



Vocational Training Council Hong Kong

2026

Admissions for International Students Higher Diploma Programmes

Practical Programmes Aligned with Industry Needs
Your Pathway to Global Success



OPPORTUNITIES • ACTION • SUCCESS
良機 • 實幹 • 成功

Study in Hong Kong

A Golden Pathway for Future Development

Metropolis linking East and West

As a culturally diverse and international city, Hong Kong offers a bilingual (Chinese and English) environment, making it an ideal platform for connecting with the world.

Gateway to Asia

Ideally located in the heart of Asia, Hong Kong is within a five-hour flight of half the world's population, serving as an important bridge to international markets.

Academic Openness, Inspiring Innovation

Hong Kong has a well-established system and an open academic environment that encourages cross-disciplinary exploration, stimulating innovative thinking and practical abilities.

**Why
Hong Kong**
?

International business, financial and innovation centre

Many multinational and Chinese Mainland enterprises are based in Hong Kong, benefiting from free trade and convenient capital flow. Coupled with world-class infrastructure, this advantageous environment provides graduates with excellent employment opportunities and vast room for development.

Diverse Cultures

Blending the essence of Eastern and Western cultures, Hong Kong has both an international perspective and local characteristics. With an open and inclusive approach, it attracts global talent, fostering a uniquely captivating multicultural ecosystem.

World class education system

Hong Kong's education system is renowned worldwide, with qualifications widely recognised internationally. Ranked as one of the best cities in Asia for studying abroad by the QS World University Rankings, Hong Kong offers significant advantages for further studies and employment.



VPET: Get Ahead in Your Future Development !

Established in 1982, the Vocational Training Council (VTC) is the leading provider of vocational and professional education and training (VPET) in Hong Kong which offers a full range of pre-employment and in-service programmes with internationally recognised qualifications.

VTC Overview

14

member
institutions



Over

200,000

students

including 40,000 full-time students annually

90+



Full Time Higher Diploma
programmes for
non-local students



7

diversified
disciplines aligned with
industry needs

Why VTC ?

Over

2,500



Hong Kong enterprises and
multinational companies
collaborate closely with VTC
(offer internship opportunities and
practical training)

The employment rate of VTC Higher
Diploma graduates who chose to
pursue a profession is

Over 90%[^]



[^] Employment Survey of Graduates of Full-time IVE/HKDI/
ICI programmes in the past 3 years (as of March 2026)

Minimum

100

hours



workplace training
for Higher Diploma
students to enhance
practical skills



Key Features of VTC Higher Diploma Programmes



Theory X Practice

Higher Diploma programmes combine both theory and practice, and the qualifications are widely recognised by local and overseas universities.



Professional Recognition

Many programmes are recognised by local and international professional bodies.



Industry-Oriented

The programmes equip students with professional skills and knowledge that closely match industry needs.



Practical Experience

VTC works closely with industry partners to provide students with workplace experience or internship opportunities, helping them gain practical experience and build professional networks.



Nurturing Global Vision

A wide range of overseas study and exchange opportunities are offered to broaden students' international outlook.



Teaching in English

Most programmes are taught in English, allowing international students to adapt easily without language barriers.

6 Key Features



Diversified Development Pathways

Stay in Hong Kong



Work

Non-local students enrolled in the Vocational Professionals Admission Scheme (VPAS)¹ eligible VTC full-time Higher Diploma (2-year) programmes can apply upon graduation to remain in Hong Kong for employment in the trades relevant to their programmes of study within a specific period under the VPAS

Further studies

Graduates of Degree programmes can apply for Immigration Arrangements for Non-local graduates (IANG) to stay and work/further study in Hong Kong without other conditions of stay provided that normal immigration requirements are met

Apply for admission to Degree programmes offered by local universities/institutions

