

Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C)

Exemption Arrangement

The Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong (Amendment) (No.2) Regulation 2020 commenced on April 29, 2020, amending the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap.599C) (amended Regulation). The expiry date of the amended Regulation has been extended to June 7, 2020. In accordance with the newly added section 4(1)(b) in the amended Regulation, the Chief Secretary for Administration may designate any person or category of persons for exemption from the compulsory quarantine arrangement, if he is satisfied that the person's or persons' travelling is necessary for purposes relating to business activities in the interest of Hong Kong's economic development.

In accordance with the above-mentioned provision, the Chief Secretary for Administration has exempted the following category of persons from the compulsory quarantine arrangement with effect from 19 May 2020 –

- (a) **either** the owner of an enterprise with a valid business registration certificate issued under the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap. 310) and having an operating base relating to logistics, port and/or shipping business in the Mainland, and up to one person employed and so authorised by the enterprise; **or**
- (b) up to two personnel employed and so authorised by such an enterprise as described in (a).

Validity Period of Exemption

From 19 May 2020 to the expiry of section 4(1)(b) of the Regulation.

Administrative Arrangement

The Transport and Housing Bureau (THB) will process the applications, including consulting the Hong Kong Container Terminal Operators Association Limited, Hong Kong Shipowners Association, Hong Kong Sea Transport and Logistics Association, Hong Kong Liner Shipping

Association, Guangdong and Hong Kong Feeder Association Limited, Hongkong Association of Freight Forwarding and Logistics Limited and/or the Hong Kong Logistics Association as well as the relevant Bureaux/Departments where necessary. THB will issue authorisation letters to the exempted persons, setting out the details and conditions of exemption.

Information and Supporting Documents to be Submitted by Applicants

- (a) Completed application form setting out, for each applicant, the personal particulars, post title, contact information, name of Hong Kong enterprise, date of travelling to / return from the Mainland and the justifications for travelling to the Mainland (Note : Applications are to be submitted by enterprises; the same enterprise can submit exemption applications for up to two applicants using the same application form);
- (b) Affiliated industry association(s);
- (c) Copy of Hong Kong Identification Card or Passport of each applicant;
- (d) Copy of Business Registration Certificate;
- (e) Information about the operating base in the Mainland (e.g. address, size, number of staff, etc.) and a copy of the Business Licence(s);
- (f) Each applicant must declare that he/she is travelling to the Mainland to support the business operation in the Mainland;
- (g) Each applicant must declare that he/she will only travel to and stay in the city where the operating base owned by his/her enterprise is located; and
- (h) Each applicant must declare that he/she will take every precautionary measure to ensure personal hygiene and avoid unnecessary social contact whilst in the Mainland.

Conditions for Exemption

Applications for exemption should be task-specific and date-specific (i.e. only covers a specified period during which the person(s) concerned have to stay in the Mainland for the specific task(s)). An exempted person must only travel to and stay in the city/area where the operating base owned by the logistics, port and/or shipping enterprise is located for the purpose of the intended business activities as approved. For an exempted person already staying in the Mainland at the time of submission of application, he/she must have only stayed in the city/area where the operating base

owned by the logistics, port and/or shipping enterprise is located during the preceding 14 days of his/her date of return to Hong Kong. The travel arrangement between the two places should be point-to-point. If the relevant business activities involve multiple trips to and from the Mainland, please submit individual exemption application for each travel. This Exemption Scheme is not applicable to persons who have stayed in any area being classified as at-risk places in the Mainland in the past 14 days prior to and upon the day of arrival in Hong Kong. Please refer to the relevant list of at-risk places under the Return2hk Scheme (https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/at_risk_places_temporarily_inapplicable_underreturn2hk.pdf). If the Applicant(s) have visited any area being classified as at-risk places in the Mainland in the past 14 days prior to and upon the day of arrival in Hong Kong after the approval of this Application, the Applicant(s) concerned must notify THB immediately, and the approved Exemption will also be revoked.

When returning to Hong Kong, an exempted person must pay close attention to the latest immigration measures, comply with the prevailing requirements of the HKSAR Government and provide the necessary documents before he/she can be exempted from the 14-day compulsory quarantine upon entry to Hong Kong. With effect from 23 November 2020, if an exempted person arrives Hong Kong via a land boundary control point, he/she must present a valid negative COVID-19 nucleic acid test result, and the sample for which should be taken by him/her on the day of arrival or within three days before the day of arrival. For details of the test requirements and arrangement, please refer to this webpage (<https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/return2hk-scheme.html>).

After returning to Hong Kong, each exempted person must be subject to medical surveillance arranged by the Department of Health (DH) during his/her stay in Hong Kong, and is required to wear masks and check body temperature daily, as well as report to the DH on any discomfort.