



ABOUT YOUR STUDENT VISA

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When you are preparing the visa application...

Do I need to apply for HKSAR student visa/entry permit?

- ✚ Generally, any person other than those having the right of abode or right to land in Hong Kong must obtain a student visa/entry permit before coming to Hong Kong to study.

There is no need to apply for a student visa/entry permit if one

- has a Hong Kong Permanent Identity Card with a letter "A" (for Right of Abode) or "R" (for Right to Land) under the date of birth, or
- holds a valid dependent visa, or
- has been granted an "unconditional stay" in Hong Kong.

Students who are uncertain whether they need a student visa/entry permit should check with the Hong Kong Immigration Department.

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How long will it take to have my visa/ entry permit application approved?

- ✚ It normally takes at least 6-8 weeks to process your visa application. The Hong Kong Immigration Department will not process the application until all the required documents are received. During the processing period, URAO will contact you if further information and/or documents are required.

Approval of your application is at the discretion of the Hong Kong Immigration Department. You can refer to the Hong Kong Immigration Department's website (<http://www.immd.gov.hk>) for the latest policies on student visa.

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What kind of financial documents will be accepted by the Hong Kong Immigration Department?

- ✚ As a general guideline, the financial proof should be presented in Chinese or English with the relevant currency clearly shown. The amount of funds (in HKD or other currencies) should cover the total estimated cost as shown in Section 6 of Form ID995A. The document can be:
 - Student's latest bank statement(s),
 - Parent's latest bank statements(s)/income statement(s),
 - Award letter of scholarship (if any)

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Where should I submit the documents for my student visa/ entry permit application?

- ✚ There will be a downloadable Mailing Cover at the end of the online process showing our mailing address:

Receiver: Student Visa Team
Contact: (852) 2623 1118

Undergraduate Recruitment and Admissions Office
Room 4006, Academic Building,
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology,
Clear Water Bay, Kowloon,
HONG KONG

(RE: Visa Application – Application No.: _____)

Applicant's Name: _____)

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When should I submit the documents for my student visa/ entry permit application?

- ✚ After accepting an admissions offer, all non-local students should apply for a student visa/entry permit. Please log in to the [Online Application System for Student visa/entry permit](#) to download the visa form and prepare list of required documents (refer to Section B. Documents Required).

Upon completing the online process, please send originals of the application form and supporting documents to us according to your admissions type:

Non-local UG applicants should submit the package **by March** (or **within 30 days** from the date of accepting the offer if your admissions offer is issued **after March**);

Mainland JEE applicants should submit the package **within 5 days** from the admissions offer issue date;

Visiting Internship/Visiting applicants should submit the package **within 2 weeks** from the admissions offer issue date.

For security purposes, you are advised to mail your visa application package by registered mail or courier service.

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How much is the visa application fee? How do I make the payment?

- ✚ The visa application fee is HKD 600 and is payable upon submission of your student visa application package. The payment can be settled by VISA/Master card online by logging in to the [Online Application System for Student visa/entry permit](#). Alternatively, the payment can be made by bank draft payable to “The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology”. Please note that the visa application fee is non-refundable and non-transferable.

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I have already completed a visa application for another Hong Kong education institution besides HKUST. Do I have to submit the visa application again? (for Full-time Undergraduate Non-local applicants only)

- ✚ Yes, you must send a complete student visa application to HKUST as each university is required to submit a separate sponsor form (ID995B) to indicate its role as your education provider in Hong Kong. The Immigration Department will take note if you submit more than one student visa application. If you decide to study at HKUST, you must notify the other institutions in Hong Kong to cancel those visa applications before your final student visa for HKUST can be approved.

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When your visa application is in progress...

How do I know the status of my student visa/entry permit application? Or if there is anything missing?

- ✚ URAO will follow up with the Hong Kong Immigration Department regularly to monitor the progress of your visa application. You may log in to the [Online Application System for Student visa/entry permit](#) anytime to check for status updates. If there is any missing information and/or documents, we will contact you by email.

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When will I receive the student visa label?

- ✚ Once your visa application is approved, the Hong Kong Immigration Department will inform the University.

Please note that the Immigration Department requires University to confirm each non-local student's admissions status before sending out the student visa label. Therefore, it is important for students with conditional admissions offers to submit the pending academic documents soon as they become available to URAO to finalize the admissions status.

If there are no complications with the visa application, URAO will make sure your visa label is sent to you before the scheduled arrival date, by late August.

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After you have received your visa label package...

How do I activate my student visa?

- ✚ Your student visa label package will include an adhesive label together with an approval letter. Full-time undergraduate students will also be issued with a No Objection Letter (NOL).

For International students

The visa label needs to be affixed to a blank page of your passport. You must present your visa label at the Immigration counter when you arrive in Hong Kong. Clearly show them the page and ensure you receive a landing slip from the Immigration Officer stating **STUDENT-Permitted to remain until (DD-MM-YYYY)**. You must keep this slip to show that your visa has been validated or you will not be permitted to register at HKUST.

For students from Mainland China

Students using an EEP (Exit-entry Permit for Travelling to and from Hong Kong and Macao 《往來港澳通行證》) should present it together with the entry permit granted to you for arrival clearance at the Immigration counter. There is no need to stick the visa label to your PRC passports.

Besides the actual label, you should bring all the letters in the package with you to Hong Kong.

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My visa label states “Valid for Single Entry”. Will I need to apply for another student visa if I want to travel or return home during the year?

- ✚ While this “Valid for Single Entry” condition may sound confusing, you actually may travel to and from Hong Kong multiple times within the valid period of your student visa (except Taiwanese students).

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When and how should I apply for a Hong Kong Identity Card?

- ✚ If you intend to stay in Hong Kong for more than 180 days, you are required by law to apply for a Hong Kong Identity Card (HKID) within 30 days upon arrival. Under the laws of Hong Kong, all residents are required to carry the HKID at all times. You must apply for an identity card in person at the Registration of Persons Office at the [*Hong Kong Immigration Department*](#).

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Am I eligible to work in Hong Kong?

- ✚ Full-time undergraduate non-local students with a No Objection Letter (NOL) can take up employment during the study period subject to a set of regulations. For details, please refer to Q20 <https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/faq/imm-policy-study.html>. The NOL is included in the student visa label package sent to you; make sure you bring the original NOL with you to Hong Kong in order to be eligible for employment. You are not required to make a separate application for a NOL.

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