Apply for admission to Degree programmes offered by THEi²

Apply for admission to Degree programmes offered by SHAPE³

Return to Home Country



Further studies in Home Country⁴

Work in Home Country⁴

Further Studies Overseas



Degree programmes offered by overseas universities⁴

Successfully completed the **Higher Diploma (2-year) programmes** offered by VTC



- 1 The Vocational Professionals Admission Scheme (VPAS) is a pilot scheme promulgated by the HKSAR Government, aiming to attract non-local students to remain in Hong Kong upon graduation to work in a trade relevant to their programmes of study. Non-local students interested in applying for VPAS must complete the VPAS eligible VTC full-time Higher Diploma (2-year) programme within three years after admission in specified academic years. Please visit the VTC website for details (<https://vpas.vtc.edu.hk/en>).
- 2 Applicants holding equivalent Higher Diploma qualifications may apply for Year-3 entry to full-time Degree programmes offered by the Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong (THEi). The normal study duration is 2 years (applicable for designated Higher Diploma programmes).
- 3 The School for Higher and Professional Education (SHAPE), a member institution of the VTC, collaborates with universities from the UK and Australia, offering top-up degree programmes for Higher Diploma graduates. The study duration for full-time programmes ranges from 1 to 2 years.
- 4 The VTC Higher Diploma (2-year) programmes are recognised programmes in Hong Kong and are accredited by the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ) at Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (HKQF) Level 4. It is a matter of discretion for individual employers and institutions to recognise any qualification to which the programme may lead.

The above articulation information is provided for reference only. Eligibility and study duration may vary based on programmes, entry requirements, number of credits transferred, and other considerations. For details, please contact the respective institutions.

Support for Non-Local Students in Learning and Employment

VTC provides comprehensive facilities, attentive student services, and a wide range of career support, including:



Provision of Student Accommodation*



Learning Resource Centre and Sports Facilities



Cantonese Workshops



Student Care Services



Recruitment talks, career counselling, job matching, etc.



Collaboration with companies to provide internship opportunities



Offer admission scholarship for non-local students



Advanced teaching & learning facilities

Halls of Residence



* Due to the limited availability of accommodation at the VTC Halls of Residence, dormitory spaces will be allocated through a lottery draw system, depending on demand. The hall accommodation fees for a double occupancy room are HK\$30,800 per bed in the residential period of 2026/27 academic year (from September 2026 to July 2027).



Student Sharing

BABA Karim

(Lebanon)

Currently pursuing
Year 2 of Higher Diploma
in Software Engineering
at HKIIT

VTC has provided me with comprehensive support, especially when I was adapting to a new environment after moving from Lebanon to Hong Kong. The encouragement and guidance I received from VTC's teachers have truly inspired me. This experience has encouraged my personal and academic growth. VTC has empowered me to pursue my passion for technology. Upon graduation, I hope to apply what I have learned and contribute to the information and technology sector in Hong Kong.

Josh Nathanael

(Indonesia)

Currently pursuing
Year 2 of Higher Diploma
in Landscape Architecture
at HKDI

VTC's practical education, workshops, and projects offered me invaluable insights. A particular highlight of my time at VTC was the opportunity to serve as an emcee, which helped me to further develop my public speaking skills and boost my confidence. The support from VTC's teachers enriched my time in Hong Kong. Bonding with diverse peers also helped me adapt to Hong Kong's multicultural environment and broadened my perspective.

Elnagar Lobna Mohamed

(Egypt)

Currently pursuing
Year 2 of Higher Diploma
in Global Business
Management with
Languages at IVE

I chose VTC because its practical learning environment prepares me for real-world challenges. The Global Business programme developed my communication, leadership, and problem-solving skills through theory and practical experience. My industrial attachment at Tmall Campus Training Centre provided me with practical experience in retail operations. I have improved my presentation and teamwork skills during my first year of study by working on group projects. VTC has inspired my dream of a global career in business.

