

Working Holiday Scheme between Japan and Hong Kong
Announcement of results for the second 2019 application period

2 December 2019

Consulate-General of Japan, Hong Kong

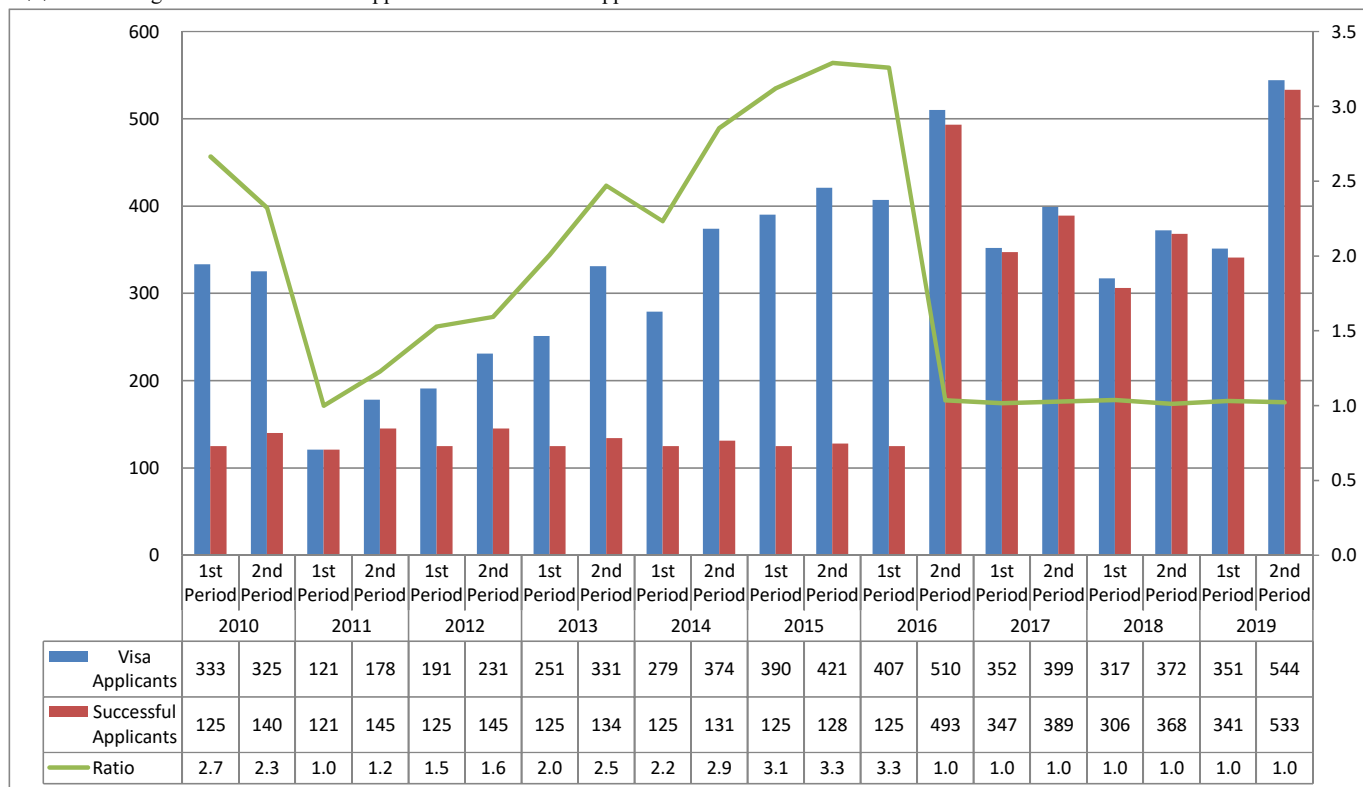
1. The results of the second application period for the Working Holiday Scheme between Japan and Hong Kong 2019 have just been assessed. This year, the second application period ran from Wednesday, 2 October to Thursday 31 October and a total of 544 applications were received. All applications received have been subject to careful examination by the Consulate and 533 applications have been approved. On 3 December, the successful applicants' individual application numbers will be posted on our website and displayed at the Japan Visa Application Centre (hereinafter referred to as "Visa Centre"). Successful applicants will be able to collect their visas at the Visa Centre during the period from Wednesday, 4 December, 2019 to Friday, 28 February, 2020 (Visa Centre holidays excluded).
2. The Working Holiday Scheme between Japan and Hong Kong was launched in 2010; the total number of applications received has well exceeded the annual quota since the first year. The number of applications received in the first application period of 2016 exceeded the quota by a ratio of 3.3:1. Starting from October 2016, the annual quota was increased sharply from 250 to 1,500 visas for each side. With the increased annual quota, more young people have been able to participate in the above Scheme.
3. The 544 working holiday visa applications received during the second 2019 application period represent an increase of 193 applications (an 55% increase) over the 351 applications received in the first 2019 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.
A characteristic of the application in the second 2019 period is that, besides travelling in Japan, learning Japanese while living in Japan and experiencing Japanese culture, many applicants mentioned their desire to see the Olympics and Paralympics Games Tokyo 2020 and to be game volunteers as their purpose for applying for the Working Holiday Scheme between Japan and Hong Kong.
4. The Consulate-General sincerely hopes that an even larger number of young Hong Kong people will grasp the precious opportunity to apply for working holiday visas in 2020. It is expected that the Working Holiday Scheme between Japan and Hong Kong will further promote exchanges between young people in Japan and Hong Kong, deepen understanding of each other's culture and society and ultimately further develop the relationship between Japan and Hong Kong.
5. The working holiday visa application schedule for 2020 will be announced on our consulate's website in December this year.

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(1) The Change of Numbers of Visa Applicant and Successful Applicant



(Note 1) In October 2016, the annual quota was increased from 250 to 1,500 (the annual quota in 2016 was 875).

(Note 2) If the successful applicants of the first period do not collect their visas, their quotas would be allotted to the application of the second period of the same year.

(2) Gender

	First Period of 2019			Second Period of 2019		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Visa Applicants	175 (49.9%)	176 (50.1%)	351 (100.0%)	262 (48.2%)	282 (51.8%)	544 (100.0%)
Successful Applicants	171 (50.1%)	170 (49.9%)	341 (100.0%)	254 (47.7%)	279 (52.3%)	533 (100.0%)

(3) Age group

	First Period of 2019				Second Period of 2019			
	18-22	23-26	27-30	Total	18-22	23-26	27-30	Total
Visa Applicants	60 (17.1%)	122 (34.8%)	169 (48.1%)	351 (100.0%)	60 (11.0%)	207 (38.1%)	277 (50.9%)	544 (100.0%)
Successful Applicants	55 (16.1%)	120 (35.2%)	166 (48.7%)	341 (100.0%)	57 (10.7%)	205 (38.5%)	271 (50.8%)	533 (100.0%)

(4) Academic level

	First Period of 2019			Second Period of 2019		
	University or higher	Others	Total	University or higher	Others	Total
Visa Applicants	155 (44.2%)	196 (55.8%)	351 (100.0%)	297 (54.6%)	247 (45.4%)	544 (100.0%)
Successful Applicants	153 (44.9%)	188 (55.1%)	341 (100.0%)	292 (54.8%)	241 (45.2%)	533 (100.0%)

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