

VISA TYPES AND PURPOSE OF VISIT

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

As a general rule, any foreigner seeking entry into the Kingdom of Thailand for business, investment, study, medical treatment, mass media, religion, employment and other purposes is required to apply for a visa from a Thai Embassy or Consulate General. To do so, a foreigner must possess a valid passport or travel document that is recognized by the Royal Thai Government and comply with the conditions set forth in the Immigration Act B.E.2522 (1979) and its related provisions. Foreigners who fall into any of the following categories are prohibited to enter the Kingdom.

1. Having no genuine and valid passport or document used in lieu of passport; or having a genuine and valid passport or document used in lieu of passport without visaing by the Royal Thai Embassies or Consulates in foreign countries; or from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, except if a visa is not required for certain types of aliens in special instances. Visaing and visa exemption will be under the terms and conditions as provided in the Ministerial Regulations.
2. Having no appropriate means of living following entrance into the Kingdom.
3. Having entered into the Kingdom to take occupation as a labourer, or to take employment by using physical energy without skills or training or to work in violation of the Alien Work Permit Law.
4. Being mentally unstable or having any of the diseases as prescribed in the Ministerial Regulations.
5. Having not yet been vaccinated against smallpox or inoculated or undergone any other medical treatment for protection against disease and having refused to have such vaccinations administered by the Immigration Doctor.
6. Having been imprisoned by the judgement of the Thai Court; or by a lawful injunction; or by the judgement of the Court of a foreign country, except when the penalty is for petty offense or negligence or is provided for as an exception in the Ministerial Regulations.
7. Having behavior which would indicate possible danger to the Public peace or safety of the public or to the security of the public or to the peace or safety of the public or to the security of the nation, or being under warrant of arrest by competent officials of foreign governments.
8. Reason to believe that entrance into the Kingdom was for the purpose of being involved in prostitution, the trading of women and children, drug smuggling, or other types of smuggling which are contrary to the public morality.
9. Having no money or bond as prescribed by the Minister under Section 14 of the Immigration Act B.E. 2522.
10. Being deported by either the Government of Thailand that of or other countries; or the right of stay in the Kingdom or in foreign countries having been revoked; or having been sent out of the Kingdom by competent officials at the expense of the Government of Thailand unless the Minister shall consider exemption on an individual special case basis.
11. The examination and diagnosis of disease of a physical or mental nature, including protective operations as against disease, shall be conducted by the Immigration Doctor.

2. TYPES OF VISAS

1. Australian nationals as well as nationals from 40 countries and one (1) region (see the list of countries below) holding a valid passport shall be exempted from visa application for entering into Thailand for the purpose of tourism if their stay in the country does not exceed 30 days.
2. Other nationals can apply for a Thai visa only if they have permanent residence in Australia.

2.1. TRANSIT VISA

1. REQUIREMENT

This type of visa will be issued to applicants who wish to enter the Kingdom for the following purposes :

- to travel in transit through the Kingdom in order to proceed to the country of destination or to re-enter his/her own country (category "TS")
- to participate in sports activities (sportsmen, sportswomen, etc.)(category "S") ***
- the person in charge or crew of a conveyance coming to a port, station or area in the Kingdom (category "C")

2. DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

- Passport or travel document with validity not less than 6 months
- Visa application form completely filled out
- One recent(4 x 6 cm.) photograph of the applicant
- Instrument of means of transportation (confirmed air ticket paid in full)
- Evidence of adequate finance (20,000 Baht per person and 40,000 Baht (per family)
- Visa of a third country in a passport or travel document
- Letter of invitation stating the application's participation in sports activities in the Kingdom
- Consular officers reserve the rights to request for additional document as deemed necessary.

2.2. TOURIST VISA

1. REQUIREMENT

This type of visa will be issued to applicants who wishing to enter the Kingdom for tourism purposes.

2. DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

- Passport or travel document with validity not less than 6 months
- Visa application form completely filled out
- One recent (4 x 6 cm.) photograph of the applicant
- Air ticket paid in full
- Financial means (20,000 Baht per person and 40,000 Baht per family)
- Consular officers reserve the rights to request for additional documents as deemed necessary

Applicants with Passports from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Sudan, Algeria, Libya, Yemen, Egypt and the Palestinian State are advised to file for application at the Thai Embassy/Consulate-General where they have their permanent residence.

For pleasure purpose only (requires a copy of airplane ticket and/or itinerary).
(Maximum stay of 60 days; extension of stay may be applied in Thailand.)

2.3. NON-IMMIGRANT VISA

1. REQUIREMENT

This type of visa is designed for applicants who wish to enter the Kingdom for the following purposes.

