

Questions & Answers

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Certificate of Entitlement to the Right of Abode

1. How many working days does it take to process the “Certificate of Entitlement to the Right of Abode”?

Ans: The processing time is 30 working days after the day on which this bureau has received all required documents from the applicant (exclusive of the day of receipt of required documents).

2. If my application for the “Certificate of Entitlement to the Right of Abode” is approved, when should I come to Identification Services Bureau to apply for the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card?

Ans: Applicants are advised to collect the “Certificate of Entitlement to the Right of Abode” within six months from the date of issuance, and lodge the application of the Macao SAR Resident Identity card as soon as possible.

Macao SAR Resident Identity Card

1. Under what circumstances do cardholders need to replace their Macao SAR Resident Identity Card?

Ans: A) Macao SAR Resident Identity Card expired (ID card can be renewed 6 months prior to the expiration date. If the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card is valid for life, applicants could replace it 30 days prior to or after the date of expiry of the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card Digital Certificate);

B) Changes of personal information, such as first and last name, parents’ name, date of birth or place of birth;

C) Status changed from Non-Permanent Resident to Permanent Resident

D) Damage or loss

Besides aforesaid circumstances, applicants can submit a request for replacement to the Director of the Identification Services Bureau for approval with other appropriate reasons. However, application can only be lodged upon approval.

2. Is it possible to enter/exit the frontier of the Macao SAR to mainland China by presenting my application receipt of the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card?

Ans: Under the circumstances of first-time application or loss of Macao SAR Resident Identity Card, the applicant can enter/exit the Macao SAR frontier by holding the application receipt along with a valid document for entering the destination (such as Home Return Permit); Under the circumstances of replacement or renewal of identity card, the applicant can enter/exit the frontier by holding the former identity card until it is voided on the collection day of the new card. The applicant is also advised to bring along the receipt in case it is needed.

3. Is it possible to enter Hong Kong by presenting my application receipt of the Macao SAR

Resident Identity Card?

Ans: No, it is not possible. If necessary, applicants can enter Hong Kong with a “Visit Permit for Residents of Macao SAR to Hong Kong SAR”.

4. What are the formalities for the replacement of Macao SAR Identity Card due to loss?

Ans: **Procedure for replacement of the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card due to loss in Macao**

Applicants should first report the loss to the Macao Public Security Police Force. After that, they can apply for the replacement of the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card in person at the Identification Services Bureau with the loss report in which holder’s name, type of identity card and identity card number should be clearly stated.

Procedure for replacement of the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card due to loss in Hong Kong

- (1) Applicant should report the loss to the Hong Kong Police and obtain a loss report in which holder’s name, type of identity card and identity card number should be clearly stated;
- (2) Apply for an official letter for the purpose of identity verification when returning to Macao from Hong Kong:
 - During office hours: apply at the Hong Kong Immigration Headquarters
Hong Kong Immigration Headquarters
Address: Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong
Hotlines: (00852)28246111, (00852)28777711
 - During non-office hours: apply at the Immigration Control Point at the Hong Kong-Macao Ferry Terminal in Sheung Wan.
24-hour enquiry hotline: (00852)28246111
- (3) Applicants can apply for the replacement of the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card in person at the Identification Services Bureau with the loss report after coming back to Macao.

Procedure for replacement of identity card and Home Visit Permit in Mainland

- (1) Applicant must report the loss to the local Public Security Bureau Office and obtain a loss report in which holder’s name, type of identity card and identity card number should be clearly stated.
- (2) Applicant can apply for a single-use Entry-Exit Permit of the People’s Republic of China in one of the following ways:
 - Applying at the local public security authority (e.g. Entry-Exit Administrative Division of Zhuhai Municipal Public Security Bureau). Other necessary identification documents are required for making the application (e.g. SAR passport, driving license, etc). The approving authorities will approach this Bureau to verify the applicant’s identity by fax for those who are not able to provide their identification documents.
Entry-Exit Administrative Division of Zhuhai Municipal Public Security Bureau
Address: 493, Xianghua Road, Xiangzhou District, Zhuhai
Hotline: 0085-756-8640510
 - Authorizing the China Travel Service (Macao) Limited to lodge the application at the Visa Office of the Guangdong Provincial Public Security Department on behalf of the applicant. Loss report and other necessary identification documents are required for making the application. Identity verification will be conducted by the Visa Office of the Guangdong Provincial Public Security Department in Zhuhai via computer system for those who are not able to provide their identification documents.
China Travel Service (Macao) Limited
Address: Room 2115, 2 Floor, Arrival Hall at the right side of the Joint Inspection Building of the Gongbei Port (Before the arrival counters)
Hotlines: 0086-756-8152012; (00853)6601117
- (3) Applicant should apply for the replacement of the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card in person

at the Identification Services Bureau with the loss report after coming back to Macao.

5. What are the formalities if the lost Macao SAR Resident Identity Card is subsequently recovered after the application for a replacement?

Ans: The applicant should present the found card to the “Case Follow-up Counter” at the Identification Services Bureau.

6. If the Macao SAR Identity card is lost outside Macao and the holder has already reported to the local police, is it necessary to report the loss again in Macao?

