

Annual Numerical Limits FY-2017

Family

<u>Preference</u>	<u>Foreign State</u>	<u>Worldwide</u>
F1	1,638	23,400
FX		65,950
F2A	6,151	21,984
F2B	1,838	26,266
F3	1,638	23,400
F4	4,555	65,000
Total	15,820	226,000

Unused numbers can “fall-down” from F1 to F2A to F2B to F3 to F4.

Unused F4 numbers can “fall-up” to F1. This potential is taken into consideration when setting the monthly/annual targets for number use. Those targets are established based on the historical and current patterns of number use, and are adjusted as necessary.

Note: (example) The total amount of FX/F2A numbers available would be 6,151. China issuances total 2,000 numbers under the FX classification, and 4,151 as F2As, reaching the overall limit. But the fact that 2,000 numbers had been issued as FX would not mean that they could be added to the F2B (1,838) limit.

But had the combined FX/F2A total only been 4,151, then the remaining 2,000 numbers (under F2A limit) could be added to the F2B limit.

Employment (limit)

<u>Preference</u>	<u>China*</u>	<u>All Others</u>	<u>Worldwide</u>
E1	2,803	2,803	40,040
E2	2,803	2,803	40,040
E3/EW	2,502	2,802	40,040**
E4/SR	692	696	9,940
E5	0	696	9,940
Total	8,800*	9,800	140,000

*The provisions of the Chinese Student Protection Act require that the China annual limit be reduced by 1,000. A total of 300 numbers are deducted from the E3 category, and 700 from the E5 category.

**The EW category is currently entitled to up to 5,000 of this total.

Unused numbers can “fall-down” from E1 to E2 to E3. Unused numbers can “fall-up” from E4 and E5 to E1. That fact is taken into consideration when setting the monthly/annual targets for number use, and based on historical/recent patterns of number use.