

## Applying for an Extension to a Visitor Visa

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### In Hong Kong Needing to Extend Your Visitor Visa?

As a visitor in Hong Kong, obtaining your first extension to your stay is typically granted by the Immigration Department, provided you can prove you're still a bona fide visitor. You apply in person at Immigration HQ using form ID91 or online using the ImmD online application process. The Immigration Officer will analyze the reasons behind your extended stay and your intentions if the extension is granted. You'll need to submit a written justification, which includes a final date for your visit and an undertaking to leave on or before that day. The Immigration Department is generally flexible and receptive to these applications. However, issues may arise if you seek a subsequent extension after the first one. Immigration officers will scrutinize your rationale for further extensions, especially considering your previous written justification and undertaking.

Some individuals believe that "visa runs" to neighboring cities like Shenzhen or Macau (aka "The Shenzhen Shuttle") are an easy way to secure an extension. However, the Immigration Department is aware of this practice and carefully monitors visitors who spend more than 180 days within a 365-day period in Hong Kong without returning to their home countries or taking flights out of the territory. This approach can be problematic as it may eventually catch up with you. During one of your re-entries to Hong Kong, you might be endorsed with "SCL" (Short Conditional Landing) in your passport, granting you only three days to wrap

up your affairs in Hong Kong before expecting you to leave. This SCL status won't be allowed to extend after you exit Hong Kong, and there's a significant risk of being refused entry during the six months following the SCL experience. Consequently, you are expected to leave before your limit of stay expires. If you need to stay longer due to special or urgent circumstances, you can apply to ImmD online for an extension when your remaining limit of stay is within 14 days.

Each application will be evaluated individually, so it's crucial to apply as early as possible. You may not be eligible for the online application if you're not in Hong Kong during the submission or collection of your "e-Visa," your limit of stay expires within 3 days or has expired, your previous stay was as a foreign domestic helper, or you're a non-permanent resident. Ineligible applicants can submit applications to the Extension Section at the Immigration HQ.

The Extension Section's working hours are 8:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Mon-Fri), 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. (Sat), and closed on Sundays and public holidays. Keep in mind that if your extension application is approved, you can pay the relevant fee online or through the ImmD Mobile Application.

Once your payment is successful, you can download or print the "e-Visa." Alternatively, you or an authorized representative can bring your original passport/travel document and the relevant fee to the Extension Section at Immigration HQ for payment and collection of the "e-Visa." The representative must provide their ID, authorization letter, your original travel document, and the relevant fee.

Remember, making false statements or providing false information to an immigration officer is an offence, and it could render your visa/entry permit or permission to enter or stay in Hong Kong invalid.

During the online application, you must submit the following documents: (1) Your travel document (2) Documents showing your current limit of stay (3) Documents supporting the need to extend your stay (4) Other supporting documents (max. 5 files). If you're under 16, your parent or legal guardian must sign the form.

<b>Useful Resource 1</b>	<a href="#">Online Application for Extension of Stay (for Visitors)</a>
<b>Useful Resource 2</b>	<a href="#">Extending Your Visitor Visa</a>
<b>Useful Resource 3</b>	<a href="#">Visa Overview</a>
<b>Useful Resource 4</b>	<a href="#">Application Templates</a>
<b>Hong Kong Visa Handbook Contents</b>	
<a href="#">Visa Information</a>	
<a href="#">Preparing Your Case</a>	
<a href="#">Pre-submission Checklist</a>	
<a href="#">Checklist Discussion</a>	
<a href="#">Application Templates</a>	
<a href="#">Online Forms</a>	
<a href="#">Completing The Forms</a>	
<a href="#">How To Apply</a>	
<a href="#">Quick Summary</a>	