentioned in paragraph 95.2, the box labelled “Please tick if this company you owned is a listed company” will appear for selection.

95.4 Multi-national company or reputable enterprise

Please tick the box labelled “Please tick if it is a multi-national company or reputable enterprise” if your work experience is with a multi-national company or reputable enterprise.

95.5 Profit/loss

If you have ticked the box mentioned in paragraph 95.2, please either select “Profit” or “Loss” and provide the corresponding amount of the profit/loss of your company in Hong Kong dollars for the past year.

95.6 Name of position

In the “Name of Position” input field, please provide the complete and accurate title of your position. Please use the exact designation as it appears in your supporting documents such as the reference letter from your employer. The name of position you enter must precisely correspond with the official title stated in your employment records and supporting documents.

95.7 Nature of duties

In the “Nature of Duties” input field, please briefly state the nature of your job duties, which should accurately depict the essence of your role, such as “financial auditing”, “product merchandising”, “computer software development”, etc.

- 95.8 Period of employment
Please select from the pull-down list the period of your employment with the company, such as “From 02/2020 to 06/2023”. The duration of your employment will be automatically calculated and displayed in the “Duration” field adjacent to your input. Please ensure that your input for the position aligns with the dates indicated in your supporting document(s).
- 95.9 Work experience in specific fields/industries
Please tick the box labelled “Please tick if it is a graduate or specialist level work experience in “innovation and technology”, “finance” and “international trade” (including cross-boundary marine and aviation transportation, and supply chain management)” if your work experience is related to the fields/industries of “innovation and technology”, “finance” and “international trade” (including cross-boundary marine and aviation transportation, and supply chain management).
- 95.10 Work experience with international exposure
Please tick the box labelled “Please tick if it is a graduate or specialist level work experience with international exposure (i.e., work experience outside the applicant’s home country/territory)” if your work experience involves international exposure outside your home country/territory. Please select the location of your work experience from the pull-down list, such as “Australia”.
- 95.11 If you have held more than one position with the same employer, please select “Add a position record under the same employer/company” for additional entry of position in the same organisation. A maximum of five positions can be added under each employer.
- 95.12 Any graduate/specialist level work experience or business ownership record listed in this part should be supported by the proof required in paragraphs 44 and 50-51 of these Guidance Notes.
- 95.13 If you have had multiple employers in your work history, please select “Add a work experience record” for each employer and follow the instructions delineated in paragraphs 95.1-95.12.
96. **Income Record**
- 96.1 Please provide a comprehensive record of your income in the 12 months immediately preceding the date of your application. You may include income such as salary, allowances, stock options and profits from self-owned company. Do not include income generated from personal investment as this will not be considered in the evaluation of your income record.
- 96.2 Currency
Please select the appropriate currency for your income record from the pull-down list.
- 96.2.1 In addition to Hong Kong dollar, there are 17 other major currencies available for you to choose from, including the Chinese Renminbi, U.S. Dollar, Sterling, Japanese Yen, Canadian Dollar, Australian Dollar, Singapore Dollar, New Taiwan Dollar, Swiss Franc, Korean Won, Thai Baht, Malaysian Ringgit, Euro, Philippine Peso, Indian Rupee, Indonesian Rupiah and South African Rand.
- 96.2.2 If your income is not denominated in Hong Kong dollars or any of the 17 foreign currencies mentioned above, you may manually convert your income into one of the available currencies based on a reliable exchange rate.

96.3 Amount
Please enter the amount of your income record in the input field. Please ensure that the figure provided accurately reflects your earnings and is consistent with the currency selected from the pull-down list.

96.4 HKD
Upon selecting the appropriate “Currency” from the pull-down list and entering your income in the “Amount” input field, the system will automatically convert your reported income into Hong Kong dollars and display the amount in the “HKD” field.

96.5 You may add multiple income records if your earnings are denominated in a different currency by selecting “Add Income Record”. It is advisable to consolidate your income records under the same currency for clarity purpose.

