

United States Consulate General – Hong Kong and Macau 26 Garden Road Central, Hong Kong Website: <u>https://hk.usconsulate.gov</u>

Email: Visa Inquiry Form at our Website

INFORMATION FOR IMMIGRANT VISA APPLICANTS

Your case is ready for interview. All immigrant visa appointments are scheduled through the GSS platform. To schedule your interview appointment, please visit <u>www.ustraveldocs.com/hk</u>. For technical questions, please contact the Global Support Services (GSS) Call Center at (852) 5808 4666, or email at <u>supporthongkong@ustraveldocs.com</u>. You and all family members who are immigrating MUST appear in person for the interview. Your application will be cancelled if you do not pursue your case within one year of the date of your Packet 4 or Packet 4A letter (whichever is earliest).

IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR YOUR INTERVIEW, PLEASE DO THE FOLLOWING NOW:

- 1) If you are applying for a family reunification visa, you must present the original documents to establish the relationship between you and the petitioner. For example, if your sibling filed for you, you should present original birth certificates for you and your sibling. If your child filed for you, you should present the child's original birth certificate. If your spouse filed for you, you should present your original marriage certificate. If you are immigrating on the basis of employment, you must submit a recent notarized job offer from the employer stating the position and salary offered and evidence showing you are qualified for the position. If you are immigrating because you have won the diversity visa lottery, you must present a high school diploma and/or evidence of work experience.
- 2) Bring all applicable documents listed in the "Document Checklist For Immigrant Visa Applicants" to the Consulate on your interview date.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- 1) Bring the original and one copy of all documents with you to the interview. You may also wish to keep copies for your own records.
- 2) All forms should be completed in English. Documents in other languages should be translated into English and accompanied by a signed statement from the translator stating that they are proficient in both languages.
- 3) Applicants should obtain birth, marriage, and police certificates from the appropriate mainland Chinese notary public office, if applicable.
- 4) Police certificates are valid for two years from date of issuance. You must present a recent version if the document is over two years old.
- 5) There is no guarantee a visa will be issued. Do not quit your job, sell your property, or make travel arrangements until a visa is issued.
- 6) If you fail to pursue your case within one year of the date of your Packet 4 or Packet 4A letter (whichever is earliest), your application and visa petition will be cancelled under Section 203(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.



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DOCUMENT CHECKLIST FOR IMMIGRANT VISA APPLICANTS

Please bring all applicable documents (originals plus copies if noted) on this checklist. Visas are often approved the same day for applicants who are prepared with these documents. Visas will not be approved until applicants submit all required documents.

- For family-sponsored applicants, the immigrant visa fee is US\$325 (HK\$2,600) for each applicant. For employment-based applicants, the fee is US\$345 (HK\$2,760). The fee is required if an applicant has not already paid to the National Visa Center. The fee for each Diversity Visa applicant is US\$330 (HK\$2,640). Fees can be paid by cash or credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express or Diners Club).
- 2. Travel documents, i.e. passports valid for six months beyond the intended date of entry into the United States and copies of the biographic data pages; AND any previous travel documents with expired and/or current U.S. visas in them.
- 3. Identity cards for Hong Kong, Macau and/or your place of residence and photocopies of each card.
- 4. Two visa photographs, please refer to <u>photo requirements</u> at <u>https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/photos.html</u> for detailed information.
- 5. Immigrant visa applicants require an Affidavit of Support (Form I-864) with sponsors' federal income tax return that was current when the I-864 was signed if the affidavit of support has not been submitted to the National Visa Center.
- 6. Police certificates from your country of residence for the past 6 months and from other countries in which you have lived for more than 12 months after age 16.
- 7. Certificates of trial, brief facts of case and/or court transcripts if you were ever convicted of a crime.
- 8. Medical examination
- 9. Birth, Adoption, Marriage Certificates and copies
- 10. Divorce or Death Certificates of spouse and copies (petitioner, applicant and derivative spouse who have been previously married must obtain legal proof of termination of each prior marriage if the immigration is based on marriage).
- 11. Child Custody Orders and copies
- 12. Family-based cases: Evidence of relationship between the principal applicant and petitioner, as well as between the principal applicant and all beneficiaries
- 13. Employment-based and Diversity Visa cases: Evidence to show the education and/or work experience required for employment-based and diversity (lottery) visas. Employment-based applicants need a recent notarized job offer from the employer stating the position and salary.
- 14. Investment-based cases: Applicants need to bring documents related to the source of funds invested in the U.S. to interview.
- 15. Documents not in English should be translated into English and accompanied by a signed statement from the translator stating that the translator is proficient in both languages.
- 16. Civil documents from the Philippines:

