

**HONG KONG, CHINA
U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL**
*by Eugene Chow**



TIME DIFFERENCE

Hong Kong is 13 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time and 12 hours ahead of EDT.

JURISDICTION

The Hong Kong Consulate processes nonimmigrant visas (NIVs) and immigrant visas (IVs) for the following areas: Hong Kong and Macau.

KEY PERSONNEL

Stephen M. Young, Consul General
Matt Matthews, Deputy Consul General (As of September 2010)
Hugh F. Williams, Chief, Consular Section
Steven Giegerich, Deputy Consular Section and NIV Chief
Guy Strandemo, IV Unit Chief
Lisa J. Pittman, ACS Unit Chief
Tim Haynes (as of July 2010)
Tatum King, Senior ICE Representative

COMMUNICATIONS

Street Address

U.S. Consulate General Hong Kong
26 Garden Road; Hong Kong

Telephone/Fax

Main: (+852) 2523-9011
Fax: (+852) 2845-1598
Consular Section: (+852) 2841-2219
Emergencies (After Hours): (+852) 2523-9011
NIV Fax: (+852) 2530-1274
ACS Unit: (+852) 2841-2211, /-2323, /-2225
ACS Fax: (+852) 2845-4845
IV Unit: (+852) 2841-2270
Visa Information Call Center (900) (60) 798-798
Visa Information Unit Fax: (+852) 2147-3586
Fraud Prevention Unit: (+852) 2841-2379

* **Eugene Chow** is the principal of Chow King & Associates, a Hong Kong firm specializing in U.S. and Hong Kong immigration matters. A summa cum laude graduate of Penn State University and a 1976 graduate of Boston College Law School, he has been a California board-certified specialist in immigration law since 1989, Chow is listed in *International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers*, *Who's Who of the Law* (Hong Kong and China), and is a frequent panelist at AILA conferences.

The author wishes to thank Hugh F. Williams, Consular Section Chief, Steven Giegerich, Deputy Consular Section Chief and Guy Strandemo, Immigrant Visa Section Chief for their assistance in furnishing information for the preparation of this article. The opinions expressed, however, are of course solely the author's.

E-mail Addresses

Visa Inquiry Form: http://hongkong.usconsulate.gov/visa_inquiry_form.html

ACS Unit: acshk@state.gov

Website

<http://hongkong.usconsulate.gov/>

ATTORNEY REPRESENTATION

In Hong Kong, attorney access is viewed as a courtesy that is extended on a case-by-case basis as determined by the respective consular section units.

For Nonimmigrant Visa application cases, lawyers are generally not permitted to accompany applicants inside the visa waiting room or during the visa interview. Attorneys for E-2 Treaty Investors may mail in the application for a preliminary review before the interview is scheduled. The attorney will be advised as to whether he/she may accompany the client to the interview if it is determined that clarification is needed on certain issues or the information presented.

For Immigrant Visa applications and I-601 waiver interviews, attorneys may accompany their clients to the interview if a request was made to and approved by the Immigrant Visa Section Chief in advance.

For the American Citizen Services unit, attorneys are routinely allowed to accompany clients in the waiting area and during interviews when applying for American citizen services including Consular Reports of Birth, passports and for expatriation interviews.

UNLAWFUL PRESENCE BARS: DETERMINATION OF INADMISSIBILITY UNDER INA §212(a)(9)(B)(i)(I) AND (II)

When IV and NIV applicants have stayed in the United States for substantial periods of time, attorneys are well-advised to have the applicants bring a certified copy of their I-94s and/or I-797 (in change/extension of status cases) with them to their visa interviews. If requested by a consular officer, this evidence may be required to ensure that the three- or ten-year bars to admissibility for unlawful presence are not triggered. The consulate has generally not required any additional evidence beyond I-94s covering the visa applicant's periods of stay in the United States. Note, however, that while U.S. government databases may be used to verify the information provided by the applicant, it is the applicant's responsibility to submit evidence of an entry, departure, change of status, or request for extension of status.

NONIMMIGRANT VISAS

Processing Times and Procedures

All applicants (except K visa applicants) must use the DS-160, the Nonimmigrant Visa Electronic Application, which is available on the consulate's website at http://hongkong.usconsulate.gov/niv_apply.html. Alternatively, the applicant can go directly to the Consular Electronic Application Center website located at <https://ceac.state.gov/genniv/>.