Ans: No, it is not necessary. However, the type of the lost document and the information of the holder should be stated clearly on the loss report. If the language of the loss report is not in one of the official languages of the Macao SAR, a translation should be provided.

7. Does a Macao SAR Non-permanent Resident Identity card holder automatically acquire the status of Macao SAR permanent resident if the holder has resided in Macao for 7 consecutive years?

Ans: No, he/she does not. The holder must make the application in person at the Identification Services Bureau.

8. Can a non-local worker become a Macao SAR permanent resident if he/she has stayed in Macao for 7 consecutive years?

Ans: No, he/she cannot. Persons who stay in Macao as a non-local worker are not considered as ordinarily residing in Macao.

9. Is it possible to authorize a representative to apply for the Macao SAR Resident Identity card?

Ans: No, it is not possible. Applicants must apply for the Macao SAR Resident Identity card in person at the Identification Services Bureau. However, if the applicant is not able to come to the Identification Services Bureau in person, the applicant or his/her relatives can request for an external service by addressing a letter to the Identification Services Bureau for approval. This service is limited to Macao only and the service charge is MOP120.

10. If parents cannot accompany their underage child to the Identification Services Bureau to apply for the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card, can they authorize another person to accompany their child to the Identification Services Bureau for lodging the application?

Ans: Yes, they can. The applicant’s parents have to submit a written request to this Bureau clearly stating the reason why they cannot accompany their child to lodge the application. In addition, the parents must provide this Bureau with an authorization letter which is signed according to their Macao SAR Resident Identity Card, proof of not being able to accompany their child to submit the application and photocopies of the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card of the applicant, parents and the authorized person. This Bureau will examine the application and reply the applicant in ten working days. For applicants who have an urgent need for speeding up the process under special circumstances (e.g. to visit relatives who is in critical conditions or to seek medical treatment overseas), this Bureau will handle the application depending on the situation.

11. Is it possible to authorize a representative to collect the Macao SAR Resident Identity card?

Ans: The applicant can endorse the application receipt and sign according to the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card in order to authorize a representative to collect the document on behalf of the applicant (if applicant is under the age of 18, his/her legal representative is the one to endorse the application receipt). Except first-time application and loss of identity card, the applicant has to return the former

identity card to the Identification Services Bureau at the time of collecting the new identity card. The authorized representative should also produce his/her valid identity document for verification when collecting the document on behalf of the applicant.

12. What are the formalities for changing the holder's name which is shown on the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card?

Ans: - For persons who were born in Macao, they should first alter their name at the Civil Registry (Conservatoria de Registo Civil). Upon approval, the applicants can proceed to the Identification Services Bureau to lodge the application for renewing the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card with the updated birth certificate.

- For persons who were born outside Macao, they can fill out the "Alteration of Personal Data Application Form" which can be obtained at this Bureau or downloaded on our website: www.dsi.gov.mo. After that, they lodge the application at this Bureau with the completed "Alteration of Personal Data Application Form", the original copy of relevant supporting documents and their original Macao SAR Resident Identity Card

- For persons who have obtained residence authorization, they have to alter the personal data of their residence authorization at the Immigration Department. After obtaining the updated residence authorization, the applicant can duly fill out the "Alteration of Personal Data Application Form" and submit it with the original copies of relevant supporting documents and their original Macao SAR Resident Identity Card to this Bureau.

After the application for altering personal data is approved, the applicant can lodge the application for renewing the Macao SAR identity card in person at this Bureau.

Appointment for submitting the application can be made on our website: www.dsi.gov.mo. Steps for online appointment: **【 Select "Resident Identity Card" for the type of document → Select "Alteration of personal data (application awaiting approval/application has been approved)" under other application services for the reason of replacing resident identity card 】** .

13. Can a Macao resident add a Chinese name on the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card if there is only a foreign name on the document?

Ans: Applicants should first fill out the "Alteration of Personal Data Application Form" which can be obtained at this Bureau or downloaded on our website, and then submit it with the proof of having used the Chinese name formerly (if any) to this Bureau.

For the convenience of the applicants, they can submit the application for adding a Chinese name and the application for renewing the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card at the same time. However, the expected collection date of the identity card will also be postponed accordingly.

Appointment for submitting the application can be made on our website: www.dsi.gov.mo. Steps for online appointment: **【 Select "Resident Identity Card" for the type of document → Select "Alteration of personal data (application awaiting approval/application has been approved)" under other application services for the reason of replacing resident identity card 】** .

14. What kind of document should a Macao resident apply for if he/she needs to prove that he/she had ever added/alterd his/her Chinese name?

Ans: The applicant can apply for a Certificate of Personal Data if he/she needs to prove the data that he/she provided in the registration of the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card. Appointment for submitting the application can be made on our website: www.dsi.gov.mo. Applicant can select "**Other Certificates**" for the type of document.

15. What should an applicant do if he/she wants to add her spouse's surname to the name registered on her Macao SAR Resident Identity Card?

Ans: **(1) Marriage registered in Macao**

The applicant can bring along her Macao SAR Resident Identity Card, the original copy of marriage certificate on which the spouse's surname has been added to the applicant's name and the photocopy of the spouse's identification document to lodge the application for replacing her Macao SAR Resident Identity Card at the Identification Services Bureau.

