

(Press release)

Working Holiday Scheme between Japan and Hong Kong
Announcement of results for the second 2015 application period

23 November 2015

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 24 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 5 to 16 October and a total of 421 applications were received during this period.
3. All of the visa applications received by the consulate have been subject to careful examination and 128(NOTE) applications received during the second 2015 period have been approved. Successful applicants will be able to collect their visas during the period from Wednesday, 25 November, 2015 to Friday, 26 February, 2016 (Saturdays, Sundays and consulate holidays excluded). Working holiday visas are issued free of charge.

(NOTE): The number of successful applicants in the second period amounts to 128, rather than 125, because 3 successful applicants from the first period did not collect their visas.

4. The 421 working holiday visa applications received during the second 2015 application period represented a 7.9% increase on the 390 applications received during the first 2015 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 (128) was exceeded by the number of applications received (421) by a ratio of 1:3.3. And the total of 811 applications received in 2015, i.e. during the first and second periods combined, exceeded the annual quota of 250 by a ratio of 1:3.2. (Please refer to the attached table for details of the second 2015 application period.)

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

	2014			2015		
	First period	Second period	Total	First period	Second period	Total
No. of Visa applicants	279	374	653	390	421	811
No. of successful applicants	125	131	256	125	128	253

Compared with the number of applications received in 2014, there was a 24.2% increase in the number received in 2015 (i.e. 158 more applications).

(2) Gender

	2014			2015		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
No. of Visa applicants	264 (40.4%)	389 (59.6%)	653 (100%)	322 (39.7%)	489 (60.3%)	811 (100%)
No. of successful applicants	78 (30.5%)	178 (69.5%)	256 (100%)	65 (25.7%)	188 (74.3%)	253 (100%)

It is clear from the above figures that in 2015, as in 2014, the group of successful applicants included a higher percentage of female, as opposed to male, applicants.

(3) Age group

	2014				2015				
	18-22	23-26	27-30	Total	18-22	23-26	27-30	31-	Total
No. of Visa applicants	94 (14.4%)	266 (40.7%)	293 (44.9%)	653 (100%)	125 (15.4%)	296 (36.5%)	389 (48.0%)	1 (0.1%)	811 (100%)
No. of successful applicants	31 (12.1%)	115 (44.9%)	110 (43.0%)	256 (100%)	20 (7.9%)	115 (45.5%)	118 (46.6%)	0 (0.0%)	253 (100%)

This year, compared with 2014, the proportion of successful applicants in the 23-26 age group was up by approximately 1 percentage points; and by approximately 4 percentage point in the 27-30 age group. It was down by approximately 4 percentage points in the 18-22 age group.

(4) Academic level

	2014			2015		
	University or higher	Others	Total	University or higher	Others	Total
No. of Visa applicants	308 (47.2%)	345 (52.8%)	653 (100%)	356 (43.9%)	455 (56.1%)	811 (100%)
No. of successful applicants	147 (57.4%)	109 (42.6%)	256 (100%)	130 (51.4%)	123 (48.6%)	253 (100%)

In 2015, 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 2015 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 2016.
6. The working holiday visa application schedule for 2016 will be announced on our consulate’s website in December this year.

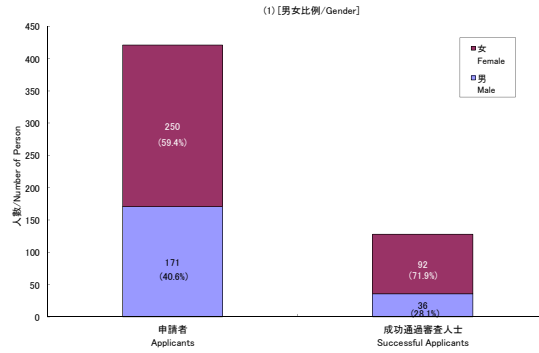
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2015年第2期工作假期申請者概況/Working Holiday Visa Applicants for the Second Period in 2015

〔人數/Number of Person〕 (%)	男 Male	女 Female	總人數 Total
申請者 Applicants	171	250	421
成功通過審查人士 Successful Applicants	36	92	128

〔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	60	162	199
成功通過審查人士 Successful Applicants	9	65	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	199	222
成功通過審查人士 Successful Applicants	63	65



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

