

Hong Kong Residence Permit Through Employment: professional Advice and Common Mistakes

General requirements for obtaining a Hong Kong GEP work visa

- ✓ The applicant must have a clean character
- ✓ Must prove that they have relevant education or experience
- ✓ Must have a vacancy that cannot be easily filled by local professionals
- ✓ Must be screened and receive an offer from the employer
- ✓ Remuneration conditions must be in line with Hong Kong market standards
- ✓ Ability to pay for housing from salary or guarantee of housing from the employer

Additional conditions:

- ✓ Overseas Chinese nationals may apply if they have lived abroad for more than one year
- ✓ Each application is assessed individually, taking into account all standard immigration requirements

Entry for spouses and dependents

- ✓ Spouses or partners may apply if the marriage or partnership is officially recognized
- ✓ Unmarried children under 18 may apply

Exceptions:

The program does not apply to former residents of mainland China in Macau and citizens of Afghanistan and North Korea

Processing time:

About four weeks after receiving all required documents

General Requirements for Obtaining a Hong Kong Work Visa **under the ASMTP Program**

- ✓ For Mainland Chinese nationals with unique skills. Skills must be in demand in Hong Kong
- ✓ Clean reputation and no serious criminal record
- ✓ Education in the relevant field or significant experience
- ✓ A genuine vacancy and job offer that local professionals cannot easily fill
- ✓ Remuneration conditions must meet Hong Kong market standards

Additional conditions:

- ✓ No quotas or restrictions by sector
- ✓ The program is open to all industries

Entry for spouses and dependents

- ✓ Possibility to apply for spouses or partners if the marriage or partnership is legally recognised
- ✓ Possibility to apply for unmarried children under 18

Exceptions:

The program does not apply to former residents of mainland China in Macau and citizens of Afghanistan and North Korea

Review period:

About four weeks after receiving all necessary documents

General requirements for obtaining a work visa in Hong Kong under the QMAS program

The objective of the program

is to attract highly skilled and talented people to enhance Hong Kong's economic competitiveness

Key conditions:

- ✓ No job offer required prior to application
- ✓ May bring spouses/partners and dependent children under 18
- ✓ Exceptions: Nationals of Afghanistan, Cuba and North Korea

Prerequisites:

- ✓ Age: Above 18 years old to 50 years old
- ✓ Valid passport for international travel
- ✓ Ability to secure housing and financial independence in Hong Kong
- ✓ No legal problems
- ✓ University degree or proven experience and achievements

Ways to evaluate candidates

- **General test:** 12 criteria, passing score is 6 out of 12
- **Achievement-based test:** for individuals with exceptional talents and skills

General test criteria:

- ✓ Under 50 years of age
- ✓ Master's degree or PhD
- ✓ Degree related to science, technology, engineering, mathematics
- ✓ Bilingual
- ✓ English proficiency is mandatory
- ✓ Work experience: **at least 5 years**
- ✓ Experience in multinational companies: **at least 3 years**
- ✓ Experience in innovation, finance or international trade: **at least 3 years**
- ✓ International work experience: **at least 2 years**
- ✓ Annual income \geq HKD 1 million
- ✓ Ownership of a business with profits \geq HKD 5 million
- ✓ Ownership of a listed (public) company

The passing score is 6 out of 12

Achievement-based test criteria

- ✓ Designed for candidates with outstanding achievements
- ✓ High requirements and separate assessment

Evaluation criteria:

- ✓ **Awards for exceptional achievements:** Olympic medal, Nobel Prize or other national/international awards
- ✓ **Significant contribution** to the development of the field, confirmed by a lifetime achievement award

Candidates who meet at least one criterion are further assessed by a committee

Top Talent Placement Program (TTPS)

Program Objective:

To attract highly qualified professionals and graduates from leading universities around the world to work in Hong Kong

Eligibility Criteria:

- ✓ **Category A:** Annual income \geq HKD2.5 million in the previous year
- ✓ **Category B:** Graduates from recognized universities with \geq 3 years of work experience in the last 5 years
- ✓ **Category C:** Graduates from recognized universities in the last 5 years with $<$ 3 years of work experience (subject to quota availability)

Application requirements:

- ✓ No job offer required
- ✓ No security objections or serious criminal record
- ✓ Availability of annual quota (for Category C)

Duration of stay:

- 🕒 **Category A:** 36 months
- 🕒 **Categories B and C:** 24 months

Special conditions for Chinese citizens



Chinese nationals holding PRC passports living overseas may apply if they have a permanent residence abroad and have lived abroad for at least one year prior to applying

Exceptions:




The program does not apply to citizens of Afghanistan, Cuba, and North Korea

General requirements for obtaining a Hong Kong work visa **under the IANG program**

Who can apply:

-  International students who have completed a bachelor's degree or higher from a full-time accredited program in Hong Kong
-  Graduates from GBA campuses established jointly by universities on the mainland and Hong Kong

Program Features:

-  No quotas or sector restrictions
-  Exceptions: citizens of Afghanistan, Cuba and North Korea
-  Special conditions apply for citizens of Laos, Nepal and Vietnam

Graduate Categories:

1. Recent Graduates:

- ✓ Apply within 6 months of graduation
- ✓ No job offer required
- ✓ Stay: 24 months with time limit

2. Graduates applying later than 6 months after graduation:

- ✓ Job offer required
- ✓ Job must be at graduate level, salary must be market level


Family Members:

Option to bring spouse/partner and dependent children under 18

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