

VISA REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

II. Types of Philippine Visas

A. Tourist Visa (for Pleasure or Business)

The following requirements must be submitted when applying for this type of visa:

- Duly-accomplished visa application (F.A. Form 2). Application forms that are incompletely filled-out will be returned to the applicant.
- Valid passport (the original passport itself must be submitted) whose validity must extend at least six (6) months beyond the length of proposed stay in the Philippines.
- One 2" x 2" size photograph taken within the last six (6) months. The applicant's signature must be affixed on the front side of the picture.
- A photocopy of the applicant's airline ticket or confirmed travel itinerary
- Proof of financial capacity (e.g. travellers cheques, latest print-out of credit card account(s), latest print-out of bank statements, ownership of real estate properties, and other documents showing the applicant's capacity to financially support himself/herself during his/her stay in the Philippines)
- If applicant is not appearing in person before the Consular Officer, the application form must be notarized by a local notary public.
- The applicable fees for a tourist visa are as follows:
 - Single entry valid for three (3) months: US\$30.00
 - Multiple entry valid for (6) months US\$60.00
 - Multiple entry valid for twelve (12) months \$90.00

NOTE: The authorized maximum period of stay granted by the Philippine Consulate to all temporary visitor's visa applicants is fifty-nine (59) days. If the applicant will stay beyond 59 days in the Philippines, an application for extension of stay must be filed at the Bureau of Immigration in Manila, or the Immigration office nearest to the place where the applicant is temporarily residing.

Any questions? Try FAQ or contact us

B. Visas for Minors – Travelling Either Alone or Accompanied by a Guardian

Children under fifteen (15) years old going to the Philippines TRAVELLING ALONE OR UNACCOMPANIED by parents (or to be accompanied during travel by an individual other than a parent) or not coming to join a parent in the Philippines must comply with the following requirements:

1. A duly-accomplished visa application form (Form No. 2). This form may be accomplished by a parent on behalf of the minor-applicant.
2. The minor's passport (the original passport itself must be submitted), which must be valid for at least six (6) months beyond the intended stay in the Philippines.
3. One 2"x2" photograph of the minor.
4. Affidavit of Request, Consent and Guaranty executed by either or both parents, duly notarized by a local Notary Public or by a consular officer of the Philippine Consulate General. This Affidavit must be presented before immigration officials at the port of entry in the Philippines. The Philippine Bureau of Immigration will issue a Waiver of Exclusion Ground (W.E.G.) upon the minor's arrival in the Philippines
5. Two photocopies of the DATA page of the passport of the:
 - a. accompanying guardian; and
 - b. the child
6. Payment of \$30.00 for the visa processing fee
7. Payment of \$25.00 for notary fee if the Affidavit of Request, Consent and Guaranty will be notarized by a consular officer.
8. Photocopy of airline ticket or confirmed travel itinerary.

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C. Non-Quota Immigrant Visas

1. Spouse of a Filipino citizen (13-a)

If the application is made by a Spouse of a Filipino Citizen, the following documentary requirements must be submitted:

- a. Report of Marriage (ROM) contracted outside the Philippines.

b. Two copies of a duly-accomplished visa application (F.A. Form No. 3). Application forms that are incompletely filled-out will be returned to the applicant.

c. Valid passport (the original passport itself must be submitted) whose validity must extend at least six (6) months beyond the length of proposed stay in the Philippines.

d. Four (4) 2" x 2" size photograph taken within the last six (6) months. The applicant's signature must be affixed on the front side of the picture.

e. Medical Certificate (F.A. Form No.11) accomplished by a local physician. All supporting documents must be submitted in triplicate (three copies). A Chest x-ray plate (life-size) must accompany the certificate, together with the results for the following tests: 1) stool (ova/parasite and occult blood); 2) urinalysis; and 3) complete blood test (blood serology and chemistry).

f. Local State Police clearance obtained within the last (6) months. The original and one (1) photocopy must be submitted.

g. Proof of financial capacity (e.g. travellers cheques, latest print out showing statement of credit card account(s), latest print-out of bank account statements, ownership of real estate properties, and other documents showing the applicant's capacity to financially support himself/herself during his/her stay in the Philippines)

h. Personal appearance of the applicant for an interview by the consular officer.

i. Payment of Immigrant Visa Fee of \$150.00

j. A duly notarized letter from the Filipino spouse requesting or petitioning the issuance of an immigrant visa to his/her spouse. The original and a photocopy must be submitted.

k. Proof of Philippine citizenship of Filipino spouse (e.g. Philippine passport or Philippine birth certificate) Marriage Certificate, both the original and a photocopy.