- to perform official duties (Category "F")

- to conduct business / to work (Category "B")
- to invest with the concurrence of the Thai Ministries and Government Departments concerned (Category "IM")
- to invest or perform other activities relating to investment, subject to the provision of the established laws on investment promotion (Category "IB")
- to study, to come on a work study tour or observation tour , to participate in projects or seminars , to attend a conference or training course , to study as a foreign Buddhist monk (Category "ED")
- to work as a film-producer, journalist or reporter (Category "M")
- to perform missionary work or other religious activities with the concurrence of the Thai Ministries or Government Departments concerned (Category "R")
- to conduct scientific research or training or teaching in a research institute (Category "RS")
- to undertake skilled work or to work as an expert or specialist (Category "EX")
- other activities (Category "O")

2. DOCUMENTS REQUIRED **

2.1. The applicants must submit the following relevant documents depending on the purpose of their visit.

- Visa application form completely filled out
- Passport or travel document with validity not less than 6 months and its copy
- Two 4 x 6 cm full-faced, bareheaded photos taken within the past six months
- Birth Certificate ("O")
- Certificate of Marriage or its equivalents ("O")
- Transcript / Letter of acceptance from the concerned schools/universities or institutes ("ED")
- Letter from Thailand's Board of Investment. ("IB")
- Official Note certifying the purpose of travel from the Government Agencies /Embassies and Consulates / International Organizations / State Enterprises inThailand. ("F" / "B" / "ED" / "M" / "R")
- Letter of acceptance from the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (Alien Occupational Control Division, Department of Employment , Tel 662-2452745, 245-3209, 617-6578, 617-6584 Fax. 662-6176576, 245-2593) ***
- Letter from a company stating the objective of the visit to Thailand ("B")
- Document showing correspondence with trading partners in Thailand. ("B")
- Letter of invitation from companies qualified to employ foreigners. ("B")
- Employment contract indicating rationale for hiring the applicant as well as his/her salary, position and qualifications (document must be signed by authorized managing director and affixed the seal of the company) ("B")
- Copy of Work Permit issued by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (only in case the applicant has previously worked in the Kingdom) ("B")
- Copy of corporate documents; namely 1) list of shareholders 2) business registration and business license 3) company profile 4) details of business operation 5) list of foreign workers stating names, nationalities and positions 6) map indicating the location of the company 7) Balance sheet, statement of Income Tax and BusinessTax (Por Ngor Dor 50 and Por Ngor Dor 30) of the latest year 8) Alien income tax return (Por Ngor Dor 91) and 9) Value-added tax registration (Por Ngor Dor 20) , etc. ("B")
- Copy of educational records of the applicant and letters of recommendation from the prior employers, identifying job description and length of service time. ("B")
- Document indicating the number of foreign tourists (for tourism business only),or document indicating export transactions issued by banks (for export business only)("B")
- Evidence of adequate finance (20,000 Baht per person and 40,000 Baht per family)

2.2. The document to be submitted for non-immigrant visa application is contingent upon necessities and appropriateness of purposes stated in the application form.

- 2.3. Consular officers reserve the rights to request for additional documents as deemed necessary.
- 2.4. Copies of company documents must be signed by Board of Directors and affixed the seal of the company.
- 2.5. In the absence of a required document, a letter indicating the unavailability of such document must be provided.
- 2.6. The applicant must sign on each page of the copy
- 2.7. Documents in foreign languages must be translated in Thai. If translated into English, it should be notarized by notary organs or the applicant's diplomatic/ consular mission.

Applicants with Passports from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Sudan, Algeria, Libya, Yemen, Egypt and the Palestinian State are advised to file an application at the Thai Embassy/Consulate-General where they have their permanent residence.

** 1. The document to be submitted for non-immigrant visa application is contingent upon necessities and appropriateness of purposes stated in the application form.

2. Consular officers reserve the rights to request for additional documents as deemed necessary.
3. Copies of company documents must be signed by Board of Directors and affixed the seal of the company.
4. In the absence of a required document, a letter indicating the unavailability of such document must be provided.
5. The applicant must sign on each page of the copy
6. Documents in foreign languages must be translated in Thai. If translated into English, it should be notarized by notary organs.

*** For those foreigners who wish to work in Thailand, their employer in Thailand should submit Form WP3 (Application for applying a work permit on behalf of alien according to Section 3) at the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare.

2.4. DIPLOMATIC / OFFICIAL VISA

- Thai Embassies and Consulates-General may upon **official request** grant visas to diplomatic or official passport-holders who wish to assume duties at a foreign Diplomatic Mission or Consulate or International Organization in the Kingdom and their family members or who desire to enter the Kingdom on official duty.
- Supporting documents required are Note Verbale and documents issued by the foreign government or international organization, certifying the identity of the person concerned and his/her purposes while visiting the Kingdom.

