

**GUIDELINES FOR INDIAN STUDENTS WISHING  
TO STUDY IN CHINA**

1. China has, in recent years, become one of the preferred destinations of Indian students for pursuing higher studies, especially for M.B.B.S. courses, mainly due to the ease of admission and inexpensive tuition fees.
2. However it has been noticed that a large number of students come to China without enough information. There have also been instances of the students being misled by educational consultants /admission agents in the process.
3. Owing to these factors, it is essential that students wishing to come to China do as much research as possible to try and ensure a wise choice of institution and also understand as clearly as possible the kind of life that awaits them here, so that they enjoy a positive experience of studying and living in China, as indeed most Indian students do.

**Medical Education in China**

**Eligible Institutions**

4. Every year, the PRC Ministry of Education (MOE) issues a list of Institutions and scale of enrolment in China that are authorised to enrol international students for under graduate clinical medical programmes in English medium. This is a six year programme (including one year internship). This list is available at

<http://www.indianembassy.org.cn/DynamicContent.aspx?MenuId=48&SubMenuId=0>

The list is also available on the MOE and the Medical Council of India (MCI) websites.

5. The MCI will issue eligibility certificates to only those MBBS students who have studied in the MOE approved Universities. Only these students will be allowed to appear for the Foreign Medical Graduate Examination (FMGE) conducted by the MCI to be able to practise or do internship in India. MCI has approved that Internship for such students can be done in India or in China. However it may be noted that some universities insist on the students doing internship only at the same university-affiliated hospitals.
6. It is advisable to check the reputation of the institution as well as the facilities available, academic standards of the faculty etc. before enrolling into any institution.

7. Students being recruited through Agents in India are advised to thoroughly check the background and other details of the Agent before coming to China. The Agents also have contracts with the Universities. Students are advised to check with the Universities before making any financial commitments.

8. It may also be noted that the transfer(migration) to another university halfway through the MBBS course has been prohibited by the MCI. Its notifications No. MCI-203(9)/2010-Regn./3494 and 3495 dated 16/04/2010) clearly state that for a student to be eligible to appear for the FMGE, she/he must have completed the course from the same institution. Those students who would migrate to other universities after 16/04/2010 will not qualify to appear for the FMGE.

## **GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE INDIAN STUDENTS**

### **SAFETY**

9. There have been incidents of fighting among st the students of different nationalities. Also there been an increase in the incidents of petty theft and robbery, especially in South China. Therefore, there is a need for the students to exercise caution in taking care of their belongings both in their dormitories as well as while travelling outside.

### **AGENTS**

10. Because of incorrect information received from agents or other sources, it has been seen that many students come to China without the required financial resources or support. All students wishing to study in China must note that it is NOT possible for a student to work in China to pay tuition fees or meet other expenses.

11. Students are exploited by some agents in India who present a false picture of what life is like in China and by unscrupulous educational institutions.

- Make sure you cross-check what an agent tells you with the website of the concerned institution and with the various sources of information.
  
- Please also write down all the promises made by the agent and get him to sign the list; this would be required in case of any dispute, and also is a confirmation that the agent is not taking you for a ride but is willing to stand by what he is offering. There have been cases of students being cheated of their money by unscrupulous agents by promising students admissions, on fake University letter heads.

## **SUB-STANDARD UNIVERSITIES/INSTITUTIONS**

12. There have also been problems encountered in recent months by students studying in privately run colleges, owing to the existence of several sub-standard institutions which do not meet the standards set by the Chinese Ministry of Education. These sub-standard institutions exploit international students in a variety of ways. Students who enrol in such sub-standard institutions do not have a happy experience in China. The number of such institutions and the problems created for their students has increased in the recent past.

## **MEDICAL INSURANCE**

13. There have been instances of medical emergencies including unfortunate accidents/death of students involving heavy hospital expenditure and transportation of the deceased to India to the tune of USD 15,000-20,000. It is advised that the students have medical insurance at all times. Further, after arrival and stay in China, you should ensure that your insurance is renewed on a regular basis. All students have to pay for Insurance renewal charges annually.

### **AIR TICKETS**

14. Some of the Universities such as University of Suzhou, Nanjing, Jiangsu and Zhejiang have a mechanism through which Indian students can purchase international air tickets. Under this arrangement a nodal body approved by the university authorities would liaise directly with Air India and Jet Airways for purchase of air tickets. All students are advised to contact the Dean of International Affairs Division for this purpose. Air Tickets purchased through unauthorised agents or through a student who acts as travel agent and collects money, should be strictly discouraged.

### 15. **General Do's and Don'ts**

#### **(i) BEFORE ARRIVING IN CHINA**

- Students wishing to study in China are advised to be fully informed of all the actual costs involved in studying in China, as also of the relevant rules and regulations in China.
  
- Before committing yourself to studying in China, do your research.
  
- Make sure that the institution offering the course has a good reputation, especially if it is a privately-run institution. You can do this by:-
  - ❖ Checking that the institution and the course that you plan to take, is properly registered with the China government, which you can do at [www.studyinchina.edu.cn](http://www.studyinchina.edu.cn)
  
  - ❖ Carefully reading the website of the institution, which should provide all the information *you* need to make an informed decision, such as a description of the course offered, the environment, the teaching methods, facilities, minimum English language proficiency, etc.
  - ❖ Checking with the Education Officer in the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi or the Consulates in Mumbai and Kolkata.
  
  - ❖ Checking with friends or others whom you may know who are studying or have studied in China.
  
- Make sure that you have adequate finances to cover the cost of living as well as your education costs.
  
- Also make sure that you have a written agreement from the institution before paying any fees; this will be essential if there is any dispute. All students should deposit the annual tuition fee and hostel fee in the University Bank account direct from any bank in India. All banks in India have facility to

remit fee amount through Swift accounts. All Universities in China have Swift accounts to accept fee from the students direct from their home country. After admission, student should ask the University/ agent concerned for the Swift Account details.