Edward Danso

(Ghana)

Currently pursuing
Year 1 of Higher Diploma
in Airport Operations
Management at IVE

I chose to study Airport Operations Management at VTC due to its strong practical focus and reputation in the aviation sector. The programme offers me a comprehensive understanding of airport operations, safety, and customer service. Hong Kong, as a global aviation hub, provides excellent networking opportunities. In my first year, I gained insights into airport operations through workshops led by industry professionals, group activities, and site visits, deepening my passion for this career.



Apply Now

<https://nlsapply.vtc.edu.hk/>



Key Dates for Non-local Applicants to Higher Diploma Programmes

From
27 Nov
2025

Online
application
system
opens

Mid Dec 2025
to Mid July 2026

Attend assessment
(including written test
or/and interview)

Normally within 3 weeks of
completing the application
process and submitting all
the relevant documents that
meet the requirements

By the end
of July 2026

Receive offer
by email

Aug
2026

Complete
registration procedures

(including settlement of
tuition fees, application for
student visa, and new
student registration, etc.)

Sept
2026

Class
Commencement

General Entrance Requirements*:

Applicants with completed Senior Secondary School Education, or equivalent qualifications. For example, holders of GCE A-level, GCSE, IGCSE, IB Diploma, etc. will be considered for admission.

OR

Applicants with completed Senior Secondary School Education, or equivalent qualifications, and possessing post-secondary education qualifications, such as college diploma, associate degree, professional diploma, university degree, etc.

OR

Applicants having completed Senior Secondary School Education, or equivalent qualifications.

AND

Substantial work experience and/or prior qualification(s) obtained in or outside Hong Kong relevant to the Higher Diploma Programme applying with demonstrated ability to undertake sub-degree education.

AND

Recognised English Language Qualification (e.g. TOEFL, IELTS, GCSE/IGCSE/GCE English Language, IB English Language, etc.) or Pass an English assessment administered by VTC; and

Applicants would be evaluated on their Chinese proficiency during their application. Certain Higher Diploma programmes, e.g. programmes with Chinese (Putonghua or Cantonese) as the Medium of Instruction, will require a higher level of Chinese proficiency.

* TOEFL iBT Home Edition, IELTS Online, and IELTS Indicator test results will not be considered.

* Students who apply with Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) qualification must present proof of place of residence.

Applicants who obtain OSSD qualification through online or distance learning would not be considered.

7 Disciplines

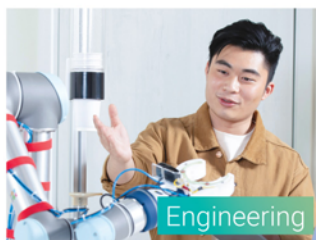
Offering Over 90 Full-Time Higher Diploma (Two-Year) Programmes for International Students



Business



Design



Engineering



Health and Life Sciences



Childcare, Elderly and Community Services



Information Technology



Hospitality

Overview of Higher Diploma (HD) Programmes Accepting International Students for the 2026/27 Academic Year

Normal study duration is 2 years

Business

	ENG	PTH	CAN
HD in Advertising and Media Communications	●		
HD in Airport Operations Management	●	● #	
HD in Artiste and Cultural Management	●		
HD in Aviation and Logistics	●	● #	
HD in Aviation Inflight and Passenger Services	●		
HD in Aviation Services and Transport Studies	●	● #	
HD in Banking and Financial Analysis	●		
HD in Business Administration and Management	●	● #	
HD in Business with E-Commerce		● #	
HD in Global Business Management with Languages	●		
HD in Human Resources and Talent Analytics	●		
HD in Marketing and Customer Analytics	●		
HD in Professional Accountancy	●		
HD in Public Relations and Communication Management	●		
HD in Real Estate and Property Management	● 5	● #	● #
HD in Retail E-Commerce Management	● 5		

Non-local students admitted in the 2026/27 academic year who complete these eligible programmes may apply to remain in Hong Kong under the Vocational Professionals Admission Scheme (VPAS) after graduation.