Applicants can make an appointment on our website: www.dsi.gov.mo. Steps for online appointment: **【Select “Resident Identity Card” for the type of document→Select “Alteration of personal data (application awaiting approval /application has been approved)” under other application services for the reason of replacing resident identity card】**

(2) Marriage registered outside Macao (for applicant who was born in Macao)

The applicant should first transcribe her marriage registration at the Civil Registry and apply for adding her spouse's surname to her name. After obtaining the proof issued by the Civil Registry, the applicant can renew her resident identity card at the Identification Services Bureau with the proof from the Civil Registry, her resident identity card and her spouse's identification document.

Applicants can make an appointment through our website: www.dsi.gov.mo. Steps for online appointment: **【Select “Resident Identity Card” for the type of document→Select “Alteration of personal data (application awaiting approval /application has been approved)” under other application services for the reason of replacing resident identity card】**

(3) Marriage registered outside Macao (for applicant who was NOT born in Macao)

The applicant can apply for altering her personal data at the Identification Services Bureau with her Macao SAR Resident Identity Card and the original copy of the marriage certificate which the applicant registered outside Macao. Such certificate should be already stated the applicant's name with her spouse's surname added. Otherwise, the applicant has to provide her valid identification document which is stated her name with her spouse's surname added and the photocopy of her spouse identification document.

Applicants can make an appointment on our website: www.dsi.gov.mo. Steps for online appointment: **【Select “Resident Identity Card” for the type of document→Select “Alteration of personal data (application awaiting approval /application has been approved)” under “Other application services” for the reason of replacing resident identity card】**

After the application for altering personal data is approved, the applicant can lodge the application for renewing the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card in person at this Bureau.

16. What are the formalities for changing the marital status which is stored in the chip of the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card?

Ans: Applicant can fill in the “Alteration of Personal Data Application Form” which can be obtained at this Bureau or downloaded from our website: www.dsi.gov.mo. The applicant can then request for updating the marital status at this Bureau with the original copies of the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card and relevant supporting documents.

- If the marital status is changed to *married*, a photocopy of marriage certificate (original copy should be produced for verification) and a photocopy of the spouse's identification document should be submitted. For the name of the spouse, if there is only a Chinese name (without any transliteration) registered on the photocopy of spouse's identification document, a Romanized Cantonese transliteration will be registered according to law. Valid household registration transcript is required if applicants or their spouses are originally from Japan, France or Taiwan Region.
- If the marital status is changed to *divorced*, a photocopy of the proof of divorce (original copy should be produced for verification) should be submitted.
- If the marital status is changed to *widowed*, a photocopy of the spouse's death certificate (original copy should be produced for verification) should be submitted.

(Please submit all relevant proof of marriage if there is no record found in this Bureau.)

Attention:

1. In addition, if above-mentioned documents are not written in Chinese, Portuguese or English, applicants are required to produce an official translation
2. When the personal data stored in the chip on the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card is being updated, the identity card will be temporarily kept at this Bureau until relevant formalities are finished. Also, the collection time of the identity card varies with different time of application. Please refer to the time table below for the corresponding collection time of the identity card:

Time of Application	Time of ID Card Collection
09:00~10:15	13:30
10:15~14:30	17:00
14:30~16:00	17:45
Application for updating chip data of the identity card is not accepted after 16:00	

17. What are the formalities for updating other personal information (such as parents' names, date of birth and place of birth) on the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card?

Ans: - Persons who are not holding the Residence Authorization can fill out the "Alteration of Personal Data Application Form" which can be obtained at this Bureau or downloaded on our website: www.dsi.gov.mo. The application should be lodged at this Bureau with the original copy of relevant supporting documents and the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card of the applicant.

- Holders of Residence Authorization should first alter their personal data of the residence authorization document at the Immigration Department. After obtaining the updated Residence Authorization, the applicants can then apply for altering their personal data at the Identification Services Bureau by completing the "Alteration of Personal Data Application Form". The application should be lodged with the original copy of relevant supporting documents and the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card of the applicant.

After the application for altering personal data is approved, the applicant can lodge the application for renewing the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card in person at this Bureau. Applicants can make an appointment on our website: www.dsi.gov.mo. Steps for online appointment: **【 Select "Resident Identity Card" for the type of document → Select "Alteration of personal data (application awaiting approval /application has been approved)" under "Other application services" for the reason of replacing resident identity card 】** .

18. What are the formalities for changing the contact information of the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card?

Ans: Applicants can change their contact information of the identity card in the following ways:

- i. Duly complete an "Alteration of Contact Information Application Form" which can be downloaded from our website www.dsi.gov.mo and then submit the completed form* with the photocopy of the applicant's Macao SAR Resident Identity Card to this Bureau by post (Macao P.O. Box 1089) or by an authorized representative. However, the application cannot be submitted via email or fax.
- ii. Lodge the application for changing the contact information in person at this Bureau with the original copy of the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card*. Applicants are required to obtain a number tag in advance for lodging the application.
- iii. Macao residents who are aged 18 or above and holding an electronic identity card can change their contact information with the "Self-service Kiosk for Contact

Information Modification” or the “Integrated Self-service Kiosk”. Besides, applicants can use the “Integrated Self-service Kiosk” to help their underage children or persons under their guardianship to change their contact information in the resident identity card record.

