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## Migrant domestic worker eligibility

Migrant domestic workers (**MDWs**) need to meet the age, nationality/citizenship and education requirements to get a Work Permit.

### Who is eligible

Helpers must meet these requirements to be eligible for a Work Permit:

<b>Sex</b>	Female
<b>Age</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>From 23 to below 50 years old during the Work Permit application.</li><li>Helpers aged 50 and above can only renew their Work Permits until they are 60 years old.</li></ul>
<b>Source country or region</b>	From an approved source country or region, including Bangladesh, Cambodia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Macau, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan and Thailand.
<b>Education</b>	Minimum 8 years of formal education with a <b><u>recognised certificate</u></b>  .

In addition, helpers must:

- Work at employers' NRIC-registered addresses.
- Attend the **Settling-in Programme** (**SIP**) if they are **first-time helpers**. We will inform employers if their helpers need to attend the SIP in the Work Permit in-principle approval (**IPA**) letter.
- Not be related to their employers.
- Not be in Singapore during the Work Permit application. Employers can only bring helpers into Singapore after they have received an IPA letter and bought a \$5,000 security bond.

**Note:** This does not apply to Malaysian workers.

### Criteria for first-time helpers

A first-time helper is one who has never worked in Singapore as a helper before. This includes a helper who:

- Doesn't have an employment record as a helper with **MOM**'s Work Pass Division.
- Has an employment record as a helper with MOM but eventually did not work in Singapore.

#### Note

First-time helpers will also need to meet **vaccination requirements** to get their pass issued.



## Related questions

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**My future spouse used to be a Work Permit holder, but no longer works in Singapore. Do we still need approval to get married?**

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**How do I check an MDW's employment history?**

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**Can I hire an MDW who is aged 50 and above?**

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**What is the maximum number of years an MDW can work for the same employer?**

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**Is there a minimum duration for employing an MDW?**

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