Graduates of this Higher Diploma programme [(i) conducted in English and (ii) with "#"] may apply to Year 3 of the full-time degree programme(s) offered by Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong (THEi), with a typical study duration of 2 years, and/or may apply to top-up degree programme(s) operated by School for Higher and Professional Education (SHAPE) in collaboration with universities from the UK and Australia (the study duration for full-time programmes ranges from 1 to 2 years).

VTC reserves the right to cancel any programme, revise programme title, content or change the offering institute(s)/campus(es)/class venue(s) if circumstances so warrant.

Health and Life Sciences

	ENG	PTH	CAN
HD in Analytical Science	●		
HD in Applied Nutritional Studies	●		
HD in Beauty and Personal Care Products	●		
HD in Biomedical Science	●		
HD in Biotechnology	●		
HD in Chinese Medicine Professional and Operation			●
HD in Conservation and Tree Management	●		●
HD in Fitness and Exercise Nutrition	●		
HD in Food Technology and Safety	●		
HD in Health Studies	●		
HD in Medical Centre Operations	●		
HD in Occupational Safety and Emergency Operations	●		
HD in Pet Care and Wellness	●		
HD in Pharmaceutical Science	●		
HD in Rehabilitation Services	●		● #
HD in Sustainability and Environmental Management (Subject Group) ⁶	●		

Childcare, Elderly and Community Services

	ENG	PTH	CAN
HD in Play-based Learning	●		
HD in Social Services for Silver Market	●		

5 Certain modules within the curriculum are delivered in Chinese. A higher level of Chinese proficiency is required.

6 Applicant should apply for "HD in Sustainability and Environmental Management (Subject Group)". The 1st semester is a common semester. Starting from the second semester, students may choose to specialise in either the "HD in Environmental Science" or the "HD in Environmental Protection and Management".

Design

	ENG	PTH	CAN
 HD in Advertising Design	●		
 HD in Animation and Visual Effects	●		
  HD in Architecture, Interior and Landscape Design (Subject Group) ⁷	●		
  HD in Architecture, Interior and Landscape Design (Subject Group) (Landscape Architecture only)		● #	
 HD in Costume Design for Performance	●		
 HD in Design for Event, Exhibition and Performance	●	●	
 HD in Digital Fashion Branding and Buying	●		
 HD in Digital Media Production	●		
 HD in Fashion Design	●		
 HD in Fashion Image Design	●		
 HD in Fashion Media Design	●		
 HD in Film, Television and Photography	●		
 HD in Illustration	●	●	
 HD in Music Production	●		
 HD in Product, Furniture and Jewellery Design (Subject Group) ⁸	●		
 HD in User Experience Design	●		
 HD in Visual Arts and Culture	●		
 HD in Visual Communication Design	●		

Information Technology

	ENG	PTH	CAN
  HD in AI and Mobile Applications Development	●		
  HD in AI and Smart Technology	●		
 HD in Applied AI	●		
  HD in Cloud and Data Centre Administration	●		
  HD in Cybersecurity	●		● #
  HD in Data Science and AI	●		
  HD in Digital Media Technology	●	● #	
 HD in Game Software Development	●		
  HD in Games and Animation	●	● #	
  HD in Software Engineering	●	● #	
 HD in Telecommunications and Networking	●		
  HD in Theme Park and Theatre Creative Technology	●		●

ENG The programme is conducted in English (except for modules of specific content in Chinese, typically Cantonese).

PTH The programme is conducted in Putonghua (except some modules in English).

CAN The programme is conducted in Cantonese (except some modules in English).

