



華人資料及諮詢中心 Chinese Information and Advice Centre

Charity No. 註冊號碼 : 800646 Company No. 註冊號碼 : 2306765

Spring 2011

Immigration

UK takeaway jobs ban for immigrants from outside the European Economic Area (EEA)

Migrants from outside the EEA will no longer be allowed to work in the UK as chefs in takeaway restaurants, the government has said.

The ruling comes after the Migration Advisory Committee (Mac) was asked to review the country's skill shortages. A similar ban will apply to workers such as hairdressers, beauty salon managers and estate agents from April.

The Home Office has already announced that only graduate-level non-European Economic Area (EEA) workers will be allowed to apply to come to the UK. Now it has reduced the list of jobs where there is a skills shortage in the UK by eight occupations, with senior care workers, sheep shearers and pipe welders removed, following advice from the UK Border Agency's Mac.

Chefs will need to have graduate-level qualifications, with a minimum of five years' experience in an equivalent role, and need to earn at least £28,260 per year after their accommodation and food.

Those from outside the EEA wanting to work in fast food outlets and takeaways will not be allowed in to the UK at all.

Immigration Minister Damian Green commented "This government is also determined to get people back to work and provide business with the skills they need from the British workforce - reducing the need for migrants at the same time as we reduce their number."

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-12733899>

UK Border Agency (UKBA) Recent Changes

Subject to Parliamentary approval, the rules for settlement in the UK will change on 6 April 2011. UKBA will tighten the current settlement criteria by introducing the following changes:

1. A new criminality threshold. Applicants will need to be clear of unspent convictions when they apply for settlement.
2. A new income requirement. Tier 1 (General) migrants will need to meet the same income criteria that applied when they last extended their permission to stay in the UK. Migrants who have been in Tier 2 (General) or Tier 2 (Intra company transfer), or who have held work permits, will need to be paid the appropriate wages as stated in our [codes of practice](#).
3. Reform of the English language requirement. Migrants in Tier 1, Tier 2 and their precursor routes will need to pass the Life in the UK test rather than an ESOL with citizenship course. Transitional arrangements will apply.
4. An accelerated route to settlement for Tier 1 (Investor) and Tier 1 (Entrepreneur) migrants who meet [enhanced criteria](#).

Revised policy guidance for UKBA staff will come into effect on 6 April when the Immigration Rules change, subject to Parliamentary approval. UKBA have published [draft versions](#) of these revised guidance documents.

A [statement of changes to the Immigration Rules \(HC 863\)](#) contains full details of all the changes due to come into effect on 6 April 2011. You can also download relevant document from the UKBA website.



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Refugee & Asylum Project

Applications made before March 2007 (Legacy Cases)

UKBA is handling older asylum applications, also known as legacy cases, which include those made before 5 March 2007. These are dealt with by the case resolution directorate (CRD).

UKBA has established about forty cases resolution teams to deal specifically with the unresolved paper and electronic case records. UKBA aims to conclude all of the incomplete cases by the summer of 2011.

They have to decide whether applicants qualify for permission to stay in the United Kingdom or should be refused asylum and removed from the country. Human rights factors will be part of this assessment.

Each case has been allocated to a case owner. Initially case owners will check computer records against paper files, correcting data errors and deleting duplicate records.

Then they will check criminal records and any individual who has committed a serious offence will be considered for deportation. The remaining cases will then be considered.

For further information you should contact the case resolution directorate.

You can look up the contact details for the team processing your asylum application. This can only be used if you made your claim before 5 March 2007. If you made your application on or after 5 March 2007, your case will belong to a regional asylum team - you should contact your case owner for more information.

You need to know your full Home Office reference number to look up your case, alternatively please contact the immigration enquiry bureau.

To look up your case, enter your reference number in the box on the following link then click 'Search'.

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/asylum/oldercases/who-is-processing-my-case/>

UKBA will give priority, in the following order, to asylum applicants who:

- may pose a risk to the public;
- can be easily removed from the UK;
- are receiving public support; and
- may qualify to be allowed to stay in this country.

Battery Back

Battery Recycling

CIAC is working with **BatteryBack** to promote environmental friendly workspace. You can join too by putting the old batteries in the bin provided outside our office.



Mobile Phone Recycling

CIAC also works with **Recycle4Charity** to recycle any old, faulty or unused mobile phones or printer cartridges.

