

(Press release)

Working Holiday Scheme between Japan and Hong Kong
Announcement of results for the second 2013 application period

18 November 2013

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 Second application period for this year will be announced on 19 November. 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 18 October and a total of 331 applications were received during this period.
3. All of the visa applications received by the consulate have been subject to careful examination and 134 applications (NOTE) received during the second 2013 period have been approved. Successful applicants will be able to collect their visas during the period from Wednesday, 20 November, 2013 to Friday, 21 February, 2014 (Saturdays, Sundays and consulate holidays excluded). Working holiday visas are issued free of charge.
4. The 331 working holiday visa applications received during the second 2013 application period represented a 31.9% increase on the 251 applications received during the first 2013 period. The quota for the second period (125) (NOTE) was exceeded by the number of applications received (331) by a ratio of 1:2.5. And the total of 582 applications received in 2013, i.e. during the first and second periods combined, exceeded the annual quota of 250 by a ratio of 1:2.3. (Please refer to the attached table for details of the second 2013 application period.)

(NOTE): The number of successful applicants in the second period amounts to 134, rather than 125, because 9 successful applicants from the first period did not collect their visas.

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

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

	2012			2013		
	First period	Second period	Total	First period	Second period	Total
No. of Visa applicants	191	231	422	251	331	582
No. of successful applicants	125	145	270	125	134	259

Compared with the number of applications received in 2012, there was a 38% increase in the number received in 2013 (i.e. 160 more applications).

(2) Gender

	2012			2013		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
No. of Visa applicants	175 (41.5%)	247 (58.5%)	422 (100%)	234 (40.2%)	348 (59.8%)	582 (100%)
No. of successful applicants	87 (32.2%)	183 (67.8%)	270 (100%)	77 (29.7%)	182 (70.3%)	259 (100%)

It is clear from the above figures that in 2013, as in 2012, the group of successful applicants included a higher percentage of female, as opposed to male, applicants.

(3) Age group

	2012				2013			
	18-22	23-26	27-30	Total	18-22	23-26	27-30	Total
No. of Visa applicants	61 (14.4%)	181 (42.9%)	180 (42.7%)	422 (100%)	73 (12.5%)	227 (39.0%)	282 (48.5%)	582 (100%)
No. of successful applicants	33 (12.2%)	119 (44.1%)	118 (43.7%)	270 (100%)	19 (7.3%)	106 (40.9%)	134 (51.8%)	259 (100%)

This year, compared with 2012, the proportion of successful applicants in the 27-30 age group was up by approximately 8 percentage points. It was down by approximately 5 percentage points in the 18-22 age group; and by approximately 3 percentage points in the 23-26 age group.

(4) Academic level

	2012			2013		
	University or higher	Others	Total	University or higher	Others	Total
No. of Visa applicants	216 (51.2%)	206 (48.8%)	422 (100%)	279 (47.9%)	303 (52.1%)	582 (100%)
No. of successful applicants	158 (58.5%)	112 (41.5%)	270 (100%)	154 (59.5%)	105 (40.5%)	259 (100%)

In 2013, the percentage of successful applicants in the "University or higher" category is similar to last year's figure, which represents approximately 60 percentage points of the total number of successful applicants.

(NOTE) The statistics above include those who are attending but have not yet graduated from their university or school, etc.

5. 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 2013 once again exceeded the annual quota. We sincerely hope that an even larger number of young Hong Kong people apply for working holiday visas in 2014.
6. The working holiday visa application schedule for 2014 will be announced on our consulate's website in December this year.

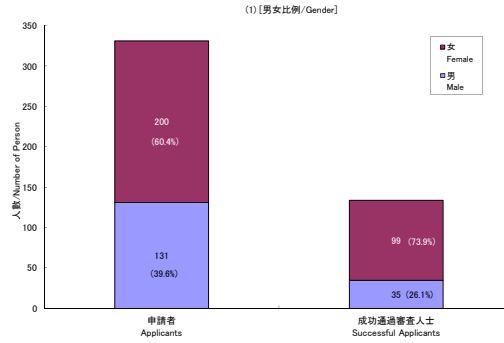
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2013年第2期工作假期申請者概況/Working Holiday Visa Applicants for the Second Period in 2013

〔人數/Number of Person〕 (%)	男 Male	女 Female	總人數 Total
申請者 Applicants	131	200	331
成功通過審查人士 Successful Applicants	35	99	134

〔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	36	134	161
成功通過審查人士 Successful Applicants	6	57	71

〔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	166	165
成功通過審查人士 Successful Applicants	89	45



<申請者男女比例約為 4:6 /
Male-to-female ratio of applicants is approximately 4:6>