2.5. IMMIGRANT VISA

- This type of visa is granted for aliens who desire to take up permanent residence in the Kingdom.
- Applicants who fall in each of the following category can file a petition for a residence permit;-
- by yearly quota per nationality
- investment
- working/ Business

- supporting alien who already had residence permit or being supported by alien who already had residence permit (husband-wife, father-mother, or children who is under 20 years of age and single)
- Applicants who wish to engage in filing a petition must fulfill certain conditions set forth by the Office of Immigration Bureau is located at Soi Suan Plu, off South Sathorn Road, Bangkok 10120 , Tel (662) 287-3101-10 or at website <http://www.police.go.th/frmain5.htm>)
- Moreover, foreign investors, experts or technicians, and Thai nationals who changed their citizenship who invest and bring in know-how and expertise for the benefit of the country's economy would also be eligible for permanent residence in the Kingdom if their qualifications meet the conditions set forth by the Office of the Board of Investment (BOI Announcement No.Por. 1/2544 dated 31th January 2001). For more information, please contact the Office of the Board of Investment, 555 Vibhavadi-Rangsit Road, Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900. (Tel.02-537-8111, 02-5378155 Fax. 02-5378177 E-mail : head@boi.go.th Website : <http://www.boi.go.th>)

2.6. NON-QUOTA IMMIGRANT VISA

- This type of visa is granted only by the Office of Immigration Bureau in Bangkok to aliens who are domiciled in Thailand having as evidence valid permits to re-enter the Kingdom. Applicants shall submit their applications together with the Certificate of Residence directly to the Immigration Bureau in Bangkok.
- For more information, please contact the Office of Immigration Bureau , Soi Suan Plu, off South Sathorn Road, Bangkok 10120 , Tel (662) 287-3101-10 or website at <http://www.police.go.th/frconten.htm>

2.7. COURTESY VISA

- Thai Embassies and Consulates-General may upon **official request** grant courtesy visas to diplomatic/official/ordinary passport-holders who wish to enter the Kingdom on official duty and/or other purposes.
- Supporting documents are documents issued by the governmental agency, foreign government or international organization, certifying the identity of the person concerned and his/her purposes while visiting the Kingdom.

2.8. NON-IMMIGRANT 'O-A' VISA

1. REQUIREMENT

- An alien being 50 years of age and above (on the date of submitting an application)
- Not being a person prohibited from entering the Kingdom
- Having no criminal record against the security of Thailand and the country of his/her nationality, or the country of his/her residence.
- Having the nationality of or the residence in the country where his/her application is submitted.
- Not having prohibitive diseases as indicated in the Ministerial Regulation No. 14 (B.E.2535)
- Not being allowed to work in Thailand.

2. DOCUMENTS FOR THE APPLICATION

- A passport valid no less than eighteen (18) months
- Three (3) copies of a Visa Application Form (with 3 recent passport-sized photos)
- A Personal Data Form
- A copy of a bank statement showing a deposit at the amount equal to no less than 800,000 BAHT, or an income certificate (an original copy) with a monthly salary of no less than 65,000 BAHT, or a deposit account plus a monthly income of no less than 800,000 BAHT a year.
- In the case of the bank statement, a letter of guarantee from the bank (an original copy) is to be shown as well.
- Verification stating that the applicant has no criminal record issued from the country of his/her nationality or residence (the verification shall be valid for no more than 3 months).
- A medical certificate issued from the country where the application is submitted, showing no prohibitive diseases as indicated in the ministerial Regulation No. 14 (B.E. 2535). (the certificate shall be valid for no more than 3 months).
- In the case that the applicant wishes to have his/her spouse stay together in the Kingdom but the spouse is not qualified for the O-A Code Visa, their marriage certificate shall be produced as evidence. (the spouse will be considered for the Visa for Temporary Residents under the 'O' Code).

3. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ALIEN WHILE STAYING IN THE KINGDOM

- When completing the stay of 90 days in the Kingdom, the alien shall report to the competent authority and repeat it every 90 days with the immigration officer in the alien's residence area, or report to the police station in the alien's residence area if there is no immigration control there.
- In order to report to the competent authority by mail, the alien shall do as follows:

The Report Form (To Mo 47) together with a copy of the passport pages showing the alien's photo, personal details, and the latest arrival visa stamp as well as a self-addressed envelope with postage affixed, shall be forwarded, within 7 days before the due date, by acknowledgement of receipt mail to the Immigration Bureau, Sathorn Tai Road, Sathorn District, Bangkok 10120.

In the case of conducting any following reports, the Reply Form for the previous report shall be enclosed as well.)

- At the end of the one-year stay, the alien who wishes to extend his/her stay shall submit a request for the extended period at the Immigration Bureau with documented evidence of money transfer, or a deposit account in the Kingdom, or an income certificate, at the amount of no less than 800,000 BAHT, or an income certificate plus a deposit account at the total amount of no less than 800,000 BAHT a year.
- If the alien's spouse wishes to extend his/her stay as well, the marriage certificate shall be produced.