



How to Apply for a Money Lenders Licence



Important

This pamphlet is intended to provide a general guide. It should be read in conjunction with the provisions of the Money Lenders Ordinance (Chapter 163 of the Laws of Hong Kong) and should not be regarded as a substitute for reading it. You can purchase a hard copy of the Money Lenders Ordinance from the Online Government Bookstore (www.bookstore.gov.hk) or call the Publications Sales Unit of the Information Services Department at (852) 2537 1910. You can also read the full text of the Ordinance at www.elegislation.gov.hk. You are advised to seek independent professional advice as you see fit.

1. What should I do if I want to apply for a money lenders licence?

Step 1 Download the application form, statement form and the relevant supplementary information sheets (SISs) at www.cr.gov.hk (Note 1). You can also obtain the forms from the Information Counter of the Money Lenders Section on the 13th floor of Queensway Government Offices.

Step 2 Complete three sets each of the application form and statement form and one set each of the relevant SISs. (Each form must be *manually signed*)

Step 3 Prepare a business plan for the money-lending business (Note 2).

Step 4 Deliver the following documents to the Information Counter of the Money Lenders Section on the 13th floor of Queensway Government Offices together with the application fee (Notes 3 to 7) -

- (a) two sets each of the application form and statement form, one set each of the relevant SISs and a business plan; and
- (b)(i) evidence of authorisation (if the applicant is a limited company); or
- (ii) a character or business reference (if the applicant is an individual or a partner of a firm).

Step 5 Deliver one set each of the application form and statement form to the Money Lenders Licensing Section, Licensing Office, Hong Kong Police Force on the 12th floor, Arsenal House, Police Headquarters, 1 Arsenal Street, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

(Please note the other supporting documents as required by the Commissioner of Police as set out in the "*Guideline on Application for New Issue/Renewal of and Endorsement on Money Lenders Licence*" issued by the Police overleaf.)

2. What can I get?

The licensing court will grant a money lenders licence valid for 12 months if it thinks fit.

3. How long does it take?

Normally, a licence will be granted in 3 to 4 months' time from the date of delivery of the application.

Notes :

1. Please use the relevant forms for the application.

Form No.	Description of Form
Application for a licence – by individual / partnership	
2	Application by an individual for a licence for himself or for a partnership
4	Statement in support of an application by an individual for a licence for himself or for a partnership
SIS-2	Supplementary Information Sheet - Application by an individual for a money lenders licence for a sole proprietor or for a partnership
SIS-2A	Supplementary Information Sheet - Fit and Proper Criteria - Application by an individual for a money lenders licence for a sole proprietor or for a partnership
Application for a licence – by company	
3	Application by a company for a licence
5	Statement in support of an application by a company for a licence
SIS-1	Supplementary Information Sheet - Application by a company for a money lenders licence
SIS-1A	Supplementary Information Sheet - Fit and Proper Criteria - Application by a company for a money lenders licence

2. Applicants for a money lenders licence are required to submit a business plan with their application to show that the applicants have comprehensive understanding of the money-lending business and are ready to carry on the business. Key items of information that should be included in the business plan are set out in the "*Guideline on Submission of Business Plan by Applicant of a Money Lenders Licence*" which can be downloaded at www.cr.gov.hk.
3. **Service hours of the Money Lenders Section** -
Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. & 1:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
4. **Shroff hours** –
Monday to Friday 8:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. & 1:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
5. For information on application and other fees, please refer to the information pamphlet "*Fees Payable under the Money Lenders Ordinance*" which can be downloaded at www.cr.gov.hk or obtained from the Information Counter of the Money Lenders Section on the 13th floor of the Queensway Government Offices.
6. You may send your application and cheque to the Money Lenders Section of the Companies Registry by post. Cheques should be made payable to the "*Companies Registry*".
7. For delivery of documents to the Companies Registry outside office hours on Monday to Saturday (except public holidays), you can make use of the Registry's Drop-in box provided near the Information Counter on the Deck Floor, High Block, Queensway Government Offices.

Guideline on Application for New Issue/ Renewal of and Endorsement on Money Lenders Licence

The Money Lenders Ordinance (Cap. 163) specifies the factors that the licensing court shall consider in processing an application for a money lenders licence. The factors include:

- (i) whether the applicant is a fit and proper person to carry on business as a money lender (e.g. the general knowledge, qualification and experience in relation to money lending business etc);
- (ii) whether the premises to which the application relates are suitable for the carrying on of the business of money-lending (e.g. usage of the premises and permission from the landlord and tenant etc); and
- (iii) whether the grant of such licence is contrary to the public interest.

To facilitate the investigation to be carried out in respect of an application for the purposes of determining whether, in the opinion of the Commissioner of Police (CP), there are grounds for objecting the application in accordance with the Money Lenders Ordinance, the CP may require the applicant to produce the following documents for processing the application:

Required Documents	Contents
Documentary proof to support the applicant's capability in managing the money lending business	Reference letter of previous working experience in money lending business, relevant certificate, etc. (Resumes are not accepted).
Documentary proof to show the financial situation of the applicant	Bank statements of the company, directors or shareholders.
Tenancy agreement	Tenancy agreement for premises intended to be used for money lending business.
General permission from the landlord	Written consent from landlord and tenant, if the premises is sublet, for the intended use of premises for money lending business.
"Permit to occupy a new building" issued by the Buildings Department	Specifying the use of premises for "office" or "shop" purposes. If the permit does not allow the use of premises for the above purposes, permission from the Buildings Department, District Lands Office and/or Town Planning Board for the change of use is required.
Land Register obtained from the Land Registry by conducting land search	Specifying the ownership of premises.
Floor plan inside the premises	Showing the partitions and equipments inside the premises.
Annual return if the applicant is a company	Showing the directors and shareholders of the applicant.

The above list is not exhaustive. The CP may require the applicant to produce other documents to assist the processing. Please prepare **TWO** sets of the abovementioned documents. When an application for Money Lenders Licence (including new issue, renewal and endorsement) is made, the applicant shall send a copy of the application form to the CP. For enquiries, please contact the Licensing Office (Money Lender Licensing Section), Hong Kong Police Force, during office hours at **2860 3574**.

**Licensing Office(Money Lender Licensing Section)
Hong Kong Police Force**