HKUST Summer
Visa Instructions & Checklist

Important notes:

• Students who have the right to abode in Hong Kong and a valid Hong Kong Permanent Residence Identity (HKID) Card **do not** need to apply for a visa to Hong Kong. Submit a front and back copy of your HKID card.

• All other students are required to apply for a student visa to study in Hong Kong by following these instructions.

• The host institution will act as visa sponsor for all international students. This means that they will submit your visa application and supporting documents to the Hong Kong Immigration Department on your behalf.

• According to Hong Kong Immigration policy, nationals from Afghanistan, Albania, Cambodia, Cuba, Laos, Korea (Democratic People's Republic of), Nepal and Vietnam are not allowed to undertake studies in Hong Kong and will not be issued a student visa.

• Students holding a passport from China (PRC) must complete the Declaration on Country of Departure to Hong Kong form and take the appropriate steps to obtain the required travel documents.

• Students holding a passport from China (PRC), Macau, and/or Taiwan may be asked to submit additional paperwork (e.g. EEP, census record, ID card) to support their visa application.

• The student visa process takes several weeks after you have been officially admitted by the host institution. Once the student visa has been approved, a visa label and official immigration letter will be issued for you. This will be sent to you via FedEx or similar delivery service. You will stick the label on a blank page in your passport prior to entering Hong Kong, and retain the letter to show an Immigration Officer when entering Hong Kong.

• When booking your flight, keep in mind that your student visa may not arrive until shortly before the start of the program. You are advised not to travel until you have received your student visa.

Complete and assemble the following items.

1) **Visa Application Form ID995A.** HKUST will provide a link to the form.

2) **One Official Passport Style Photograph.** See Item 7 of your Pre-Departure Checklist.

3) **One copy of the identification page in your passport**. See Item 8 of your Pre-Departure Checklist.

4) **Proof of Financial Support.** It may take some time for you to procure the necessary documents for this requirement, so plan accordingly. You must have financial proof for the amount calculated on the visa application (ex. US$1,600). A current letter from your bank or bank statement with the equivalent amount in your account will be sufficient. You can also combine accounts, but must have a letter or bank statement for each one. If you are on financial aid or receiving a scholarship, a letter from the Financial Aid Office or Scholarship Organization stating your total award will suffice. You may also use a bank statement or letter from your parent/guardian account; however, they must complete the Parental Support Letter. Attach supporting financial documents to the visa application.

   **Parental Financial Support Letter** (if applicable). If you use a letter or bank statement from your parent’s bank account, your parents must also sign a letter stating that they agree to support you while in Hong Kong. HKUST will provide a link to the form.