- iv. Persons who are aged 18 or above and holding a contactless electronic identity card can download “DSI Service Station” mobile application with their NFC-enabled Android devices, and lodge the application for changing their contact information after finishing the procedures as instructed by the application and successfully verifying their personal identity.

*If applicants are under the age of 18, one of their parents must sign the application form and a photocopy of one of their parents’ valid identification documents must be submitted.

19. What should the cardholder do if the chip is detached from the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card?

Ans: If the chip is detached from the identity card, the cardholder has to go through relevant formalities for replacement at the Identification Services Bureau in person.

20. Does it require extra charges for the re-issuance of the identity card due to chip damage?

Ans: The cardholder can bring his/her identity card for examination at the Identification Services Bureau. It does not require extra charges for the re-issuance of the identity card due to the issue of chip quality.

21. Can a cardholder enter Hong Kong if the chip of his/her Macao SAR Resident Identity Card is detached?

Ans: No, he/she cannot. The cardholder should replace his/her identity card as soon as possible. If there is a need to enter Hong Kong, he/she can apply for a “Visit Permit for Residents of Macao SAR to Hong Kong SAR”.

22. What is the latest collection date of the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card?

Ans: If the identity card is not collected within 6 months from the date of issuance, the card will be destroyed. Therefore applicants are advised to collect the identity card as soon as possible.

23. If the applicant has once possessed the Macao Identity Card issued by PSP or BIE, can he/she apply for the Macao SAR Permanent Resident Identity Card directly?

Ans: No, he/she cannot. The applicant should first lodge an application for the Certificate of Entitlement to the Right of Abode in the Macao SAR for verifying his/her right of abode in Macao. Regarding the application formalities of the Certificate of Entitlement to the Right of Abode in the Macao SAR, please visit our website www.dsi.gov.mo.

24. Notes for Macao SAR Resident Identity Card (BIR) holders

Ans: (A) The BIR is embedded with an integrated circuit (chip), please keep it in a good condition: (1) Please keep your BIR in a plastic holder and remove the plastic holder before using your BIR. (2) Please do not place your BIR in high temperature environments, e.g. under the exposure to the sun or beside high heat stoves, etc. (3) Please do not bend or abrade your BIR, e.g. clean it with washing machines or put it in the back pocket of trousers alone, etc. If your BIR is damaged due to improper use, you will have to apply for a new BIR at your own expense.

(B) The Macao SAR Resident card is the property of Macao SAR Government, please keep your BIR in safe custody. The replacement of BIR would cost you both money and time. If you lose your BIR,

please report to the police at once.

(C) The characteristic of your fingerprints are stored in the chip on the BIR. If your fingers are wounded, peeling, or their prints are unclear at the time of enrolling or verifying your fingerprint, you may have difficulties in using the fingerprint-verification facilities in the future. At that time, you will need to use substitute facilities which do not require fingerprint verification. For instance, if you cannot get access to the data in the chip by fingerprint-verification, you may input password to verify your identity instead of verifying fingerprint.

(D) Please be aware of the expiry date on the BIR, and renew it within 6 months prior to the expiry date. However, holders of BIR which is valid for life do not need to replace their identity card, the date of validity is represented as “----” at the bottom left corner of the BIR.

(E) The PIN letter is obtained together with the BIR. For security reason, please do not keep your BIR and the PIN letter (or the PIN) together.

(F) If you change your address and phone number, please inform this Bureau as soon as possible.

25. Can applicant who is holding a disability assessment registration card apply for exemption of application fee when applying for the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card?

Ans: Pursuant to the stipulations of Article 34 of Administrative Regulation No.23/2002, the Director of the Identification Services Bureau can exempt persons who are lack of financial capability from relevant application fees in accordance with the supporting documents provided by other government entities or the applicant. Therefore, persons who are holding a disability assessment registration card are exempt from relevant application fees provided that they declare themselves to be financial incapable.

26. When was the contactless electronic identity card first issued?

Ans: The Macao SAR Government has been issuing the Macao SAR contactless electronic identity card to Macao residents since 31 October 2013 and no longer issued the contact-based electronic identity card since then.

27. Can Macao residents replace their identity card with the contactless electronic identity card prior to the expiry of their document?

Ans: Citizens can still use their current contact-based electronic identity cards until the expiry of their document. Holders of the contact-based electronic identity card can lodge the renewal application six months prior to the expiry of their identity cards. In accordance with relevant laws and regulations, expired contact-based electronic identity cards are considered as invalid. Therefore, persons who need to renew their identity card should lodge an application for the contactless electronic identity card timely.

28. Do all Macao residents need to replace their contact-based electronic identity card with the contactless electronic identity card?

Ans: If the validity date is shown as “-----” on the contact-based electronic identity card, it means that the identity card is permanently valid and the holder does not need to replace it. (See Question 1 of the “Macao SAR Resident Identity Card” section)

29. How can Macao residents renew their electronic identity card?

Ans: 1) Residents can lodge the renewal application at the traditional counter of the Identification Services Bureau. In advance of lodging the application, the applicants have to make an appointment or obtain a number-tag in person at the Identification Services Bureau.