- Students are advised to visit the websites of the respective Universities to familiarise themselves with:-
  - ❖ Your legal rights as a student and all the relevant rules and regulations that apply to you;
  - ❖ Make sure that the Agent is registered with the University;

## **(ii) AFTER YOU ARRIVE IN CHINA - SETTLING DOWN**

- On arrival, you should convey by means of an e-mail or a letter, to the Consular Officer at the Embassy of India/Consulates, your contact details, including name and address, the name of the university/ educational institution you are studying in, details of the course you are joining, and the duration of your intended stay in China.
- Check out the various banks on campus and see what they offer before opening an account. Please do not keep large amounts of cash at home or on your person.
- Check out different plans before buying a mobile phone. Remember to use phone cards/VOIP for international calls.
- In your University/place of study, it would be useful for you to keep in touch not only with other Indian students but also with University authorities;
- Any and all complaints should be brought to the attention of appropriate authorities; at no stage, should you take or attempt to take the law into your own hands; breaking the law will invite strict legal and police action, which could include deportation and cancellation of visas by University authorities/Bureau of Public Security of P.R. of China.
- Visa must be renewed annually and well in time.
- Remember that you represent the image of India in China. Behave appropriately at all times.
- Students should deposit their annual tuition fee, etc. well in time following the time line given by the concerned University. There have been many instances where the students have been dropped out or not allowed to appear in the exam due to late payment of fee. Please note that the Embassy cannot extend any help in such matters.

- Ragging in any form is not acceptable in India and also in China. The students who are found to be involved in it have been expelled from their institutions in the past. The Embassy of India will not offer any help / support for such behavior. If you are being subjected to any bullying/harassment, you should immediately take up the matter with the International Students Office and also contact the Embassy/ Consulate General of India about it.

### **(iii) Living safely in China**

- Keep important documents and money in a safe place.
- Make sure you keep photocopies of relevant pages in your passport and other important documents in a separate place. It is a good idea to scan them and keep the soft copy safely stored.
- Always carry with you some identification as well as details of who should be contacted in an emergency.
- Do not driving motor-bike, etc. without driving license. Always drive responsibly. There have been instances where students got involved with accidents and had to pay hefty amounts in compensation and even had been expelled by their respective Universities for breaching the local rules & regulations.
- In case you have a complaint, get in touch with the officer responsible for International student welfare at the University. In case the University authorities are unable to help, students may get in touch with the Education Officer at Embassy of India/Consulate of India.
- The details of the education officers are as follows:
  - ❖ Beijing  
Tel + 86 10 85312554,  
Email:<[ssec@indianembassy.org.cn](mailto:ssec@indianembassy.org.cn)>
  - ❖ Shanghai  
Tel +86 21 62193789  
Fax+86 21 62758881  
Email<[cinf@indianconsulate.org.cn](mailto:cinf@indianconsulate.org.cn)>
  - ❖ Guangzhou  
Tel +86 20 85501509  
Fax +86 2085501513  
Email <[consulic.guangzhou@mea.gov.in](mailto:consulic.guangzhou@mea.gov.in)>

## **16. UNIVERSAL RULES OF BEHAVIOR WHICH ARE IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER**

Always remember that you are an Indian and that your behavior will determine the image of India and Indians, by those who interact with you. Obviously, none of you would wish to project a negative image of

India and Indians. Therefore, it is important to always remember and abide by the following basic rules of behavior which all of you already know but which are worth emphasizing:-

- Do not push or shove in crowds.
- Don't ever break a queue.
- Don't talk so loudly that other people are disturbed.
- Don't ask personal questions of strangers.
- Please show respect for all,irrespective of age, gender, dress or appearance.
- Please respect other's time and be punctual; if you are running late or cannot make an appointment, please ensure that you inform the person you are going to meet, well in time.
- Remember that certain aspects of Chinese culture are different from your own. Do not make any judgment about people based on the fact that they speak, dress, eat or behave differently from you.

#### 17. **MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR CHINA EXPERIENCE**

- For many of you, this may perhaps be the first time that you are away from home and in a foreign country,enjoying your first taste of independence. Please do remember, however, that in China you are an adult, if you are over 18 years of age. You will be treated as an adult and held responsible for your actions and consequences.
- Remember that as a student studying in China, you have an opportunity to learn about China and other cultures. Spend time with other students from other countries and with Chinese students. This is the best way of not feeling isolated and will considerably enrich your experience of studying in a foreign country.
- Remember, when learning about China and other cultures that some people you meet may not know much about Indian culture. You should be ready to communicate with the persons you meet,about where you from are and your culture; also for example which food you can or cannot eat or any other cultural needs, stating quite clearly the reasons behind them.

#### 18. **MODE AND METHOD OF ADDRESS:**

- The first word of Chinese name is the surname (e.g. Wang in the name Wang Baoyu or Sun in the name Sun Jingfeng).

- Chinese should be addressed as “Mr. followed by surname” or “Madam followed by surname”. In verbal address or reference, the given names should not be used.
- Handshaking on meeting and parting is usual. This is normally accompanied by the expressions “NIHAO” (how are you/hello) or “ZAI JIAN” (goodbye/see you again)”. The other common expression that may come in handy is “XIE XIE” (Thank You). If the expressions can be remembered and used, it will be much appreciated by the Chinese.
- Clapping is quite common to welcome guests or respond to speeches/ remarks. It is recommended that individuals being welcomed “clap back”.

19. **CUSTOM SAND HABITS:**

- Generally speaking, the Chinese have dinner early (6-6:30 PM).
- Tips are not expected.