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## Hong Kong

Visa Arrangements

Please be aware that Study Abroad Office staff are not qualified to offer consultations or in-depth advice regarding visa applications. Immigration laws are complex and subject to frequent changes. Therefore if you do have any further questions about the process of applying for your visa you will need to contact the appropriate Embassy directly. The information below is intended as guidance only and unless otherwise stated applies only to UK citizens without exceptional circumstances.

Students applying to Hong Kong are required to provide the completed visa application forms and payment as part of the rest of their application to the host institution.

The following website provides information about the necessary documents and forms needed to apply for a Student Visa for Hong Kong:

http://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/forms/forms/id-e-996.html

The following supporting documents will be needed for the visa application:

- Application form (ID 995A) for Entry of Study in Hong Kong which can be found at: <a href="http://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/forms/forms/id995a.html">http://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/forms/forms/id995a.html</a>
- A recent photograph
- Photocopy of the your passport
- A letter of acceptance from the educational institution
- Photocopy of proof of your financial support, e.g. bank statements, student finance for upcoming year.
  We are aware of students using proof of their Student Finance Maintenance Loan as financial evidence.

## Financial Evidence

Financial Evidence can be demonstrated through bank statements, savings accounts, passbooks, tax receipts, employment certificates and other methods.

If you intend to use your parents' bank statements, you may explain in writing and submit copies of parents' financial documents plus relationship proofs (i.e. birth certificate) for their consideration.

Only copies should be submitted at the time of application. Normally, the Hong Kong Embassy ask for the provision of proof for a whole year and the amount shown should be sufficient for covering the expenses of the student in Hong Kong, for both living expenses and school tuition fee.

It may vary case by case and as one of their concerns is that you are able to support yourself at a standard well above the subsistence level.

The case officer may ask for further submission of information/proof on individual cases. Each case will be considered on its own merits.

We aware of students using proof of their Maintenance Loan for the study abroad year as financial evidence, but due to differing loan amounts, the evidence should be checked with the embassy.

The payment for visa varies from institution to institution; you should check this with your host university.

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The host university will then serve as your Hong Kong sponsor and will send the documents to the HK Immigration department on your behalf. They will return the visa to you and you must attach it to your passport and carry it with you through immigration.

You must also keep it attached to your passport for the time you are in Hong Kong.

It normally takes up to 6 weeks for the visa to be processed.

Please do not arrive in Hong Kong with a tourist visa – you will not be authorised to stay and will be sent home as soon as your visa expires.