

# The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China.

## The Quality Migrant Admission Scheme (the Scheme).

### Overview

This document aims at providing information to individuals who wish to come to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC) under the Quality Migrant Admission Scheme (the Scheme). The information set out below serves as a reference only. The Immigration Department of the Government of the HKSAR may change the rules and criteria listed below from time to time without prior notice. Any person who wishes to submit an application under the Scheme is advised to make enquiry with the Immigration Department of the Government of the HKSAR for up-to-date information applicable to the time of his/her making an application.

### Scheme Objective

The Scheme is an entrant scheme. It is quota-based and seeks to attract highly skilled or talented persons who are fresh entrants not having the right to enter and remain in Hong Kong to settle in Hong Kong in order to enhance Hong Kong's economic competitiveness in the global market. Successful applicants are not required to secure an offer of local employment before their entry to Hong Kong for settlement. All applicants are required to fulfill a set of prerequisites before they can be awarded points under one of the two points-based tests, namely the General Points Test and Achievements-based Points Test, and compete for quota allocation with other applicants. Successful applicants under the Scheme may bring their spouse 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

The Scheme is not applicable to nationals of Afghanistan, Albania, Cambodia, Cuba, Laos, Korea (Democratic People's Republic of), Nepal and Vietnam.

### Selection Mechanism

#### ***Stage 1: Prerequisites***

All applicants under the Scheme are required to fulfill a set of prerequisites before they can be awarded points under one of the two points-based tests under the Scheme.

#### ***Stage 2: Points-based test***

Applicants who have met all the prerequisites may choose to be assessed either under a General Points Test and Achievements-based Points Test. There are five point-scoring factors under the General Points Test and one point-scoring factor under the Achievement-based Points Test.

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

### ***Stage 3: Selection exercise***

Selection exercises will be done on a regular basis for quota allocation to applicants. During each selection exercise, applications which satisfy both the prerequisites and the minimum passing mark (under the General Points Test) or the one point-scoring factor (under the Achievement-based Points Test) will be ranked according to scores awarded. High scoring applications will be short-listed for further assessment. The Director of Immigration may seek advice from an Advisory Committee on the assessment, point-scoring and allocation of quota under the Scheme. The Advisory Committee comprises official and non-official members appointed by the Chief Executive of the HKSAR. The Advisory Committee will consider the socio-economic needs of Hong Kong, the sectoral mix of candidates and other relevant factors, and recommend to the Director of Immigration how best to allocate available quota in each selection exercise. High-scoring applications do not necessarily secure quota allotment. Results of each selection exercise will be published on the Immigration Department website. As it will take time to process applications, applicants may regard their applications as being under processing unless they have received a notification of refusal from the Immigration Department.

### ***Stage 4: Approval-in-principle***

Applicants who are allotted a quota in the selection exercise will be issued with an Approval-in-principle letter. Such applicants are required to come to Hong Kong to personally attend an interview and present originals of all documents submitted during the application to the Immigration Department for verification. They may enter Hong Kong on visitor conditions for this purpose. **An Approval-in-principle letter issued to an applicant does not automatically guarantee approval of his/her entry to or remain in Hong Kong under the Scheme.**

### ***Stage 5: Issue of entry visa/entry permit***

If all original documents are satisfactorily verified and all relevant application procedures are finalized, the successful applicant will be issued with an entry visa/entry permit under the Scheme for stay in Hong Kong.

## **Prerequisites**

All applicants must satisfy all of the following prerequisites:

### ***Age***

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

### ***Financial requirement***

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

### ***Good character***

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

***Language proficiency***

The applicant should be proficient in written and spoken Chinese (Putonghua or Cantonese) or English.

***Basic educational qualification***

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

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

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