

with evidence that you have sufficient funds for the trip. Tourist visas are generally valid for three months from the date of issue and for one month after entry into China. It is possible to arrange for longer stays if the visa is obtained in Hong Kong. Visas can be extended in China at Public Security Bureau offices or through China International Travel Service agents.

Business and Working Visas

To conduct business in China, you require an "F" visa. To obtain an "F" visa, you need an official invitation from a business counterpart in China or the relevant Chinese authorities. To work in China, you require a "Z" visa. In addition to a letter of invitation, you must also submit a work permit from the Chinese Ministry of Labour and Social Security or the State Bureau of Foreign Experts. If you are applying for multiple-entry privileges or wish to stay for more than six months, you must also submit a health certificate.

Transit Visas

If you are passing through China in transit, you will require a "G" visa unless you are connecting on a continued international

flight within 24 hours and will not leave the airport area. To obtain a "G" visa, you must provide evidence of your onward trip. This may be a copy of an onward visa, or a connecting air ticket to the next country of destination. Transit visas are generally valid for 10 days.

Student Visas

Students must submit an Application Form for International Students issued by the State Education Commission of China, or a notification of admission from a university or college bearing the seal of the State Education Commission. Persons entering China on an "X" visa are not permitted to work and must obtain a residence permit from the Public Security Bureau after they arrive.

Travel to Tibet

Special permission is required to visit Tibet. Although the requirements change from time to time, obtaining permission to travel to Tibet is usually easier if you are part of an escorted group tour. Ask your Canadian travel agent to provide you with appropriate documents regarding tourist permits to Tibet.