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## Non-Traditional Sources (NTS) Occupation List

Firms in Manufacturing and Services sectors can hire Work Permit holders from NTS for a restricted set of occupations in the NTS Occupation List.

### What is the NTS Occupation List

Firms in the Manufacturing and Services sectors can hire Work Permit holders from the following countries or regions:


- Malaysia
- People's Republic of China (PRC)
- North Asian sources (NAS):
  - Hong Kong (HKSAR passport)
  - Macau
  - South Korea
  - Taiwan

Under the NTS Occupation List, firms will be allowed to hire Work Permit holders from the following countries or regions for a restricted set of occupations:

- Bangladesh
- India
- Myanmar
- Philippines
- Sri Lanka
- Thailand

### Requirements

Firms must meet all of the following requirements:

- Keep within a **sub-Dependency Ratio Ceiling (DRC) of 8% for NTS Work Permit holders**  in the NTS Occupation List.
- Pay their Work Permit holder performing occupations in this list a **fixed monthly salary** of at least \$2,000.
- Work Permit holders must only perform the occupation stated on their Work Permit.

## NTS Occupation List

The NTS Occupation List comprises:

- **Cooks in Indian restaurants.** This will better support our multi-ethnic food culture.


### Tip

Restaurants (Services sector) can already hire Work Permit holders from Malaysia, PRC and North Asian countries or regions.

MOM has put together **a panel comprising industry and government stakeholders** in Indian cuisine to assess firms' eligibility. To be eligible for the Non-Traditional Source Occupation List (NTS-OL) for cooks in Indian Restaurants, restaurants must meet the following requirements:

- Have a valid SFA food licence with a Business Trade Description as 'Restaurant', 'Restaurant with catering', 'Small Restaurant' or 'Coffeeshop/eating house'.
- Serve primarily Indian cuisine, such as biryani, prata, or Indian snacks e.g. vadai, paniyaram.

To see if your firm is eligible, please **apply online**.

Upon approval, you can apply to hire cooks from NTS using  **WP Online**.

### Tip

Indian restaurants will be able to hire cooks from India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka at the Work Permit level under the NTS Occupation List.

You can apply for a work permit for the other NTS occupations listed below using  **WP Online**.

- **Housekeeping workers and porters in licensed hotels**
- **Food processing workers**

Excludes:

- Food processing supervisors and general foremen.
- Other food and beverage jobs like tasters, graders, bakers, pastry-cooks and confectionery makers.
- **Workers in manufacturing firms** such as general manufacturers, precision engineering, transport engineering, automotive firms, working as:
  - Sheet metal workers
  - Welders and flame cutters
  - Metal moulders and coremakers
  - Riggers and cable splicers
  - Structural metal preparers and erectors

MOM will review the NTS Occupation List from time to time.

## For more information

- Read our **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**. 

