



## **Important Notes**

### **for Minor International Students Applying for a Visa**

First and foremost, it is important to clarify that for international students under the age of 18, the steps for applying for a student visa follow the same process outlined in the **10-Step Guide**. The steps to apply for an X1 student visa are identical to those for students aged 18 and above.

The *only difference* lies in Step 2 of the **10-Step Guide**. While waiting for the issuance of the JW202 form after completing the survey to generate it, **minor international students under the age of 18 are required to simultaneously begin the process of finding a Temporary Guardian** in China. This individual must either be a Chinese citizen or a foreigner with valid residence documents in China. Only after confirming a Temporary Guardian will the JW202 form be issued, allowing the student to proceed to the next steps of the visa application process.

#### **1. Why Do Minor International Students Need a Temporary Guardian to Apply for a Chinese Visa?**

In accordance with Chinese laws and regulations, and based on the guardianship requirements outlined in Decree No. 42 jointly issued by the Chinese Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Ministry of Public Security (effective July 1, 2017), Duke Kunshan University (DKU) cannot take on legal custody responsibilities for students under the age of 18 (referred to as “Minor Students”) in China.

As a result, prior to their arrival in China, parents or legal guardians of Minor Students must formally authorize a Temporary Guardian in writing. This Temporary Guardian must be either a Chinese citizen or a foreigner who is currently residing in China and will remain in China for the entirety of the guardianship period. The Temporary Guardian will act on behalf of the Minor Student in legal and other relevant matters during the student’s stay in China.



To comply with these legal regulations and to ensure that minor international students can successfully study in China, DKU has developed the Duke Kunshan University Guardianship Guidance to safeguard Minor Students and ensure legal compliance. The International Student Services Office (ISS) has also established the "Minor International Students Temporary Guardianship Program" to facilitate this process.

## **2. Steps to Apply for DKU's Minor International Students Temporary Guardianship Program**

### **1. Intention Survey**

Minor international students must complete an intention application survey (mid-to-late May).

### **2. Search for Temporary Guardian**

Students can either find a Temporary Guardian on their own or request assistance from DKU ISS to locate a suitable guardian (late May).

### **3. Meetings and Agreement Preparation**

DKU ISS arranges meetings for both the student and the prospective guardians. During these meetings, both parties will be informed about the guardianship policies, and all relevant forms and documents will be signed and submitted (early June).

### **4. Submission to Jiangsu Education Department**

ISS will collect all required documents from both Minor Students and Temporary Guardians. The final package will be submitted to the Jiangsu Education Department by the official deadline (mid-to-late June).

## **3. Specific Documents Required for the Minor International Students Temporary Guardianship Program**

### **1. Duke Kunshan University Guardianship Guidance**

This guidance document is provided by the Duke Kunshan University as part of the Minor Students Temporary Guardianship Program. It outlines the principles, policies, and procedures for implementing the program.



# DUKE KUNSHAN

Office of International Student Services

Both Minor Students and their parents/legal guardians are required to carefully

read and understand this document.

*Note: This document does not need to be submitted.*

## 2. **Temporary Guardianship Authorization Form for Minor Students**

This form must be completed and signed by the Minor Student and their parent(s)/legal guardian(s). It authorizes the assignment of a Chinese Temporary Guardian on behalf of the student.

The form includes the student's personal information, home address, and parent/legal guardian contact details. Additionally, in accordance with regulations from the Jiangsu Education Department, **this form must be notarized by a certified local notary service** before it is submitted.

ISS will collect the notarized forms and submit them to the provincial education department for review.

## 3. **Temporary Guardianship Authorization Form for Temporary Guardians**

Similar to the form completed by Minor Students, this document must be signed by the Chinese Temporary Guardian, who voluntarily agree to act as the Minor Student's guardian in China.

Aside from signing this form, the Temporary Guardian also needs to provide valid identification documents, such as a copy of their Chinese ID card and passport. ISS will collect these materials and share them as needed with the relevant Minor Student before submitting the complete guardianship package to the Jiangsu Education Department.

By following the steps and submitting the required materials through this program, minor international students will be able to fulfill the legal requirements necessary to obtain a Chinese student visa and begin their studies at Duke Kunshan University. For questions or further assistance with this process, please contact DKU ISS.