



ABOUT YOUR STUDENT VISA

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When you are preparing the visa application...

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

- ✚ As a general rule, 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 at HKUST.

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 not sure whether they need a student visa/entry permit should check with the HKSAR Immigration Department.

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How long will my visa/ entry permit application take?

- ✚ It normally takes at least 6-8 weeks to process your visa application. The 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 by the Immigration Department. You can refer to the department's website (<http://www.immd.gov.hk>) for the latest policies on student visa.

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

- ✚ As a general guideline, the amount of fund (in HKD or other currencies) should cover the total estimated cost as shown in Section 6 of Form ID995A, and should be presented in English, with the relevant currency clearly shown. The financial proof could be:
 - Student's latest bank statement(s),
 - Parent's latest bank statements(s)/income statement(s),
 - Supporting letter issued by parent(s) and a photocopy of his/her passport showing the same signature on the supporting letter (if you provide parent's bank statement),
 - 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:

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 offer, all non-local students should apply for a student visa/entry permit. Please visit [Online Application System for Student visa/entry permit](#) for details and the list of required documents (please refer to Section B. Documents Required). After completing the online process, please send originals of application form and supporting documents to HKUST.

To ensure that you receive your student visa in time, please return your completed visa application package to us by the deadline according to your admission type:

Non-local UG applicants should submit the package within **30 days** from the issue date of the admission offer letter;

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

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

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 processing fee and how to make the payment?

- ✚ Visa application processing fee is HKD 550. The payment can be settled by VISA/Master card online by logging in 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”. Also note that the fee paid is non-refundable and non-transferable. It is payable upon submission of your student visa application package.

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I have accepted an admission offer to another Hong Kong education institution besides HKUST. I have already completed a visa application for another institution. Do I have to complete the visa application again? (for Full-time UG Non-local applicants only)

- ✚ Yes, you must send a completed student visa application to HKUST. HKUST attaches a separate sponsor form (ID995B) to each visa application. As your sponsor, your visa application for HKUST only applies to the admission offer from the University.

The Immigration Department will take note and put your application on hold if you submit more than one student visa application. Later on if you decide to study at HKUST, you must notify any other institutions in Hong Kong to cancel those outstanding visa applications; otherwise it would delay your visa application process.

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When your visa application is in progress...

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

- ✦ Any status updated to the student visa/entry permit application will be shown on the [Online Application System for Student visa/entry permit](#). Please make use of the System to track the progress. During the processing period, URAO will contact you if further information and/or documents are required. If you do not hear from the University, your visa application is undergoing the normal procedures.

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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. This is subject to a firm admission offer by HKUST. Therefore, it is important for students with conditional admission offer to provide URAO with any outstanding examination results as soon as they are available. If there are no complications with the visa application, URAO will ensure your visa label is sent to you before your scheduled arrival date. Your visa label will be sent via courier to the mailing address as indicated in the [Online Application System for Student visa/entry permit](#).

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When you have received your visa label package...

I have received my student visa package. How do I activate my student visa?

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

The sticker is to be affixed to a visa 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.***

Students from the Chinese Mainland using an electronic 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 immigration arrival clearance. Otherwise, stick your label onto your paper format EEP. (The label will be voided if stuck onto PRC passports.)

Besides the sticker 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'. I want to travel and/or return home during the year. Will I need to apply for another student visa?

- ✚ Do not be confused by this. Within the validity period of the student visa stamp, you can travel to and from Hong Kong on the same visa as many times as you wish.

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Are there any other immigration procedures I must complete in order to study in Hong Kong?

- ✚ Please note that the student visa is for entry to Hong Kong. Based on your country of citizenship, you may be required to apply for an exit permit in order to pursue your studies in Hong Kong. In this case, you are responsible to find out such requirements and complete any procedures.

If you have a valid student visa/entry permit and will stay in Hong Kong for more than 180 days, you need to apply for an HKID Card. Upon reaching Hong Kong you are required to apply for a Hong Kong Identity Card within 30 days of arrival. Hong Kong law requires that it be carried 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 the NOL can take up employment during the study period subject to a set of regulations. 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. Visiting Internship/Visiting students are not allowed to work in Hong Kong.

The University will inform you of the details concerning employment in your student visa package. You are not required to make a separate application for a NOL.

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