Successful applicants pay a HKD 25 fee to the Hong Kong Post (HKD 96 for Macau residents), which has two windows inside the consulate, and passports will usually be returned two–four days from visa issuance. While visas are typically issued by 4:00 pm the day after the visa interview, individual issuance times may vary, and applicants are cautioned to apply as far in advance of the planned travel date as possible.

MRV Fees

A nonrefundable machine-readable visa (MRV) must be pre-paid (HKD 1,040) at any branch of Dah Sing Bank. A list of the branch locations is on the website.

Exceptions to Appointment System

Macau residents do not need appointments but can queue up in the visa line from 8:30 am to 10:30 am daily. However, they still must complete the electronic visa application form online. Visas are usually returned by Hong Kong courier post within two working days.

Hong Kong or Macau residents age 80 or older and age 14 or younger who are residents of Hong Kong, and have not been refused a visa previously, do not have to appear in person but may use the drop-box window outside the consulate to submit their applications Monday through Friday between 2:00 pm–3:00 pm without making an appointment. In the case of children, the applications must be accompanied by a copy of the photo page of both parents' passports along with a copy of both parents' Hong Kong or Macau identification cards, a copy of at least one parent's previous or current U.S. visa, the applicant's birth certificate, and a job letter from at least one parent.

Note: Drop-box processing is not permitted if the child has a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident (LPR, green card holder) parent. In the case of the child of a U.S. citizen parent, the drop box may be used if the parent can provide documentation of a formal finding by the American Citizen Services (ACS) section that the child is not a U.S. citizen.

Emergencies

Applicants who need to go to the United States due to the hospitalization or death of a relative may make an appointment for the next available time slot via the consulate's website. If an appointment for the next working day is not available, the applicant with emergency travel needs may walk in to the U.S. consulate for a visa interview during normal working hours (weekdays between 8:30 am–10:30 am or between 1:30 pm–3:00 pm). These applicants must present a letter from the hospital in the United States about the medical condition of the patient, and other supporting documents such as proof of relationship between the applicant and the patient, and financial documents of the applicant.

Expedited Appointments

Applicants with urgent business travel plans should make an appointment for the next available day as the consulate generally has next-day availability for nonimmigrant visa interviews.

If an appointment for the next working day is not available, applicants with urgent business travel needs may fax a request for an expedited appointment to the consulate, explaining the circumstances why an expedited appointment is necessary. Faxes should be sent to the Visa Information Unit. Requesting an expedited appointment via fax does not guarantee that such a request will be granted. If granted, an appointment time is scheduled for the applicant to appear in the line to submit the application which will take approximately two hours to complete. All applicants are still required to complete the online application form.

PIMS on the CCD

Consular posts are required to verify the details of approved NIV petitions via a report called Petition Information Management Service (PIMS) via the Consular Consolidated Database (CCD).¹ The electronic PIMS record created by the Kentucky Consular Center (KCC) is the primary source of evidence to be used in determining petition approval. This applies to all NIV petition-based categories (H, L, O, P, Q and R).

PIMS allows all information on a petitioner, petition, and/or beneficiary to be linked through a centrally managed CCD service. The PIMS petition report contains a record of all petitioners recorded by KCC as having approved petitions since 2004. In addition, many of the records contain information from KCC's Fraud Prevention Unit (FPU). Each new, approved petition is linked to a base petitioner record, allowing superior tracking of NIV petitioner and petition information. DOS reports it takes two working days for KCC to take an approved case from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and get necessary information into PIMS for visa issuance. It takes two working days for KCC to respond to e-mail inquiries and requests from posts that cannot find petitions in PIMS (for cases that are within five working days of scheduled interview date).²

If the visa appointment is scheduled at least one week in advance, this generally allows post to submit applicant's information in advance to KCC and may enable the PIMS clearance procedure prior to the visa interview. This is, however, not a guarantee that the petition information will be available for next day pick-up.

The paper notice (*e.g.*, petition copy) that USCIS forwards to KCC is the only notice that KCC receives of that petition. If USCIS does not send paper to KCC, no PIMS record is created. The post must then e-mail KCC to look up the case in CLAIMS for verification. The turnaround time at KCC to respond to such e-mails from posts is two working days.³

Prior to PIMS, I-129 petitioners who were seeking a change or extension of status could file form I-824 concurrently with an I-129 to have notification of approval sent to a consulate. However, cables are no longer sent. Notification to KCC is the only vehicle for consular notification of petition approval.⁴

If you wish to find out more, the KCC numbers are (606) 526-7425/7500 (*do not disseminate to the public*).

