

National Visa Applications

National visas are regulated in the framework of the existing national legislation and may be either for temporary stays or for residence, according to the length of the stay. Such visas allow their holder to remain in Portugal for the intended purpose: *e. g.* study, internship, work or medical treatment.

There are different types of National Visas, concerning the applicant's personal situation and the purposes of his/her visit.

In general, a temporary stay visa is valid for 4 months and with multiple entries. A residence visa is usually valid for 2 entries and for 4 months, after which its holder must have obtained a residence permit (see <http://www.imigrante.pt/PagesEN/ConcessaoAR.aspx>).

NECESSARY DOCUMENTS FOR THE APPLICATION OF ANY NATIONAL VISA:

1. Signed and filled [visa application form](#) (can be provided by the Consular Section at the Embassy of Portugal) (in case of minors or incapacitated the form should be signed by their legal tutor);
2. Valid travel document (+ 3 months after the intended date of departure);
3. Residence Card should be valid for at least three months after returning to the country of residence;
4. Two identical photographs, passport size, in white plain background with a good quality;
5. Ticket that assures the return (except: residence visas for family reunification, researching or teaching in a higher education institution, and highly skilled labor);
6. Travel medical insurance that covers any expenses which might arise, including urgent medical attention and repatriation;
7. Criminal record certificate from the country of origin and from the country where the applicant lives for more than a year;
8. Documents related to accommodation;
9. Documents proving that the applicant possesses sufficient income; [Portaria n.º. 1563/2007](#), 11th December and [Portaria n.º. 760/2009](#), 16th July;

10. Minors shall present an authorization signed by a person exercising permanent or temporary parental authority or by a legal guardian.

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS:

1. The following documents regarding **the applicant's personal situation** should be presented by either one of the categories:

- **For students:** document issued by the education institution stating that the student is registered in the school (the acceptance letter can be e-mail version from Portugal);
- **Study in higher education institutions:** document issued by an education institution stating that the student was admitted or has the conditions required to be admitted; document from your home university (if you are working the letter from your employee);
- **For non paid internship:** document issued by a company or recognized training institution stating the intern is accepted; the internship program; the training contract; the internship calendar.
- **Volunteering:** document certifying that the person has been admitted in an officially recognized volunteering organization in Portugal.
- Proof of labor-economic conditions:
 - o If you have a scholarship from your university; the documents that declare your scholarship from the university and the photocopy of your euro bank account within one month of scholarship payment;
 - o If you do not have a scholarship from your university, a letter of undertaking from the student's parents issued at the notary, and the SWORN translation of it; and the photocopy of the students' bank accounts.

2. The following documents regarding **the purpose of the visit** should be presented for each of the categories:

Temporary Stay Visa (Up to 1 Year - Allows the stay for a 4 month period with multiple entries. There are 7 subtypes according to the reason of stay, and each one requires the following specific documents):

- a. For medical treatment in official or officially recognized health facilities:
 - i. medical report;

- ii. certificate issued by an official or officially recognized health facility assuring hospitalization or outpatient treatment;
- b. In case of transfer of workers between countries within the World Trade Organization (WTO) to provide services or training (this visa applies to associates or subordinate employees for at least one year that are senior management with decision making powers or specific technical essential in the business or employees who intend to receive training):
 - i. documents certifying the transfer from the same company or group of companies;
- c. To get a temporary subordinate employment or self-employment:
 - i. Employment contract or promise of employment contract (6 months);
 - ii. Statement of the Portuguese Employment and Training Institute (IEFP – Instituto do Emprego e Formação Profissional) that the promise or contract concerns the supply available for third country nationals (subordinate work);
 - iii. partnership agreement or provision of services under self-employment);
- d. To pursue scientific research, teaching activity in higher education institution and highly qualified activity:
 - i. Employment contract;
 - ii. Contract of service or scholarship of less than one year;
- e. To pursue amateur sports activity:
 - i. Document from the competent federation confirming the sports activity;
 - ii. Statement of responsibility signed by the association or sports club on housing, health spending and costs until returning to the country of origin;
- f. To remain in the country for longer than three months in duly substantiated cases, namely the implementation of international commitments
 - i. proof of exceptional situation: contract of services; skills certificate;
- g. To accompany a family member submitted to medical treatment:

- i. Proof of family ties;
- ii. Medical report; certificate issued by an official health facility or officially recognized one assuring hospitalization or outpatient treatment.

Residence Visa (More than 1 year - Allows the stay for a 4 month period in order to lodge residence. There are 7 subtypes, according to the reason of stay):

- a. For subordinate work :
 - i. Employment contract or promise of employment contract;
 - ii. Statement of the Portuguese Employment and Training Institute (IEFP – Instituto do Emprego e Formação Profissional) confirming that the employment offer is included in the legal defined quota;
 - iii. statement that proves the skills to exercise a profession, when regulated in Portugal.
- b. For the pursuit of independent professional activity or for enterprising immigrants:
 - i. Contract of association or proposal of contract to provide services within the independent professions;
 - ii. Document issued by the competent authority stating that the person has the skills to work in national territory;
 - iii. Statement regarding the performance or the intention of performing an operation investment in national territory with economic, social, scientific,
 - iv. Proof of technological or cultural relevance;
 - v. certificate that the person has made operation investments or has the available financial resources for operation investments in national territory.
- c. For the pursuit of scientific research, teaching activity in higher education institution and highly qualified activity:
 - i. Employment contract, contract of service or scholarship.
- d. For study, student exchange, professional internship or volunteering:

- i. Study in high school: the person has the minimum age required and does not exceed the maximum age stated in Portaria n.º. 1079/07, 10th December;
 - i. Document issued by the education institution stating that the student is registered in the school;
 - ii. Certificate of reception by a family; or certificate of housing.
- ii. Non paid internship: document issued by a company or recognized training institution stating that the intern is accepted; the internship program; the training contract; the internship calendar.
- iii. Study in higher education institutions: document issued by an education institution stating that the student was admitted or has the conditions required to be admitted.
- iv. Volunteering: document certifying that the person has been admitted in an officially recognized volunteering organization in Portugal.
- e. For higher education mobility programmes (this visa is for third-country nationals that reside as higher education students in a Member State and want to apply for Portugal in order to continue an already initiated study programme or to complete it with another one):
 - i. certificate of participation in a community or bilateral interchange programme or a certification that the person was admitted as student in a Member State for a period of at least 2 years;
 - ii. certificate issued by the education institution stating that the student was admitted or has the conditions required to be admitted);
- f. For family reunion:
 - i. The family reunification Application shall be required first in Aliens and Border Service (SEF- Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras) – See www.sef.pt.
- g. For pensioners, clergy and people with earnings:

- i. Certificate from the Church or Community to whom the person belongs, if the institution is recognized by the Portuguese legal order;
- ii. document certifying the earnings received.

For more information please check:

http://www.secomunidades.pt/vistos/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=111%3Avistos-de-estada-temporaria&catid=42&Itemid=96&lang=en