PHOTO REQUIREMENTS
for Chinese visa Application
(Effective December 06, 2016)

General Photo Requirements

Templates: As indicated in the sample photos for digital and paper photos.

Dimensions: The digital photo should be between 354 pixels(w) x 472 pixels(h) x 560 pixels(w).
   The paper photo should be 33 mm(w) x 48 mm(h).

Color Space: RGB 24 bit true color

Image Compression: JPEG and the image file size: 40 kb - 120kb

Facial Requirements: The applicant is required to present the frontal view to the camera with
the entire head and face clearly visible. The facial expression must be neutral with eyes open,
mouth closed and ears visible. There should be no visible distortion of the facial features. There
should not be any object such as a hand or toy or another person visible on the photo.
Eyeglasses are allowed in the photo only if the lenses are not tinted and there is no glare,
shadows, or frames obscuring the eyes. The head position: ≤ 20° for left or right tilt (Yaw and
Roll) and ≤ 25° for up or down tilt (Pitch)

Head Coverings: Hats or other head coverings are only allowed if worn for religious reasons
and if they do not obscure any facial features.

Photo Quality: The photo should have no damage or impurities, no background light or shadow
over face. There should be over or under-exposure. The face should be centered in the photo
with all the features clearly visible and natural skin tone. The inter-eye distance should be > 60
pixels.

Head Size and Orientation for the Digital Photo: With the digital photo of 354 pixels(w) x 472
pixels(h) as an example, the head should be horizontally centered in the image with the face
width at 205 pixels ±14 pixels. The space from the upper edge of the image to the crown of the
head should be 10 - 70 pixels. The vertical distance from the bottom edge of the image to the
horizontal line through the centre of the eyes could be > 256 pixels. In special cases, when the
hair is too high, the voluminous hair can be trimmed off to ensure the size of the face.

Head Size and Orientation for the Digital Photo: The head width should be between 15 mm
and 22 mm and the head height, measured from the base of the chin to the crown of the head,
should be between 28 mm and 33 mm. The space between the crown and the upper edge of
the photo should be between 3 mm and 5 mm. The space between the chin and the bottom
edge of the photo should be ≥ 7 mm.

Background and Borders: The background the photo should be white or close to white with no
borders around the edge of the image.

The photo should be recent, taken within 6 months.
General Photo Requirements

- **Templates:** As indicated in the sample photos for digital and paper photos.
- **Dimensions:** The digital photo should be between 354 pixels (width) x 472 pixels (height) and 400 pixels (width) x 560 pixels (height). The paper photo should be 33 mm (width) x 48 mm (height).
- **Colour Space:** RGB 24 bit true colour.
- **Image Compression:** JPEG and the image file size: 40 KB - 120 KB.
- **Facial Requirements:** The applicant is required to present the frontal view to the camera with the entire head and face clearly visible. The facial expression must be natural with eyes open, mouth closed and ears visible. There should not be any objects, such as hand or toy, or another person visible in the photo. Eyeglasses are allowed in the photo only if the lenses are not tinted and there are no glasses, spectacles, or frames obscuring the eyes. The head position: ± 20° for left or right tilt (yaw and roll) and ± 25° for up or down tilt (pitch).
- **Head Coverings:** Hats or other head coverings are only allowed if worn for religious purposes and if they do not obscure any facial features.
- **Photo Quality:** The photo should have no damage or creases, no background light or shadow over face. There should not be over- or under-exposure. The face should be centered in the photo with all the features clearly visible and natural skin tone. The inter-eye distance should be > 60 pixels.
- **Head Size and Orientation for the Digital Photo:** With the digital photo of 354 pixels (width) x 472 pixels (height) as an example, the head should be horizontally centered in the image with the face width at 205 pixels ± 24 pixels. The space from the upper edge of the face to the upper edge of the image should be 10 - 20 pixels. The vertical distance from the bottom edge of the image to the horizontal line through the centre of the eyes should be > 256 pixels. In special cases, when the hair is too high, the voluminous hair can be trimmed off to ensure the size of the face.
- **Head Size and Orientation for the Paper Photo:** The head width should be between 25 mm and 32 mm and the head height, measured from the base of the chin to the crown of the head, should be between 26 mm and 33 mm. The space between the crown and the upper edge of the photo should be between 3 mm and 5 mm. The space between the chin and the lower edge of the photo should be 37 mm.
- **Background and Borders:** The background of the photo should be white or close to white with no borders around the edge of the image.
- **The photo should be recent, taken within 6 months.**

**Photo Examples**

- **Low contrast/blurred**
- **Under-exposed/low saturated**
- **Over-exposed/high contrast (hot spots)**
- **Unnatural skin tone**
- **Shadow across face**
- **Shadow in background**
- **Damaged or smeared**
- **Distorted-eye/eyes**
- **Red-eye**

**Head Position**

- **Too close**
- **Too far away (eye distance ~ 40 pixels)**
- **Not centered**
- **Facial features incomplete**

**Expression**

- **Mouth wide open**
- **Eyes closed**
- **Unnatural expression/eyes**

**Pose**

- **Head tilted**
- **Head not centered/looking away from camera**
- **Portrait style**
- **Head covering down or holding up**

**Eyeglasses**

- **Frames too heavy**
- **Frames covering eyes or reflection on lenses**
- **Tinted lenses**

**Ornaments/Background**

- **Wearing jewelry or ornaments**
- **Hand/gloved/unidentifiable person**
- **Background colour**
- **Glasses on identical background**

**Obscuring**

- **Stamp/marks**
- **Hair covering eyebrows, eyes or ears**
- **Face covered**

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