

# China

## Visa regimes

June 2019

The project is funded by the  
European Union



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## **China**

China is a populous nation in East Asia whose vast landscape encompasses grassland, desert, mountains, lakes, rivers and more than 14,000km of coastline. Capital Beijing mixes modern architecture with historic sites such as the Forbidden City palace complex and Tiananmen Square. Shanghai is a skyscraper-studded global financial center. The iconic Great Wall of China runs east-west across the country's north.

**President:** Xi Jinping

**Land area:** 3,600,927 sq mi (9,326,411 sq km); total area:3,705,407 sq mi (9,596,960 sq km)<sup>1</sup>

**Capital:** Beijing

**Monetary unit:** Yuan

**Dialing code:** +86

**Administrative division:** the PRC consists of 34 administrative province-level units

**Major cities:** Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin and Chongqing

**Population:** 1.386 billion (2017) World Bank

**Official script:** Simplified Chinese

## **Embassy of China in Islamabad**

China–Pakistan relations began in 1950 when Pakistan was among the first countries to end official diplomatic relations with the Republic of China (on Taiwan) and recognize the People's Republic of China (PRC) regime on Mainland China.

Since then, both countries have placed considerable importance on the maintenance of an extremely close and supportive special relationship and the two countries have regularly exchanged high-level visits resulting in a variety of agreements. The PRC has provided economic, military, and technical assistance to Pakistan, and each country considers the other a close strategic ally.

### **Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan: H.E. Mr. Zhao Lijian**

#### **Embassy of China**

**Address:** 3rd Ave, Diplomatic Enclave, Islamabad, Islamabad Capital Territory

#### **Open · Closes 5:30PM**

**Monday 8am–5:30pm**

**Tuesday 8am–5:30pm**

**Wednesday 8am–5:30pm**

**Thursday 8am–5:30pm**

**Friday 8am–5:30pm**

**Saturday Closed**

**Sunday Closed**

**Phone: (051) 8496178**

## Visa Categories

<b>Visa Categories</b>	<b>Description of Visa</b>
<b>D</b>	Issued to those who intend to reside in China permanently.
<b>L</b>	Issued to those who intend to go to China as a tourist.
<b>M</b>	Issued to those who intend to go to China for commercial and trade activities.
<b>X1</b>	Issued to those who intend to study in China for a period of more than 180 days.
<b>X2</b>	Issued to those who intend to study in China for a period of no more than 180 days.
<b>Z</b>	Issued to those who intend to work in China.

### **I. Basic Documents**

Here are the documents you shall prepare before submission of visa application:

#### **(1) Passport**

Original passport with at least six months of remaining validity and blank visa pages, and a photocopy of the passport's data page and the photo page if it is separate.

#### **(2) Visa Application Form and Photo**

One Visa Application Form filled on-line and printed, one copy of Confirmation of Online Visa Application, one copy of AVAS Confirmation, 1 recently-taken color passport photos (bare-head, full face) against a white background.

**(3) Proof of legal stay or residence status** (applicable to those not applying for the visa in their country of citizenship). If you are not applying for the visa in the country of your citizenship, you must provide the original and photocopy of your valid visa of stay, residence, and employment or student status of the country where you are currently staying.

If you are applying for a Chinese visa for the first time, you should provide your previous passport and a photocopy of its data page.

If you have obtained Chinese visas before and want to apply for a Chinese visa with a renewed foreign passport that does not contain any Chinese visa, you should present the photocopy of the previous passport's data page and the photo page if it is separate, as well as the previous Chinese visa page (If your name on the current passport differs from that on the previous one, you must provide an official document of name change).

## **II. Supporting Documents**

### **D Visa**

- The original and photocopy of the Confirmation Form for Foreigners Permanent Residence Status issued by the Ministry of Public Security of China.
- We kindly remind you that:
- Holders of D Visa shall, within 30 days from the date of their entry, apply to the exit/entry administrations of public security organs under local people's governments at or above the county level in the proposed places of residence for foreigners' residence permits.

### **L Visa**

- For tourism in China, Pakistani nationals are requested to join a tourist group (more than 5 people), which should be arranged through a qualified local travel agency.

## **M Visa (new)**

(1) Generally speaking, a Verification Letter of Invitation or an Invitation Letter (TE) shall be provided (printout or photocopy), both of the letters must be extended by a Chinese inviter. One might be exempted from a Verification Letter of Invitation or an Invitation Letter (TE) in the following situation (However, an invitation letter issued by a relevant entity or individual in China is still needed. See part (2):

–If one works for Pakistani federal or local governments or other official institutions and holds a private passport with a mark of Government Officer or Government Employee, he or she should provide a NOC to Travel Abroad issued by his or her employer and attested by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan.

–Any applicant who has visited China for more than three times since 1 January 2016. One should provide photocopies of passport pages with entry/exit stamps of China Immigration Inspection.

(2) An invitation letter issued by a relevant entity or individual in China, should contain:

–Information about the applicant (full name, gender, date of birth, etc.)

