



Applying for a South African Critical Skills Visa

Documents required to apply for a visa

- A passport or travel document valid for no less than 30 days after the expiry of your intended visit
- Your passport must have at least TWO unused page for entry / departure endorsements
- A completed Form BI-84 (application for a visa)
- Payment of the prescribed fee
- A yellow-fever vaccination certificate (if required)
- Statement and/or documentation confirming the purpose and duration of your visit
- Two colour passport photographs
- A return or onward ticket if you are travelling by air
- If you have children (minors) travelling with you or joining in South Africa, you will need to provide the following additional documents
 - Proof of guardianship or custody or
 - Consent from the guardian in the case of an unaccompanied minor
- Proof of financial means to pay for your living expenses while in South Africa in the form of:
 - Bank statements
 - Salary advances
 - Undertakings by the host(s) in South Africa
 - Bursary
 - Medical cover or
 - Cash available (including credit cards and travellers' cheques)

Documents required to apply for a long-term temporary residence visa, except medical treatment visa

*The following general documentation must be submitted with all temporary residence visa applications on form **DHA-1738**, except in the event of an application for a medical treatment visa:*

- A passport valid for no less than 30 days after the expiry of intended visit
- A photocopy of all temporary residence visas endorsed in the passport
- Processing fee
- 1 recent passport size colour photograph

- A yellow fever vaccination certificate (if the applicant has travelled through or intends travelling through the yellow fever belt area)
- Police clearance certificates in respect all countries where the applicant has resided for a period of twelve months or longer since having attained the age of 18 years.
- Medical and radiology reports (radiology reports are not required for children under the age of 12 years and pregnant women)
- An unabridged birth certificate
- Proof of custody or adoption of a minor, where applicable
- Consent from the parents of a minor, where applicable
- A marriage certificate, where applicable
- Proof of a spousal relationship by means of an affidavit, where applicable
- A divorce decree or proof of legal separation, where applicable
- A death certificate in respect of a late spouse, where applicable

Supporting documents, in addition those mentioned above, are applicable to every category of temporary residence visa. These supporting documents are listed on the **DHA-1738** application form under each visa category.

General Work Visas

General Work Visas are issued to foreigners where it has been proven beyond reasonable doubt that South African citizens and permanent residents with the relevant qualifications or skills and experience are not available for appointment. Prior to submitting an application for a general work visa, the applicant's prospective employer is required to apply to the Department of Labour for a certificate confirming that-

- despite diligent search, the prospective employer has been unable to find a suitable candidate with qualifications or skills and experience equivalent to those of the applicant;
- the applicant has qualifications or proven skills and experience in line with the job offer;
- the salary and benefits of the applicant are not inferior to the average salary and benefits of citizens or employees occupying similar positions in the Republic;
- a contract of employment stipulating the conditions of employment and signed by both the employer and the applicant is in line with the labour standards in the Republic and is made conditional upon the general work visa being approved;
- proof of qualifications evaluated by SAQA and translated by a sworn translator into one of the official languages of the Republic was submitted; and
- full particulars of the employer, including, where applicable, proof of registration of the business with the ***Commission on Intellectual Property and Companies (CIPC)***.