All civil documents from the Philippines, including birth, adoption, death, marriage, and annotated marriage certificates indicating annulment must be issued by The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) on official security paper. All married, single, divorced or widowed applicants born in the Philippines or who carry a passport issued by the Government of the Philippines and who are over the age of 16 <u>must</u> apply for a Certificate of No Marriage Record (CENOMAR) issued by the PSA and printed on PSA security paper. The CENOMAR can be ordered through the PSA E-census website at <u>https://www.psaserbilis.com.ph</u> and sent directly by the PSA to the U.S. Consulate General in Hong Kong at 26 Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong. We are unable to accept this document if received directly from the applicant during their interview; applicants can expect delays in visa processing if we do not receive their CENOMAR directly from the PSA.



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INFORMATION CONCERNING THE MEDICAL EXAMINATION

The Immigration and Nationality Act requires that all immigrant visa applicants and certain nonimmigrant visa applicants, regardless of age, undergo a medical examination before receiving a visa. All applicants must undergo a medical examination administered by a Panel Physician before the visa interview. **Only Panel Physicians may administer the medical examination.** The names and addresses of the Panel Physicians used by the U.S. Consulate General in Hong Kong are set forth below. As examinations expire after a period of time, applicants are recommended to schedule their medical examinations no more than 4 weeks prior to the date of the visa interview. Reports generally take approximately one week to prepare.

Dr. Nicolson & Associates 14/F. Wing On House 71 Des Voeux Road Central Central, Hong Kong Telephone: (852) 2507-1075 Email: <u>drnicolson@ump.com.hk</u> Drs. Anderson & Partners (Quality HealthCare Medical Centre) 805-806 Wai Fung Plaza 664 Nathan Road, Mongkok, Kowloon, Hong Kong Telephone: (852) 8200-8825 Email: <u>booking@qhms.com</u>

Be sure to take the following items with you to the medical examination:

- 1) Visa interview appointment letter
- 2) DS-260 Confirmation Page for each family members named in the visa interview appointment letter
- 3) The travel document of each person who will undergo a medical examination
- 4) This instruction sheet
- 5) Five passport-size photographs of each person to be medically examined, if necessary
- 6) Sufficient money to pay the required fees. See the fee schedule at the end of this document for specific costs.

NOTE: The examining physician may, at his discretion, require additional X-rays or tests to accurately evaluate your medical condition(s). The applicant is responsible for payment of these costs, which will be in addition to those for the basic examination. All medical fees related to the examination are to be paid at the doctor's office. Children under 15 normally are not required to undergo an X-ray. However, the examining physician reserves the right to request such a test if it is deemed necessary.

- 7) If you have a history of tuberculosis, be prepared to present all old X-rays and medical reports.
- 8) If you are receiving or have received medical treatment, please be prepared to present your medical records, test results, and the dosage of any medication you are current taking.
- 9) Please also remember to bring any prescription eyeglasses and/or hearing aids to the appointment.



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WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE MEDICAL EXAMINATION

The medical examination is conducted by one of the appointed panel physicians. It consists of a physical examination (eyes, ears, nose, throat, extremities, heart, lungs, abdomen, lymph nodes, and skin), chest X-ray and a blood test for venereal disease. Children between aged 2 and 14 are subject to tuberculin skin test. The blood test and X-ray are generally not required of persons under the age of 15, but they are required, under existing United States law, of all other persons.

VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR IV APPLICANTS

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO IMMIGRANT VISA APPLICANTS CONCERNING VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS

United States immigration law requires immigrant visa applicants to obtain certain vaccinations (listed below) prior to the issuance of a visa. Panel physicians who conduct medical examinations of visa applicants are now required to verify that immigrant visa applicants have met the new vaccination requirements, or that it is medically inappropriate for the visa applicant to receive one or more of the following vaccinations: Acellular pertussis, Haemophilus Influenza type b (Hib), Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Influenza, Measles and Mumps and Rubella, Meningococcal, Pneumococcal, Polio, Rotavirus, Tetanus and diphtheria toxoids, and Varicella.

In addition to the preceding vaccinations, <u>effective October 1, 2021,</u> a vaccination for COVID-19 will be required for all applicants who wish to immigrate to the United States. Either of the COVID-19 vaccines available in Hong Kong is acceptable to fulfill this requirement. We encourage applicants to obtain COVID-19 vaccinations in advance of their medical screening.

To assist the panel physician and to avoid delays in the processing of your visa, **all immigrant visa applicants** should have their vaccination records available for the panel physician's review at the time of the medical examination. Visa applicants should consult with their regular health care provider to obtain a copy of their immunization record, if one is available. If you do not have a vaccination record, the panel physician will work with you to determine which vaccinations you may need to meet the requirement.

Only a physician can determine which of the listed vaccinations are medically appropriate for you, given your age, medical history and current medical condition. For more detailed information, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Panel Physician Technical Instructions for Vaccination at http://www.cdc.gov/ncezid/dgmq.



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Fees for Medical Exams

Note: This list covers most of the charges associated with the medical examination process. The examining physician may, at his/her discretion, require additional X-rays or tests to evaluate your medical condition(s). You are responsible for payment of these costs, which will be in addition to those associated with the basic examination.

Description	Dr. Nicolson & Associates	Drs. Anderson & Partners
Physical exam & documentation	1,020	1,082
Serologic test for syphilis	250	284
NAAT for gonorrhea	590	620
Chest x-ray and radiology consult	390	410
Sputum smear exam (a series of 3) Culture exam (a series of 3)	1,860	1,962
Tuberculosis follow up consultation	320 per visit	368 per visit
Tuberculin skin test and follow up visit	350	315
Interferon gamma release assay test	2,180	2,363

Vaccination Fees	Unit Price in HKD per shot	Unit Price in HKD per shot
Tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis	780	793
Haemophilus Influenza type b (Hib)	420	436
Hepatitis A (child)	450	441
Hepatitis B (child)	250	263
Hepatitis B (adult)	330	310
Influenza	360	294
Measles and Mumps and Rubella	280	294
Meningococcal	1,050	1,113
Pneumococcal (PCV 13)	1,300	1,155
Pneumococcal (PPSV 23)	400	315
Polio	150	158
Rotavirus	780	924
Tetanus and diphtheria toxoids	300	294
Varicella	680	698
Blood test for varicella	600	578



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REGISTRATION FOR IMMIGRANT VISA DELIVERY

The U.S. Consulate General uses *SF Express* for delivery of passports and immigrant packets within Hong Kong. All applicants for immigrant visas (IVs) need to arrange for return delivery of the immigrant visa on-line at https://ustraveldocs.com/hk. Passports and packets can only be delivered to Hong Kong Island, Kowloon, New Territories, Parts of Lantau Island, Chek Lap Kok and Ma Wan. For other locations (namely Macau, other outlying islands and Military or Justice Department locations), applicants must collect their packets from one of the designated SF Express offices.

Once registered, applicants will be assigned a **unique identification number (UID)**. This number will assist the courier and applicant in tracking deliveries.