2) Residents can lodge the application for renewing their PERMENANT resident identity card at the self-service kiosks. Appointment or number-tag is not needed for using the self-service kiosks.

When lodging the application, applicants need to go through processes including reading identity card data, taking on-site photo, scanning identity card and photo, enrolling and verifying fingerprints and signing on the digital signature pad.

3) Residents can request on-site service from the Identification Services Bureau to renew their identity card. Applicants or their relatives can apply for the on-site service by letter or in person at this Bureau. Upon approval, this Bureau will send officers to the location (Macao only) provided by the applicant to complete the renewal application formalities.

30. Who are eligible to use the self-service kiosks for renewing their resident identity cards? How is the application process?

Ans: Target users of the self-service for renewing resident identity card are electronic Macao SAR Permanent Resident Identity Card holders who are at the age of 18 or above. Eligible applicants can renew their resident identity card with the self-service kiosks within 6 months prior to the expiry date of their resident identity card. Applicants just need to follow the instructions given by the kiosks to go through the application process, including verifying and enrolling fingerprints, taking onsite photo, scanning identity card and signing on the digital signature pad. Besides, applicants may also scan their own photo for the use of the card face photo if they want. At Last, applicants have to pay the application fee by electronic payment tools or at the service counter to complete the whole application. If necessary, the applicants may need to have height measurement and ten digital fingerprint impressions.

The above-mentioned kiosks are not applicable to persons who need to modify their personal information (excluding address, telephone number, occupation and information of emergency contact person), persons who lost their document or interdicted persons.

31. Is there any changes in the design of the contactless electronic identity card?

Ans: The contactless electronic identity card adopts the original design of the contact-based electronic identity card but with a memory chip embedded in the card body.

32. What are the changes in the information on the front of the contactless electronic identity card?

Ans: There is no change in the information on the front of the identity card. Due to the reason that the embedded chip does not occupy any space of the card face, it increases the usable space of the front of the identity card. Therefore, the information on the card face is arranged as follows:

(1) Textual descriptions of personal information are added to the front of the contactless electronic identity card. For instance, “Surname”, “Name”, “CCC” (i.e. Name in Chinese Commercial Code), “Height”, “Date of Birth”, “Date of 1st Issuance”, “Date of Current Issuance” and “Date of Validity”.

(2) The surname and the given name of the holder is displayed in their respective fields and no longer separated by “ , ” (i.e. comma).

33. What are the strengths of the contactless electronic identity card?

Ans: (1) The contactless electronic identity card has advantages over the contact-based electronic identity card in various aspects. Also, it provides added convenience and ease of use for the cardholder. With a memory chip embedded in the card body of the contactless electronic identity card, it can protect the chip from impact and damages from the environment, making the identity card more durable.

(2) The security of contactless electronic identity card is further enhanced and the speed of reading the chip data is much faster than contact-based electronic identity card.

34. After the issuance of the contactless electronic identity card, how is the usage and application

of the new and the former electronic identity cards?

Ans: Both new and former electronic identity cards are applicable to all government entities and self-services. All related systems have been upgraded to be compatible with the contactless electronic identity card.

35. Can contactless electronic identity card holders use the Automated Passenger Clearance System?

Ans: Yes, residents who have replaced their contact-based electronic identity cards with contactless electronic identity cards can use the automated passenger clearance system to enter or exit Macao.

36. Do residents need to conduct enrollment again for using the Hong Kong e-Channel after replacing their contact-based electronic identity card with contactless electronic identity card?

Ans: For Macao residents who have enrolled for the Hong Kong e-Channel service, if they replaced their identity cards due to normal renewal, they do not need to re-enroll for using the Hong Kong e-Channel service. However, if they replaced their identity cards due to loss of identity card or alteration of personal information (such as holder's name, date of birth or parents' names), re-enrolment is required after the replacement of Macao resident identity card.

Macao SAR Travel Documents

1. If the applicant is residing abroad, can he/she apply for the Macao SAR Travel Documents by post?

Ans: Yes, he/she can. If the applicant is residing abroad, he/she can either authorize a person who is living in Macao to request for an application form at the "Collection Counter" at Identification Services Bureau or request for the application form by post.

2. What travel document is needed if Macao resident wishes to travel to the Hong Kong SAR?

Ans:

(1) Eligible Macao SAR permanent residents holding electronic Macao SAR Permanent Resident Identity Card can enter and exit the Hong Kong SAR as visitors without producing any other travel documents or filling in any arrival/departure card. Pursuant to the existing Hong Kong SAR immigration requirements, nationals of certain countries are required to obtain a visa in prior before entering the Hong Kong SAR. These individuals, though possessing a valid electronic Macao SAR Permanent Resident Identity Card, are still subject to prior assessment and approval in order to enjoy the abovementioned facilitations.

(2) Chinese or Portuguese nationals holding a Macao SAR non-Permanent Resident Identity Card can apply for the "Visit Permit for Residents of Macao SAR to Hong Kong SAR" at the Identification Services Bureau in order to travel to Hong Kong.

