

Adjustments to Immigration Controls for Mainland Chinese, Hong Kong, and Macao Residents in Response to Relaxation of the COVID-19 Pandemic Control Measures

MAC Press Release No. 029

The Mainland Affairs Council (MAC) issued the following press release today (November 3, 2022) to announce further relaxation of its COVID-19 pandemic control measures from November 7 this year (2022) in line with the latest adjustments made by the Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC). Given the pandemic situation has remained stable both in Taiwan and considering the fact that there are still plenty of weekly quotas left for inbound travelers, the MAC decided to act in line with the CECC by adjusting its border control measures from November 7 to accept entry applications from mainland Chinese, Hong Kong, and Macao residents in the following categories:

- (1) Mainland Chinese students entering Taiwan for short-term study and research programs. As far as the entry application procedures for mainland Chinese students in degree programs in Taiwan, the procedures had returned to normal following the competent authorities lifting border controls on October 13 to provide conveniences for mainland Chinese students to travel between the two sides across the Taiwan Strait.
- (2) Hong Kong and Macao residents entering Taiwan for employment (limited to white-collar employment) or religious activity (including preaching and conducting religious studies). In addition, Hong Kong and Macao residents can visit Taiwan for tourism as part of a tour group. Prospective visitors can apply through travel agents authorized by the Tourism Bureau, Ministry of Transportation and Communications. Groups are limited to five to 40 members in size and can remain in Taiwan for up to 15 days.

The MAC indicated that, in the future, immigration controls for mainland Chinese, Hong Kong, and Macao residents will be progressively adjusted based on a rolling review and a full consideration of national security, the rights and interests of the Taiwan public, economic development, and pandemic control.