



Country Fact Sheet

China

2018



Credit: Kari Collins 2009

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I. Checklist for Voluntary Return



Credit: IOM 2017

Before the Return

The returnee should

- ✓ obtain the following documents:
 - valid passport
 - degree certificate(s) and diploma gained abroad (certified originals)
 - certificate of study abroad issued by the local Embassy
 - resident certification
- ✓ get information concerning the arrival at the airport and the onward journey
- ✓ no vaccinations are required to (re-)enter China. Vaccinations record obtained abroad should be brought back for the reference of the local doctor.

After the Return

The returnee should

- ✓ go to the local police station to get a new ID card, if the old one is expired or lost
- ✓ resume or participate in the national social insurance scheme, including health care insurance
- ✓ contact services assisting with the search for jobs and housing
- ✓ apply for child care, schools, or other educational institutions
- ✓ contact the IOM Office in China for AVRR assistance (if applicable)

II. Health Care

I. General Information

Basic Medical Insurance for Urban Employees:

Covers all employees, including employees of enterprises, institutes, NGOs etc. However, employees' non-employed family members are not covered under the scheme.

Generally, the employer pays 8% of the monthly salary and the employee pays 2%. The retired are not required to pay.

Basic Medical Insurance for Urban Residents:

Covers all non-urban employees, students, children and the unemployed.

Local governments make their own policies on the reasonable premium to contribute based on the local economy situation. The reimbursement rate is up to 75 % since 2013. For citizens over 70 years the rate is at 85 %.

New Rural Cooperative Medical Care:

Subsidized scheme by the central and local government that covers all residents in rural areas. Individuals only pay a very small amount, such as CNY 20, in some areas.

The reimbursement rate is up to 75 % since 2013.

Medical Relief in Urban and Rural Areas:

Covers the poverty-stricken population who has no means to participate in the basic medical insurance and people who are insured but cannot afford it.

Access

It is necessary to submit a written application for urban medical assistance to the respective community or villagers' committee. One has to fill out the application form and provide supporting documentation such as ID cards, medical certificates etc.

Benefits:

A real-time outpatient reimbursement system has been established in most of the cities in China. According to statistics issued by the Ministry of Health, in the first half year of 2016, the average medical expense of outpatients was CNY 245.5 per capita.

2. Medical treatment and medication

Medical facilities and doctors:

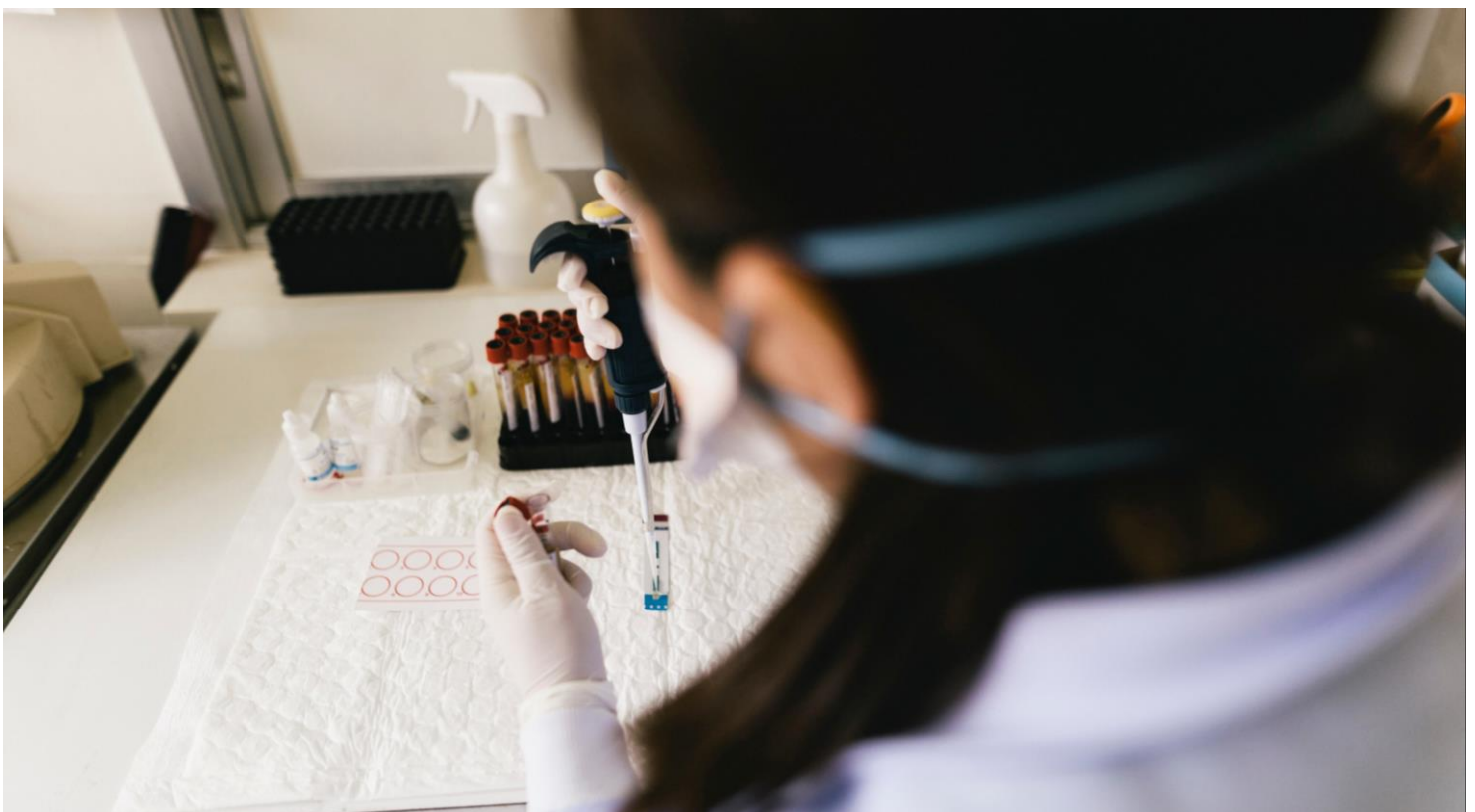
Hospitals are widely established from small towns to big cities and can provide treatment to most common diseases.

Procedure of admission:

Returnees should go to the appointed hospital which is under the medical insurance system. To obtain the list, one can either go to local Social Security Office or call/check on the website.

Availability and costs of medication:

The medication market is relatively well developed in China. Normally, needed medicines are available in the country.



III. Labour Market and Employment

I. General information

The employed workforce in China consisted of 776.40 million people at the end of 2017 with an additional 13.51 million people having been added in 2017 in urban areas. The urban per capita disposable income in big cities increased from 2016 to 2017, including: Beijing at CNY 62,406; Shanghai at CNY 62,595; and Hangzhou at CNY 56,272.

Standard minimum wage in big cities is around CNY 2000 per month. In smaller cities it ranges from CNY 1200 to 1700. However, the per capita disposable income of the rural population was at CNY 12,363 in 2016. The urban unemployment rate was approximately 3.90% at the beginning of 2018.

2. Ways/assistance to find employment

Recruitment is regularly organized on the local level. Employment agencies can also provide assistance but might charge for their services. They are divided into two types: non-profit and for-profit employment agencies.

These agencies

- provide information on and policy consultation about the labor market to employers and employees;
- administer and maintain the record of employment, unemployment registration, etc. entrusted by the administrative department of the labor and social security bureau;
- and provide vocational trainings and guidance to the unemployed and the disabled.