¹ DOS Cable, "Accessing NIV Petition Information Via the CCD" (Nov. 17, 2007), published on AILA InfoNet at Doc. No. 07112560 (*posted Nov. 25, 2007*).

² AILA Liaison/DOS Meeting Minutes (Nov 5, 2008), published on AILA InfoNet at Doc. No. 09022660 (*posted Feb 26, 2009*).

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.*

Post Acceptance of USCIS Approval Notices or Attorney-Certified Copies

DOS asks that all petition-based NIV applicants provide proof of an approved petition, but it is not required that it be the I-797 or copy of the petition itself.⁵ While many posts are able to verify the petition numbers in PIMS in advance of the interview, it is still useful for the applicant to either bring an original I-797 approval or something with the petition number to the interview in case the number was mistyped or the officer has additional questions.

To avoid delay in processing, the receipt number of the approved I-129 or I-797 should be faxed to the consulate at least two days prior to the visa interview at 852-2147-3586 or the name of the petitioner, the beneficiary and the receipt's number should be sent by email to *hongkong pims@state.gov*.

Age Requirements for Obtaining U.S. Passports

DOS issued a final rule correction (73 Fed. Reg. 4077 (1/24/08, effective 2/1/08)) to 22 CFR §§51.21(b)–(c). This states that the age at which a child no longer requires parental consent to be issued a U.S. passport will be raised from 14 to 16 years old. Raising the age requirement from 14 to 16 is intended to address the troubling issue of abducted and runaway children, and now makes U.S. passport age requirements consistent with the age requirements in the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction.

E-1 and E-2 Visas

Hong Kong processes very few E-1/E-2 visas but the post will accept E-1/E-2 cases in advance for review.

The applicant should complete an on-line DS160 and the entire E-1/E-2 package is then submitted to the attention of the NIV Chief. This should include the MRV fee receipt and a completed on-line application along with the confirmation cover page printed out and included in the documentation. After the review, the consulate will contact the attorney to schedule an interview and also advise the attorney whether the case will be handled routinely or whether the attorney may be permitted to accompany the client to the visa interview to clarify certain issues.

With Hong Kong's reversion to the People's Republic of China (PRC), the number of Hong Kong Chinese holding Republic of China (Taiwan) passports has dropped significantly. This has affected the number of E-2 cases being processed in Hong Kong, as there is no treaty between the People's Republic of China and the United States and PRC nationals are not eligible for E visas. In 2009, only 10 E-2s were processed in Hong Kong.

An E-Visa Principal Investor (E-2) applicant only needs to complete DS-160. However, an executive, manager, or essential employee needs to complete the DS-160, as well as a paper DS-156E until the release of the new DS-161, E-Visa Business Information form, which form can also be completed online.

L-1 visa applicants may be requested by the consulate to submit additional documents after their interview. This may include evidence that the overseas company is currently in operation, *e.g.*, company tax returns, corporate filings, bank statements, photographs of premises, etc., as well as proof of the applicant's managerial position including Hong Kong salaries tax receipts.

Visa Issuance Rates

The consulate processed approximately 50,000 visas in 2009, with an adjusted refusal rate of about 5 percent. This included about 50,000 B-1/B-2s, 5,000 Fs, 1,500 Hs, 500 Ls, and 10 E-2s.

Policy on B-1 in Lieu of H-1B

The 9 *Foreign Affairs Manual* (FAM) 41.31 N11 permits B-1 in lieu of H-1B visas. Unlike some posts in China which often refuse to issue B-1s in lieu of H-1Bs and insist on J-1 applications when H-1Bs are unavailable because of quota problems, the Hong Kong post does issue B-1s in lieu of H-1Bs in appropriate cases.

The author suggests that a B-1 visa issued in lieu of H-1B be annotated with a reference to 9 FAM 41.31 N11 to facilitate inspection and entry, as some B-1 visa holders have been told by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers at the port of entry to apply for a "proper" work visa and denied admission when the visa holder states that he is being assigned to work temporarily in the United States by a foreign employer. While the Hong Kong post does not generally provide such an annotation, it has stated it may perhaps do so on a case-by-case basis.

