General Requirements

Two copies of the applicant’s recent photo taken within the last 6 months are required for submission. The background of the photos must be white, with no shadows over the face or the background.

Each photo must include a clear frontal view of the full face, neck and upper shoulders of the applicant. The photos should be printed in color on either matte or glossy photo paper and have not been altered in any way.

If the submitted photos do not meet the requirements, new photos should be submitted before the application can be processed.

Size of the Photo

The size of the photo should measure 33 mm (wide) by 48 mm (high). The head width should be between 15 mm and 22 mm and the head height should be between 28 mm and 33 mm, measured from the bottom of the chin to the top of the head. The space between the top of the head and the top of the photo should be between 3 mm and 5 mm.

Facial Requirements

The facial expression of the subject must be neutral with eyes open and all the facial features should be clearly visible. Eyeglasses are allowed in the photo only if the lenses are not tinted and there are no glare, shadows, or frames obscuring the eyes. The hearing aid or a similar device is allowed in the photo.

Head Coverings

Hats or head coverings are only allowed if worn for religious reasons and if they do not obscure any facial features.

Unacceptable Photo Examples:

Underexposed  Overexposed  Contrast too high  Head too big  Head too small  Not centered  Head tilted

Not facing camera  Background not plain  Shadows on background  Clothes color identical to background  Tinted lenses  Frame covering eyes  Frame too thick

Improper color  Shadows on face  Hair covering eyes, eyebrows or ears  Blurred  Face covered  Stamp or other patterns on photo  Damaged photo or other defects

Copyright 2012 by Consular Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China