

## Legalization

### United States of America

<http://www.china-embassy.org/eng/visas/>

1. Step One: The document needs to be certified by a local notary public, or a certified copy should be issued by the competent authorities before consular authentication.
2. Step Two: The document needs to be certified by the Secretary of the State of a U.S. state government in which the document is executed. (Some states require that the document should be certified by the County Clerk first.)
3. Step Three: Applicants must apply for authentication at the Chinese Consulate General of the consular district where the document is certified.  
<http://www.chinaconsulatesf.org/eng/laszj/rz/t42742.htm>

### United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

<http://www.chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/visa/>

1. Step One: If your documents were not issued by a British government authority, please send them to a local international notary public for notarisation.
2. Step Two: Send the documents, notarised by notaries, to the Legalization office of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) or an authorised department by FCO for legalizations. If the documents were issued by a British government department, you may send them for legalizations to FCO or an authorised department by FCO.
3. Step Three: After completing the initial stage of notarisation and legalization, submit the documents to the Chinese embassy or consulates for legalization.

### Australia

<http://au.china-embassy.org/eng/lz/>

1. Step One: Documents should be notarized by any notary public.
2. Step Two: The notarized documents should be authenticated (NOT apostilled) by the Departments of Foreign Affairs and Trade or its Office in States or Territories. For more information about authentication by DFAT office, please click here.
3. Step Three: Apply for the documents authentication from the Chinese Embassy or

relevant Consulate General where the documents notarized but not authenticated, in accordance with consular regions.

## **Ireland**

<http://ie.china-embassy.org/eng/qzs/>

1. Step One: If your documents were not issued by an Irish government authority, please have them notarised by a local international notary public.
2. Step Two: Have documents, which have been notarised by notaries, notarised by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland. If the documents were issued by an Irish government department, you may have them legalised directly by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland.
3. Step Three: After completing the initial stage of notarisation and legalization, submit the documents to the Chinese embassy for legalization.

## **New Zealand**

<http://nz.china-embassy.org/eng/lsw/>

1. Step One: Documents that are not issued by New Zealand government agency, such as power of attorney, academic records, must be notarised by a Notary Public in New Zealand before sending them to the Department of Internal Affairs of New Zealand for document authentication. However, documents such as birth certificate, marriage certificate, issued by an approved New Zealand government agency can be sent directly to the Department of Internal Affairs of New Zealand for document authentication. Please contact the Department of Internal Affairs of New Zealand if you are uncertain whether your documents require notarisation.

2. Step Two: Send your documents to the Authentication Unit at the New Zealand

Department of Internal Affairs. For more details, please contact:

Authentications Unit - Department of Internal Affairs (DIA)

Phone: 0800 872 675

Email: [authentication.unit@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:authentication.unit@parliament.govt.nz)

Website: [www.dia.govt.nz/Document-authentication](http://www.dia.govt.nz/Document-authentication)

3. Step Three: Documents have been authenticated by the Department of Internal Affairs of New Zealand can now be sent to the Chinese Embassy or Chinese Consulate-General in New Zealand for consular legalisation.

The following documents are required:

- Complete and sign the " Application Form of Consular Legalization". The

application form and the signature must be original and electronic (scanned) signature will not be accepted.

- Original or photocopy passport of the applicant and please make additional copies of your passport information page and current valid New Zealand visa page (if applicable).
- Original documents that have been authenticated by the New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs. Please also make additional copies of all the documents.
- If the application is being submitted by an agent (i.e. someone who is acting on the applicant's behalf), the agent must also provide the original or photocopy of his/her identification, such as a valid passport.
- Documents related to any marriage matters, such as Certificate of No Impediment, are only available for up to 6 months from the date of issue.
- For business (commercial) documents such as company extract, company constitution, etc, an authorised letter from the legal representative of the company, and proof of the person's legal status as the company's legal representative, and copy of the person's current valid passport are also required.

## Canada

<http://ca.china-embassy.org/eng/lsw/>

1. Step One: The document shall be notarized by a local notary public, lawyer or Commissioner of Oaths of Canada.
2. Step Two: The notarized document shall be authenticated by the Authentication and Service of Documents Section of Global Affairs Canada, if the applicant would like to bring the document to this Embassy for authentication. The notarized document shall be authenticated by the authentication office of the corresponding province (territory), if the applicant would like to bring the document to one of Chinese Consulates General in Canada for authentication.
3. Step Three: The document shall be authenticated by the Chinese Embassy if it has been authenticated by the authentication office of Global Affairs Canada. The document shall be authenticated by one of the Chinese Consulates General in Canada in accordance with its consular jurisdiction where it has been authenticated by a local authentication office.

## The Republic of South Africa

<http://www.chinese-embassy.org.za/eng/lqfw/>

Your documents should be legalised by the Department of International Relations and

Cooperation (DIRCO) of South Africa before you bring them to the Embassy or Consulates of China. <http://www.dfa.gov.za/consular/legalisation>

Civil (Personal) Documents should be accompanied by:

- (1) Fully Completed Application Form
- (2) Original and Photocopy of the ID\* of Applicant.
- (3) Original and Photocopy of the ID\* of the Agent (if applicable).
- (4) The original document for authentication and its photocopy

\* Photocopy of passport and valid residence permit if not South African citizen.