⁵ *Id.*

B-1 Domestic Worker Cases

The consulate is very strict in adjudicating B-1 visas for domestic workers accompanying their nonimmigrant employers to the United States. Unless there has been a past visa issuance, most domestic helpers have been denied on INA §214(b) grounds because the present attitude of the consulate is that most domestic helpers cannot demonstrate strong family, social, economic or other ties to their home country because they have departed from their home country to seek contract employment in Hong Kong. If the domestic helper has previously accompanied the employer on prior travels to the United States, the employer should be prepared to show contemporaneous proof of wage payments at the minimum or prevailing wage to demonstrate intent to comply with U.S. law on the upcoming trip. This can be in the form of contemporaneous receipts, wire transfers, direct deposits, or checks.

An LPR cannot bring his or her domestic helper to the United States, and a domestic helper is required to present a copy of the passport of the employer and the employer's spouse to confirm that they are U.S. citizens or nonimmigrants. Note that U.S. citizens moving back permanently to the United States from overseas are not eligible to bring domestic helpers to the United States on B-1 visas. However, U.S. citizens may bring domestic helpers on temporary sojourns to the United States, or, if they are assigned temporarily to the United States by their employer, provided the criteria of 9 FAM 41.31 N9.3-2 are met.

Expedited Return of Passports and Visas

Passports and visas cannot be returned other than through the Hong Kong post, except for genuine humanitarian emergencies, because of the consulate's exclusive contractual agreement with Hong Kong post. However, applicants may make arrangements with Hong Kong post to pick up the passport and visa at the central post office if he or she cannot wait for delivery by courier.

Out-of-District Applications

There is no particular policy to discourage third-country nationals (TCNs) from applying in Hong Kong.

Officers have been instructed not to automatically deny out-of-district cases under INA §214(b) simply because they are out-of-district. Some cases are readily approvable because the applicant has had extensive travel, multiple visas, and well-known company affiliation. However, if the officer has to devote considerable time to make sense of the case and the significance of the supporting documents, a §214(b) denial is likely to result.

Applicants denied under §214(b) are advised to apply in their district of home residence. Where §214(b) does not apply to an out-of-district case, a §221(g) denial may still be issued.

Re-application Policy after Refusals

There is no limit as to the number of times an applicant may apply nor does the applicant need to wait a specified time between visa applications if denied. The procedure to request reconsideration is to re-apply.

A re-application will be treated as a new case and a prior refusal is not a permanent bar, although notes on the prior refusal will be reviewed.

Practice Tips

The post has been giving deference to USCIS approvals in L-1 cases and no longer asks for extensive business and tax documentation for the U.S. entity, proof of the applicant's employment experience, and the Hong Kong entity's inland revenue receipts, audited financial statements, etc. It is still prudent, however, for attorneys to advise their clients to bring these documents to establish eligibility.

Where the L-1 applicant previously applied for his or her visa at a border post, in Mexico or Canada, and his or her spouse is processing an L-2 visa in Hong Kong, the consulate may examine the bona fides of the Hong Kong company that supported the underlying approved L-1 petition.

Attorneys are forewarned that their clients should be well-prepared to answer extensive questions about all aspects of the L-1 petition or E-2 visa application, including detailed information about the U.S. operations. Consular officers often ask for the applicant's business card in L-1 cases to see if the title on the business card matches the L-1 information.

In general, however, the consulate has been quite liberal in the adjudication of visa applications in all visa categories (except for domestic worker B-1s), as reflected by the adjusted refusal rate.

IMMIGRANT VISAS

Processing Times and Procedures

All petitions filed in the United States are pre-processed by the National Visa Center (NVC) prior to being forwarded to the post, except Diversity Visa and fiancé(e) visa cases. NVC will only send cases to the post once the petitioner has submitted all of the necessary paperwork to NVC, Form DS-230 Part I, and the I-864 Affidavit of Support. Once all the documents have been received by the NVC and are found to be in order, it will send out an appointment letter for an interview about one month in advance along with instructions for obtaining a medical examination.

K Visa Process and Procedures

The consulate's website link at http://hongkong.usconsulate.gov/iv_fiance_visas.html, provides extensive information for K-1 and K-2 applicants.

Hong Kong will process K-3 cases for applicants who were married in Hong Kong, irrespective of where they reside. All K cases are handled through the IV unit and applicants must set up appointments by calling the Visa Call Center. In K cases, NVC first reviews the documentation and assigns a case number before sending the file to the post. The IV unit will then send the instruction and appointment packets directly to the applicant.

Contact with IV Unit

All inquiries from attorneys and legal staff are required to be routed through the Visa Information Unit by fax, e-mail or letter. The e-mail or fax options listed below are the most efficient vehicles for contacting the IV section chief. Responses to electronic inquiries are sent within three business days.