96.6 Any income records provided in this part should be supported by the proof required in paragraph 47 of these Guidance Notes.

97. **Language Skills**

97.1 Please specify the language(s) that you are proficient in, including Chinese and/or English and tick the appropriate boxes provided.

97.2 If you are proficient in other language(s), please select “Add a language” to include additional language(s).

97.3 Please refer to paragraphs 35-36 for details of requirements for supporting documents related to language proficiency.

98. **Career or Academic Accomplishments and Future Plans**

98.1 In each input field of this part, you may summarise in not more than 100 words your key career or academic accomplishments and your future career plans. You may highlight your major personal and career achievements that are considered prominent or could set you apart from other applicants and provide relevant proof(s). If you have already provided such information under the Achievement-based Points Test in the “Summary of achievements” part of the online application form, please do not duplicate the information. Information to be provided in this part may include:

- (a) being a founder or part of the top management of a major company (e.g. large-cap listed company in a key market, unicorn, start-up with promising prospects, or company holding significant patents or inventions, etc.);
- (b) serving in prominent institution/company;
- (c) taking a leading role in a large-scale project;
- (d) being a high-income earner (i.e., individual with an annual income of HK\$5 million or above) with a remarkable business track record;
- (e) being a leading scientist, academic researcher, performer, or professional in a specific field/sector;
- (f) being a recipient of award(s) in your respective profession;
- (g) being engaged in a profession under the Talent List (if applicable). Please also select the profession you belong to from the pull-down list and detail your achievements relevant to that profession;
- (h) any significant impact you brought to an organisation or the society;
- (i) any professional skill possessed by you which you think may substantially contribute to Hong Kong economically or socially;

- (j) career plans in Hong Kong, including details of local business/academic connections (if any); and
- (k) any other information which you believe is important to our assessment of your application.

98.2 Information provided in this part should be supported by documentary proof, if any, such as a certificate of award, reference letter on company letterhead paper, signed by an authorised person and endorsed with a company stamp (with contact details), or a contract signed with a client, etc.

99. **Sector**

99.1 Please state in this part the name of the sector which best represents your professional skills.

99.2 Classification of sectors and examples:

Item	Sector	Examples
1	Academic Research and Education	Academic Research, Nurseries, Tertiary Education
2	Architecture, Surveying, Engineering and Construction	Landscaping, Architecture, Surveying, Civil/Electrical/Mechanical/Structural/Environmental Engineering, Building & Construction, Building Information Modelling, Environmental Engineering
3	Arts and Culture	Performing Arts, Fine Arts, Museums, Libraries, Photography, Cultural Heritage Conservation, Augmented Reality (AR) / Virtual Reality (VR) production
4	Broadcasting and Entertainment	Broadcasting & Programming, Motion Picture, Video & Television Programme Production, Sound Record & Music Publishing, Game Production, Live Streaming
5	Business Support and Human Resources	Business Consulting, Company Secretary, Administrative Support, Human Resources Management, Recruitment Services, Public Relations Services, Advertising, Information Services, ESG activities
6	Catering and Tourism	Bars, Restaurants, Hotels, Travel Agencies
7	Commerce and Trade	Import & Export, Retail & Sales, Wholesale, Auction, E-commerce, International Trading, Marketing and Branding
8	Financial and Accounting Services	Accountancy, Actuaries, Banking, Insurance, Securities, Investment Banking, Fintech, Assets & Wealth Management

9	Human Health and Veterinary Services	Western Medicine, Chinese Medicine, Dental Services, Medical Technology, Occupational Therapy, Nursing, Veterinary Services, Pharmacy
10	Information Technology and Telecommunications	Innovation & Technology, IT Consultancy, IoT Solutions, Networking, Cloud Infrastructure, AI & Machine Learning, Software Developing, Game Developing, Wireline/Wireless Communications
11	Legal Services	Legal Practice, Dispute Resolution
12	Logistics and Transportation	Logistics, Supply Chain Management, Aviation Transportation, Marine Transportation, Land Transportation
13	Manufacturing Industries	Electrical, Electronics, Food & Beverages, Chemical, Metals, Toys, Textiles, Watches, Jewellery, Printing & Publishing
14	Sports	Sports Activities
15	Others	