–Information about the planned visit (purpose of visit, arrival and departure dates, place(s) to be visited, relations between the applicant and the inviting entity or individual, financial source)

–Information on the inviting entity or individual (name, telephone number, address, official stamp, signature of the legal representative or the inviting individual)

(3) A supporting letter from the organization which the applicant serves in

(4) The applicant's tax payment certificate (photocopy, the last three years) and registration of the organization which the applicant serves in (photocopy)

(5) Bank statement (personal or company, the last six months)

(6) A local police character/clearance certificate attested by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan for first time visit to China within the last five years, Round-trip air tickets and hotel booking (first time visit to China)

## **X1-Visa and X2-Visa**

- (1) Original and photocopy of the Admission Letter issued by a school or other entity in China
- (2) Original and photocopy of "Visa Application for Study in China" (Form JW201 or Form JW202)
- (3) Mark sheet/diploma (original and photocopy, photocopy should be attested by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan)

We kindly remind you that:

Holders of X1 Visa shall, within 30 days from the date of their entry, apply to the exit/entry administrations of public security organs under local people's governments at or above the county level in the proposed places of residence for foreigners' residence permits.

## **Z-Visa**

One of the following documents:

- (1) Foreigners Employment Permit of the People's Republic of China issued by Chinese government authorities for Human Resources and Social Security; if your intended work period is 90 days or less, you need to provide an Approval of Short-Term Employment for Foreigners Working in P.R. China. You must apply for your visa before the commencing work date indicated on the Approval and you will be allowed to work only within the period of time indicated in the Approval.
- (2) Permit for Foreign Experts Working in China or Notification Letter of Foreigner's Work Permit in the P. R. China issued by the State Bureau of Foreign Experts.
- (3) Registration Certificate of Resident Representative Offices of Enterprises of Foreign Countries (regions) issued by Chinese authorities of industrial and commercial administration.
- (4) An approval document for commercial performances issued by the Chinese government authorities for cultural affairs; if your intended performance period is 90 days or less, you need to provide an Approval of Short-Term Employment for Foreigners Working in P.R. China. You must apply for your visa before the commencing performance date indicated on the Approval and you will be allowed to perform only within the period of time indicated in the Approval.

(5) Letter of Invitation to Foreigners for Offshore Petroleum Operations in China issued by China National Offshore Oil Corporation.

We kindly remind you that:

Holders of Z Visa shall, within 30 days from the date of their entry, apply to the exit/entry administrations of public security organs under local people's governments at or above the county level in the proposed places of residence for foreigners' residence permits.

### **III. Special Reminder**

(1) If necessary, the consular officer may require the applicant to provide other supporting documents or supplementary materials, or ask for an interview with the applicant, or require signing off after the applicant finish visiting China.

(a) The applicant for certain types of Visa (D, Q1, Q2, S1, S2, X1, X2 & Z) should come in person for an interview.

(b) For the first visit to China within the last five years, the applicant should come in person for an interview and provide a local police character/clearance certificate (attested by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan).

(2) The consular officer has the final decision on the visa issuance, validity, duration of stay and number of entries according to specific condition of the applicant.

(3) In accordance with the Exit and Entry Administration law of the People's Republic of China and the Regulation of the People's Republic of China on Administration of the Entry and Exit of Foreigners, since the Regulation of the People's Republic of China on Administration of the Entry and Exit of Foreigners came into force on 1 September 2013, citizens of the countries which have signed bilateral visa exemption agreements with China shall be required to apply for Z, X1, Q1, S1, D, J1 visa accordingly before they enter China, if they come to China for work, study, family reunion, long term family visit, permanent residence or as resident foreign journalist.

(4) According to relevant Chinese laws and regulations, the Chinese Embassy in Islamabad is going to collect the fingerprints of all foreign applicants for Chinese visas from June 15, 2018. Only the following people can be exempted from fingerprints collection.

(a) Applicants over 70 or under 14 years old.



(b) Diplomatic passport holders or applicants who shall be issued Chinese diplomatic, service and courtesy visas.

(c) Applicants who have applied visa for China (mainland only) with the same passports in the same Embassy and left their fingerprints within 5 years since October 22, 2018.

(d) Applicants whose 10 fingers are incomplete or 10 fingerprints cannot be identified.

Applicants who apply for visa for China (mainland only) must personally come to the Visa Section of the Chinese Embassy to leave their fingerprints. The Chinese side reserves the right to reject entry to China in case of registering fake fingerprints which don't belong to the applicants. The applicants will have to bear all the consequences without complying with this regulation.

## **Timing for visa application submission, processing time, Fees**

1. Timing for visa application submission: one shall complete visa application form and make an appointment for submission online. Timing for visa submission is between 8:30 to 12:00 in the morning from Monday to Friday (holiday excluded).

2. Processing time: Normally it will take 4 working days to process visa application, which is subject to visa officer's decision.

3. Fees: Diplomatic and official passport holders of the third countries as well as Pakistani ordinary passport holders are exempted from visa fees.

(1) Visa fees for U.S. ordinary passport holders: Rs. 14000

### **(2) Visa fees for other countries' ordinary passport holders:**

**Single Entry:** Rs. 4500

**Double Entries:** Rs.6500

**6-Month Multiple Entries:** Rs.9000

**12-Month Multiple Entries:** Rs.13000

(4) Fees for Visa for Hong Kong SAR of China: Rs.3000

(5) Fees for Visa for Macao SAR of China: Rs.3000

### **V. Visa for Macao SAR of China**

Following notification from Public Security Police Force of the government of the Macao SAR of China, nationals of Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Nigeria, Sri Lanka and Vietnam, except personnel of certain specified category, are required to guarantee an entry visa in advance starting from 1 July 2010. Visa-upon-arrival is no longer applicable to nationals of above countries.

**NB:** Source of information, Embassy of China to Pakistan official website

<https://pk.chineseembassy.org/eng/lsw/va/t1573128.htm>