

New policies to aid SARs’ young people

Guangdong cities offering new business and study support for talents from Hong Kong and Macao

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A number of cities in Guangdong province have rolled out preferential policies to further attract young people from the Hong Kong and Macao special administrative regions.

In the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-25) of the province's capital Guangzhou, for example, authorities pledge to optimize policies to facilitate study, employment, business startups and living standards for residents from the two regions. The plan also promises to continue building bases for innovation and entrepreneurship for young people from the SARs.

Shenzhen has vowed to optimize its services for Hong Kong and Macao residents in innovation and business startups and aims to offer the same living entitlements as locals.

In Zhuhai, the local government plans to explore ways to give the same treatment to residents from neighboring Macao as locals and make it easier for young people from the SAR to study, work and live in the city. It will also explore “green cards” for talented people from Hong Kong and Macao.

The new support for young people from the SARs came as the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area marked the second anniversary of its outline development plan.

Previous policies on issues such as processing of cross-border business license applications, tax subsidies, residence permits and cross-border office buildings have lowered the costs for young people from Hong Kong and Macao of starting businesses, said Zhang Guangnan, a professor of the Institute of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao Development Studies at Sun Yat-sen University.

Other policies have helped address issues such as insufficient resources and unbalanced opportunities for starting businesses, as well as solutions to different cross-border corporate cultures. However, he added that additional efforts were needed to tackle these issues.

More government agencies and organizations in Guangdong, including educational authorities, universities, and the Hong Kong and Macao affairs offices, have joined in the efforts and widened the policy rollouts.

The central government and the governments of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, as well as city governments in Guangdong, have all issued policies including those on taxation, financial support and housing.

Que Guangling, an official with Guangzhou's United Front Work Department, said this month the city had offered 1 billion yuan (\$153.8 million) to support Hong Kong and Macao youths start businesses.

A project guideline to encourage innovative and entrepreneurial endeavors by Hong Kong and Macao people, which offers up to 4.5 million yuan for a single project, is also in place.

Forty-four innovation and business startup bases for people from the SARs are operating in



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Guangzhou, accommodating 349 projects, including those in the fields of high-technology, e-commerce, biopharmaceuticals and animation.

The projects have resulted in 1,401 product patents and drawn investment financing of more than 1 billion yuan.

A total of 17,310 local social security cards have been issued to people from Hong Kong and Macao.

Zhang said all policies are cooperative and competitive, with local advantages taken into account, such as special economic zones, free trade zones, the business environment and industrial and cultural features.

The corporate sector is also offering internships and job opportunities to young people from the SARs.

Public service platforms have sprung up in cities such as Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Zhuhai, which are run by Hong Kong and Macao people, government agencies and enterprises.

The participation of enterprises indicates that more policies are being turned into concrete results, with businesses eyeing projects for investment, Zhang said.

Institutions offering support to young people from Hong Kong and Macao are paying greater attention to how many are being served by the

policies, whether they have better knowledge of the Bay Area and whether their education makes them proficient enough to apply their skills in practical terms.

Zhang said both the government and corporate sides are looking more at the realization of projects, be they commercial ones or professional services.

An increase in turning policies into concrete results is also attributable to closer coordination between various government agencies.

Meanwhile, integration in the Bay Area has been advancing, facilitating complementary development and increasing career paths for young

people from Hong Kong and Macao.

SAR people excel in manufacturing and commercial services, which have wider application on the mainland, especially in Guangdong's highly developed manufacturing sector and also under the country's dual-circulation strategy.

Liang Haiming, chairman of the China Silk Road iValley Research Institute, said the efforts to support the SARs' young people and grasp “huge opportunities” had arisen from the building up of the Bay Area.

He suggested the policies be honed to offer support to those with fewer financial resources and job skills.

HK doctor glad to work in Guangzhou

By **ZHENG CAIXIONG** and **LI WENFANG** in Guangzhou

Although he earns less than his classmates and friends back home in Hong Kong, Jacky Tsui Ching-Kit, a doctor in Guangzhou, Guangdong province, said his choice to work on the Chinese mainland has been rewarding.

“Now, many doctors on my level are earning between 80,000 and 100,000 Hong Kong dollars (\$12,900) a month in Hong Kong, much more than my monthly salary, but I do not envy them,” said the surgeon, who specializes in fundus disease — a disease of the eye — at the Zhongshan Ophthalmic Center, part of Sun Yat-sen University.

“I’ve never regretted choosing to work in the Guangdong provincial capital after graduation,” Tsui said in an interview.

Tsui, 33, said he is more interested

in accumulating knowledge than material wealth.

He became an ophthalmologist in Zhongshan center, which is located in the busy Zhujiang New Town, a central business district in Guangzhou's Tianhe district, after a year of training at the center in 2019. Tsui obtained his doctorate in ophthalmology from Sun Yat-sen University in 2018.