3. If a Macao resident travels to Hong Kong SAR, what is the maximum period of stay in Hong Kong SAR?

Ans: : By presenting an electronic Macao SAR Permanent Resident Identity Card, the Macao SAR permanent resident is allowed to stay in the Hong Kong SAR as a visitor for a maximum period of 180 days provided that the immigration requirements are duly fulfilled. For a Macao SAR non-permanent resident entering Hong Kong with his/her «Visit Permit for Residents of Macao SAR to HKSAR», he/she is allowed to stay in the Hong Kong SAR as a visitor for a maximum period of 30 days provided that the immigration requirements are duly fulfilled.

4. What is the validity period of a « Macao SAR Passport»?

Ans: The validity period of « Macao SAR Passport» is 10 years for holders aged 18 or above, and 5 years for holders aged under 18.

5. Is it necessary to apply for a visa when traveling to Taiwan Region?

Ans: Macao residents can contact the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Macao for relevant visa details, tel: (853)28306289.

Nationality Application

1. Does an applicant need to renounce his/her foreign nationality before lodging the application for naturalization as a Chinese national or restoration of Chinese nationality?

Ans: To avoid becoming a stateless person, the applicant does not need to renounce his/her original foreign nationality in advance. If the application for naturalization as a Chinese national or restoration of Chinese nationality is approved, the applicant has to submit proof of renouncing the foreign nationality within 6 months upon the receipt of notification from this Bureau.

2. For the nationality application of minors, can the application be signed by one of his/her parents?

Ans: Due to the reason that nationality application concerns the minor's significant interest, both parents must sign the application for their underage children.

3. Can Macao SAR non-permanent residents of foreign nationality apply for naturalization as a Chinese national?

Ans: No, they cannot. Only Macao SAR permanent resident who is a person of foreign nationality or who is a stateless person can apply for naturalization as a Chinese national.

4. Can applicants apply for naturalization as a Chinese national if they do not have a near relative who is a Chinese national?

Ans: If applicants do not have a near relative who is a Chinese national, they should have legitimate reasons to apply for naturalization as a Chinese national. Legitimate reasons include whether they have resided in Macao for a long time, whether they grew up in Macao, whether they have connection with China, whether they have the knowledge of the Chinese language, whether they are fond of Chinese culture and so on.

5. Who are considered as the near relatives in the nationality application?

Ans: Near relatives includes spouse, parents, children and siblings of the applicant.

6. Under what circumstances should the persons who are applying for naturalization as a Chinese national submit a certificate of criminal record issued by the competent authority in the place of origin of the applicant?

Ans: For the applicant who had lived in other country or territory for 6 months or longer before settling in Macao and who had reached the age of 16 or above when living there, he/she has to submit a certificate of criminal record which is issued within 90 days from its issuance date by the competent authority in the place of his/her origin.

7. Can Macao SAR non-permanent residents of foreign nationality apply for restoration of Chinese nationality if they once held Chinese nationality?

Ans: Yes, they can. Applicants should provide proof that they once held Chinese nationality, such as a

birth certificate, Chinese passport or certificate of renunciation of Chinese nationality.

8. When applying for renunciation of Chinese nationality, can the applicants only submit proof of having applied for naturalization as a national of another country?

Ans: When applying for renunciation of Chinese nationality, the applicants should submit proof of having acquired other nationality or proof of the need to renounce his/her Chinese nationality.

9. After the application for renunciation of Chinese nationality is approved, can the applicant retain his/her Macao SAR Passport?

Ans: No, the applicant shall lose his/her Chinese nationality upon approval of the application for renunciation of Chinese nationality. Therefore, he/she is no longer eligible to apply for the Macao SAR Passport and must return his/her Macao SAR Passport to the Identification Services Bureau for cancellation.

10. What persons can make choose between Chinese nationality and Portuguese nationality?

Ans: According to Paragraph 2 of Article 1 of Explanations of Some Questions by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Concerning the Implementation of the Nationality Law of the People's Republic of China in the Macao Special Administrative Region, a Macao SAR resident who is of both Chinese and Portuguese descents may select Chinese nationality or Portuguese nationality based on his/her wish. When lodging the application for selecting Chinese nationality or Portuguese nationality, applicants are required to provide a declaration of having both Chinese and Portuguese descents.

11. May the Macao SAR residents who are of both Chinese and Portuguese descents retain their Portuguese passport if they have chosen Chinese nationality?

Ans: Yes, they can. These residents may retain their Portuguese passport as travel documents after they have chosen Chinese nationality. However, they will not be entitled to Portuguese consular protection in the Macao Special Administrative Region and other parts of the People's Republic of China.

12. Following to the previous question, may the applicants apply for the Macao SAR Passport if they have chosen Portuguese nationality?

Ans: No, they cannot. Applicants who have chosen Portuguese nationality no longer possess Chinese nationality. Therefore, they are not eligible to apply for the Macao SAR Passport.

13. Who can apply for changing nationality?

Ans: For original Chinese nationals of the Macao SAR who returned to Macao from abroad before or after the establishment of the Macao SAR and who possess other foreign nationality, they can request to change their nationality to other foreign nationality. However, they will no longer possess Chinese nationality once they have made such change.

Certificate of Criminal Record

1. If the applicant who possesses a Macao SAR Resident Identity Card is not in Macao, can he/she authorize a representative to apply for the Certificate of Criminal Record on his/her behalf?

