

Hong Kong SAR Changes to the submission of visa applications



With effect from 17 January 2025, the Hong Kong Immigration Department will require applicants applying for entry visas/permits under the following admission policies/schemes, to submit their initial and extension of stay applications online.



General Employment Policy
(including both employment and investment as entrepreneurs)



Training



Admission Scheme for Mainland Talents and Professionals



Working Holiday Scheme



Capital Investment Entrant Scheme



Residence as Dependents

The Immigration Department will no longer accept such applications submitted in person, by mail, or through drop-in-box. The eligibility and criteria for the relevant policies/schemes are not impacted by this change.

After submitting their applications, applicants may upload supplementary documents and/or inquire on the application status online where necessary.

Impact

The expansion of electronic submission is a welcome step towards modernising the application process, reducing paper forms and in-person visits.

Employers should revisit their Hong Kong immigration workflows/processes to ensure a smooth transition to the latest requirements. Both the applicant and the employer's authorised signatory will be required to access the online service to sign and submit applications.

KPMG will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact our immigration professionals.



Contacts



David Siew

Partner, People Services, Tax

KPMG China

Tel: +852 2143 8785

david.siew@kpmg.com

[kpmg.com/cn](https://www.kpmg.com/cn)

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