2. Unmarried Children under 21 years old of a Filipino citizen (13-a)

a. Same as requirements (a) to (h) above (requirements for spouses of Filipino citizens)

b. Birth Certificate of the child or a certified true copy thereof.

c. Proof of Filipino citizenship of a parent such as current Philippine passport, birth certificate or baptismal certificate, etc.

d. Sworn Statement of Financial Support executed by parents

e. Visa Fee is \$150.00

3. Natural Born citizens of the Philippines who have acquired foreign citizenship (13-g)

- a. Same as the requirements (a) to (h) in item No. 1 (spouse of a Filipino citizen).
- b. Proof of former Philippine citizenship such as expired Philippine passport, birth certificate or baptismal certificate, etc.
- c. Naturalization papers
- d. Visa Fee of \$150.00

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D. Quota Visas

Only 50 applicants are approved annually for other categories of aliens whose countries accept Filipinos as immigrants on a reciprocal basis. The Philippine Consulate General receives the completed immigrant visa application with enclosures indicated below and, in turn, is forwarded through the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) for appropriate action by the concerned agencies in the Philippines. When authority from the DFA for the issuance of the visa allotting quota number is received, a personal interview with a consular officer will follow prior to the actual issuance of the immigrant visa.

Required Documentation

- o Accomplished visa application (F.A. Form No. 3)
- o Submit original passport whose validity must extend at least six (6) months beyond the length of purposed stay in the Philippines)
- o One 2" x 2" size photograph taken within the six (6) months.
- o Proof of financial capacity to travel may be required.
- o If applying by mail, enclosed a self-addressed stamped padded envelope or a prepaid overnight mail envelope to ensure return of the passport.
- o Visa Fee of \$150.00

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E. Student Visas

Procedures and Requirements for the Issuance of Student Visa Under Section 9(f) of the Philippine Immigration Law, as amended, and Executive Order No. 423

A. Policies

1. Any Philippine Higher Education Institution (HEI) whose programs/courses are recognized by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) is authorized to accept foreign students.

2. A bonafide foreign student is one who is at least eighteen years (18) of age at the time of enrolment; has sufficient means for his education and support; and seeks to enter the Philippines temporarily to take up higher education course/program.

3. Spouses and unmarried dependent children below 21 years old of aliens who are permanent foreign residents, holders of valid working permits under Section 9(d), 9(g) and 47(a) (2) of the Philippine Immigration Act of 1940, as amended, personnel of foreign diplomat and consular missions residing in the Philippines, personnel of duly accredited international organizations residing in the Philippines, holders of Special Investor;'s Resident Visa (SIRV) and Special Retiree's Resident Visa (SRRV) and foreign students coming to the Philippines with 47 (a) (2) visas issued pursuant to existing laws, e.g. P.D. 2021 are exempted from securing student visa and Bureau of Immigration Special Study permit.

4. The Certificate of Eligibility of Admission issued by CHED-Office of Student Services (OSS) is required only in courses where restrictions or quota on enrolment may exist due to shortage of facilities as in Medicine and Dentistry

B. Procedures in the Issuance of Student Visa

Step 1 – Foreign student who is at least 18 years of age at the time of enrolment communicates directly with his choice of any Philippine HEI authorized to admit foreign students and complies with the school's institutional requirements, including submission of the following documents:

a. Duly accomplished Visa Application Form (FA Form No. 2)

b. Certified true copy of Personal History Statement

- c. Certified true copy of Notice of Acceptance (NOA) and CEA where necessary (to be duly noted by Consular Officer)
- d. Medical Health Certificate (FA Form No. 11), duly notarized, together with laboratory reports of urine (urinalysis), stool (ova/parasites and occult blood) and blood (routine)
- e. Chest x-ray plates and chest x-ray results
- f. Police clearance certificate bearing the signature of issuing police officer and seal of law enforcement agency
- g. Passport (minimum validity of 6 months) \$250.00 fee in cash, money order or cashier's check (personal checks are not accepted) Six 2x2 photos, taken within the last 6 months.

