

(Press release)

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

17 November 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 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 6 to 17 October and a total of 374 applications were received during this period.
3. All of the visa applications received by the consulate have been subject to careful examination and 131 applications (NOTE) received during the second 2014 period have been approved. Successful applicants will be able to collect their visas during the period from Wednesday, 19 November, 2014 to Friday, 20 February, 2015 (Saturdays, Sundays and consulate holidays excluded). Working holiday visas are issued free of charge.
4. The 374 working holiday visa applications received during the second 2014 application period represented a 34.1% increase on the 279 applications received during the first 2014 period. The number of working holiday visa applications received in the second period this year has been the highest ever in one single period since the launch of the Working Holiday Scheme between Japan and Hong Kong. The quota for the second period (131) (NOTE) was exceeded by the number of applications received (374) by a ratio of 1:2.9. And the total of 653 applications received in 2014, i.e. during the first and second periods combined, exceeded the annual quota of 250 by a ratio of 1:2.6. (Please refer to the attached table for details of the second 2014 application period.)

(NOTE): The number of successful applicants in the second period amounts to 131, rather than 125, because 6 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

	2013			2014		
	First period	Second period	Total	First period	Second period	Total
No. of Visa applicants	251	331	582	279	374	653
No. of successful applicants	125	134	259	125	131	256

Compared with the number of applications received in 2013, there was a 12% increase in the number received in 2014 (i.e. 71 more applications).

(2) Gender

	2013			2014		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
No. of Visa applicants	234 (40.2%)	348 (59.8%)	582 (100%)	264 (40.4%)	389 (59.6%)	653 (100%)
No. of successful applicants	77 (29.7%)	183 (70.3%)	259 (100%)	78 (30.5%)	178 (69.5%)	256 (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				2014			
	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%)	94 (14.4%)	266 (40.7%)	293 (44.9%)	653 (100%)
No. of successful applicants	19 (7.3%)	106 (40.9%)	134 (51.8%)	259 (100%)	31 (12.1%)	115 (44.9%)	110 (43.0%)	256 (100%)

This year, compared with 2013, the proportion of successful applicants in the 18-22 age group was up by approximately 5 percentage points; and by approximately 4 percentage point in the 23-26 age group. It was down by approximately 9 percentage points in the 27-30 age group.

(4) Academic level

	2013			2014		
	University or higher	Others	Total	University or higher	Others	Total
No. of Visa applicants	279 (47.9%)	303 (52.1%)	582 (100%)	308 (47.2%)	345 (52.8%)	653 (100%)
No. of successful applicants	154 (59.5%)	105 (40.5%)	259 (100%)	147 (57.4%)	109 (42.6%)	256 (100%)

In 2014, the percentages of successful applicants in both the “University or higher” and “Others” categories are similar to last year’s figures.

(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 2014 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 2015.
6. The working holiday visa application schedule for 2015 will be announced on our consulate’s website in December this year.

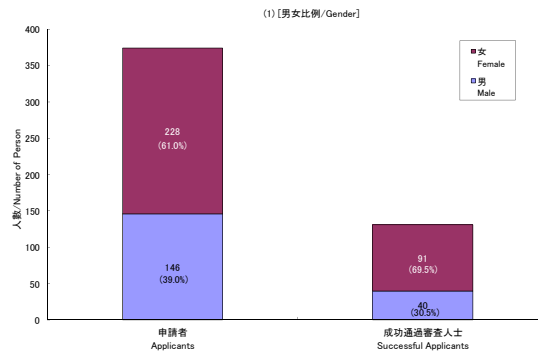
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2014年第2期工作假期申請者概況/Working Holiday Visa Applicants for the Second Period in 2014

〔人數/Number of Person〕 (%)	男 Male	女 Female	總人數 Total
申請者 Applicants	146	228	374
成功通過審查人士 Successful Applicants	40	91	131

〔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	54	156	164
成功通過審查人士 Successful Applicants	14	61	56

〔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	183	191
成功通過審查人士 Successful Applicants	82	49



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