Engineering

	ENG	PTH	CAN
 HD in Architectural Studies	●		
  HD in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering	●		
  HD in Architectural Technology and Design	●	●	
 HD in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics	●		
  HD in Automotive Engineering	●		
  HD in Aviation Systems and Operations	●		
  HD in Building Services Engineering	●		
  HD in Building Studies	●		
  HD in Civil Engineering	●		
 HD in Computer and Data Engineering	●		
 HD in Computer and Electronic Engineering	●		
  HD in Electrical Engineering	●		
  HD in Geospatial Science and Land Surveying	●		
  HD in Maritime Studies	●		
  HD in Mechanical Engineering	●		
  HD in Surveying	●		

Hospitality

	ENG	PTH	CAN
 HD in Baking and Pastry Arts	●		
  HD in Culinary Arts	● ⁹	● ¹⁰ #	● ¹¹ #
 HD in Event Marketing and Business Promotion	●	● #	
 HD in Global Hotel Management	●		
  HD in International Hospitality and Tourism Management	●	● #	
 HD in International Wine and Beverage Management	●		
 HD in Leisure and Recreation Management	●		
 HD in Sports Coaching	●		
 HD in Sports Management	●		
 HD in Sports Studies and Smart Technology	●		
 HD in Tourism and Mega Event Management	●		

⁷ Applicant should apply for "HD in Architecture, Interior and Landscape Design (Subject Group)". The 1st semester is a common semester. Starting from the second semester, students may choose to specialise in either "HD in Architectural Design", "HD in Interior Design" or "HD in Landscape Architecture". Please note that VPAS is applicable only to the "HD in Architectural Design" and "HD in Landscape Architecture".

⁸ Applicant should apply for "HD in Product, Furniture and Jewellery Design (Subject Group)". The 1st semester is a common semester. Starting from the second semester, students may choose to specialise in either the "HD in Product Design" or the "HD in Jewellery Design and Technology".

⁹ Students may choose Classic European Cuisine or International Cuisine in Semester 3.

¹⁰ International Cuisine Stream only

¹¹ Chinese Cuisine Stream only

[Fees (2026/27 Academic Year)]

• Higher Diploma Programmes

Tuition fee: Around HK\$79,000 (US\$10,129)

• Registration & Student Service Fees: Total HK\$8,000 (US\$1,026)

(payable upon acceptance of offer, in which the Registration Fee of HK\$5,000 (US\$642) will be deducted from the first installment of tuition fees)

• Other Fees include the application fee of HK\$600 (US\$77), caution money and Students' Union Fees, etc.

Note:

- The tuition fees are for reference only and are subject to annual review. All fees must be paid in Hong Kong Dollars, and all bank transfer related charges shall be borne by the students.
- The tuition fee for the 2027/28 academic year is approximately HK\$88,500 (US\$11,347) per year
- The above fee information is converted at a rate of US\$1 = HK\$7.8 for reference only.

The following VTC's member institutions

offer Degree and Higher Diploma programmes:



Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong (THEi) offers "Applied Science-Oriented" degree programmes, providing project-based learning and work-integrated learning opportunities to nurture skilled professionals with a global vision.



School for Higher and Professional Education (SHAPE), in collaboration with well-recognised universities overseas, provides seamless progression pathways for VTC Higher Diploma graduates and sub-degree holders by offering top-up degree programmes across a wide range of professions.



Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (IVE) primarily provides Higher Diploma programmes through its 9 campuses across various disciplines, including Business, Engineering, Hospitality, Health and Life Sciences as well as Childcare, Elderly and Community Services, aiming to nurture professionals valued by industries.



Hong Kong Design Institute (HKDI) is a leading design institution in Hong Kong, providing quality design education to nurture new talents needed by the creative industries.



Hong Kong Institute of Information Technology (HKIIT) provides a comprehensive range of IT and relevant technology programmes, along with lifelong learning opportunities, to nurture talents for the vibrant and thriving IT sector.



Chinese Culinary Institute (CCI) provides training in Chinese culinary skills and catering management for industry practitioners and those aspiring to pursue a career in the industry.



International Culinary Institute (ICI) offers a wide range of quality professional programmes in culinary arts and wine.

Contact Us

For General Enquiries

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