Step 2 – The HEI, satisfied with the student's compliance with its requirements, issues a Notice of Acceptance (NOA) to the student and submits the original and photocopy to the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), together with all the documents and shall be hand carried to the DFA by the HEI's designated Liaison Officer

Step 3 – The DFA endorses the documents to the Philippine Consulate General (or embassy as the case may be) located in the student's country of origin or residence for the issuance of the student visa. Request for issuance of the student Visa in places other than the student's country of origin shall not be entertained.

Step 4 - The Philippine Consulate General notifies the student of the receipt of the documents and requests him to appear in person before a consular officer for interview and compliance with consular requirements. In addition to the documents transmitted to the post by the DFA, students must submit the following requirements to the Philippine Consulate in triplicate:

- a. Duly accomplished Visa Application Form (FA Form No. 2)
- b. Certified true copy of Personal History Statement
- c. Certified true copy of Notice of Acceptance (NOA) and CEA where necessary (to be duly noted by Consular Officer)
- d. Medical Health Certificate (FA Form No. 11), duly notarized, together with laboratory reports of urine (urinalysis), stool (ova/parasites and occult blood) and blood (routine)
- e. Chest x-ray plates and chest x-ray results
- f. Police clearance certificate bearing the signature of issuing police officer and seal of law enforcement agency

g. Passport (minimum validity of 6 months)

h. \$250.00 fee in cash, money order or cashier's check (personal checks are not accepted)

i. Six 2x2 photos, taken within the last 6 months.

Step 5 – Upon arrival in the Philippines, the student shall report immediately to the accepting HEI which shall assist him to obtain the Alien Certificate of Registration (ACR) and Certificate of Residence for Temporary Students (CRTS) from the Bureau of Immigration (BI).

Step 6 – The DFA notifies the HEI, copy furnished CHED, BI, NICA and NBI, of the issuance of a student visa to the student as soon as it receives a report to this effect from the issuing post.

Note: A foreigner wishing to study in the Philippines may also lodge a student visa application if he/she is already in the Philippines. The application may be made at the Bureau of Immigration in Manila. A prospective student must ensure that all the required documents or scholastic records issued by foreign schools must be authenticated by the Philippine Embassy or Consulate exercising jurisdiction of the place where the school is located.

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F. Special Resident Retiree's Visa (SRRV)

The Special Resident Retiree's Visa (SRRV) is a special non-immigrant visa separate and distinct from the existing visa categories defined by the Philippine Immigration Act of 1940, as amended, and allied laws. (Sec. 1, Rule II of LOI 1470).

The issuance of the SRRV to qualified PRA applicants, entitles the holder to reside in the Philippines for an indefinite period with multiple-entry privileges as long as the required minimum deposit investment subsists. (Sec. 2, Rule II of LOI 1470).

Moreover, the SRRV offers benefits which includes the exemption from the Exit Clearance, Re-Entry and Annual Registration requirements of the Bureau of Immigration, Travel Tax (provided the retiree has not stayed in the Philippines for more than a year from date of last entry) Special Study Permit, importation of household goods/personal effects worth US\$7,000 for family use and other value added services.

Benefits

1. **Option to Reside Permanently** - may live, retire and invest in the Philippines.

2. **Multiple Entry Privileges** - may travel outside the Philippines, and re-enter anytime.

3. **Exemptions**

- a. Exit clearance and re-entry permits of the Bureau of Immigration.
- b. Annual registration requirement of the Bureau of Immigration.
- c. Customs Duties and Taxes for the importation of personal effects and household goods up to US\$7,000.00.
- d. Travel tax, if stay in the Philippines is less than one year from the last entry date.
- e. Special Study Permit.

4. **Assistance in securing/obtaining documents from other Government Agencies such as:**

- a. Department of Labor & Employment (DOLE)- Alien Employment Permit.
- b. Land and Transportation Office (LTO) – Driver’s License.
- c. National Bureau of Investigation (NBI).
- d. Department of Foreign Affairs (DOF)- Tax Exemption/ Extension Certificate.
- e. Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) - Tax Identification Number.

5. **Tax-Free remittance of Annuities and Pensions**

6. **Guaranteed Repatriation of the Requisite Time Deposit**

For details on the Special Resident Retirees Visa (SRRV), please visit the Philippine Retirement Authority (PRA) Web Site: www.pra.gov.ph

Any questions? Try FAQ or contact us