

To whom it may concern:

**Exemption under the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons
Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C)**

In accordance with section 4(1)(b) of the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C), the Chief Secretary for Administration has designated the following category of persons for exemption from the compulsory quarantine arrangement:

Certified public accountants (practising), partners, directors or employees of practice units registered with the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (“HKICPA”) under the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50), who are required to travel to the Mainland to conduct audit work for companies listed on a recognised stock market (as defined by section 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571)) and having Mainland operations, to assist those companies to fulfil their obligations under relevant Ordinances or other regulatory instruments that govern the operation of the companies or their business.

2. The latest conditions for the aforementioned category of exempted persons with effect from 19 July 2021 are as follows-

- (A) If the exempted person arrives Hong Kong at the Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA), he/she must fulfil the following conditions:
- (1) The exempted person must take a post-arrival SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid test at the Department of Health (“DH”)’s Temporary Specimen Collection Centre and wait for the results there or any other location as designated by DH (“**test and hold**”) **upon arrival at HKIA;**
 - (2) The exempted person must be subject to SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid testing on the **3rd, 7th, and 12th days (and additionally the 16th and 19th days for those who have not completed a COVID-19 vaccination course¹)** following his/her arrival in Hong Kong. He/she must report to his/her practice unit after submitting the specimen;
 - (3) **Point-to-point transportation** must be arranged between the

HKIA and the exempted person's accommodation; and between his/her accommodation and the venue of his/her audit work in Hong Kong during the specified periodⁱⁱ. Use of public transport including MTR, airport shuttle train and taxi for transfer is prohibited. The exempted person must only use the **designated channel** for exempted persons other than air crew within the HKIA to arrive at the designated pick-up points (see Map at **Annex**). The exempted person should wear masks during the entire transportation journey. During the specified periodⁱⁱ, the scope of activity of the exempted person in Hong Kong is only limited to his/her audit work;

- (4) During the 14-day medical surveillance period, the exempted person must take every precautionary measure to ensure personal hygiene and avoid unnecessary social contact whilst in Hong Kong.

(B) If the exempted person arrives Hong Kong via a land boundary control point,

- (1) he/she must produce documentary proof (in an electronic form specified by the Director of Health or physical form) to show that –
 - (a) the exempted person underwent a test for the coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) the sample for which was taken **on the day of arrival or within the three days before the day of arrival;**
 - (b) the test conducted on the sample is a **SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid test;**
 - (c) the result is that the person was tested negative for COVID-19; and
 - (d) the test was conducted by a laboratory that, at the time of the person's arrival, is included in a list of recognised laboratories that are mutually recognised by the governments of Hong Kong and Guangdong as published for this purpose in the DH's official website; and
- (2) the exempted person must also be subject to SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid testing on the **3rd, 7th and 12th days (and additionally the 16th and 19th days for those who have not completed a COVID-19 vaccination courseⁱ)** following his/her arrival in Hong Kong. He/she must report to his/her practice unit after submitting the specimen on respective days;

- (3) During the specified period ⁱⁱ, the scope of activity of the exempted person in Hong Kong is only limited to his/her audit work;
- (4) During the 14-day medical surveillance period, the exempted person must take every precautionary measure to ensure personal hygiene and avoid unnecessary social contact whilst in Hong Kong.

3. The above conditions are also applicable to authorisations issued previously to exempted persons.

4. Should you have any enquiry, please contact Miss Gillian Chan (2528 9156 or qexemption@fstb.gov.hk) of the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau or Ms. Canny Liu (2287 7030 or 599Cexemption@hki CPA.org.hk) of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau
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ⁱ A person is deemed to have “completed a COVID-19 vaccination course” if he/she arrives at Hong Kong on or after the 14th day after completing vaccination in manners stipulated as follows –

- (i) For both the Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine (CoronaVac vaccine) and Fosun Pharma/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (Comirnaty vaccine), completing the vaccination course involves receiving two doses in general. For persons previously infected with COVID-19, they may be deemed to have completed the COVID-19 vaccination course after receiving one dose of CoronaVac vaccine or one dose of Comirnaty vaccine.
- (ii) For individuals who received COVID-19 vaccines in places outside of Hong Kong and have received the recommended doses as stipulated in relevant guidelines, they will also be regarded to have completed the vaccination course of the relevant COVID-19 vaccine subject to the vaccine used being included on the list of vaccines recognised for this purpose as published on the Government’s COVID-19 thematic website. (https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/pdf/list_of_recognised_covid19_vaccines.pdf)

For those who arrive at Hong Kong after they have completed a COVID-19 vaccination course, they must provide the vaccination record or a written

confirmation in English or Chinese issued by a healthcare institution or a relevant authority of the government of the place where the vaccine was administered, bearing the name of the relevant vaccinated person identical to that in his/her valid travel document to show that (i) the relevant vaccinated person received the dose(s) of vaccination(s) against COVID-19 and the date(s) on which the dose(s) was/were administered; and (ii) the name of the vaccine administered which must be included on the list of vaccines recognised for this purpose as published on the Government's COVID-19 thematic website.

- ii The duration of specified period for a person who has completed vaccination is 7 days; while that for a person who has not completed vaccination is 14 days.