Visas & Immigration

PLEASE READ THIS SECTION CAREFULLY AND PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION.

Foreigners coming to China for study purposes shall apply for a study purpose visa at the Chinese embassy/ consulate in their country of nationality or country of residence.

There are two types of visas for study purposes: X1 type visas are usually issued to students planning to study for over 180 days; X2 type visas are usually issued to students planning to study less than 180 days.

Documents sent by Tsinghua University, including the Admission Notice and the Visa Application for Study in China, and some other designated documents, will be required by the Chinese embassy/consulate.

The list of Chinese diplomatic missions overseas can be found on the website of Ministry of Foreign Affairs.


Important Notice for Immigration Affairs

1. For international students who are coming to China with new visas, please read the following notice according to your respective visa type:

   a. If you are holding an X1 visa: You must register at the university and apply for a residence permit within 30 days after entering China, otherwise illegal stay is constituted. Usually there is only one entry permitted on your visa. Since early registration is not entertained and if you usually take 3-5 days for the preparation of documents required for the residence permit application, you are recommended to arrange your traveling schedule carefully to make sure that you enter China and report to the university on time.
   b. If you are holding an expired visa/ residence permit; or c) the remaining time to the expiration of your visa/residence permit is not adequate for necessary formalities to process your registration.

   Therefore, you should plan your trip carefully to avoid entering China too early before the registration period, causing your visa to expire during the registration period.

2. For residents of Hong Kong S.A.R, Macau S.A.R and China Taiwan.

   a. If you have to apply for a new study purpose visa overseas, you have to leave China to apply for a new study purpose visa overseas, and then re-enter China to register with the new visa.
   b. If you are holding a stay permit, you cannot apply for a new visa or residence permit in China. You have to leave China to apply for a new study purpose visa overseas, and then re-enter China to register with the new visa.

3. About trip planning (Important).

   Registration is not accepted if a) you arrive to register too early; or b) you are holding an expired visa/ residency permit; or c) the remaining time to the expiration of your visa/residence permit is not adequate for necessary formalities to process your registration.

   Therefore, you should plan your trip carefully to avoid entering China too early before the registration period, causing your visa to expire during the registration period.

   Expired visas will result in failure of registration and cause other unnecessary troubles.

   Moreover, if you have to apply for a residence permit after registration, it will take about one month to get your passport back. If you have to apply for an extension of stay or more entries for your visa, it will take about 3 weeks to get your passport back. During this time, you cannot travel to other places except within the city of Beijing. You should take it into consideration when making travel plans.

4. About giving up admission.

   If you decide to give up the admission to Tsinghua University, you shall not use the documents issued by Tsinghua University to apply for a visa nor use that visa to enter China. In accordance to government orders, the university shall report all the admitted but unregistered students to the immigration. If you are holding a study purpose visa in China but do not register in the corresponding university, your visa will be canceled and you will be prosecuted for illegal stay.

5. For residents of Hong Kong S.A.R, Macau S.A.R and China Taiwan.

   Students holding travelling certificates issued to residents
from Hong Kong S.A.R, Macau S.A.R and China Taiwan are all Chinese citizens. For degree programs (undergraduate, graduate), registration with such travelling certificates is not accepted. Students in non-degree programs (exchange, visiting, Chinese language) with such travelling certificates can process the immigration formalities by themselves.

6. Penalty of violation.
Staying with an expired or invalid visa/residence permit is a violation of law. The violator should be fined (500 RMB Yuan per day), be detained for investigation, and/or be deported.

Physical Examination
If you need to apply for a residence permit with an X1 or other types of visa after registration you have to take a physical examination. You can choose deem one of the following options:
1. Before you come to China, take the Foreigner Physical Examination Form, which is sent together with the Admission Notice, to a hospital or clinic. Request the doctor to make a physical examination and fill in the form, complete with the doctor’s signature and stamp. Bring the original copy of this form (including the blood test report) to China, and verify it at the Beijing International Travel Health Care Center (Haidian Branch) to get a verification report. If your report is rejected, you have to undergo a re-examination at the Center for the items in your form do not pass the verification.
2. After you come to China, undergo the physical examination at the Beijing International Travel Health Care Center (Haidian Branch), and obtain the examination report three days later. If you are holding an X2 visa, physical examination is not necessary.

Beijing International Travel Health Care Center (Haidian Branch)
Address: No.10 Daoheng Street, Haidian District
Tel: +86-10-82403675
Fax: 58649744
Office Time: 8:30-11:00 (Monday – Friday, public holidays excluded)
Note: Please go for your physical examination with an empty stomach.

Admission Notice and your passport in the designated time to proceed for check-in. The reception is on the first floor of Zijing Building 19 (08:00~22:00). Upon check-in, you need to prepay for rental of six months and a deposit of RMB 200, by RMB cash or bank card (an administrative fee will be levied for foreign cards). Please keep the Registration Form of Temporary Residence for future use.

On-campus Accommodation: Check-in
Since there is a limited number of on-campus dormitory rooms, students need to book the rooms in advance. Please see the dormitory booking guide for details. Students who fail to book a room in the dormitory need to arrange accommodation by themselves. The rooms for Chinese Government Scholarship (Full scholarship) holders will be reserved by ISO. You do not need to book the rooms online.

If you have successfully booked a room, bring the Admission Notice and your passport in the designated time to proceed for check-in. The reception is on the first floor of Zijing Building 19 (08:00~22:00). Upon check-in, you need to prepay for rental of six months and a deposit of RMB 200, by RMB cash or bank card (an administrative fee will be levied for foreign cards). Please keep the Registration Form of Temporary Residence for future use.

Off-campus Accommodation: Accommodation Registration
Students who live off-campus should go to the local police station with your passport and the landlord to make an accommodation registration within 24 hours after moving in (or after moving into a new place) and obtain a Registration Form of Temporary Residence. When extending visa duration, changing the visa/residence permit or re-entering China, you need to renew your registration with the local police every time.