

Frequently Asked Questions for Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass

Updated as of 30 Dec 2022

A. *Eligibility criteria*

Q1: If I earned a fixed monthly salary of S\$30,000 for only a few months over the last 1 year, am I eligible for the Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass?

Q2: If I earned a fixed monthly salary of S\$30,000 over the last 1 year but this was from more than one employer, am I eligible for the Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass?

You will have to earn a fixed monthly salary of at least S\$30,000 over the last year to be eligible for Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass. You will need to demonstrate this by submitting monthly payslips for a consecutive period of 12 months.

If you worked for more than one employer during this period, you must be earning a fixed monthly salary of at least S\$30,000 from at least one employer.

Q3: If I earn a fixed monthly salary of less than S\$30,000 with my employer, but my annual income comprising other types of income (e.g., fees from sitting on the Board, or stock options/dividends in my company) is more than S\$360,000, am I eligible to apply for the Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass?

You may apply for the Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass. Your application will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the relevant government agencies.

Q4: If I would like to apply for the Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass based on my prospective employment in Singapore, do I need to show that I have an employment contract with my future employer?

You will need to demonstrate that you will be undertaking permanent employment e.g., show that you have an employment contract of at least 1 year with your future employer.

Q5: If I have worked in Singapore on a work pass for less than 12 months, can I apply for the Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass as an existing work pass holder?

MOM considers your employment records over the past 12 months when assessing your eligibility for an Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass.

If you have worked in Singapore for less than 12 months, you may apply under the overseas applicant route and submit information on your overseas employment prior to coming to Singapore.

Q6: Why is the denomination for market capitalisation and annual company revenue in USD?

This is the standard currency used to determine market capitalisation and annual company revenue internationally. The websites (Pitchbook, Yahoo Finance, Crunchbase, Bloomberg, Google Finance, Venturecap, preqin, QCC.com, chinaventure.com.cn and itjuzi.com) that applicants should use to determine market capitalisation and annual company revenue provide information in this currency.

Q7: Will existing work pass holders applying on the basis of their prospective employment meeting the Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass criteria be subject to checks on whether their prospective employers are established companies?

Existing work pass holders who have not earned a fixed monthly salary of at least \$30,000 over the last 12 months can apply for the Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass, if they will be earning a fixed monthly salary of at least \$30,000 going forward.

MOM will apply additional verification checks on your prospective employer. In general, your prospective employer will need to be an established company.

If not, you may re-apply for the Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass after you have earned a fixed monthly salary of at least S\$30,000 over 12 months. Alternatively, you may apply for another work pass type (e.g., Employment Pass, Personalised Employment Pass, EntrePass, Tech.Pass).

B. Outstanding achievements track**Q8: How will MOM assess individuals with outstanding achievements?**

MOM and other agencies such as MCCY, MOE, NRF and A*STAR will holistically review applications based on the work and key achievements accomplished by each applicant.

Under the outstanding achievements track for academia and research, applicants are required to submit a detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV) (including academic qualification, professional experiences, and accomplishments), and letter(s) of endorsement by a local host research institution (i.e., Autonomous University / A*STAR) before they would be considered.

C. Applying for an Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass**Q9: Can a company apply for the Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass on behalf of its employee?**

Yes, a company can apply for Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass on behalf of the prospective pass holder.

The employer will have to inform the prospective pass holder that the company is applying on his or her behalf and on the legal clauses that the pass holder has to agree with. The employer

should send a copy of the submitted application form to the prospective pass holder for his record. After approval, the pass holder will need to sign the relevant declaration form and submit it to the MOM officer during his or her appointment at the Employment Pass Services Centre.

Q10: I am an existing Employment Pass holder and I want to apply for the Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass. Should I cancel my existing Employment Pass?

You should ask your current employer to cancel your Employment Pass after your Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass application is approved and when you are ready to get the Pass issued.

Q11: If my Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass application is unsuccessful but I qualify for an Employment Pass, will that be automatically assessed or does my prospective employer have to submit a new application for an Employment Pass?

Q12: Can my employer apply for an Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass and Employment Pass for me at the same time?

An applicant can only submit one application at any point in time. If your Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass application is unsuccessful but you are eligible for an Employment Pass, your employer may submit a separate application for the Employment Pass.

Q13: Can I apply for the Pass from outside Singapore?

Yes, you can apply for the Pass while you are outside Singapore. If you are successful in your application, you will have to make an appointment to get the pass issued at the Employment Pass Services Centre in Singapore. You can refer to the In-Principle Approval (IPA) Letter for more information.

D. Staying on the Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass

Q14: Personalised Employment Pass (PEP) holders may stay in Singapore for up to 6 months without a job in search of new employment. Can Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass holders stay in Singapore for the same period of time while unemployed?

We are providing Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass holders with flexibilities to explore new opportunities and make an impact to benefit Singapore, and we recognise that this could take time to happen. Therefore, we do not require Pass holders to immediately leave Singapore if they become unemployed.

However, to ensure that Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass holders are contributing meaningfully over time, we will request information from Pass holders annually. This

information includes details on professional activities and annual income over the past year and will contribute to the assessment of renewals at the end of 5 years. MOM reserves the right to cancel the Pass if there are extended periods of economic inactivity with no good reasons.

Q15: I am no longer working in Singapore and returning to my home country for good. However, my Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass has yet to expire. Can I hold on to the Pass?

If you are no longer working in Singapore and your departure from Singapore is permanent, you will have to cancel the Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass within 1 week from your departure.

E. Dependants

Q16: What is the duration of the Dependant's Pass (DP) or Long-Term Visit Pass (LTV) given to dependants of Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass holders?

The duration is 5 years, the same duration given to the Overseas & Networks Expertise Pass main pass holder.

If the main pass holder subsequently successfully renews his or her Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass, the DP or LTV will also be renewed for 5 years.

Q17: I am an existing Employment Pass holder, and I am converting to the Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass, do I need to re-apply for a Dependant's Pass (DP) or Long-Term Visit Pass (LTV) for my dependants?

Yes, you will need to submit new applications. You can apply for a DP/LTV for your dependants immediately after your submission for the Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass.

Q18: Can spouses of Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass holders on Letter of Consent concurrently be business owners and employees?

No. A spouse of an Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass holder is allowed to work for 1 employer only. If the spouse is a [business owner](#), they will be considered employed by their own company and cannot work for another employer.

F. Permanent Residency

Q19: Can an Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass holder apply to be a Singapore Permanent Resident (PR)?

Similar to Employment Pass and S Pass holders, Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass holders are eligible to apply for PR. They can apply through the website of the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA).

G. Others

Q20: Are there any additional conditions that I need to meet for certain occupations?

If you are engaging in certain professions, in addition to obtaining an Overseas Networks & Expertise Pass, you will require professional registration from the respective professional bodies (examples of such professions include healthcare professionals, lawyers, football players or coaches). You may also require licensing (for example, a valid license issued by the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) if your employer is a food establishment).