



I. NCP Outbreak: Beijing Lowered Its Public Emergency Response Level

Starting from July 20, 2020, Beijing lowered its public emergency response level to Level III from Level II, as no confirmed case of Covid-19 in Beijing has been reported since July 6, 2020, as well as no area is recorded as high-risk area or medium-risk areas.

Accordingly, relevant prevention and control measures have been adjusted. We highlight the following for your attention:

People who need to leave Beijing do not need to conduct a nucleic acid test anymore.

Parks, libraries, gyms, museums, and galleries and so forth in Beijing will be able to allow visitors up to 50% capacity (previously 30%).

Cinemas in Beijing will gradually re-open as of July 24, 2020.

Health code inspections and body temperature checking in public areas will continue to be in place.

All residents are still required to wear mask in public areas.

II. Legal News

1. Proposal Made on Managing Foreign Teachers in China

On July 21, 2020, the Ministry of Education issued the Measures for the Employment and Management of Foreign Teachers (Draft for Comment) to solicit public comments by August 21, 2020.

We summarize the following important content for your reference:

Qualifications of foreign teachers	Foreign teachers shall have bachelor's degree or higher as well as at least 2 years of education and teaching experience. 2 years of education and teaching experience can be exempted for one who has obtained a doctorate degree, or has a teaching certificate, or has a bachelor's degree or higher majoring in teaching education. For language training teacher, a language training qualification is also requested.
Prohibition of employment	Foreigner shall have no criminal records, infectious diseases or mental disorders, or a history of sexual harassment, drug use, etc.
Visa and work permit	Foreign teachers shall apply for a work permit, Z Visa and work-related residence permit.
Record-filing process	Before teaching, the educational institution shall conduct a record-filing process for the foreign teachers who have obtained relevant work permit and residence permit.
Information publicity	Basic information of foreign teachers shall be released on an information publicity website.
Credit system	A credit system for foreign teachers shall also be established.
Information sharing mechanism	An information sharing mechanism for foreign teachers shall also be established.
Sanctions on education institution	Education institutions employing unqualified foreign teachers will be fined up to RMB 10000 yuan for per teacher. If the situation is serious, their business permit shall be revoked.

(http://www.moe.gov.cn/jyb_xwfb/s248/202007/t20200721_474014.html)

2. Disposable Plastics Banned by end of 2020 in China

On July 10, 2020, Circular on Steadily Promoting and Cleanup of Plastic Pollution was released by National Development and Reform Commission to reduce disposable plastics across China.

The Circular re-stated that non-degradable plastics will be banned in major cities by end of 2020 and several different kinds of non-degradable plastics were detailed in the ban list, including but not limited to the following:

Plastic bags, plastic tableware, plastic knife, plastic fork, plastic spoon, plastic straw.

(https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/xgk/zcfb/tz/202007/t20200717_1233956.html)

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