

# *Pre-Departure Notes for Non-Local Taught Postgraduate Students 2025/26*



Before  
departure



Stay  
connected  
with us



Upon  
arrival



# Before departure

1

## Travel Documents, Student Visa & No Objection Letter (for non-local student legal employment)

- Please make sure that you have already received your Student Visa, and valid travel documents (e.g. passport or the Exit-entry Permit for Travelling to and from Hong Kong and Macao [往來港澳通行證]).
- Eligible non-local students will be notified individually by Immigration Department with a “**No Objection Letter**” (NOL) upon approval of entry applications for legal employment during their studies in HK.

2

## Important points to note when traveling to HK

- Schedule your transportation arrangements once you have obtained your student visa.
- **Purchase travel insurance** for your trip to Hong Kong on your own, if applicable.



While you will be covered by the basic insurance coverage (Group Personal Accident Insurance) for joining PolyU activities during your stay in Hong Kong, please arrange Group Medical (GM) Insurance on your own, if needed. You may reference to **Register of Licensed Insurance Intermediaries** when sourcing.





### 3 Accommodation in Hong Kong



- Taught Postgraduate Students are NOT eligible for University-managed accommodations including Student Halls of Residence.
- Non-local Taught Postgraduate students will need to make their own accommodation arrangement in Hong Kong. Please find information on **off-campus accommodation and Tenancy Agreements** in Hong Kong.

# 4

## Packing checklist



- Valid travel documents
- Student visa
- No Objection Letter (NOL)
- Residential address proof in your home country (e.g. letters from government departments, statements by banks) (optional)
- Medical records, if applicable
- Documents with details of your insurance policy issued in your home country, if applicable
- Photocopies of the aforementioned documents
- 5 copies of your passport photos (optional)



- Your own beddings (e.g. pillow covers and quilt) for hall residences
- Cold resistant clothes
- Shower proof jacket
- You can expect sunny and comfortable temperatures in November and December; occasional cold fronts with temperatures may drop below 10 °C in urban areas in January and February; occasional mist and showers in March and April.
- Tropical cyclones of different intensities may strike Hong Kong in May to November.
- There is no heating system in Hong Kong while air-conditioning is common within PolyU campus and most buildings around Hong Kong.



Check the weather details on **The Hong Kong Observatory** website and pack clothes accordingly.



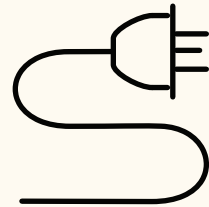
- Initial petty cash
- Credit cards



- Please check if your credit card can be used in Hong Kong and if any additional charges will apply to cash withdrawal at ATM machines, etc.
- **Cost of living references**
- **Understanding HK currency**



The standard electrical voltage is 220V and 13A 3-pin flat top plugs are used in Hong Kong.



- Converter plugs



- First-aid and medicine you need to take regularly
- Your own laptop (Free Wi-Fi services are available in campus areas for PolyU students)
- One set of clothing or dress that is particular to your cultural or ethnic heritage (for certain events at PolyU that celebrates specific cultures)

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## Programme registration

- You should have received an e-mail/SMS on the offer. You can then have access to your application and check the online “Notice of Offer”.
- Please refer to the Registration Procedures stated on your online “Notice of Offer” for programme registration and you will get your Student Number afterwards.



*Complete Programme Registration as soon as possible according to the schedule.*

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## PolyU Student NetID registration

- After completing the programme registration, use your Student Number to **register your PolyU Student NetID**.
- Your Student NetID allows you to access PolyU online facilities and services including University Portal, student email account, etc.
- All students must complete the **Online Survey(s) and the Mandatory Online Training Modules on Preventing Sexual Harassment and Anti-deception** in eAdmissions before collecting your Student ID Card.



# Upon arrival

## 1 Getting to PolyU

- PolyU locates in the city centre, check out **how** to get there.