Employment information in different cities can be easily obtained from the websites below:

- <http://www.zhaopin.com/>
- <http://www.dajie.com/>
- <http://www.58.com/>
- <http://www.ganji.com/>

There are also dozens of job-hunting apps available online, such as Lagouwang or Qianchengwuyou. However, there is some risk of internet fraud during the process of job hunting. Handing in the resume online will increase the efficiency of job hunting.

Self-employment:

The procedure involves industrial and commercial registration, tax registration, setting up bank accounts, and obtaining appropriate licenses.

The business license can be obtained at the local Administration of Industry and Commerce. The costs are low or free of charge in some cities. Tax registration has to be done at the local Administration of Tax.

3. Unemployment assistance

There is only unemployment insurance available. For registration, it is necessary to go to the local Labor and Social Security bureau.

Required documents are:

- ID card
- certificate of termination and dissolution of employment relation issued by their work units.

Benefits and Costs:

Generally, both workers and employers pay into the unemployment insurance fund, originally at rates of 1% and 2% respectively. However, many provincial and municipal governments have cut contribution rates. For example, in Beijing, the current unemployment insurance contribution of the employee amounts approximately to 0.2%, while the employer's contribution is around 1%. Unemployment benefits are usually equal to the minimum wage for that area.

4. Further education and trainings

Graduates from junior or high school seeking employment and training can undertake preparatory training. People who find it difficult to find employment and rural laborers entering the city to work (if approved) are then assessed to identify basic vocational skills.

Local communities sometimes can provide opportunities of vocational training or some low-skill jobs. They also provide relevant employment information for the residents.

IV. Housing

I. General Information

China's urban per capita housing space is approximately **36.6 square meters**. Rents levels differ depending on location whether the housing is in certain provinces, cities or regions in China.

In Beijing for example, the average rent per month is CNY 4,000 for a small, basically equipped apartment in the central area. It is relatively easy to rent a house in China. The rent in big cities is much higher than in a small city/town.

2 Ways/assistance to find accommodation

Real estate agencies are located everywhere and are very efficient in finding a temporary accommodation. People will need to pay the commission for the service (normally one month rent). The house information on the websites below is very comprehensive and helpful for finding accommodations. People can deal with the landlord directly over such platforms. But it is important to be aware that there are illegal agencies which may bring property damage:

- <http://www.58.com/>
- <http://www.ganji.com/>

3. Social grants for housing

Low-rent housing program:

Under the low-rent housing scheme, the government may provide a house as a form of social security to families who find themselves in housing difficulties. The subsidy is funded by the central government.

Application:

The householder can submit a written application to the local residential community office or the people's government at the town level of government administration.

Required documents:

- proof of family income status
- explanation of family housing status
- ID cards and the residence documents of family members
- references requested by municipal and county authorities

Economically Affordable Housing System:

This refers to the houses included in national plans wherein the government arranges the real estate enterprise or units to organize collecting funds for house-building. Then it sells the houses to urban low-income families at a low-profit price.

Documents needed for application:

- local and urban permanent residence permit or permission by the municipal or county authorities
- domestic income in accordance with the income standards,
- household registration,
- income certificate,
- house and property titles.

V. Social Welfare

I. General Information

Welfare objectives are aimed at:

- senior citizens over 60 years of age who are unable to work, have no source of income, no alimony or allowance or whose dependents have no capacity to support them;
- orphans whose parents are dead and who have no other relatives capable of raising them,
- abandoned babies and children whose biological parents cannot be found by the public security agencies and may come under the care of child welfare agencies.

2. Pension System

China's basic medical insurance scheme is composed of two Pension Plan (the Rural Pension Plan & the Basic Pension Plan) which can be supplemented by commercial insurance:

Rural Pension Plan

Only some areas with financial capability have launched a Rural Pension Plan, which is shared by the local government, collective economy and individuals.

Social Welfare System: Access for Returnees

Registration procedure:

Returnees need to consult with the local social security office on the exact registration procedure that varies from city to city. After the registration, the person has to pay into their account every month.

