

Global Immigration alert

July 2025

Hong Kong

New Technical Professionals Stream under the General Employment Policy and Admission Scheme for Mainland Talents and Professionals

Executive summary

On 30 June 2025, Hong Kong launched the Technical Professional Stream (TP Stream) under two existing immigration schemes, namely the General Employment Policy (GEP) and the Admission Scheme for Mainland Talents and Professionals (ASMP).

Key developments

The TP Stream allows qualifying professionals who do not hold an academic degree to apply to enter and work in Hong Kong in the following skilled trades, in connection with which there is currently an acute talent shortage locally:

- New industrialization technicians
- Nurses
- Aircraft maintenance technicians
- Marine services technicians (for local vessels)
- Information technology technicians
- Lift/escalator technicians
- Building information modeling coordinators
- Electrical technicians

Non-degree professionals between the ages of 18 and 40 who meet the relevant qualifications as specified in the Technical Professional List are eligible to apply under the TP Stream. Hong Kong will pilot the TP Stream for three years and apply a quota of 10,000 participants for the entire Stream, and quotas of 3,000 participants maximum for each skilled trade listed above. Nationals of Afghanistan, Cuba, and North Korea are not eligible for the TP Stream. Detailed eligibility requirements can be found in the Hong Kong Immigration Department's application guidebook.

Depending on the applicants' qualifications, the first entry visa issued under the TP Stream granted will be valid for either 24 or 36 months. Visas granted under the TP Stream may be renewed for a duration of up to 36 months, or in accordance with the validity period of the applicant's employment contract (whichever is shorter), provided the visa holder remains employed in the same skilled trade in Hong Kong.

Impact on employers

These changes are expected to benefit companies that hire workers in these skilled trades by providing them access to a broader pool of skilled talent.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.



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