This policy is based on the stated goal of increasing the efficiency of the IV unit and a consular officer reviews all outgoing correspondence, especially in complex cases, to ensure that accurate and useful information is being provided.

In the writer's opinion, a faxed inquiry is less likely to generate a generic "canned" response.

Affidavit of Support Issues

There are often problems with affidavits of support furnished by U.S. citizen sponsors who are resident in Hong Kong working for non-U.S. companies. Since the Immigration and Nationality Act requires petitioner to be domiciled in the United States, some U.S. citizens who have been resident in Hong Kong may not be able to demonstrate they have a residence in the United States or that they have plans to return, and therefore, do not meet the definition of "domiciliary" to qualify as sponsors.

Domicile is a complex issue that is determined on a case-by-case basis. Petitioners currently residing outside the United States are responsible for providing convincing evidence that they have left the United States for a limited period of time and intended to maintain a domicile in the United States, including evidence of continued ties to the United States. When a sponsor has not clearly maintained a domicile in the United States, he or she will need to re-establish a U.S. domicile. When the post encounters such a case, the applicant and/or the petitioner is given a handout with examples of ways the domicile issue may be addressed. The particulars of every case are different, so it is not possible to comment on what evidence is needed or sufficient to resolve a domicile issue.

When the petitioner is in the process of relocating to the United States, evidence of concrete steps taken such as rental premises, purchase of a home, employment transfer letter, or evidence of enrollment of children in U.S. schools have all been helpful in establishing U.S. "domicile."

Police Records

Police clearances are valid for one year from date of issuance, even if there is a notation from a particular country on the certificate that it is valid for a shorter period. The officer may ask the applicant verbally if he/she has been convicted of any crime since the police certificate has issued.

The one-year validity period does not apply to a police certificate from a country to which the alien has not returned since its issuance. In all cases, the post reserves the right to request an updated police clearance on a case-by-case basis.

INA §221(g) Refusals

Most IV applicants previously interviewed and refused under INA §221(g) for lacking documentation can drop-off their requested documents at the Visa Information Unit's outside window on the podium of the consulate's entrance between 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm on any workday. No appointment is necessary, but interviews are on a first-come, first-served basis. Applicants (or someone designated by them to submit his or her documents) should bring the blue refusal letter, all requested documents and a current passport or other travel document for each applicant.

Previously refused applicants who are unable to drop off documents or who have been directed to appear at the consulate in person must make an appointment to come to the consulate to submit the documents to the IV Unit. Appointments can be made by calling the Visa Information Call Center (HKD 10 per minute) between 8:30 am–5:30 pm, Monday–Friday. Appointments must be made at least five business days in advance.

Practice Tips

The most common reason for refusals is missing documentation. The post encourages applicants to carefully review its official checklist before the interview to ensure that all the proper documentation is in order. It also encourages applicants who are unable to obtain Chinese Civil Documents of Birth to apply for Certificate of Registered Particulars from the Hong Kong Immigration Department rather than to simply execute statutory declarations about their birth details.

Aside from missing documents, applicants are refused if the case requires further administrative processing for security checks or if there is an ineligibility that needs to be addressed. The post advises that generic letters from attorneys requesting that post conduct all necessary processing ahead of the interview are not helpful to an applicant's case.

Visa Issuance Rates

The consulate processed approximately 3851 IVs in 2009. The initial refusal rate was 39 percent, with the adjusted refusal rate about 12.7 percent.

There were 1717 family sponsored cases and 58 employment cases including 6 EB-1, 1 EB-2, 15 EB-3, 1 EW, 11 EB-5 and 24 DV visas.

Notification for Following-to-Join and Derivative Case

Evidence of the preference category and priority date in the form of a certified copy of the petition and petition approval notice, copy of green card of principal, and proof of relationship is sufficient to process following-to-join and derivative cases.

If the applicant submits clear and legible documentation and the documentation is complete, verification of the principal applicant's data usually takes several weeks, and it is not necessary to file a Form I-824 with USCIS.

Attorneys will be extended the courtesy of being heard on why certain special cases should be accepted on a discretionary basis. In such cases, the applicant should send a written request to the IV Unit seeking permission to process the case in Hong Kong, explaining the circumstances that warrant the file transfer, including evidence of the applicant's ability to enter Hong Kong and remain legally during the duration of the visa process. Cases of applicants, who are currently not residing in the consular district but can provide convincing proof of their ties to Hong Kong, such as a Hong Kong identification card, may be more readily accepted. However, if such cases are accepted, attorneys are cautioned that visa issuance is not guaranteed and cases accepted for processing may nevertheless be denied.