- **Campus map and surroundings**
- **Campus environment**
- **Virtual Campus Tour**

## 2 Getting Student ID card

- At the campus entrance gate, scan the QR code that you received after booking the Student ID Card collection timeslot for first-time campus access. 31 August 2022 (Monday – Friday)



21 August – 1 September 2025 (Monday– Friday)



Rm VS012, Fong Shu Chuen Hall, G/F, Block VS,  
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

3

## Information Session

- To allow all non-local Taught Postgraduate Students to get familiar with the University and Hong Kong, a mandatory information session will be arranged for you.
  - Useful tips on campus life
  - Essential information related to living in Hong Kong
  - Campus Tour



20 August 2025 (Wednesday)  
3.30pm (HongKongTime)



Jockey Club Auditorium,  
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Please refer to the email that will be sent to you later.

4

## Getting an Octopus card

- Octopus is a contactless payment tool which is easy to use, you can use it for public transport, shopping and more.
- You can get an Octopus at MTR Customer Service Centres.



*Full-time students under the age of 25 can apply for a Personalised Octopus with "Student Status" to enjoy **concessionary fares** for most public transportation. The **Application form** will be available on the MTR website in early September.*

## 5 Purchasing pre-paid SIM card

- You can visit the stores of mobile network operators to purchase a SIM card for your mobile phone or subscribe to a monthly mobile service plan once you are settled.
- If you purchase SIM card issued by telecommunications service providers in Hong Kong, you have to complete real-name registration with your own **original identity document** so as to activate the card.
- The registration is easy and fast, you can refer to the **general registration steps** section and the **weblinks** by telecommunications service providers.

- According to the Registration of Persons Ordinance, persons aged 11 or over and has been permitted to stay in Hong Kong for more than 180 days must register for a Hong Kong Identity Card (HKID card) within 30 days of arrival.

- You are advised to make an appointment 96 working days in advance through the **Online Appointment Booking System** before visiting **Registration of Persons Offices** for services. Please bring along the **documents** to support your application.

- Once you get the HKID card, you are entitled to use the government medical services at local rates. You are required to carry your HKID card **at all times**.

## 6 Applying for Hong Kong Identity Card

## 7 Opening bank account

- You may receive fees refund, scholarship and other payments from the University from time to time. You need to have a local bank account number because all such payments will be arranged through the bank's auto-pay service.
- Opening local Hong Kong Dollar bank accounts is free. Please check the **documents** needed.

# Stay connected with us

Vibrant U-life is waiting for you, and we are here to support you and enrich your experience and learning throughout your studies at PolyU!

## Non-local Student Services Team



(852) 2766 5408



[nls.services@polyu.edu.hk](mailto:nls.services@polyu.edu.hk)



Non-local Student Services Team, Student Resources and Support Section,  
Student Affairs Office



QT308, 3/F, Chow Yei Ching Building, (Entrance at Core T),  
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University



[polyu.nlss](https://www.instagram.com/polyu.nlss)

## Official iPolyU app

Provides up-to-date information on the University programmes, library and catering facilities, news and events, contact numbers or emails, as well as quick access to the PolyU and departmental websites, PolyU App Centre, etc.

# Useful information

- Emergency contact: 999 (The Police, Fire Services Department or ambulance services)
- Anti-Scam Helpline: 18222
- List of Consulates in Hong Kong**
- Public transport app QR code

- **MTR Mobile**

MTR is a heavily patronized railway network consisting of 10 local lines. By choosing the origin and destination stations in the app, it provides you route suggestions to better plan your journey.



For Android



For iOS

- **APP 1933 – KMB/LWB (Bus)**

A smartphone app of KMB, which is a company that offers bus services in both Kowloon, the New Territories and cross-harbour, provides you tailor-made information list of bus routes as well as their estimated arrival time.



For Android



For iOS

- **Citybus (Bus)**

The mobile app of Citybus offers precise route suggestions and information for passengers.



For Android



For iOS

**(Updated as of July 2025)**

*Prepared by Non-local Student Services Team, Student Resources and Support Section, Student Affairs Office.*

*This Pre-departure Notes is for your reference only, please contact relevant parties for the latest information.*