Q & A for incoming exchange students to Peking University

Q: Is electrical signature acceptable?
A: No, all documents need to be hand-signed and/or stamped.

Q: Can I send you color-printed documents or personal photo?
A: Strongly not recommended.

Q: What if I do not have a guarantor in China?
A: You can put your home university's contact in that space.

Q: What is the difference between “School of Chinese as a Second Language” and “other schools/departments”?
A: The School of Chinese as a Second Language offers Chinese language training courses, which are exclusively for international students who do not speak Chinese well. Other schools/departments offer PKU undergraduate courses (Chinese-taught/English-taught). If you are enrolled in “other schools/departments”, that means (1) your Chinese is good enough for you to select courses instructed in Chinese university-wide, or (2) you give up Chinese language learning and only take English-taught courses.

Q: What is the difference between the School of Chinese as a Second Language and the Department of Chinese Language and Literature at PKU?
A: The School of Chinese as a Second Language offers Chinese language courses, training international students, from elementary to advanced levels, in Chinese reading, speaking, listening and writing.
The Department of Chinese Language and Literature offers undergraduate and graduate courses in Chinese literature and linguistics for both Chinese students and international students, which require high level of Chinese proficiency (HSK Level 6, over 210 points).

Q: I want to go to “other schools/departments”, but I do not have HSK 6 during application. What can I do?
A: You may test your Chinese language proficiency by trying PKU MOOC courses at http://mooc.pku.edu.cn/mooc/.
Q: If I choose “other departments/schools” during application period, can I change it to study Chinese at School of Chinese as a Second Language when I register?
A: No. But if you choose “School of Chinese as a Second Language” during the application period, you may apply to give up Chinese language learning and only take undergraduate courses at other departments/schools. Therefore, if you are not quite sure of your study plan, please select “School of Chinese as a Second Language” during the application period.

Q: Is medical test compulsory?
A: It is connected with the visa you received. Normally X1 visa requires medical test, X2 visa does not.

Q: Can I do the medical test upon arrival?
A: Yes.

Q: I am applying/changing my passport. Can I provide the copy of passport later?
A: Yes.

Q: Do I need to pay deposit money to rent a room?
A: Yes. Usually local agent will charge one month rent as deposit. You may lose the deposit if you want to move out prior notice to the tenancy. It is strongly recommended to check the room before making a decision.

Q: PKU will provide accommodation for me as part of the scholarship, can I arrive PKU a few days earlier than the day of registration?
A: Yes, but no more than 5 days before day of registration.

Q: I will be in my graduate year, can I still apply for exchange at PKU?
A: NOT recommended. But if you have been nominated, please make sure that you have completed all necessary credits for graduation at your home university before you start exchange at PKU.

Q: I am required by my home university that I must take one certain undergraduate course at PKU, can I be guaranteed to get that course?
A: No. That cannot be guaranteed. The undergraduate course registration system at designated time automatically picks up students if one course is too popular (applications outnumbered the limit). Please DO make sure that you do not have such compulsory burden before you come to PKU.

Q: I am a law school student who does not speak Chinese, can I take LLM graduate courses from PKU Law School?
A: English-taught graduate courses of special Master programs (MBA, MIR, LLM, MPP, Yenching Academy, etc.) are not open to exchange students. PKU Law School only offers
two English-taught undergraduate courses. If you are law school student and have the requirement of transferring law school credits back, we cannot guarantee that you get enough credits.

Q: I am a medicine student, can I take courses from the PKU Health Science Center?
A: No. Courses from the PKU Health Science Center, School of Software and Microelectronics are not open to exchange students.