Since visa files are generally pre-processed by the NVC, which is responsible for collecting the affidavit of support and immigration visa processing fee bills for all cases filed in the United States, original visa petitions are necessary for the post to process such cases.

In the case of exigent circumstances or where the USCIS has made an error and kept the approved petition instead of forwarding the petition to the NVC the post may consider processing immigrant visa petitions based on written evidence from the USCIS, the original notice of approval (Form I-797) that the petition has been approved and a Form I-824 filed

Medical Examination

The names and addresses of local, approved doctors are as follows:

Drs. Nicholson and Associates

402B New World Tower
16 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong
Tel.: (+852) 2525-1251

Drs. Anderson and Partners

805-806 Wai Fung Plaza, 664 Nathan Road
Mongkok, Kowloon, Hong Kong
Tel.: (+852) 2390-3398

CLOSURE OF USCIS HONG KONG

With the closure of the USCIS office in Hong Kong, the processing of I-407s (Abandonment of Lawful Permanent Resident Status) and the filing of I-130s (Petition for Alien Relative) by U.S. citizens have been delegated to the IV unit of the U.S. consulate since September 2, 2008.

I-407 (Abandonment of LPR Status)

An attorney may file a Form I-407 on behalf of a client without the necessity of the alien appearing in person, so long as the attorney presents a duly executed G-28 authorizing him to act. If the alien is not appearing in person, a short executed statement from the alien confirming that he is cognizant of his rights as a lawful permanent resident and is voluntarily abandoning his status should accompany the I-407.

I-407s may be filed only on Wednesdays and Fridays from 2:00pm to 4:00pm.

Adjudication of Immediate Relative Visa Petitions

Attorneys are now permitted to file I-130s on behalf of their clients and to be present during an I-130 visa petition adjudicatory interview although the petitioner and beneficiary must also personally appear at the consulate at the time the petition is filed.

I-130s from U.S. citizens who are resident in Hong Kong can be filed on Wednesday and Friday only, between 2:00 pm–4:00 pm.

USCIS Waiver Policies and Procedures

Nonimmigrant waivers are adjudicated by U.S. CBP in the United States with a turnaround time of about one month. However, where the applicant has a criminal file in the United States, the case can be substantially delayed while CBP requests the file from a third party agency.

Post will follow up within 30 days if there is no response within that time frame.

Immigrant waivers are submitted on Form I-601 and sent to the USCIS District office in Bangkok for processing. Attorneys may accompany clients to their waiver interview at the Immigrant Visa Section in Hong Kong. Processing time varies based on whether USCIS needs further information to evaluate the hardship to the petitioner. Attorneys are encouraged to follow up directly with USCIS Bangkok if there is a substantial delay in adjudication.

Transportation Letters/Parole

If an LPR or person on advance parole loses his or her entry documentation while abroad, applications for a transportation boarding letter are made with CBP since CBP is now responsible for issuing the transportation letter upon verification of the LPR or advance parole status.

The CBP is located at St. John's Building, 11th Floor, 33 Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong, across the street from the U.S. Consulate General and is open to the public Monday to Friday (9:30 am–11:30 am and 2:00 pm–4:00 pm). Tel.: (+852) 2524-1136.

The applicant is required to present a police report of the lost or stolen document, a confirmed airline ticket to the United States, a valid passport or travel document, proof of entry into Hong Kong and evidence of date of departure from the United States (airline ticket), as well as four passport-style photographs.

AMERICAN AND HONG KONG HOLIDAYS FOR 2010

Jan. 1 New Year's Day
Jan. 18 Martin Luther King's Birthday
Feb. 15 President's Day/Second day of the Lunar New Year's Day
Feb. 16 Third day of the Lunar New Year
Apr. 2 Good Friday
Apr. 5 Easter Monday
Apr. 6 The day following Ching Ming Festival
May 21 The Buddha's Birthday
May 31 Memorial Day
June 16 Tuen Ng Festival
July 1 HKSAR Establishment Day
July 4 Independence Day (observed July 5)
Sept. 6 Labor Day

Sept.23 The day following Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival
Oct. 1..... National Day
Oct. 11..... Columbus Day
Nov. 11..... Veterans Day
Nov. 25..... Thanksgiving Day
Dec. 25 Christmas Day (observed Dec.24)
Dec. 27 First Week-Day after Christmas Day
Jan. 1 New Year's Day (observed Dec.31)