Ans: Yes, he/she can. The applicant can authorize a representative to apply for the Certificate of Criminal Record by duly filling out and signing an authorization form (according to the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card) and submitting a photocopy of the applicant's Macao SAR Resident Identity Card and the original identification document of the representative. Besides, the applicant should

indicate the purpose of the certificate in the authorization form.

2. If a non-Macao resident wants to apply for the Certificate of Criminal Record, what should he/she do?

Ans: The applicant can lodge an application at this Bureau by producing proof of residence/stay in Macao and other valid identification documents, for instance the original copy of an “Non-Resident Worker’s Permit” (holder of “Non-Resident Worker’s Identity Card” is required to submit a photocopy or a proof of cancellation) and a valid travel document or a notice of residence permit issued by the Immigration Department of the Public Security Police Force.

3. Can a non-Macao resident authorize a representative to apply for the Certificate of Criminal Record on his/her behalf?

Ans: Yes, he/she can. The authorized representative must provide necessary documents for the application of the applicant including proof of residence/stay in Macao and other valid identification documents of the applicant, a valid authorization letter (applicant must sign according to the identification document provided) and a full clear set of ten fingerprint impressions. If there is not any signature on the applicant’s identification documents, he/she can provide an authorization letter with a notarized signature or other identification documents affixed with the signature of the applicant for our verification. (Please note that if the applicant holds a Hong Kong SAR identity card, which is a document without any signature of the holder, he/she must present a page of his/her Hong Kong SAR passport with the applicant’s signature at the same time.) Besides, the applicant should indicate the purpose of the certificate in the authorization letter.

4. Can an applicant apply for the Certificate of Criminal Record if his/her Macao SAR Resident Identity Card has already expired?

Ans: Yes, he/she can. The certificate will indicate that the applicant’s Macao SAR Resident Identity Card has already expired. Besides, the applicant can request to be issued the certificate after the renewal of his/her Macao SAR Resident Identity Card.

5. Can I authorize my relatives in Macao to pay the postal application fees on my behalf?

Ans: Applicants can authorize the relatives in Macao to pay the relevant fees by providing the name and contact number of the relatives in the application letter to DSI. DSI will notify the authorized person to pay the fees at DSI when all the application materials are received.

6. If the applicant was sentenced by the Subordinate Court to an imprisonment of 2 months, a probation of 1 year and a driving ban of 1 year, will this criminal record be shown on his/her certificate?

Ans: In pursuant to the stipulations of Article 21 e) of Decree No. 27/96/M, in normal situation, the above-mentioned criminal record will generally be shown on the applicant’s certificate if he/she lodged the application during the period of the driving ban, otherwise it will not be shown on the certificate for applications after the banning period, except it is used for the usage stipulated by other special regulations. (If the certificate is used for purpose stipulated by certain special regulations, e.g. application for being a private security officer or a position in the Public Security Force of Macao, references should be made to the relevant stipulations of the special regulations for more details.)

7. In case the applicant was sentenced to an imprisonment of 7 months, what should he/she do if he/she does not want the criminal record to appear on his/her certificate?

Ans: According to the stipulations of Article 27 of Decree No. 27/96/M, the applicant can lodge an application to the Subordinate Court for the exemption from the transcription.

8. If the applicant was sentenced by the Subordinate Court and he/she has already fulfilled the penalty to which he/she is sentenced. When will the criminal record be totally removed (i.e. expunging the criminal record)?

Ans: In accordance with the stipulations of Article 24 of Decree No. 27/96/M,

- (1) If the sentence to imprisonment is not longer than 5 years, the applicant's civil rights will be automatically restored legally in 5 years upon the fulfillment of all penalties provided that there is no recommitment. In such a case, the criminal record will be removed (i.e. expunging the criminal record).
- (2) If the sentence to imprisonment exceeds 5 years, the applicant's civil rights will be automatically restored legally in 10 years upon the fulfillment of all penalties provided that there is no recommitment.. In such a case, the criminal record will be removed (i.e. expunging the criminal record).
- (3) In case of minor breaches, the applicant's civil rights will be automatically restored in 1 year upon the fulfillment of all penalties provided that there is no recommitment, the criminal record will be removed (i.e. expunging the criminal record).

9. If the applicant was sentenced to imprisonment for less than 5 years and he/she has fulfilled all penalties, what should he/she do if he/she does not expect to include the criminal record in the certificate before removing the criminal record?

Ans: In pursuant to the stipulations of Article 25 and 26 of Decree No. 27/96/M, applicant can lodge an application for judicial restoration of civil rights at the Subordinate Court in 2 years upon the fulfillment of all penalties. Besides, he/she can make the application at the Subordinate Court in 4 years upon the fulfillment of all penalties if the imprisonment exceeds 5 years.

10. What should an applicant do if he/she wants to know the removal date of his/her criminal record (i.e. expungement of criminal record)?

Ans: An applicant can lodge an application in person at the Certificate Counter of the Identification Services Bureau and this Bureau will later issue a letter to the applicant in regard to the removal date of his/her criminal record (i.e. expunging the criminal record). Besides, this application is free of charge.

