

(Press release)

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

27 May 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 first application period for this year will be announced on 28 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 first working holiday visa application period ran from 15 to 26 April and a total of 251 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 2013 period have been approved. Successful applicants will be able to collect their visas during the period from Wednesday, 29 May, 2013 to Friday, 30 August, 2013 (Saturdays, Sundays and consulate holidays excluded). Working holiday visas are issued free of charge.
4. The 251 working holiday visa applications received during the first 2013 application period represented a 31% increase on the 191 applications received during the first 2012 application period. And the quota for the first period (125) was exceeded by the total number of applications (251) by a ratio of 1:2.

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

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

Compared with the number of applications received in the first 2012 period (191), there was a 31% increase in the number received during the first period of 2013 (251).

(2) Gender

	2012						2013		
	First period			Second period			First period		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
No. of Visa applicants	82 (42.9%)	109 (57.1%)	191 (100%)	93 (40.3%)	138 (59.7%)	231 (100%)	103 (41.0%)	148 (59.0%)	251 (100%)
No. of successful applicants	43 (34.4%)	82 (65.6%)	125 (100%)	44 (30.3%)	101 (69.7%)	145 (100%)	42 (33.6%)	83 (66.4%)	125 (100%)

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

(3) Age group

	2012 (First & Second periods)				2013 (First period)			
	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%)	37 (14.7%)	93 (37.1%)	121 (48.2%)	251 (100%)
No. of successful applicants	33 (12.2%)	119 (44.1%)	118 (43.7%)	270 (100%)	13 (10.4%)	49 (39.2%)	63 (50.4%)	125 (100%)

This year, compared with 2012, the proportion of successful applicants in the 27-30 age group was up by approximately 7 percentage points. It was down by approximately 2 percentage points in the 18-22 age group; and by 5 percentage points in the 23-26 age group.

(4) Academic level

	2012 (First & Second periods)			2013 (First period)		
	University or higher	Others	Total	University or higher	Others	Total
No. of Visa applicants	216 (51.2%)	206 (48.8%)	422 (100%)	113 (45.0%)	138 (55.0%)	251 (100%)
No. of successful applicants	158 (58.5%)	112 (41.5%)	270 (100%)	65 (52.0%)	60 (48.0%)	125 (100%)

During the first 2013 period, the proportion of successful applicants falling into the two academic categories was much closer to 50/50 than last year, with only five more successful candidates in the “University or higher” group than in the “Others” category.

(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 the first 2013 period was more than double half of 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 2013.
6. The working holiday visa application schedule for the second period of 2013 is as follows (Saturdays and Sundays excluded):

Application period: Friday, 4 October 2013 – Friday, 18 October 2013

Announcement of results (successful applicants): Tuesday, 19 November 2013

Second visa issue period (successful applicants): Wednesday, 20 November 2013 – Friday, 21 February 2014

(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

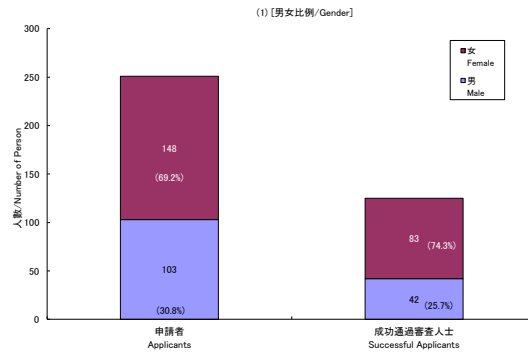
Tel. 2522 1184

2013年第1期工作假期申請者概況/Working Holiday Visa Applicants for the First Period in 2013

〔人數/Number of Person〕 (%)	男 Male	女 Female	總人數 Total
申請者 Applicants	103	148	251
成功通過審查人士 Successful Applicants	42	83	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	37	93	121
成功通過審查人士 Successful Applicants	13	49	63

〔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	113	138
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>

