

# uholidays

uholidays is a web service which provides the current list of university holidays, from the source of Hong Kong government and the tradition of the University of Hong Kong.

## 1. Dependency

`https://github.com/u01jmg3/ics-parser`

## 2. Installation

Copy the folder uholidays to a path of your web server.

## 3. Show Holidays

URL: `[http://www.fbe.hku.hk/webform/uholidays/index.php]` (`http://www.fbe.hku.hk/webform/uholidays/index.php`)  
It will simply show the list of university holiday in JSON data format. For example:

```
[
  {
    "date": "20180925",
    "name": "The day following the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival",
    "day": "Tuesday",
    "type": "FULL",
    "source": "gov"
  },
  {
    "date": "20181001",
    "name": "National Day",
    "day": "Monday",
    "type": "FULL",
    "source": "gov"
  },
  {
    "date": "20181224",
    "name": "Christmas Eve (University holiday) - to be confirmed",
    "day": "Monday",
    "type": "FULL",
    "source": "hku"
  },
]
```

## 4. Check/Find Holidays

We can check whether a date is university holiday or not by calling the following function:

```
**checkHoliday($date_str)**
Input: $date_str is in the format of yyyymmdd
Output:
    true when it is a holiday
    false when it is not a holiday

**Example:**

[**http://www.fbe.hku.hk/webform/uholidays/test_check.php**](http://www.fbe.hku.hk/webform/uholidays/test_check.php)
```

We can find the information of a university holiday calling the following function:

```
**findHoliday($date_str)**
Input:
    $date_str is in the format of yyyymmdd
Output:
    an object of a holiday
    null when it is not a holiday

**Example:**

[http://www.fbe.hku.hk/webform/uholidays/test_find.php](http://www.fbe.hku.hk/webform/uholidays/test_find.php)
```

```
<?php
$show_json = 0;
include "../index.php";
print_json(findHoliday('20180925'));
/*
// will show the following
{
  "date": "20180925",
  "name": "The day following the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival",
  "day": "Tuesday",
  "type": "FULL",
  "source": "gov"
}
*/
print_json(findHoliday('20180926')); // will show null
?>
```

## 5. Holiday Update

When using the include file each time, it will **check** a **stored file first**. **when** the **file** contains equal **to less than** a **number of records** **greater than** **1000** it will **re-download** the **file** from the **source** **url** **again**.  
[<http://www.1823.gov.hk/common/ical/gc/en.ics>](<http://www.1823.gov.hk/common/ical/gc/en.ics>)

The **output of** the **iCal events** will be converted **to a list of** **holidays** **and** saved **as a file for** **retrieval next time**.

## 6. University Holidays

The following university holidays will be added to the list. Note that no extra holidays will be allocated when it **is** on Saturday (01/01/2018).

- The day preceding Lunar New Year's Day (PM)
- University Foundation Day (Full day of 16 March)
- Christmas Eve (Full day of 24 December)
- New Year's Eve (PM of 31 December)

## 7. Remarks

The current server at [www.fbeitt.hku.hk](http://www.fbeitt.hku.hk) seems unable to **read** from any external website by php **\*\*curl/file\_get\_contents\*\*** functions.

It is recommended to install this service to another server with proper **\*\*file\_get\_contents\*\*** functions.

**\$REFRESH\_COUNTER** (default = 3) located in the **\*\*index.php\*\*** is to control **when** the **iCal file** will be **read**. When there are just **\$1**

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