

Foreign Enterprise Entry to China: Initial Self-Check and Budget Planning List

Compiled by ChinaEntryHub.com China Market Access Service Center

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<https://www.chinaentryhub.com>

Stage 1: Strategy and Market Research

Objective: Define market positioning and compliance path.

1.1 In-Depth Market and Competitor Research

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 4-8 weeks

***Budget Range:** ¥80,000 - ¥300,000 / \$11,200 - \$42,000

***Key Points:** Engage professional agencies for market size, channels, competitor, and consumer insight analysis.

1.2 Product Access Preliminary Assessment

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 2-4 weeks

***Budget Range:** ¥10,000 - ¥50,000 / \$1,400 - \$7,000

***Key Points:** Initial assessment of the certifications (e.g., CCC) and registration (e.g., NMPA) required for the product.

1.3 Intellectual Property Risk Search

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 2-3 weeks

***Budget Range:** ¥15,000 - ¥40,000 / \$2,100 - \$5,600

***Key Points:** Conduct preliminary checks on trademarks and patents to assess potential infringement risks.

1.4 Entry Model and Structure Design

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 2-4 weeks

***Budget Range:** ¥20,000 - ¥100,000 / \$2,800 - \$14,000

***Key Points:** Determine the best model (WFOE, JV, cross-border e-commerce, etc.), and design optimal equity and tax structures.

Stage 2: Company Registration and Legal Entity

Objective: Complete legal registration and obtain a business license.

2.1 Company Name Pre-Approval

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 3-5 business days

***Budget Range:** Government fee approx. ¥300 / \$40

***Key Points:** Prepare 3-5 alternative company names for approval.

2.2 Core Personnel Document Notarization and Authentication

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 3-8 weeks

***Budget Range:** ¥5,000 - ¥20,000 /person / \$700 - \$2,800 /person

***Key Points:** Notarize and authenticate passports and other documents in the home country, then at the Chinese consulate. The time required may vary by country.

2.3 Foreign-Invested Enterprise Registration

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 6-10 weeks

***Budget Range:** ¥25,000 - ¥150,000+ / \$3,500 - \$21,000+

***Key Points:** Includes government fees, legal, and agency service fees. More complex structures or restricted industries may incur higher costs.

2.4 Lease of Registered Office (1st Year)

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** Pre-signing

***Budget Range:** ¥50,000 - ¥500,000+/year / \$7,000 - \$70,000+/year

***Key Points:** Must be a commercial address. Costs vary widely based on the city and location.

2.5 Company Stamps and Bank Account Setup

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 2-4 weeks

***Budget Range:** ¥3,000 - ¥10,000 / \$400 - \$1,400

***Key Points:** Complete after receiving the business license, including company seals, financial seals, legal representative seals, and bank account opening fees.

Stage 3: Product Access and Compliance Certification

Objective: Obtain permits for legal product sales in China.

3.1 Compulsory Product Certification (CCC)

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 6-12 months

***Budget Range:** ¥80,000 - ¥250,000/model / \$11,200 - \$35,000/model

***Key Points:** Duration and cost vary depending on product category, testing items, and factory inspection complexity.

3.2 Cosmetics Filing/Registration (NMPA)

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 6-24 months

***Budget Range:** ¥10,000 - ¥300,000+ / \$1,400 - \$42,000+

***Key Points:** General filing has lower cost and shorter cycle; special cosmetics or new ingredient registration is more expensive and time-consuming.

3.3 Medical Device Filing/Registration (NMPA)

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 6-36 months

***Budget Range:** ¥20,000 - ¥500,000+ / \$2,800 - \$70,000+

***Key Points:** Class I filing is fast; Class II and III registrations are long and expensive, often requiring clinical evaluations.

3.4 Product Quality Testing (Chinese Report)

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 4-8 weeks

***Budget Range:** ¥15,000 - ¥80,000/model / \$2,100 - \$11,200/model

***Key Points:** Conducted in CNAS accredited Chinese labs; necessary for certification or platform listing.

3.5 Chinese Label Design Review and Printing

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 2-4 weeks

***Budget Range:** ¥5,000 - ¥30,000 / \$700 - \$4,200

***Key Points:** Must comply with GB standards, including full ingredient list, usage instructions, and warnings.

Stage 4: Intellectual Property Protection

Objective: Complete registration of core trademarks and patents in China.

4.1 Trademark Registration Application (Per Class, Per Mark)

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 8-12 months for certificate

***Budget Range:** ¥1,500 - ¥3,500 / \$210 - \$490

***Key Points:** Includes official fees and basic agency fees. Recommended to file across multiple classes to prevent squatting.

4.2 Invention Patent Application

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 2-4 years for certificate

***Budget Range:** ¥15,000 - ¥40,000/item / \$2,100 - \$5,600/item

***Key Points:** Includes official fees, agency fees, and potential reply costs during the review stage.

4.3 Design Patent Application

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 6-10 months for certificate

***Budget Range:** ¥3,000 - ¥8,000/item / \$420 - \$1,120/item

***Key Points:** Protects the product's appearance. The registration process is relatively quick.

4.4 Internet Domain Name Registration (.cn/.com.cn)

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** Immediate

***Budget Range:** ¥100 - ¥500/domain/year / \$15 - \$70/domain/year

***Key Points:** Register core brand-related domains immediately to prevent them from being taken.

Stage 5: Financial, Tax, and Foreign Exchange System Setup

Objective: Establish financial operations and capital channels compliant with Chinese regulations.

5.1 Tax Registration and Taxpayer Qualification Determination

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 1-2 weeks

***Budget Range:** ¥0 - ¥5,000 / \$0 - \$700

***Key Points:** No government fee, but service fees may apply if outsourced. Apply for general taxpayer *Status.

5.2 Purchase of Financial Software and Account Setup

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 1-2 weeks

***Budget Range:** ¥5,000 - ¥30,000 / \$700 - \$4,200

***Key Points:** Purchase financial software (e.g., Yonyou, Kingdee) that complies with Chinese accounting standards and setup services.

5.3 Annual Accounting and Tax Reporting Services

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** Annually contracted

***Budget Range:** ¥30,000 - ¥120,000/year / \$4,200 - \$16,800/year

***Key Points:** Costs depend on revenue, business complexity, and invoicing volume.

5.4 Cross-Border Payment Channel Setup

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 4-8 weeks

***Budget Range:** ¥10,000 - ¥50,000 / \$1,400 - \$7,000

***Key Points:** Technical connection fees or annual fees for platforms such as Alipay International, WeChat Pay International. Transaction fees apply.

5.5 First Capital Injection

***Status:** ☐ Not Started ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed

***Duration:** 1-2 weeks

***Budget Range:** 0.1% - 0.2% of rem



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