PART III

100. CHECKLIST OF DOCUMENTS

You are required to submit documentary proof on information which you have provided in the online application form for the Scheme. Please check if you have prepared the following documents for submission in the online application process:

Item	Guidance Notes Paragraph No.
Completed all relevant parts of the online application form	
Your recent photograph	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Valid travel document containing your personal particulars, nationality (if any), residential status in your country of residence (if you are not a national of the country), re-entry visa to the country (if applicable), and date of issue and expiry of the travel document; and/or ➤ PRC resident identity card (if applicable) 	
Proof(s) of personal net worth	16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Higher education graduation certificate(s); ➤ Transcript of academic record; and ➤ Verification proof issued by a third-party credential verification organisation or the awarding institution regarding their academic qualifications, and necessary information for the Immigration Department to conduct online authentication on respective platforms 	29-30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Professional qualification/training/membership certificate(s) (if any); and ➤ Details relating to the professional qualification/training/membership claimed (if applicable) 	31, 94.10.1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A reference letter from each employer, company documents for each business owned or proof of self-employment experience; ➤ Company organisation chart (if any); ➤ Proof of company turnover (if any); and ➤ Employment visa (if applicable) 	44
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Notice of salaries tax assessment of the previous assessment year issued by a local competent authority (e.g. taxation office or revenue department, etc.); ➤ Documentary proof issued by the applicant's employing company specifying the value of the stock options granted to the applicant; or ➤ Documentary proof of financial standing of the applicant's self-owned companies (e.g. the latest audited financial report, trading profit and loss account, or profits tax return, etc.) (if applicable) 	47
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Official company registration documents showing the length of time the applicant was involved in the business and his/her capacity in the 	50-51

<p>business, as well as showing the ownership condition in the year immediately preceding the date of application;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The latest audited financial report of the business and relevant legal documents showing the percentage of shareholding of the applicant; and ➤ The latest audited financial report, trading profit and loss account, or profits tax return 	
Language proficiency proof	35-36
Proof on key career accomplishment/future plan, and other information provided in that part	44, 98.2
Proof(s) of achievements (for Achievement-based Points Test)	55
Completed dependant visa/entry permit online application form and upload all necessary supporting documents for each of the accompanying dependent family members	69-71

IMPORTANT NOTICE ON SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Notwithstanding that you have already furnished all necessary documents and information stated in these Guidance Notes, you may still be required to submit further supporting documents and information in connection with your application.



Addendum

Unless approved by the Director of Immigration under exceptional circumstances, persons subject to a limit of stay must depart Hong Kong before the expiry of their limit of stay, even if they have applied to the Director of Immigration for an extension of stay and the application is under processing. Breach of condition of stay (including overstaying) is a serious criminal offence. Offenders may be liable to prosecution and removal from Hong Kong.

Applicants should submit an application for extension of stay as early as possible within three months before their limit of stay expires, and in all circumstances, at least six weeks before their limit of stay expires. It normally takes about two to three weeks to finish processing an application upon receipt of all the required documents and the relevant application fee. The actual processing time is subject to the specific circumstances of individual applications and the number of applications received at the time. Please note that not all applications for extension of stay will necessarily be approved. Unless approved by the Director of Immigration under exceptional circumstances, applicants for an extension of stay must still depart Hong Kong before the expiry of their limit of stay while awaiting the application result.

Immigration Department
The Government of the Hong Kong
Special Administrative Region
April 2026

Addendum to ID(E) 982, ID(E) 991, ID(E) 1000,
ID(E) 1018, ID(E) 1026, ID(E) 1032 and ID(E) 1034