Registration documents:

- ID copy;
- One inch color photo (X2);
- Residence booklet copy

Basic Pension Plan and Eligibility:

This plan covers all employees under the following criteria:

- self-employed and freelancers can directly approach the local social insurance agencies to approve their participation in the pension insurance scheme.
- they are required to pay the cost of pension insurance from their own personal financial resources.

Costs and benefits:

Employers shall pay 20%; whereas the employees shall contribute 80% of the premium. Basically, they can get their pension every month once retired. (Specific amount varies from place to place).

Requirements:

To reach the national retirement conditions, including normal retirement, early retirement due to illness, retirement in advance due to special types of job, a continuing payment of 15 years is necessary.

Registration procedure and required documents:

Individuals seeking to apply for or withdrawals of the pension scheme must present a national identity card and their personal account pension insurance book at their local social security institutions.

VI. Educational System

I. General Information

In China there is a compulsory education period of nine years.

For the registration procedure, the following documents are needed:

- Residence booklet and copy
- Property ownership certificate and copy

Educational Level	Age
Kindergarten	3-5
Primary Level	
Elementary School	6 – 11
Secondary Level	
Middle school (incl. junior and senior high school), Vocational high school, Medium-level professional schools	12 – 17
Higher Education	
Junior college, undergraduate graduate education at universities, academies, colleges .	From 17

2. Cost, loans and stipends

Tuition fees for urban and rural areas during the 9-year compulsory education period are completely exempt nationwide.

Access and requirements to stipends and/or loans for covering tuition

National student loans are mainly for students to meet the cost of tuition fees and accommodation. Applicants have to submit a loan application in person; complete the student loan application forms (in triplicate) and the parents' employer or the district/countryside people's government have to sign.

Stipends:

National student grants are awarded to support full-time college students if their family has financial problems.

3. Approval and verification of foreign diplomas

Overseas degree certificates that have been obtained by studying formal curricula in higher educational institutions in foreign countries are awarded by the Sino-foreign Cooperation institute.

For information on the process of certifying the overseas certificates, visit:

<http://renzheng.cscse.edu.cn>



VII. Concrete Support for Returnees

I. Reintegration assistance programs

There are no such assistance programs in China. Some IOM projects provide reintegration assistance upon return. Returnees need to apply to the relevant project before going back to China. The IOM China Office could be contacted for possible assistance (see contact details on the next slide).

2. Financial and administrative support

For administrative support returnees should contact the respective

- Local Department / Bureau of Civil Affairs
- Local resident community

No specific financial administrative support for returnees is available in China at the moment.

3. Support to start income generating activities

Financial support or programs for returnees are not available in China. However, micro credits are available for individuals in general and returnees can apply. Applicants may consult with the banks or Urban Credit Cooperation on such possibilities.



Credit: IOM 2017

VIII. Contact Information and Useful Links

International, Non-Governmental, Humanitarian Organizations

International Organization for Migration (IOM China)

N. 9-1-82 Tayuan Diplomatic Compound
1 Xindonglu, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100600
Tel.: +86 1059799695
Email: liaisonofficechina@iom.int
Internet: www.iom.int

Relevant local authorities (employment offices, health/pension insurances etc.)

Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security of the People's Republic of China

No.3, Hepingli Dongjie,
Dongcheng District, 100716 Beijing
Tel.: 12333
Internet: <http://www.mohrss.gov.cn/>

Ministry of Civil Affairs of P. R. China

Address: 147, Beiheya Dajie,
Dongcheng District, 100721 Beijing
Tel: (010)58123114
Website: <http://www.mca.gov.cn/>

Other Contacts (e.g. NGOs for women and children, microcredit-lending)

All China Women Federation

北京市西城区槐柏树街2号院1号楼
Tel: (8610)-85326020
Fax: (8610)-85112107
Email: womenofchina@163.com
Internet: <http://www.women.org.cn/>