

Eligibility Criteria for Entry for Residence as Dependants in Hong Kong

According to the immigration policy on entry of non-local dependants, for a sponsor who has been admitted into Hong Kong to take up employment (as a professional, for investment to establish/join in business, or for training) or studies (in a full-time undergraduate or post-graduate local programme in a local degree-awarding institution), or who is permitted to remain in Hong Kong as an entrant under the Capital Investment Entrant Scheme, the Quality Migrant Admission Scheme or the Admission Scheme for the Second Generation of Chinese Hong Kong Permanent Residents, the following eligible dependants may apply to join him/her for residence in Hong Kong:

- (a) (i) his/her spouse; or
- (ii) the other party to a same-sex civil partnership, same-sex civil union, “same-sex marriage”, opposite-sex civil partnership or opposite-sex civil union entered into by him/her in accordance with the local law in force of the place of celebration and with such status being legally and officially recognised by the local authorities of the place of celebration; and
- (b) his/her unmarried dependent children under the age of 18.

For a sponsor who is a Hong Kong permanent resident or a resident who is not subject to a limit of stay (i.e. a resident with the right to land or on unconditional stay), the following eligible dependants may apply to join him/her for residence in Hong Kong:

- (a) (i) his/her spouse; or
- (ii) the other party to a same-sex civil partnership, same-sex civil union, “same-sex marriage”, opposite-sex civil partnership or opposite-sex civil union entered into by him/her in accordance with the local law in force of the place of celebration and with such status being legally and officially recognised by the local authorities of the place of celebration; and
- (b) his/her unmarried dependent children under the age of 18; and
- (c) his/her parents aged 60 or above.

An application for entry to take up residence as a dependant may be favourably considered if:

- (a) there is reasonable proof of a genuine relationship between the applicant and the sponsor;
- (b) there is no known record to the detriment of the applicant; and
- (c) the sponsor is able to support the dependant's living at a standard well above the subsistence level and provide him/her with suitable accommodation in Hong Kong.

In addition, an applicant should meet normal immigration requirements (such as holding a valid travel document with adequate returnability to his/her country of residence or citizenship; be of clear criminal record and raise no security or criminal concerns to Hong Kong; have no likelihood of becoming a burden on Hong Kong, etc.) as well as the relevant specific eligibility criteria above before he/she may be considered for the grant of a visa/entry permit.