Others

1. Is it necessary to get a tag number in advance of using the services provided by the Identification Services Bureau?

Ans: Yes, applicants can obtain a tag number in advance through the following methods:

- (1) obtain a tag number of the day or make an appointment at DSI's website;
- (2) make a booking through DSI's appointment hotline (853)2837-0777 or (853)2837-0888; or
- (3) obtain a tag number of the day or make an appointment in person at DSI. (Please note that the tag numbers are assigned on a first-come-first-serve basis.)

2. How long does Identification Services Bureau take to process the suggestions, comments or complaints?

Ans: Identification Services Bureau will follow up the suggestions, comments or complaints within 45 days.

3. How many working days are needed to process for the email enquiries?

Ans: Identification Services Bureau will have the emails replied within 5 working days. Please note that due to the protection of the privacy of personal data, if there is any personal data involved in the enquiry, Identification Services Bureau will reply by letter.

4. Where do the <City Guide> kiosks located?

Ans: The kiosks are situated in the following locations:

Service Center of IACM in Central, Immigration Department, Building of C.E.M, Service Center of IACM in Taipa, Service center of IACM in Toi San, Macao Cultural Center, Integrated Service Center of IACM (2 kiosks), ground floor of China Plaza, Service Center of IACM in Areia Preta, Cable Car Station of Guia Hill and Vehicle Inspection Station of IACM.

5. Can a Macao SAR Resident Identity card holder be able to print out the personal data that is stored in the chip of the identity card through the aforesaid <City Guide> kiosks?

Ans: Yes, a Macao SAR Resident Identity Cardholder is able to print out the personal data stored in the chip of the identity card by entering a “general password” (a six-number password used for accessing personal data in the chip) provided in the PIN letter. Such data includes the other names of the holder, name of the parents, marital status etc.

6. What should the overseas spouse of Macao resident (except resident of Mainland China) do to apply for residence in the Macao SAR?

Ans: If the overseas spouse (except spouse living in the Mainland) of Macao resident who wishes to reside in the Macao SAR, he/she should apply for a “Residence Authorization” (Certificado de Residencia) at the Immigration Department (Servico de Migracao) of the Public Security Police Force, and then apply for a Macao SAR Non-Permanent Resident Identity Card at Identification Services Bureau with the receipt of “Residence Authorization”. Macao SAR Non-Permanent Resident Identity Cardholders can apply for a permanent one until they have ordinarily resided in Macao for 7 consecutive years. For further details about “Residence Authorization” application, please contact the Immigration Department by their hotline: (853)2872 5488 or (853)2872 5499.

7. What should a Macao resident do to apply for residence in Macao SAR on behalf of his/her spouse in the Mainland?

Ans: The applicant can make an enquiry to the Exit-Entry Administration Department of the Public Security Bureau of the People's Republic of China for details.

8. What are the formalities if a Macao-born applicant who has migrated to Hong Kong and now wishes to apply for the re-issuance of Macao birth certificate?

Ans: For enquiries about Macao birth certificate, please contact Civil Registry (Conservatória do Registo Civil) located at Rua do Campo, n° 162, Edifício Administração Pública, 2° andar (Tel: (853)2855 0110).

9. What documents are needed for the application for the Portugal Identity Card and Portugal Passport?

Ans: For details about Portugal Identity Card and Portugal Passport, please contact the Consulate General of Portugal in Macao located at Rua Pedro Nolasco da Silva n° 45 (Tel: (853)2835 6660).

10. What documents are needed for the application for the Home Return Permit?

Ans: For details about the Home Return Permit application, please contact China Travel Service (Macao) Ltd. located at Avenida do Dr. Rodrigo Rodrigues, Edifício Nam Kwong, 1° andar (tel: (853)2870 0888).

11. What are the formalities for the re-issuance of the PIN letter of the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card if it is lost?

Ans: In case the PIN letter is lost, holders of the Macao SAR Resident Identity Card can bring their Macao SAR Resident Identity Card to the Identification Services Bureau for resetting the password.

12. Do holders of the People's Republic of China passport or foreign passport need any visa to enter/exit the Macao SAR?

Ans: For details about entering/exiting or temporary staying in the Macao SAR, please contact the Immigration Department located at Immigration Services Building, Travessa Um do Cais de Pac On, Taipa, Macao; (Tel: (853)2872 5488 or (853)2872 5499).

13. Where can citizens find the “Identity Card Verification Self-Service Kiosks” if they wish to verify the identity cards of their staff?

Ans: Identity Card Verification Self-Service Kiosks are installed at the following location:
Ground Floor of the China Plaza, 2nd Floor of the Hong Kong Macau Ferry Terminal, Emergency Unit and Out-patient Consultation of Kiang Wu Hospital, Islands Public Notary Office in Taipa, 1st Floor Departure area of the Macao International Airport, Government Services Center in Areia Preta (Centro de Serviços da RAEM).

Citizens can verify the identity cards by inserting the electronic identity card into the card reader of the self-service kiosk and print out the verification result after verification.

14. What kinds of payment method does the Identification Services Bureau provide?

Ans: Citizens can make the payment for their application with UnionPay QuickPass and Macao Pass at all self-service kiosks which require applicants to pay application fees. Besides, they can also use other payment methods (such as cash, credit cards and debit cards issued by Bank of China Macau Branch or Banco Nacional Ultramarino) to pay application fees at service counters.