Tsui said his job working on the mainland offers him abundant opportunities.

“I usually see from 40 to 50 patients a week, and my team conducts about 20 surgeries during that period,” he said. “I also make the rounds in the wards and manage inpatients.”

Tsui said he can now perform some simple surgeries for his patients independently.

“My workload is much larger than many of my Hong Kong counterparts, but that can certainly help me



Jacky Tsui Ching-Kit

grow in terms of knowledge and experience,” he said.

Meanwhile, Tsui said he annually participates in many academic exchange events and high-profile international medical conferences that help him keep informed on the latest developments in medical science and technology.

As one of the four first-tier cities on the mainland, Guangzhou attracts many such exchanges and conferences every year, Tsui said.

“It was said that the mainland lagged between five and 10 years behind developed nations and regions in medical treatment, technologies, equipment, instruments and services. That is no longer the case,” he said.

He suggested young people from Hong Kong and Macao learn more about the mainland, which is enjoying rapid economic development and is providing more and more opportunities to youths from the two special administrative regions.

Tsui said his father, a retired doctor in Hong Kong, also supports his work in Guangzhou.

Chen Jie, a doctor at the First Affiliated Hospital of Jinan University in Guangzhou, said because China has opened up more to the outside world, young doctors on the mainland now have even more opportunities and channels to learn about the latest advancements in medical science and thus improve quickly.

“In addition to having more patients, the mainland offers highly advanced medical treatment, technology and equipment,” he said.

Chen said he believed Tsui has made the right choice to work in Guangzhou, and Tsui is not alone.

“Now, many Hong Kong students who study at Jinan have chosen to work on the mainland after they

graduate, as working on the mainland will broaden their perspective,” he added.

Jinan annually recruits a large number of students from Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao as well as overseas Chinese students.

Tsui was an undergraduate at Jinan University, majoring in clinical medicine before he obtained his master's degree in public health in Hong Kong.

Now, he's enjoying living in Guangzhou, which is less than an hour away from Hong Kong on the high-speed train. His salary has allowed him to have a good life in the city, where he resides in an apartment near his hospital in a prime location.

Tsui can now use his residence permit to purchase bus and railway tickets, and he can open accounts at local banks. Previously, Tsui was required to show his travel documents to do these things.

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Policy Digest

Supervision of medical device dealers urged

Online shopping platform operators who embrace sellers of medical devices will face scrutiny as the country's regulators step up quality checks on the thriving industry.

Signed by Premier Li Keqiang in February and released by the State Council on March 18, a regulation on the supervision and administration of medical devices has adapted to the evolving market to better protect public interests.

The regulation aims to ensure the safety and effectiveness of medical devices, to protect people's health and safety and to further develop the medical device industry.

According to the regulation that will take effect on June 1, online shopping platform operators should require real-name registration from medical device dealers.

The platforms should review their business licenses and product registration status, and the online dealings must be checked and managed by the platforms, the regulation said.

If e-commerce platforms discover medical device dealers are violating the provisions of the regulation, they should immediately report them to local city-level authorities in charge of drug supervision and administration.

If a serious violation is found, online trading platform services will be stopped immediately, the regulation said.

According to the regulation, the country will also give priority to medical device innovation and encourage clinical applications to sustain high-quality development.

Enterprises are urged to cooperate with universities and scientific research and medical institutions on studies and innovation. Intellectual property rights of medical devices will also be better protected.

Advisory board set up to help curb myopia

A special expert advisory committee has been set up by the National Health Commission to help tackle the looming problem of nearsightedness among the younger generation.

Myopia has affected 53.6 percent of Chinese youth, according to statistics from last year.

China has proposed to effectively curb childhood obesity and myopia in the outline of its 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-25) for national economic and social development and its long-range objectives through 2035.

The committee was founded to provide professional advice for strategies and policies related to eye health management and, in particular, the prevention and control of myopia.

Built upon an existing panel consisting of ophthalmologists, the committee will offer support by professionals to cover areas including myopia prevention and treatment, infant health, public health, traditional Chinese medicine and health education.

The first members of the committee, with a three-year tenure, are expected to consult on technology standards and government efforts in drafting relevant laws and regulations.

Decline in traffic deaths nationwide reported

For the first time since 2006, there has been a decline in the number of deaths of electric-bike riders across the country, according to the Ministry of Public Security.

China has seen the death rate in traffic accidents involving electric bikes, motorcycles and cars drop by over 10 percent year-on-year since the launch of a safety campaign last year, the ministry said on March 19.

Last year, the ministry launched a campaign requiring motorcycle and electric-bike riders to wear safety helmets, while motorists and passengers are now compelled to wear seat belts.

Since June 1, riding a motorcycle without a helmet and driving or riding in a car without wearing a seat belt have been punishable offenses.