

Singapore raises the qualifying salary criteria for dependant privileges effective 1 January 2018



The Ministry of Manpower (MOM) has announced that the qualifying salaries for Employment Pass (EP) and S Pass (SP) holders to sponsor their dependants will be raised with effect from 1 January 2018.

Why this matters

Employers and applicants applying for a new work pass need to ensure that they meet the revised criteria to bring dependants to Singapore when the change takes effect on 1 January 2018.

Background

Dependant privileges are accorded to work pass (EP and SP) holders but there are minimum salary requirements to satisfy and ensure that the work pass holder is able to support their accompanying dependants under a Dependant Pass (DP) or Long Term Visit Pass (LTVP).

Following the recent increases in the qualifying salaries for the EP and SP, it is not surprising that the DP and LTVP thresholds have followed suit. The current qualifying salaries for the DP and LTVP are S\$5,000 and S\$10,000 per month respectively, and took effect from 1 September 2015. Previously, the qualifying salaries for the DP and LTVP were S\$4,000 and S\$8,000 per month respectively.



Changes to take effect from 1 January 2018

- a) EP and SP applicants will need to earn a minimum salary of S\$6,000 per month to sponsor their spouse or children on a DP.
- b) EP and SP applicants will need to earn a minimum salary of S\$12,000 to be able to bring their parents to Singapore on a LTVP.

These changes only apply to new DP or LTVP applications lodged from 1 January 2018 onwards. DP and LTVP passes that are issued or approved before 1 January 2018 will not be affected by these changes. DP and LTVP passes that need to be renewed and were approved or issued before 1 January 2018 will also continue to be assessed based on the existing criteria if the main work pass holder remains with the same employer. Where there is a change in employer, the MOM requires a new work pass application to be lodged and accordingly, the new salary criteria would apply to applications received after 1 January 2018.

Employer and Applicant's Considerations

- Employers should ensure that their new applicants are aware of the revised qualifying salary criteria for dependant privileges prior to accepting an employment offer or assignment to Singapore.
- Review work passes eligible for renewal and lodge the renewal applications before 1 January 2018 so that DP and LTVP applications are assessed on existing criteria.

For further information, please refer to the MOM's webpage on "[Changes To Dependant Privileges for Work Pass Holders](#)"

How KPMG can help

As a committed immigration and tax advisor to our clients, we welcome any opportunity to discuss the relevance of the above matters to your business.

For further information or assistance, please contact your local Personal Tax & Global Mobility Services professional or our colleagues listed on this page.

Contact us

Chiu Wu Hong

Head of Tax

T: +65 6213 2569

E: wchiu@kpmg.com.sg

BJ Ooi

Head of Personal Tax & Global Mobility Services

T: +65 6213 2657

E: boonjinooi@kpmg.com.sg

Dennis McEvoy

Partner, Personal Tax & Global Mobility Services

T: +65 6213 2645

E: dennismcevoy@kpmg.com.sg

Jaan Woo

Senior Manager, Personal Tax & Global Mobility Services

T: +65 6213 2745

E: jaanwoo@kpmg.com.sg

Daniel Seow

Manager, Personal Tax & Global Mobility Services

T: +65 6213 2865

E: dseow@kpmg.com.sg

KPMG

16 Raffles Quay #22-00

Hong Leong Building

Singapore 048581

T: +65 6213 3388

F: +65 6220 9419

E: tax@kpmg.com.sg

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