



CLIENT ALERT

**THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
INTRODUCES NEW VISA CATEGORY
FOR YOUNG SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS**

INTRODUCTION

The State Council of the People’s Republic of China has approved the creation of a new visa category, the "K visa," designed to attract young foreign talents in science and technology. This new visa type is a key part of China's strategy to enhance international cooperation and exchanges among young professionals. The new rules will take effect on 1st October, 2025¹.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS



The new K visa represents a significant change to China's immigration policies. It is designed to be a more streamlined and flexible option for qualified individuals, particularly young professionals in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (“STEM”) fields. Unlike other visa categories, applicants for the K visa do not need an invitation from a domestic employer or entity in China, which removes a major barrier to entry. The visa's key features include a broader scope of permitted activities, allowing holders to participate in academic and cultural exchanges as well as entrepreneurial and business ventures in science and technology. It also offers more

favourable terms regarding the number of entries, validity period, and length of stay compared to other ordinary visas. To be eligible, applicants must meet specific qualifications related to age, educational background, and work experience, such as holding at least a bachelor's degree from a prestigious university or research institution.

IMPACT ON TRAVELERS AND BUSINESSES



This initiative is designed to boost the global flow of young talents in science and technology fields, by supporting a wide range of professional and cultural exchanges, which are vital for global cooperation in these key sectors. As the implementation date approaches, professionals and organisations in the science and technology fields are advised to closely monitor updates from Chinese embassies and consulates for detailed application procedures and eligibility criteria.

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¹ China to Launch New Visa Type for Science and Technology Professionals
https://english.www.gov.cn/policies/latestreleases/202508/14/content_WS689dd0d3c6d0868f4e8f4d1e.html