

(Press release)

Working Holiday Scheme between Japan and Hong Kong
Announcement of results for the first 2014 application period

19 May 2014

Consulate-General of Japan, Hong Kong

1. The Working Holiday Scheme between Japan and Hong Kong was launched in January 2010, and the results of the First application period for this year will be announced on 20 May. At that time, the successful applicants' individual application numbers will be posted on our website and displayed at the consulate's Visa Section.
2. The annual quota for the Working Holiday Scheme between Japan and Hong Kong is set at 250 visas for each side. Applications are accepted by our consulate during two periods each year, with a view to issuing 125 visas for each period. This year, the second working holiday visa application period ran from 4 to 17 April and a total of 279 applications were received during this period.
3. All of the visa applications received by the consulate have been subject to careful examination and 125 applications received during the First 2014 period have been approved. Successful applicants will be able to collect their visas during the period from Wednesday, 21 May, 2014 to Friday, 22 August, 2014 (Saturdays, Sundays and consulate holidays excluded). Working holiday visas are issued free of charge.
4. The 279 working holiday visa applications received during the First 2014 application period represented an 11.2% increase on the 251 applications received during the first 2013 period. The quota for the first period (125) exceeded the number of applications received (279) by a ratio of 1:2.2.

The following is a comparative breakdown of this year's (first period) and last year's (first & second periods) application figures

1) The number of working holiday visa applicants & the number of successful applicants

	2013			2014
	First period	Second period	Total	First period
No. of Visa Applicants	251	331	582	279
No. of successful applicants	125	134	259	125

Compared with the number of applications received in the first period of 2013, there was an 11.2% increase in the number received in the same period of 2014 (i.e. 28 more applications).

(2) Gender

	2013						2014		
	First Period			Second Period			First Period		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
No. of Visa applicants	103 (41.0%)	148 (59.0%)	251 (100%)	131 (39.6%)	200 (60.4%)	331 (100%)	118 (42.3%)	161 (57.7%)	279 (100%)
No. of successful applicants	42 (33.6%)	83 (66.4%)	125 (100%)	35 (26.1%)	99 (73.9%)	134 (100%)	38 (30.4%)	87 (69.6%)	125 (100%)

It is clear from the above figures that in 2014, as in 2013, the group of successful applicants included a higher percentage of female, as opposed to male, applicants.

(3) Age group

	2013 First & Second Period				2014 First Period			
	18-22	23-26	27-30	Total	18-22	23-26	27-30	Total
No. of Visa applicants	73 (12.5%)	227 (39.0%)	282 (48.5%)	582 (100%)	40 (14.4%)	110 (39.4%)	129 (46.2%)	279 (100%)
No. of successful applicants	19 (7.3%)	106 (40.9%)	134 (51.8%)	259 (100%)	17 (13.6%)	106 (43.2%)	54 (43.2%)	125 (100%)

This year, compared with 2013, the proportion of successful applicants in the 18-22 age groups was up by approximately 6 percentage points; and by approximately 2 percentage points in the 23-26 age group. It was down by approximately 9 percentage points in the 27-30 age groups.

(4) Academic level

	2013 First & Second Period			2014 First Period		
	University or higher	Others	Total	University or higher	Others	Total
No. of Visa applicants	279 (47.9%)	303 (52.1%)	582 (100%)	125 (44.8%)	154 (55.2%)	279 (100%)
No. of successful applicants	154 (59.5%)	105 (40.5%)	259 (100%)	65 (52.0%)	60 (48.0%)	125 (100%)

In 2014, there was a similar percentage of applicants (and successful applicants) in each category, i.e. around half were “university educated or higher”, and around half came under the “Others” category. (NOTE) The statistics above include those who are attending but have not yet graduated from their university or school, etc.

- The consulate is very grateful for the interest shown in working holiday visas and pleased to note that the total number of applications received during the first 2014 period was more than the annual quota. We sincerely hope that an even larger number of young Hong Kong people apply for working holiday visas in the second period of 2014.

6. The working holiday visa application schedule for the second period of 2014 is as follows (Saturdays and Sundays excluded):

Application period: Monday, 6 October 2014 – Friday, 17 October 2014

Announcement of results (successful applicants): Tuesday, 18 November 2014

Second visa issue period (successful applicants): Wednesday, 19 November 2014 – Friday, 20 February 2015

(NOTE) The working holiday visa is valid for three months from the date of issue. When the holder arrives in Japan, an immigration officer will examine whether the holder can be granted permission to land and stay in Japan. After receiving permission to land from the immigration officer, the holder will be allowed to stay in Japan for a period of up to one year from that date.

For enquiries about this press release:

Visa Section

Consulate-General of Japan, Hong Kong

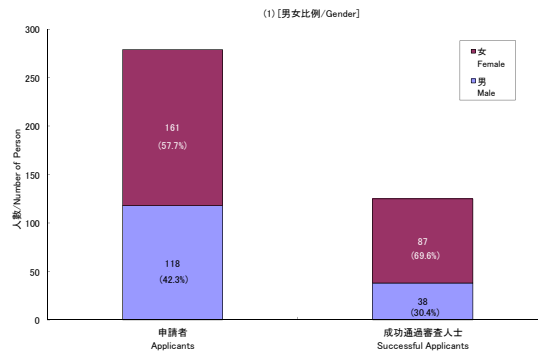
Tel. 2522 1184

2014年第1期工作假期申請者概況/Working Holiday Visa Applicants for the First Period in 2014

〔人數/Number of Person〕 (%)	男 Male	女 Female	總人數 Total
申請者 Applicants	118	161	279
成功通過審查人士 Successful Applicants	38	87	125

〔人數/Number of Person〕 (%)	18-22歲人士 Ages between 18 and 22	23-26歲人士 Ages between 23 and 26	27-30歲人士 Ages between 27 and 30
申請者 Applicants	40	110	129
成功通過審查人士 Successful Applicants	17	54	54

〔人數/Number of Person〕 (%)	大學或以上程度 University graduated and above	其他學歷 Others
申請者 Applicants	125	154
成功通過審查人士 Successful Applicants	65	60



<申請者男女比例約為 3:7 /
Male-to-female ratio of applicants is approximately 3:7>