Please call the Global Support Services (GSS) Call Center (Hong Kong/Macau: +852 5808 4666; US: +1 703 665 1986) if you are unsure if delivery is available to your home.

For information regarding the designated SF Express offices and fee requirements, please visit https://ustraveldocs.com/hk .



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COMMON MISSING ITEMS THAT DELAY VISA ISSUANCE

- AFFIDAVIT OF SUPPORT & U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX RETURN (FORM 1040):
 - Please confirm that the petitioner (and anyone else who has signed an Affidavit of Support Form I-864 or I-864A on your behalf) has already submitted a copy of his/her U.S. federal income tax return (Form 1040) for the tax year that was current when he/she signed the Affidavit. If the tax form was not previously submitted to the National Visa Center, the petitioner and any other sponsors should send their tax forms to you for submission during the visa interview.
 - Please note that we frequently see cases where the petitioner and/or spouse's income is not sufficient to meet U.S. poverty guidelines. Please make sure that if the spouse's income is being used on the Affidavit of Support, the spouse must complete form I-864A. Furthermore, if the petitioner and/or spouse has agreed in the past to act as a sponsor for other immigrants, those immigrants count towards the total household size. In such cases, it often is the case that the sponsor's income does not meet poverty guidelines and the visa has to be temporarily refused while the financial sponsorship issues are addressed. If you have doubts about whether your sponsor's income qualifies, we urge you to either (1) present evidence of your own personal assets as proof of your ability to self support in the U.S. or (2) obtain a separate affidavit of support from a person willing to act as a joint sponsor for your family. Joint sponsors should complete form I-864, attach their most recent tax returns and W2 forms, provide evidence of assets, and submit proof of their legal status in the U.S.
- *POLICE CERTIFICATES:* If you are over 16, police certificates are required from your country of residence for the past 6 months and from all countries in which you have lived for more than 12 months after age 16. If you left mainland China after 1949 and were at least 17 years old at the time of your departure, you must obtain a police certificate from the Chinese Notary Public Office.
- *BIRTH CERTIFICATES:* Birth certificates must be issued by a government office from the country of birth. Applicants who were born in mainland China must obtain their birth certificates from the Chinese Notary Public Office. If you are unable to obtain your birth certificate, you should present written evidence from the issuing government authority that the certificate does not exist or is unobtainable (such as a Certificate of No Birth Record for applicants born in Hong Kong) <u>AND</u> secondary evidence such as a Certificate of Registered Particulars from the Hong Kong Immigration Department for use in lieu of the birth certificate.
- COMPLETE DATE OF BIRTH ON PASSPORT OR TRAVEL DOCUMENT: The Consulate General will not accept passports or travel documents showing just the applicant's birth year or otherwise incomplete date of birth. Applicants must obtain a new document reflecting the complete year, month, and day of birth.
- *CIVIL DOCUMENTS FROM THE PHILIPPINES:* All civil documents including birth, adoption, death, marriage, marriage termination and annulment originated from the Philippines must be issued by The Philippine Statistics Authority on official security paper. Please note that applicants who were born in the Philippines, carry passports issued by the Government of the Philippines or have had any marriage registered or terminated in the Philippines must complete a document verification process. Please see the instructions listed in Hong Kong's specific information on the State Department website under the National Visa Center's applicant document processing link:

https://hk.usconsulate.gov/visas/immigrant-visas/related-information/civil-documents-police-certificates-philippines/

- ORIGINAL OR CERTIFIED COPIES OF DIVORCE AND DEATH CERTIFICATES: Proof that all prior marriages for both the applicant and petitioner have been legally terminated is required. Please make sure to submit all final divorce or death decrees (original or certified true copy) with English translations. Please note that if you have been married more than once, you must submit documents showing that EACH of your prior marriages has been terminated.
- ADOPTION CERTIFICATES: If you were adopted, please submit the final adoption certificate or decree (original and photocopy.) Please note that if you were adopted from mainland China and brought to Hong Kong, you may be asked to submit a Certificate of Registered Particulars.