Mobiles and printer cartridges donated will be reconditioned and sold to developing countries to help their communications infrastructure.

Mobile phones that cannot be reconditioned are recycled and disposed properly.

This is not only environmentally friendly but also generates income for CIAC to give free legal advice or projects in supporting the disadvantaged Chinese living in the UK.

To donate, please leave the goods at the CIAC office or post to this freepost address:

Recycle4Charity
(Ref: C19975 CIAC)
Freepost, SAE 14098
Lewes, BN8 5BR

Please telephone 0845 3131 868 for Ben or Xiaoxi alternatively visit our website for more information.

Women Support Services

Women's Support Workshops

The Chinese Information and Advice Centre is currently running a series of workshops, open to all and free of charge. These friendly, informal discussions are aimed at providing women with information and advice about the services available to them. The workshops usually consist of a brief introduction, followed by questions, discussions, activities and socialising. Until now we have workshops on benefits and welfare, police stop and search, enquiry session with professional social worker.

Our volunteer and the organiser of the workshops Celine was amazed by the progress the service users have made. I hope these workshops can help to fit into the community and improve their self esteem.

To register for future events, please contact Celine at 08453131868 or by email at info@ciac.co.uk



Don't forget the **Census 2011** is on the 27th March 2011.

Census Staffs will be at our centre on the Monday 28th March from 11am to 5pm. They will be able to help you filling in the questionnaire.

The questionnaire has to be returned by the **6th April 2011**.

WANTED

Volunteers Wanted!!

If you would like to make a difference by helping the Chinese Community, why not come to volunteer with us.

Days and hours are flexible. For more information please email to info@ciac.co.uk or call 08453131868.

Chen-Style Tai Chi



Instructor: Master Guang Ying TANG

Date: Every Sunday.

Time: 11am – 12noon

Venue: Dragon Hall Trust, 17 Stukeley Street, WC2B 5LT

Cost: £5 per session

For more information please contact Jaime at telephone no. 08453131868

Email: jaime@ciac.co.uk

CIAC's News

Fundraising

CIAC would like to thank everyone who came and supported us during the amazing Chinese New Year celebrations in London Chinatown! It was a great day full of dragon dances, music, and we raised over £1,200! Thanks to everyone who donated, your money will help us to continue to provide support to the disadvantaged Chinese people.



"CIAC receives £2800 donation from London Chinatown Lions Club"



Recently we welcomed the visit of Mr Hans Hung, the Committee Chairman of The London Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival 2010 - at its Centre to hand over a cheque for the sum of £2800 on behalf of the London Chinatown Lions Club.

Mr Hans Hung commented that the London Chinatown Lions Club participates in various fundraising projects.

He added "We are proud to support the excellent work of the Chinese Information and Advice Centre (CIAC) for the benefit of the disadvantaged in our Chinese community through a share of the proceeds from last year's Dragon Boat Festival".

Our Chairman Mr Edmond Yeo expressed his thanks and appreciation, on behalf the Trustees, Staff and Volunteers at the Centre. He said, "This sum of money will help us to continue to deliver a much needed service to our service-users who come to us for immigration advice, and support our work with refugees & asylum seekers and victims & children of domestic violence".

CIAC helped student to get back £21k from Barclays Bank

A Chinese student has successfully reclaimed over £21,000 from Barclays bank through the help of the Chinese Information and Advice Centre recently.

In October 2007, Mr Liu, a student from Shanxi, China realised he had lost a banker's draft for just over £21k issued by Barclays Bank. He had bought the draft when he closed his account so that he could open a new account at another bank. He had made a police report immediately at the time.

Mr Liu said "After my numerous inquiries and visits to the Branch, Barclays Bank agreed that the draft had not been presented, but they still refused to cancel the original draft and re issue a new one to replace the lost draft. Their reason being that a banker's draft is a negotiable instrument and anyone could accept it for payment in good faith".

CIAC assisted Mr Liu to formally take his case to the Financial Services Ombudsman in 2009. CIAC acted as an advocate for Mr Liu and helped him through the process of lodging the complaint to the Financial Ombudsman. The Financial Ombudsman ultimately advised that the bank would refund the money with interest.

Mr Yeo commented, "After almost nearly 2 years, we are pleased with the successful outcome for Mr Liu and he has been repaid back all his money with interest".



TO: